

**CITY OF KALAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 16, 2011**

1. OPENING

Mayor Pro Tem Chuck Hutchinson opened the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmembers present were Adam Smee, Dominic Ciancibelli, Don Purvis, and Bud Gish. Mayor Pete Poulsen 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

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster noted that two items had been added under unfinished business since the draft agenda had been presented.

4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

A. Cowlitz County Commissioner James Misner

Cowlitz County Commissioner James Misner presented to the Council his ideas for using tourism to change the perception of Cowlitz County and draw not only tourists, but business as well. Using strategic plans and studies from other jurisdictions he developed his idea to pool the resources throughout the County and set up a Tourism Board of Directors to develop a new organization. All jurisdictions would have the same voting rights even though the contributions would be different based upon the Hotel/Motel taxes each received. Each entity would contribute 10% of the Hotel/Motel Taxes they receive except for Kelso and the County which would contribute 5%. The unincorporated areas would contribute 20%. Kelso has the greatest revenue from the taxes and the 5% is still more than the other cities would be contributing. The County would then also match the total amount from all entities. This provides approximately \$67,000 annually. Commissioner Misner explained that the \$67,000 would be awarded to one of the six entities in each year and would have to be expended within that award year. This would provide each entity with more funding than they receive on their own for special projects. Also the funds can be used as matching money for grants. The current representation has left some of the entities feeling unrepresented, and Commissioner Misner feels this organization would have all working together to benefit the entire County. He is requesting a letter of support from all the cities. Commissioner Misner noted that he will be presenting some other ideas in the future as well which include a countywide wayfinding sign system. Councilmember Don Purvis made a motion the City Council draft a letter of support for restructuring the County's Tourism Department and

Commissioner Misner's "Big Idea" plan. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

10. CORRESPONDENCE - Out of Order

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary asked if this letter from the County regarding the City's request for loan forgiveness could be discussed while Commissioner Misner was in attendance. Mr. McCrary explained that the funds used for the loan and for the grant program are the same and come from sales tax funding which has no loan strings attached. The City used the funds on a project that fits all the requirements of the grant program. It is the County that set up the loan requirement in an effort to perpetuate the funding. He requested that the County take another look at the request and continue to discuss the issue. Commissioner Misner stated he would take another look and discuss it with the County attorney and get back to the City.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Gary Wallace stated he was here to support Commissioner Misner's tourism proposal. He noted that he has some thoughts on how Kalama could use the "big idea" funds. He noted that the City has a natural resource in the swans that are out in the wetland area north of town. Swans don't flock everywhere, so this makes Kalama a unique destination for bird watchers. He suggested that a viewing area could be built and it would be good to get the school involved as well. He also suggested that the Port be encouraged to put a three-hole golf course out on the north Port property near the mouth of the Kalama River. The Council appreciated his ideas.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Safe School/Healthy Schools Grant - Authorize Mayor to Sign Agreement

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster explained this is the agreement for the continuing grant for the programs between the School and the Police Department. It needs to be signed by the Mayor. Limited police staffing creates difficulties in meeting the needs and desires of the School, but the Department is doing what it can. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli made a motion the City Council authorizes the Mayor to sign Safe Schools Grant agreement. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

B. Elm St. Beautification/Mural Phase 1- Authorize Mayor to Sign Prospectus and Agreement

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary informed the Council that these are the agreements needed to move forward with the Elm Street Improvement/Mural project. The plan is to do the work this summer and

has been but into the budget for 2011. Councilmember Don Purvis made a motion the City Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the DOT agreements for the Elm Street Improvement/Mural project. Councilmember Bud Gish seconded, and the motion carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Solid Waste Management Resolution - Don Olson

Cowlitz County's Solid Waste Superintendant, Don Olson explained to the City Council the request for their approval for the County to update the current Solid Waste Management Plan on behalf of the City. The plan is required to be updated every 5 years by law and the last update was in 2007. Since the County is looking at purchasing the Weyerhaeuser landfill, its uses needs to be incorporated into the current plan. That is driving the update at this time. They will also be updating the moderate risk waste plan to be an appendix.

These are moderately hazardous wastes that are not regulated. The City's approval would need to be by resolution which is on the agenda later. There is no cost to the City. The current committee is made up of nine members, and Kalama's representative is Woodland's Public Works Director Steve Branz.

B. Cowlitz PUD Interlocal Agreement

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary explained that currently the only city in the County with a franchise agreement with PUD is Longview. This had led to issues with work within the City rights-of-way in the past. Kelso, Castle Rock, Woodland, and Kalama are joining together to present a franchise agreement to the PUD. Castle Rock has drafted an agreement that they will use, and their City Attorney will represent all the cities during the negotiations. With the interlocal agreement the cities would agree to this and provide reimbursement for their share of attorney costs to Castle Rock. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the interlocal agreement with Castle Rock, Kelso, and Woodland to facilitate negotiation of a franchise agreement with Cowlitz PUD. Councilmember Don Purvis seconded, and the motion carried.

C. UULC Agreement - Utility Locating Services

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary explained that the local Utility Council has been working on this change for a year. They highly recommend that all the entities agree to the change. There will be a small decrease in the cost to the City as well. Councilmember Don Purvis made a motion the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with the Utilities Underground Location Center to provide utility locating services for the City. Councilmember Bud Gish seconded, and the motion carried.

9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance No. 1271 - An Ordinance Of The City Of Kalama, Washington Amending The 2011 Budget To Account For The Unanticipated Revenues And Expenditures For Pathway At The Waters Walk Basketball Court Increasing The Budget In The Amount Of \$3,200.00.

Ordinance No. 1271 was read by title. The pathway had been budgeted for 2010 but was not completed until this year. Councilmember Adam Smee made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1271. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli seconded, and the motion carried.

B Resolution No. 559 - A Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Kalama Fixing The Time And Place Of The Public Hearing Before The Kalama Planning Commission On The Request To Vacate A Portion Of The West Side Of North Third Street Adjacent To Lots 2 And 3 Of Block 2 In The Imus 2 Addition To Adjoining Property Owners.

Resolution No. 559 was read by title. The location of the street was identified and confirmed. Councilmember Don Purvis made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 559 as read. Councilmember Bud Gish seconded, and the motion carried.

C. Resolution No. 560 - A Resolution authorizing Cowlitz County to prepare a Solid Waste Management Plan and Moderate Risk Waste Plan on behalf of the City of Kalama, for inclusion in the Cowlitz County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

Resolution No. 560 was read by title. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the Council adopt Resolution No. 560 as read. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli seconded, and the motion carried.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Cowlitz County Response to City Request - Restructure Loan - Addressed earlier in the meeting.

11. MAYOR'S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

A. Mayor Pete Poulsen was absent.

B. Councilmember Adam Smee reported on the exit audit conference for the Kalama Housing Authority he attended earlier in the day. He gained a better understanding of the challenges the new management is facing. They are making improvements and are on top of the issues. The Auditors have some concerns but the audit was clean. The Housing Authority now faces a federal HUD audit in April.

C. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli had no report.

D. Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson had no report.

E. Councilmember Donald Purvis had no report.

F. Councilmember Bud Gish reported he had taken a tour with Carl of some sited around the City. The Meeker Drive Sidewalk project is nearly done and looks very nice. The shed at the shop is awaiting a dry to day to be reroofed. He also looked at the area near the School on China Garden Road where the City is working to address a small slide issue. Councilmember Gish also noted that in recent weeks, the big trucks on China Garden Road have been quiet.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary presented a written report. He noted the Meeker Drive project was nearing completion, adding that the contractor and engineer had been great to work with. Regarding the area on China Garden Road, the City had put in place some ecology blocks and will be doing some filling in behind there as well. Mr. McCrary informed the Council of the complaints he has been receiving about the condition of Eighth Street which is in great need of repaving. He received a quote and it will cost \$20,000 which the City doesn't have in street funding. He continued that he had received information that due to the load restrictions on the Modrow bridge, there will be log trucks and low boys coming over Spencer Creek Road and through town in then next few months. As public streets there is little the City can do about it, but there are great concerns over what this kind of weight will do to the condition of the streets.

B. Acting Police Chief Steve Parker reported that things have been relatively calm which has allowed the Department to catch up on some case reports.

C. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster reported she has been working on the annual report which is more challenging this year due to new reporting requirements. She is also attending a web course regarding essential records and how to protect them.

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 \$40,106.67, Payroll Vouchers totaling 46,772.26 and the City Council minutes of March 2, 2011. Councilmember Don Purvis seconded, and the motion carried.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:15 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson announced the City Council would take a 10 minute break, and then immediately go into executive session to discussion a personnel performance and possible litigation issue for 15 minutes. The City Attorney Paul Brachvogel would be attending by telephone. There would be no action taken upon reconvening the meeting. At 8:40 p.m. the Council requested an additional 5 minutes. The meeting resumed at 8:45 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Hutchinson adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the tape can be made available for listening.

Chuck Hutchinson – Mayor Pro Tem

Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer

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