

**CITY OF KALAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 7, 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, Mike Dennis Langham, Rosemary Brinson Siipola, and Mary Putka. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli was absent. City staff present were City Administrator Adam Smee, Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen, Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster, Police Chief Randy Gibson and Assistant Clerk Kiley Mirenta. City Attorney Erin Hillier was also present. Members of the public present are listed on the sign-in sheet.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - Move up 8A

8. NEW BUSINESS – Out of Order

A. Stone Forest Phase 2 A&B – Final Plat Application – Recommendation from PC

Patrick Harbison, Chairman of the Planning Commission, informed the Council that the Planning Commission met to review the final plat and the recommendations from the City Planner. The plat contains 54 lots and is currently under construction. The Planner and Commission found all preliminary plat conditions have been met. Based on the findings of the City Planner the Planning Commission recommends the Council approve the final plat. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola made a motion the City Council approve the Stone Forest Phases 2A & 2B final plats, authorizing the Mayor to sign, as recommended by the Planning Commission and presented by Chairman Harbison. Councilmember Mike Langham seconded and the motion carried.

4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS – None

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS-None

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

A. Gary Wallace – Riverkeepers

a. Mr. Wallace presented a scroll of statements opposing the methanol plant complete with signatures from individuals mostly within the Kalama area, estimating there were about 150. He explained that this shows there is more opposition to the methanol plant than just those citizens that have come to meetings.

b. Natural Assets for Tourism

Mr. Wallace continued that he believes that the Plan contradicts the direction that Kalama should go when it comes to building for the future. Kalama is the pearl of the area and the Port has its wonderful park along the river ideal for fishing and wildlife watching. He asked what is going on with the “farm” and suggested that it be turned into a wildlife area and work with the school to make it a senior class project for developing. This could also connect to the work with the Port’s development to the north. Make this a destination for nature activities which is a more positive way for the future than methanol. Keeping Kalama as it is, he believes is what Kalama wants to see. It should be a green emerald city, something unique, and we don’t want to destroy it. Mayor Poulson noted that the “farm” at the north end of town is privately owned. He suggested that Mr. Wallace and others would need to work with the property owners and the school as private citizens and the City will help where they can. Promoting tourism is important to the City and he is willing to discuss any ideas. Mr. Wallace added that it will help to make it more pedestrian friendly with trails for walkers and bikes.

B. Joanna Boatman, lifetime Kalama resident, thanked the Mayor and Council for working with her and others to develop the “museum.” She thanked the City crew and office staff for helping with the work as well. It is nice to have everyone take the time to help. The Welch family made a donation to the museum so now there will be some funds available. Ms. Boatman let everyone present know that if you have “junk” she wants it, or they make donations for the museum instead of gifts. She is working on it as much as she can. She is grateful for all the community support. She knows the history of all the items being put on display.

C. Connie Dean, China Garden Road resident, stated that she has been one of the sign carriers on the corner for no methanol, and she believes that those against the plant are growing by the responses received from the drivers and pedestrians. She remembers only one that wasn’t happy. Ms. Dean provided some information to the Mayor on cancer rates in Washington which she has previously stated as being the highest state and Cowlitz County as the highest county. She provided several website addresses: CDC.gov/cancer, statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov, socialcapitalreview.org, and statecancerprofiles.com database. She said she found that Washington has the highest rate of all the western states and Cowlitz County highest rate of all WA counties for cancer. Some of the sites break it out by type of cancer as well. Mayor Poulson stated that he will take a look at the information.

D. Kim Metzger read a statement quoting sections of the Kalama Comprehensive Plan as reasons why the Council should not support the methanol plant. The Comprehensive Plan states throughout that the goals and policies are to protect environmental elements of the area and to protect the health and welfare of citizens. She concluded by asking if with that in mind, if the City should be supporting the methanol plant. The full statement is part of the permanent record.

E. Chris Turner, stated that inspired by what the comp says and looking at what 2014 Water Quality report states regarding conserving water, the City should consider giving priority for water services to only land within the City. The water source of the Kalama River

has issues with temperature at the lower end already. The Methanol plant will use a large amount which will be evaporated into the air and released into the Columbia River at 68 degrees. The Port has water rights and will be building a well to provide water and once they have completed that she suggests the City cut the ties with the Port area and stop providing the industries with water. The City has limitations on being able to provide water in the future and it agrees to provide water they will be obligated for 30 years. Mayor Poulsen clarified that the City will only supply the potable water for drinking and sanitation purposes to the plant which is minimal services. Ms. Turner asked "Why give it to them?" The EIS report says they don't need the City water so why offer. They are outside the City limits. Mayor Poulsen noted they are within the water district boundaries. The Port's water will be the source for the industrial water. The suggestion to discontinue services to all the industries would not be feasible as the City has infrastructure already in place providing those services. Mayor Poulsen explained that water drawn from the Columbia will be different than the water drawn from the Kalama. The Columbia River has a much larger flow rate than the Kalama, so the amount of water needed can be met. The Columbia River water will take a lot of processing to produce industrial processing water and even more for potable.

F. Jim Bain, 308 N. Second Street, Kalama, stated he is confused as to why the City is getting the barrage of complaints about the plant as they have no jurisdiction and will only be supplying the potable water. He has read the EIS for the project and while there are concerns there are ways to mitigate all the issues and these will have to be met by the developer. This is not a city issue. Gary Wallace responded that his group has attempted to present a resolution for the Council to vote on to not support the plant which while non-binding could be taken to the County and the Port. This is what they believe is best for the community and their view of quality of life.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Approval of Gray & Osborne Construction Mgmt Supplement – City Center Preservation Paving Project

City Administrator Adam Smee noted that the project was awarded to Lakeside Industries and Gray and Osborne will be doing the construction management which will require the Council's authorization and Mayor's signature. This is the last project of the and will overlay East Frontage Road to Oak Street and up to the I-5 ramp. It is funded by federal highway money which has many strings attached to the funding including ADA compliance. The project is adjacent to the WSDOT right of way which also has created additional compliance issues. Lakeside is set to start on Friday with a 30-day window so hopefully it will be completed before the rain hits. Mayor Poulsen noted that City Administrator Smee and other staff have worked for two years to get it done. Getting through all the federal red tape has been difficult with alot of work and frustration in the process. He hopes the citizens are looking at what is going on in the community. There has been paving in areas that have never been paved before in the Mayor's lifetime. The China Garden Road project was recently completed and he knows that some don't like the new curb extensions. Those curbs in place to help slow traffic along the school boundary. The side streets were paved by the \$20 tab fee everyone in Kalama is paying and he hopes the improvements are notices. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola made a motion the City Council approve the Gray & Osborne Construction Management Supplement as presented. Councilmember Mary Putka

seconded, and the motion carried.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Stone Forest Phase 2 A&B – Addressed earlier.

B. 2017 Budget Directions from the Council

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster asked the Council if they had any directions or areas of focus for the department heads as they begin to develop the 2017 budget numbers. Councilmember Mary Putka stated she would like to see the watering of the plants downtown funded or addressed in the budget. City Administrator noted that they are looking at options other than having the regular crew take care of this. He and Superintendent of Public Works are considering a part-time position to fill the need. The crewmembers are paid \$30 plus dollars an hour and qualified for much more than watering plants. So a lessor qualified position would be a better use of resources. Councilmember Putka stated that Envision might be willing to help. Councilmember Mike Truesdell stated that Kalama will be seeing more traffic coming through as the casino to the south and McMenimans are completed. More people will be drawn to the area as we continue to grow.

9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS - None

At the request of the Clerk/Treasurer, the Mayor recessed the meeting for approximately 10 minutes at 7:50 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:05 pm.

Oath of Office - New Officer Steve Ross

Mayor Poulsen introduced new Officer Steve Ross. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster administered the oath of office. Chief Gibson thanked the Council for their commitment to the department & public safety of the community. He explained that this is the first growth in the department since 1994. The staff of 4 dedicated officers has been willing to put in the overtime to make 24-hour coverage possible during the last 7 years. It is a grind to put in that much overtime. It is necessary for the City to address the staffing issue as the community grows, and he is glad to have Steve on board.

10. CORRESPONDENCE - None

11. MAYOR'S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

A. Mayor Pete Poulsen reported the street dance, in spite of not being well advertised, was a nice event. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola heard it was enjoyed by those that attended and they wished the City would have more each year.

B. Councilmember Mike Truesdell had no report.

C. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli was absent.

D. Councilmember Mike Langham reported he will attend COG on Friday.

E. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola attended the Governor's Highway Safety Conference where she learned that 94% of the fatality accidents are caused by either drowsy or distracted drivers.

F. Councilmember Mary Putka had no report.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. City Administrator Adam Smee reported he had discussion with the architect and should have 50% drawings and cost estimates for the Library early next week. The HVAC systems at the building are a part of the discussion as well. He will have more information at the next meeting and after a discussion with the stakeholders. He noted that Coni closed August's financials and the State Auditors are in the office. They should be here for the month of September. He added that the management team is working on the budget and looking at where things should go. He requested they let us know if there are special interests, policy issues or focus of the Council to be addressed as it is important that we build a budget to support those.

B. Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen presented a written report. He added that Lakeside is to start on Friday and has 30 days to final completion of the overlay project. Hamer Electric will be putting in the correct size light at 10th and China Garden to complete that project. North Fourth Street, N. Fifth Street, N. Third, and portions of Juniper and Ivy were all paved with the TBD funds. These are streets that would not qualify for any federal or state funding. He informed the Council that he will be conducting interviews for a position in public works which was included in the 2016 budget.

C. Police Chief Randy Gibson presented his statistical report for a three-week period which is why such a large number of calls at 148. There were four vehicle prowls, all out at the park and ride at exit 32. So the increased patrols allowed Officer Traub to make arrests in that area. They will continue to patrol the area more often. The recent dance and car show events went well. They did tow two cars for car show and issued a few parking tickets on Meeker Drive.

D. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster reported the State Auditors have begun a three audit and will be here for a while. She closed August and feels that the City is within the budget. She added that she asked Clerk Kiley Mirenta to attend the meeting to get an understanding of how the City operates and this side of the operations.

E. City Attorney Erin Hillier reported she had met with City staff a couple of times and took a tour of the City. She also presented memo on the election protocol that was requested by Councilmembers.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Mary Putka made a motion the City Council approve the Consent

Agenda including:

1. Claim and Payroll warrants 36579-36651 totaling \$513,767.27
2. Minutes of the August 17,2016 City Council Meeting and the August 23, 2016 Special City Council Meeting

Councilmember Mike Langham seconded, and the motion carried.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the recording for this meeting is available for review upon request.

Pete Poulsen - Mayor

Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer