

**CITY OF KALAMA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JUNE 15, 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 - None**

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None**

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

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. NoaNet Franchise Agreement Request - Chris Walker**

Mr. Chris Walker, Operations Manager for NoaNet explained that they are a non-profit organization owned by a consortium of PUDs throughout the state that provides broadband communications services.

NoaNet received an ARRA grant to bring broadband to under-served and rural areas statewide where it is not currently available. Kalama has been identified as one of those areas. The grant is focused on bringing services to libraries and schools. Their plan is to allow the libraries to form a network where libraries throughout the state are connected. This could be expanded to other organizations to create other networks, such as a public safety network among the fire or police entities. In order to do this, a franchise agreement with the City will be required. Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson asked if the PUDs will own the services. Mr. Walker explained that NoaNet cannot sell the infrastructure or system. They don't make a profit on the system. They do sell connections to the other service providers such as Cascade Networks or Kalama Telephone. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli stated that Kalama has broadband already and is probably over served, so he doesn't understand how they are included in the grant criteria. He added that the School is already using Cascade Networks to connect to the NoaNet services. Councilmember Adam Smee agreed and asked what would Kalama gain with these services? Mr. Walker replied that they would market to service providers who could then provide more options to the customers.

Mayor Poulsen noted he has concerns with providing the infrastructure and then selling the access to different providers who will then need to construct facilities within the City rights-of-way.

He doesn't want to see the sidewalks and streets torn up, after the City has worked hard to make improvements. There was some discussion as to whether Kalama Telephone is a customer of NoaNet. The two companies have discussed the options, but at this time they are not.

Kalama Telephone has connections south to Portland and North to Seattle. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster explained that the Kalama Library is currently on K-20 which is provided by the State Library.

The cost for this is going up considerably, so they have been looking at other options. They have been involved in NoaNet discussions, but have been provided very little information on what they will receive from NoaNet. The Librarian's research on the cost for accessing broadband indicates the providers connecting to NoaNet will charge as much if not more than the State K-20. The Library can get the same or better services through Kalama Telephone at a better cost. For a small library, the costs are prohibitive. Mr. Walker explained that NoaNet doesn't have anything to do with the costs for the services. NoaNet has the grant for placing broadband throughout the State and is required to build out and they will need to go through Kalama to get south. The lines will be predominately aerial on the existing PUD poles.

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary noted that the agreement before the Council had been drafted in conjunction with Castle Rock, Woodland, and Kelso in their discussions on developing a franchise with Cowlitz PUD. They then revised the form to be used for NoaNet with some minor alterations. Mayor Poulsen and the Council agreed to consider the agreement and to make a decision at the next meeting.

**B. Information on Sales Taxes - Transportation Improvement Districts**

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster provided some information on the regulations for establishing and funding a Transportation Improvement District. The two prominent forms of funding are a .2 percent sales tax increase which is voted by the people or a vehicle tab tax that can be implemented by the Council without a public vote. Mayor Poulsen noted that he doesn't like the idea of adding taxes, but the City has to find a way to generate funds for the maintenance of the local access streets. There was much discussion on which funding would be the easiest on the citizens and how much would be generated.

Mayor Poulsen noted that he would want a town hall meeting to get the public's input before implementing either one. It was requested that estimates of what funding could be generated be developed and further information be gathered. The City will continue looking into this option.

**C. Authorize Mayor to Sign Interlocal Agreement with Cowlitz Co. - Rural Development Funding - Interstate 5 Signage**

Director of Public Works Carl McCrary informed the Council this is the agreement with the County for the funding to put up the signs

on I-5. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the Interlocal agreement with Cowlitz County for the funding of I-5 signage. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

**8. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS - None**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE - None**

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

**A.** Mayor Pete Poulsen had no report.

**B.** Councilmember Adam Smee had no report.

**C.** Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli had no report.

**D.** Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson noted he had witnessed the police in action earlier in the day making an arrest. It involved officers from several jurisdictions and was done professionally.

**E.** Councilmember Donald Purvis was absent.

**F.** Councilmember Bud Gish reported the Public Works Committee had met and discussed several items including the new sensor lighting, the need to work on the outflow pipe for the Wastewater Treatment Plant at the river, and various other projects. He noted that Eighth Street is still in great need of repairs.

**12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**A.** Director of Public Works Carl McCrary presented a written report. He noted that there needed to be some corrections in the draft franchise agreement with NoaNet prior to the Council taking final action. The exterior cameras at the shop are now fully functional. Carl explained that the repairs on the outflow pipe at the river will involve divers, and he hopes will be accomplished soon. They were trying to wait for lower water, but that seems to be a ways off due to the weather. He added that he has contacted Department of Ecology to see if the divers can perform the required river tests while making the repairs. The river flow tests are required every five years. This would help with the costs.

**B.** Acting Police Chief Steve Parker reported that the incident downtown today involved two cold case homicide detectives from California making an arrest with the help of the local jurisdictions. He added that last week's drug overdose may turn out to be a controlled substance death. There could be charges as a friend had supplied the drugs that may have caused the death. Sgt. Parker informed the Council that he is looking at two possible dogs for the department. When asked by the Mayor, he also commented that new

Officer Justin Taylor is doing well.

**C.** Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster reported there is an opening on the Planning Commission due to the resignation of Alex Spencer. Mr. Spencer will be attending medical school. Lower Columbia College has decided not to renew their agreement for the use of the Community Building for classes due to low enrollment and lack of interest in the offered classes. The Library has some equipment challenges with their computer hardware. Ms. McMaster asked the Council if any were interested in attending the AWC annual conference and meeting in Spokane. AWC will be providing small grants, a possible scholarship and mileage reimbursement to the City if someone wants to attend. Ms. McMaster informed that Council that she finally has the population from the 2010 census, and it is lower than the estimated census by about 160 persons. Looking at the figures, this is probably correct, as it appears we have 104 vacant properties. It appears we will gain an estimated 20 in 2011 for a preliminary estimated population of 2365. The City does lose some of its per capita revenues with the reduction in the population. In reviewing the population figures, it appears that 60 percent of Kalama's population is working age people from ages of about 20 to 65.

**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 \$556,560.87, Payroll Vouchers totaling \$44,432.41, and the City Council minutes of June 1, 2011. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.*

**14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the tape can be made available for listening.

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**Pete Poulsen - Mayor**

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**Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer**