

**CITY OF KALAMA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
April 18, 2018**

**1. OPENING**

Mayor Mike Reuter opened the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Reuter led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilmembers present were Mike Truesdell, Sandra Macias, Mike Dennis Langham, Rosemary Brinson Siipola, and Mary Putka. City staff present were City Administrator Adam Smee, Director of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen, Clerk Kiley Mirenta, 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 – None**

**4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS - None**

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A. Water/Sewer Code Amendment – High Strength Waste Discharge and 8-inch Meters**

City Administrator Adam Smee explained the public hearing was for a code amendment to implement one change to the water code and two changes to the sewer code. We currently do not have an 8-inch meter fee. The City was contacted by the Steelscape Utilities department as they are looking at modifying their connection to the City water system. Currently they are operating on a 10-inch meter, which we do have a base fee for. Because there is nobody who has needed anything larger than a 6-inch meter other than Steelscape, the base fee for the 8-inch meter has not been addressed for either water or sewer. Anytime we change rates and fees in utilities we are required to have a public hearing. This is generally a commercial/industrial meter due to the volume of water. The second change is to establish a high strength waste discharge surcharge for sewer rates. Our wastewater plant operates with a few constraints. One of the constraints is volume, or how much effluent or sewage coming into the plant can be treated. It then also operates on a few levels of concentration within the inflow. One level is the biological oxygen demand or BOD for short and the other is the total suspended solids or TSS. Currently we have been charging the same based on the residential rate for usage. As you change the effluent streams, based on the products in the flow of sewage, you may have a change in concentration of BOD and TSS. While the volume may not be high, the capacity for both BOD and TSS go up significantly. Adam explained that some issues arose when Pyramid Brewing was in town years ago. Breweries generate high levels of BOD and TSS in their flows as do other industries with process water. This isn't necessarily standard sewage or effluent coming from a residence. This is water left over from some industrial process, food manufacturing process, or beer making process. Because of the experience with Pyramid, we are very sensitive and we are keenly aware of impacts of what happens when breweries wastewater is put into our influent flows. We are asking the council to

set a strength charge for industrial waste producers that is proportional to the amount of TSS and BOD capacity that they are utilizing in our plant. We do not have any problem selling them capacity, but we want to make sure the public is not subsidizing a higher concentration waste load if it is being billed as a residential rate. Adam presented the technical Memorandum from Grey and Osborne who analyzed the potential flow from the McMenamins facility when they start brewing beer there and what the impacts on the system will be along with the costs associated with it. The ordinance shows the rates and structure of the surcharges based on higher concentration flows. Adam stated that we will now have a platform to analyze affluent flows and be able to bill appropriately if we have another industrial processing facility so they are paying for the capacity they are using. He opened the floor for questions.

Mayor Mike Reuter asked for clarification on who it will affect in terms of the rates. Director of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen stated that it will not affect residential customers. The trigger is anything over 300 mg/liter of BOD or TSS. Kelly explained how we will take a sample to have it analyzed. Kiley Mirenta, acting Clerk, asked if this would be on a separate bill or if it would be included on their Utility bill every month. Kelly and Adam both said it would be included on the utility bill. Council member Mike Truesdell asked how we will know when it's happening and when it isn't. Kelly explained that McMenamins will be metering it so it comes into the plant slowly. He stated that it protects the city and the rate payers from having them do something out of the norm in the brewing industry. City Administrator Adam Smee explained that if capacity gets used up before the plant is paid for, it puts us in a really bad situation of not being able to build any more or allow any more sewer hookups because we are at capacity for the life of the plant. Adam stated that the idea is to annually transfer a specified amount that would be set in the budget under the reserves. As we still have debt on the plant, it pays that and anything in excess of the debt will build the reserve funds. By the time we reach capacity, if we have managed our finances properly, we will have at least a good share if not all of the funds required to expand the plant.

Tanaja Gravina, 473 N 4<sup>th</sup>, asked if this is only for McMenamins or anything that is industrially zoned or downtown? Director Kelly Rasmussen stated that it was only for anything that has a high strength waste. Restaurants are not typically high strength, it is usually a manufacturing facility. It is not something you have to test the restaurants for.

Matthew Merz, 5448 Meeker Drive, wanted to know what the issue was, whether it was the Sani start or the cleaning out, or the mash and wort that gets into the system. Public Works Director Kelly Rasmussen responded by explaining the process of how the sewer plant works and why it could cause a problem.

Linda Dolph, 770 Taylor Rd, asked for clarification. As homeowners, we are not ultimately subsidizing what they are contributing and there is already a plan or have an idea of what to charge in anticipation to the sure and coming expansion? Public Works Director Kelly Rasmussen explained how detailed the report was from Grey and Osborne in regards to how the surcharge was determined. Linda asked did you say we when you started, that there are industrial rates for sewer compared to residential? Clerk Kiley Mirenta stated that for residential, there is one base rate for sewer regardless of the meter size and that with commercial, the base fee is based on the meter size.

Councilmember Sandra Macias-Hughes reclarified that the first part of the public hearing was

because we had no 8-inch meter fee. Public works Director Kelly responded with yes.

**6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**7. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**8. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Ordinance No. 1399 – Amends KMC 12.10.01 - 8-inch Water Meter Fees**

Ordinance No. 1399 was read by title: An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Kalama amending Kalama Municipal Code Section 12.12.010 to include a base rate for an 8-inch meter for commercial water users.

Councilmember Rosemary Brinson-Siipola made a motion for the council to adopt the Ordinance as it was read. Councilmember Mary Putka seconded, and the motion carried.

**B. Ordinance No. 1401 – Amends KMC 12.08 & 12.36 – High Strength Waste**

Ordinance No. 1401 was read by title: An Ordinance of the City of Kalama, Washington amending Kalama Municipal Code Chapter 12.08 Sanitary Sewage Disposal – Rates and Connection Charges and Chapter 12.36 Wastewater Treatment Regulations to include the missing 8-inch meter base fee and adding surcharges to address the treatment required for high-strength wastewater flows.

Councilmember Rosemary Brinson-Siipola made a motion for the council to adopt the ordinance as it was read. Councilmember Mike Langam seconded, and the motion carried.

**9. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS**

Matthew Merz asked if anyone had a chance to read the Green Roof material he presented. Mike stated that it would be addressed under correspondence.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Reaffirmation of Ordinance Petition Rights -**

Mayor Mike Reuter talked to City Attorney Sam Satterfield about this. This is important to a lot of people and he thinks it needs to be addressed. We received a letter requesting reaffirmation of ordinance petition. The letter requests that it be put into an agenda item and he requested at the next city council meeting it be placed under new business for the council to consider any action. He asked the City Attorney to draft a response letter to address the legal standing of the petition and the claims made by Tanaja Gravina to the City Staff and council members by Wednesday next week to allow time for everyone to consider all of the information. The item will be on the next agenda and will be addressed then. The Council can consider the petition and decide if any action will be taken. City Attorney Satterfield explained that he will respond and have it put under new business so the council can take action if they feel they should.

Tanaja Gravina, 473 N 4<sup>th</sup>, wanted to add that she has been reading all minutes from over the years and I would say that Dick Mahrn specifically, every single time a petition has been brought to the Council, they have taken action. The Council not only heard them but helped implement those ordinances. I think that is very telling of where Kalama started and its very important for our voice to be heard. It's very important for our Council to know that we care about something. If we bring something to you we would hope that you would listen, we are very reasonable people and we are looking for compromise. There are things we do not agree on but we are all reasonable. We just want to know you guys care about us. Give us the option. We are not here for a fight we are just here to be heard. Long after we are all gone there will be people that will have to live with our decisions and we hope that you will just hear us.

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

- A.** Mayor Mike Reuter had no report.
- B.** Councilmember Mike Truesdell had no report.
- C.** Councilmember Sandra Macias had no report but was looking forward to presenting what her and Coni were working on.
- D.** Councilmember Mike Langham had no report.
- E.** Councilmember Rosemary Siipola had no report.
- F.** Councilmember Mary Putka reported that her and Coni have been working on a budget amendment for tourism funds and will get back to the council at a later date.

## **12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**A.** City Administrator Adam Smee stated that the Council should have received the 1<sup>st</sup> quarterly report of 2018. We are adhering to the budget and optimistic that we will continue to until the end of the year and if anyone has any questions give him a call. Other than that, we have been receiving some press in the Longview Daily News. There are some positive capital projects happening. There is the central port storm water project and the amphitheater project. There is also a four plus million-dollar marina improvement project that has been permitted and is under construction. The Port plans to begin work at East Port by installing the backbone infrastructure out at Kalama River Road. We are looking forward to all of the long-range planning and the future development of that site. Prior to that providing upland development property the Port has wanted to see in a long time. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola asked how much the East Port Development will cost. Adam responded with roughly 5 million dollars. All told, almost an 11-million-dollar investment into the community. He stated that it is pretty significant and to be proud of the benefits to citizens and businesses.

**B.** Director of Public Works Kelly Rasmussen presented a written report and stated that crew have been busy. They have been power washing the underpass in order to prepare for the McMenamans grand opening this coming weekend. He is currently looking at LED

lighting for under the overpass and working with Washington DOT to hang lighting from the bridge. He would like lighting to go on the catwalk, but BNSF stated that it may affect the trains. Public Works moved a two-inch water main that was running across someone's property up on Kilkelly Rd. We did have an easement but it was extremely vague from back when the Kilkelly's owned the entire field. We rerouted it to compensate for the homeowner's new foundation. We had 3 new services in the last week so building is continuing. Next Friday our Drinking water will participate in sectional conference for the American Waters works Association up in Tacoma. If it wins, it will go to Nationals in June down in Las Vegas. We won 3<sup>rd</sup> in Nationals in 2013 and received 1<sup>st</sup> for people's choice.

**C.** Police Chief Ralph Herrera presented his statistical report – 132 calls 12 resulted in reports. McMenamins is a real class act and is pretty well put together. They contracted flagging services and parking is a challenge but we will continue to monitor. The City is providing an extra officer to make our presence known. They have been very proactive with people leaving with alcohol. We will be prepared for this weekend as we are anticipating a great amount of people. The Twilight track meet is this weekend as well and all the pieces are in place in case it is needed. We would rather have more resources in place than less and find ourselves unprepared. We will regroup next week to see if we need any adjustments. Chief Herrera extended his thanks for the Caribbean dinner. It was a great turn out. Raised 4100 dollars for Shop with a Cop. It was great to see everyone support such a good program amidst the challenges. Councilmember Rosemary Siipola would like to thank Fire Chief Vic Leatzow for being a great MC and Amalak for providing support staffing. Tanaja Gravina thanked chief for everything he is doing.

**D.** Clerk/Treasurer Kiley Mirenta had no report.

**E.** City Attorney Sam Satterfield will have the response by Wednesday for the next council meeting. He requested that it be put in the next council packet.

### **13. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Councilmember Mary Putka made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including:*

Claims and Payroll Warrants in the amount of \$129,379.33

Approval of Minutes of the April 4, 2018 City Council Meeting

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

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

### **15. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Reuter adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the recording for this meeting is available for review upon request.

**DRAFT**