

**CITY OF KALAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 2, 2011**

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 Adam Smee, Dominic Ciancibelli, Chuck Hutchinson, and Bud Gish. Councilmember Don Purvis was absent. City staff present were Director of Public Works Carl McCrary, Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster, and Acting Police Chief Steve Parker. Members of the public present are listed on the sign-in sheet.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

A. Kalama Safe Community Coalition – Tina Day

Ms. Susan Langham spoke on behalf of the Kalama Safe Community Coalition, as Ms. Day had a family emergency. The group was formed after a public meeting that occurred nearly a year ago to address issues with the youth in the community and ways to encourage safe behaviors. They have helped to implement the prescription drug disposal program now available at Godfrey's Pharmacy and the party hotline working with the local police. They are looking for grants for other projects as well. One grant they are looking to apply for is a planning only grant. They are looking at what can be done under the grant that would benefit Kalama with a focus on youth programs to engage them and keep them out of trouble. The Coalition's next meeting will be on Monday March 7th at 5pm here at City Hall.

B. Water Operator of the Year – Asst. Director of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen

Mayor Pete Poulsen noted the award to Asst. Director of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen as Water Operator of the Year, stating it is a high honor for Kelly and the whole Public Works staff. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary explained that Evergreen Rural Water's staff nominated Kelly for the award after working with him at the City. He praised Kelly for his people skills as well as his work ethic, stating that he is an excellent employee and well deserves this award. Carl presented the award to Kelly. Kelly accepted the award noting that it is the entire crew that makes it all work. He thanked them all for their efforts. Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting for a brief break for cake and beverages.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Cowlitz County Commissioner Mike Karnofski presented a review of the recently held County Summit, noting that Kalama was not represented. He informed them that they may see a county-wide metro parks district and a new tourism organization presented to them in the near future. The County now is able to track fleets for mileage and usage. The Summit group has decided to hold meetings only twice a year in the future. There have been some positive outcomes. Commissioner Karnofski noted that Kalama can address their request for the renegotiation of the loan any time in the future, but during the funding cycle for the Economic Development grants is preferred. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary noted that he has started completing the grant application.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Kalama School District – Garbage Service Underpayment – Settlement

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster explained that due to oversights on all fronts, the Kalama School District was underbilled for garbage services that they received. They have several large dumpsters that are being emptied twice a week during the school year, and the City only was charging for having them emptied once a week. Waste Control that does the pick up has confirmed the twice a week pickup. The City is obligated to bill for the service and to go back three years which resulted in a \$30,000 bill to the School. While there was no intent to not pay for the service, this is a hardship for the school in this economy. They are offering to settle the issue for 50% of the bill at \$15,515.50. Since the City did not bill correctly in the first place, this seems a fair settlement for all. Councilmember Adam Smee asked if Waste Control was satisfied with the settlement as well since they perform the service; and the City contracts and pays them based on the billing. It was decided to table any action until Waste Control has been consulted.

B. Engineering Services Selection – Military and Elm Street Projects

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary noted that the City went through the request for proposal process and developed a list for engineering services. He would like to have a committee review the list for selection of engineering services for the Military Road sidewalk and Elm Street Mural projects. Councilmembers Chuck Hutchinson and Adam Smee agreed to serve on the committee.

C. Municipal Court Judge Appointment – Judge Ron Marshall

Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson made a motion the Council approve the Mayor appointing District Court Ron Marshall as a part-time judge for the Kalama Municipal Court. Councilmember Bud Gish seconded, and the motion carried.

9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

- A. Ordinance No. 1269** - An Ordinance of the City of Kalama, Washington amending the 2011 Budget to account for the unanticipated revenues and expenditures related to capital projects and settlement of litigation issues increasing the budget in the amount of \$175,000.00.

Ordinance No. 1269 was read by title. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the Council adopt Ordinance No. 1269 as read. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded. The interfund loan to provide interim financing for the Meeker Drive Sidewalk project was discussed briefly. The grant funding on the project has been delayed, but will be received at which time the loan will be repaid. The motion carried.

- B Ordinance No. 1270** - An Ordinance of the City of Kalama, Washington adopting a new Kalama Municipal Code Section 9.14 Public Disturbance Noises to address noise nuisances within the City.

Ordinance No. 1270 was read by title. Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson made a motion the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 1270 as read. Councilmember Bud Gish seconded. Mayor Poulsen noted the ordinance has been reviewed by City Attorney Paul Brachvogel who noted that it is the type of ordinance that is open for challenges. The motion carried. Later in the meeting a question was asked about shooting and if it was covered under the ordinance. There is an area north of downtown where there is an area for duck and other bird hunting within the city limits. At this time it is not specifically addressed.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Cowlitz/Wahkiakum COG Newsletter**

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary noted that in the newsletter was an article that addressed smart growth principles which he felt very noteworthy. The ten principles listed have all been addressed by the City of Kalama through the Planning Commission and Council at various times. This compliments the efforts the City has been making in the last 15 or more years. He also noted that Mayor Poulsen is now the Chair of the COG Board.

11. MAYOR'S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

- A.** Mayor Pete Poulsen reported on the City hosted meeting with the Kalama Housing Authority tenants. Only three of the sixteen tenants were in attendance. Kalama HA staff was in attendance and the information was presented by officials from the Kelso Housing Authority. The Kalama HA is working toward fixing the problems of the past and getting back on track. It was a good forum.

Mayor Poulsen noted the Business Expo event went well in spite of the weather. He informed the Council that the City has met with the Port regarding the proposal to annex the East Port property. This is in the preliminary stages at this point, but it is a true opportunity for Kalama. He added that he will be approaching the Port about annexing the Port park property south of the City limits. Kalama's Police Department responds often to the park, but since it is half in the County there are some concerns with jurisdiction. Having it all in the City would make it easier to police the area.

B. Councilmember Adam Smee reported he had attended the recent School Board meeting. It was two and a half hours of public comment with a standing room only crowd. The emotions about the lack of transparency in the School Board activities was apparent. There are many issues that the Board needs to address, and he believes the Board got the message. Since that meeting he has been contacted to serve on a committee to review the Districts discipline policies. One of the big issues is that the school states they are not required to have the parents present when they question a student and if the student doesn't answer them, the school can discipline them. The School has stated this is by State law. Ms. Susan Langham, a former school principle in other jurisdictions, noted that this is determined by the Administration and Board as part of their policies based upon the State laws. Her experience is that the schools want the parents to be present.

C. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli had no report.

D. Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson had no report.

E. Councilmember Donald Purvis was absent

F. Councilmember Bud Gish had no report.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary presented a written report and noted they had been busy with the snow plowing during the recent weather.

B. Acting Police Chief Steve Parker reported that Officer Cody Traub is back on duty, being productive as ever. He is serving a search warrant this evening. Acting Chief Parker added that the hiring process to fill the open position is proceeding as they look to find an investigator to do the background checks. He and Mayor Poulsen will be interviewing someone tomorrow.

C. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster provided a preliminary February Treasurer's Report.

Mayor Poulsen noted that there will be a fundraising event for the Community Building event on April 30, 2011 which will include three musical groups providing great entertainment. There will also be a wine and chocolate tasting. There will be 300 tickets available soon. He hopes that this will be a prelude to bringing back the Blues Festival to

Kalama in 2012.

D. City Attorney Paul Brachvogel was absent.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including Claims Vouchers Totaling \$125,303.98, Payroll Vouchers totaling \$66,317.47 for February 28, 2011, and the City Council minutes of February 16, 2011. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the tape can be made available for listening.

Pete Poulsen - Mayor

Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer