

**CITY OF KALAMA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 16, 2017**

**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, Sandra Macias, Mike Dennis Langham, and Rosemary Brinson Siipola. Councilmember Mary Putka was absent. City staff present were City Administrator Adam Smee, Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen, Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster, and Police Chief Ralph Herrera. City Attorney Sam Satterfield was also present. 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 the Budget Amendment Ordinance had been removed from the draft agenda.

**4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS**

**A. Dept. of Ecology – 2016 Wastewater Treatment Plant Outstanding Performance**

Mayor Poulsen announced that Kalama's Wastewater Treatment Plant had received the Outstanding Performance Award from Department of Ecology for the third year in a row. Councilmember Sandra Macias Hughes and Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen presented the plaque to Head Operator Butch Owen, congratulating him and Assistant Operator Alonzo Waddle for their hard work and dedication.

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None**

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

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Maruhn Park Monument Relocation – Concept**

City Administrator Adam Smee explained that after hearing the concerns with the relocation of the Dick Maruhn memorial at Maruhn Park which was promised to the Maruhn family and the community, he wanted to present a concept of what could be done. Local architect designer Jim Bain volunteered his time and came up with a concept that mitigates most of the items that will be displaced from the park area. The plan is not to create an additional financial burden to the City but hopefully be able to use our own forces to make the changes and improvements. This is a mitigation plan to make up for the loss of the park

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space displaced by the Police facility. The advantage of having the memorial on top of the site is the very interesting view you get of the river and surrounding area which doesn't happen in the current lower area. Administrator Smee noted that the current flag poles are in need of replacement, so moving them will not be an issue. He noted that this is a concept and not a promise that everything will happen immediately. The City is working to keep their promise to the Maruhn family. There are some constraints at the mitigation site due to the slope and existing roadway. Modifications will have to be made for public use. Jim Bain noted that moving everything to the top makes it a more pedestrian friendly area which works with the goal of making Kalama a more walkable community. The current location is more vehicle centric due to access from busy Frontage Road. Ms. Marrene Jenkins asked if anyone had studied how many people use the park. Mr. Bain noted that he has done an informal survey from the coffee shop next door and rarely sees anyone walk down East Frontage Road to the park but many people walk by on the Meeker Drive sidewalk. It is usually one and on occasion two cars that access the current location from East Frontage Road. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola noted that the City has a larger area at Toteff Park which travelers could be directed to. The area above can still be used by travelers, but making it pedestrian friendly will add to the local use.

**8. NEW BUSINESS – None**

**9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE - None**

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

**A.** Mayor Pete Poulsen reported there will be a street dance on Saturday night and invited everyone to participate. There will be a beer garden and a mini car show in preparation for the big show on Sunday.

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

**C.** Councilmember Sandra Macias reported on the work the crew is doing at the Juniper stormwater ditch increasing the pipe size to 24 inches in order to help with runoff issues during the winter. The work will be ongoing for the rest of the week, but should be completed by Monday.

**D.** Councilmember Mike Langham had no report.

**E.** Councilmember Rosemary Siipola stated she has not heard if she will be reappointed to the Health Advisory Board with the County. She did attend the Commissioner's meeting yesterday and spoke to have the County continue the needle exchange program. The County chose not to continue the program, but it will be taken over by the Family Health Center. The state funding will revert from the County to the Health Center. She noted there is a heroin and opioid epidemic in Cowlitz County.

**F.** Councilmember Mary Putka was absent.

## 12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

**A.** City Administrator Adam Smee reported that as a member of the County Solid Waste Advisory Committee he was notified of the County proposal for selling or leasing the Headquarters Road landfill site. He explained that a few years ago the County purchased this site and made improvements necessary to have it classified for municipal waste collections with the justification being that it would save the taxpayers money over time versus the then plan of transporting the waste to the east side of the state when the Tennant Way landfill closed. Part of logic of the County purchasing the landfill was to ensure that if the landfill was being used, it was being used by the local constituents rather than have it filled by long distance entities. It was proposed to be usable for the next 50 to 100 years. A lot of citizens didn't support the proposal when it was suggested nor when it was approved. Now the County has received an unsolicited offer from an independent waste collection firm for the landfill, the County Commissioners are proposing a request for proposal be issued to recruit more offers in the hope of determining the market value of the solid waste utility.

**B.**

The advisory committee recommended the County Commissioners not sell the landfill and requested 30-days to understand the entirety of the County Commissioners request. The County chose to move forward with requesting proposals for a spectrum of contract operations at the landfill and did not honor the request of the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. If a private contractor takes over the facility, the capacity could be filled faster than anticipated when it was purchased. This could have an effect on the citizens and also on the economic growth and ability to draw industry and business to the area. Adam noted that Waste Control is the local contractor for garbage services and have partnered with the County on landfill and waste management issues. They have exposure and concerns if the County outsources the services and they have not been consulted. All jurisdictions share this solid waste utility and the jurisdictions will be the ones receiving complaints from the citizens if service declines or rates increase, not the County. There are some Department of Ecology issues that could lead to fines related to the landfill, but these are going through a legal process that will be years before there is any resolution. There will be a cost to this if an outside contractor takes over the landfill. Adam noted that as a citizen, a City official and as a member of the Solid Waste Advisory Board he will be monitoring the process as it moves forward.

**C.** Superintendent of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen presented a written report. He noted the Juniper project is going well and they didn't run into any solid rock. The neighboring property owner may want to put picnic tables out in the summer once some dirt is put back in place. The County will be striping Kalama streets next week including up on Spencer Creek. He noted that crew member Bryce Drabek had attended a 3-day class and will be taking the test to get his Water Plant Operator 1 license. This will allow him to take a weekend on call rotation with the rest of the crew.

**D.** Police Chief Ralph Herrera presented his statistical report showing 105 calls for service and 19 resulting reports. He noted the burglary at the church which was interrupted by the reporting party; the two boat thefts with one being recovered by the County up river; vehicle prowls in Stone Forest; and the recent graffiti incidents downtown. They have suspects in one of the boat cases that may also have ties to other incidents. They are working with the Stone Forest Crime watch to encourage people to lock their cars and remove

their valuables. He noted that people seeing something need to call 911 to get an immediate response. Officers, especially at night are on patrol and not in the office to answer the phone. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola noted the City should consider doing the National Night Out event again next year. Chief Herrera agreed and has already started looking to next year. He noted the department is ready for the weekend events of the street dance and car show as well as the effects from the traffic and activities for the eclipse on Monday. He will be attending the Criminal Justice Training Academy beginning August 28<sup>th</sup> for two weeks.

D. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster reported that after the last meeting she had received quotes for replacing the furnace in the Chamber at \$9000 which along with the units on the North side of the building will cost a total of \$18,720.65. The cost of install ductless cooling system in the Council Chamber would be \$8900 plus tax, so is not cheaper than a new heat pump unit. She explained that she had asked about extending the north side system into the Chambers, but while it could be done, it would not operate efficiently due to the separate zones and only one thermostat for control. Administrator Adam Smee noted this what the contractor had also said and that this quote is less than what was quoted by the remodel contractor at \$24,000. If done the building would then have all new heating and cooling units. Ms. Marreen Jenkins asked if the City had requested other bids other than from the maintenance service provider. It was explained that the remodel had included one quote and the same recommendations as Denali was making. Another quote can be requested. Ms. McMaster also thanked Amalak for helping in sponsoring the street dance for the City and noted the Building permitting software was installed today and training provided. It looks like it will be very helpful to the department.

E. City Attorney Sam Satterfield reported that he had worked on several items for staff.

### 13. **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Councilmember Rosemary Siipola made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including:*

Claims and Payroll warrants 37961-38019 and ACH/EFT transactions for August 2017 totaling \$212,143.40

Approval of Minutes of the August 2, 2017 City Council Workshop

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

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

### 15. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the recording for this meeting is available for review upon request.

DRAFT