

**CITY OF KALAMA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 16, 2016**

**1. OPENING**

Mayor Pete Poulsen opened the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Poulsen led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmembers present were Mike Truesdell, Dominic Ciancibelli, Mike Dennis Langham, Rosemary Brinson Siipola, and Mary Putka. City staff present were City Administrator Adam Smee, Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen, Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster, and Police Chief Randy Gibson. City Attorney Erin Hillier was also present. Members of the public present are listed on the sign-in sheet. *(Note: Halfway through the meeting it was discovered the recorder had shut off so only a portion of this meeting was recorded)*

**2. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

**3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None**

**4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS - None**

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS - None**

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Kalama Police Department – Surplus Modular Units**

City Administrator Adam Smee explained that the police building at 535 N. First is a 3 piece modular unit placed on leased property under a conditional use permit that will expire later this year. The building flooded in December and the insurance has made a determination of the costs it would take to restore the building for continued use with the high end being approximately \$105,000. As an emergency response facility, the site of the current police station is not appropriate and would need to have the building raised above any future flood level, but even then it would probably have limited access during such an event. The City's current building official has stated he would not recommend approval for an extension of the conditional use permit when it expires in October unless the building was raised. Since the property does not belong to the City, Mr. Smee hesitates to recommend making any substantial improvements to the site. After discussions with Chief Gibson, he believes he would be in the best interest of the City to settle the insurance claim and then sell the structures as salvage and look for a new location for the police in the future. This will take at least two years and the cost will be upwards of one million dollars. The City will need to look at design, different financing options and possible sites. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli asked if the City might have another use for the modular units if they were placed on the City Hall site. There is about 20 feet of property on the one side of City Hall, but staff doesn't have any ideas what it could be used for at that site. The units would have to be renovated to be

used and it is felt that the insurance funds would be better spent on the renovations for the library and a new police site. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola stated she felt the modular units would sell fast. Mayor Poulsen commented that the Council and the Community will have to come to terms with what they want for the community. Back before the economy took its downturn, there was some support for a city complex to house all the offices, but whether that is still supported will have to be seen. City Administrator Smee noted he is putting out a request for proposals for architectural services for not only the library facility, but for designing a new police facility which will include working with different types of funding options. The City is small and it is expensive to run a bond. Right now he wants to focus on getting the new City offices operating and the library renovations completed without incurring any new debt. With that complete, the focus will then be on the Police needs for a facility. There has been some discussion about doing a combined facility with the Fire District and that the new Methanol plant proposal could bring in tax dollars for the School, Fire and County which will be dollars in this area. The City will not receive any direct taxes from the facility as it is located outside the City limits. Councilmember Mike Truesdell made a motion the City surplus the police modular building. Councilmember Mary Putka seconded, and the motion carried. This would be included in the resolution on surplus property later in the meeting. Police Chief Randy Gibson showed the Civil Defense Set from 1973-74 that had been found upstairs in the Community Building which would also be sold as surplus.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Solicitation on Public Roadways/Panhandling – Draft Ordinance 1376**

Mayor Poulsen noted that while it has never happened to him, the City is proposing a new ordinance to deal with panhandling in the City. Chief Randy Gibson explained that they get about a dozen calls a year, usually in the summer, regarding the issue and Kalama is the only jurisdiction in the area that doesn't have an ordinance. The calls mostly occur at exit 30 off I-5 and at the Chevron. There are safety issues at the freeway exit, but it should also address sidewalks. He added that just asking for money is not the issue as that is protected by the first amendment of the constitution, but it is when the requests become aggressive or threatening that it becomes illegal. The draft came for Clark County and based on review by City Attorney Erin Hillier it will have a few revisions. It is important to address the aggressive behavior and safety while not opening the City up to any constitutional challenges. Chief Gibson added that this wouldn't interfere with the Girl Scouts selling cookies or similar actions and that as always officer discretion is in play. Currently the department deals with transients by trying to find what it is they need and getting them to an area where that help is available. He also noted that since the freeway rest stops are not within any jurisdictions, these activities there have become issues on how to address with the State Patrol. A draft for passage will be presented at the next meeting.

## **9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

### **A. Resolution No. 634 – Surplus Property**

Resolution No. 634 was read by title: A Resolution of the City of Kalama, Washington declaring non-working and flood damaged computers, the Cd V-777 Radiological Operational Defense Set, and the 3 modular units that comprised the police building at 535 N. First Street

surplus and authorizing disposal in the City of Kalama's best interest. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola made a motion the City Council adopt Resolution No. 634 as read. Councilmember Mike Truesdell seconded, and the motion carried.

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE - None**

## **11. MAYOR'S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS**

**A.** Mayor Pete Poulsen reported that due to an asbestos issue the move of City Hall to the Bank has been delayed. He also gave kudos to the staff for all they have done to keep the City services operating for the public.

**B.** Councilmember Mike Truesdell had no report.

**C.** Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli reported he had met with Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen and City Administrator Adam Smee and discussed the issues at the Bank.

**D.** Councilmember Mike Langham reported he attended the 911 Board meeting where they elected new officers. There may be some new changes coming as well.

**E.** Councilmember Rosemary Siipola reported she has joined the Quality of Place Committee and is working to find out what her function is on the Health Board committee.

**F.** Councilmember Mary Putka reported that this Saturday will be the downtown cleanup with Americorp volunteers sponsored by the Chamber and Envision Kalama. Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen and one of his crew will be on hand to help. The Annual Chamber Banquet is also scheduled for April 16<sup>th</sup>. The annual Amalak cleanup day will be on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**A.** City Administrator Adam Smee reported that the Planning Commission is back on track with the Comp Plan update and reviewing the vision for the City. Along with the request for proposals for the architect, he is preparing one for work in the Economic Development plan that the City received a grant to complete. Mayor Poulsen asked how much the City was receiving in grants this year. Mr. Smee responded that it would be over one million dollars. The projects include the Downtown Economic plan, the Meeker Drive Slide area, the City Center (East Frontage – Elm to Oak Streets)paving, and the China Garden Road improvements which has to be done this summer and completed before school starts in September. The China Garden Road improvements will include making the area safer at the school crossing by adding traffic slowing blub outs and some sidewalk. The other project which has county funding is the Robb Road water line extension under the railroad on the south end of town which is moving forward. Mr. Smee added that the City staff participated in a FEMA kickoff meeting which included all the FEMA personnel that are available to help the City with complying with the requirements and expedite getting the City the funding.

**B.** Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen presented a written report.

He also reported that the China Garden Road project will include the first new LED streetlight and will be done with a new paving process that will make the road better. He added the new pump has been installed at the Ranney well. The crew has been out power washing the sidewalks and cleaned up debris from the weekend windstorm. The City didn't experience any power outages due to the storm.

**C.** Police Chief Randy Gibson presented his statistical report which included 77 call with only 11 investigations and most were routine. The one listed as a child sex crime is not a true sex crime as it is middle schoolers sending inappropriate photos and texts with their cell phones and has been dealt with. Chief Gibson informed the Council that the NW Innovations public hearing on March 22<sup>nd</sup> may present more problems than first believed. It appears that several activist groups from Portland may decide to attend or protest at the meeting. The biggest issue will be parking if this event becomes very well attended. He will have all the officers on duty and will be asking if the Sheriff may be able to send a couple as well. There will also be private security.

**D.** Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster reported that she is working on getting the information on the Bookmobile for the Library but has not been able to reach the person in Vancouver. She will get this moving as soon as she can. She has worked out a plan to allow for the events scheduled at the Community Building including a wedding now that the City Hall will not be able to move prior to these dates. The meeting with FEMA went well and the paper work has been started.

**E.** City Attorney Erin Hillier reported she will be attending a conference and hopes to bring back good information on open public records and other issues.

### **13. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Councilmember Mary Putka made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including:*

1. Claim & Payroll warrants 35937-35988 and all ACH transactions totaling: \$167,935.07
2. Minutes of the 2016 City Council Meeting

*Councilmember Mike Langham seconded, and the motion carried.*

### **14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the recording for this meeting is available for review upon request.

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**Pete Poulsen - Mayor**

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**Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer**