

**CITY OF KALAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2007**

1. OPENING

Mayor Pete Poulsen opened the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m.

A. Flag Salute

Mayor Poulsen led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

Councilmembers present were Dominic Ciancibelli, Donald Purvis, and Bud Gish. Councilmembers Adam Smee and Chuck Hutchinson were absent. City staff present were Director of Public Works Carl McCrary, Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster and Police Chief Bruce Hall. City Attorney Paul Brachvogel 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

A. Hopper, Dennis, Jellison - Fir Street Project

Mayor Poulsen recognized the representatives from the engineering firm of Hopper, Dennis, Jellison who are completing the design of the Fir Street Project. Mr. Mike Neimi made the presentation along with Greg Jellison and several other HDJ staff members. The plans being developed are at 90% completion. Changes have been made since the open house that was held a couple of months ago on the 50% drawings based upon the input received then. They want to get final comments, so they can finish up the design and put the project out to bid next month. Mr. Neimi reviewed the plans beginning at East Frontage Road and working up the hill.

Between East Frontage and First Street, the pavement will not be fully removed, but only an overlay and repainting completed. There will be bulb-outs at the intersection of Fir and First and Fir and Second streets. From First Street on up the hill there will be new pavement and sidewalks installed. The planter strips along Fir Street in this first block will be removed and sidewalk placed right at the curb. The old sidewalk may not have to be removed, if the new and old can be made to match. At the intersection of Fir and First Street the engineers will need to match the concepts that have been developed as part of the downtown revitalization project. A copy of the concept drawings will be provided to the engineers tomorrow. The proposed bulb outs will be more pedestrian- friendly and will help to provide some handicapped parking areas. They will not narrow the traffic lanes of the streets. They will provide some areas which businesses may be able to utilize for special events. Under the Fir Street project, the planting areas in the bulb outs will be left as bare dirt. For downtown, funding under the revitalization project can be used for the landscaping. It was noted that the concept for downtown includes larger trees at the bulb outs than exist, now and the engineers noted that site distance at the intersections is a very important compliance issue. This may be the first of the intersections downtown to be completed and will set the standard for the future ones. In the second block of Fir, there will be a small bump out at the alley which allows the grades to be matched better. The engineers are also preparing a plan for the new house' s driveway near the corner of Fir and Second Streets, which they will provide to the builder of the house very soon. They maintained the angle parking on the north side of Fir Street, but changed the south side to parallel parking in this block. This may allow some parking for downtown employees in order to leave the main street parking for customers. Eliminating the parallel parking also helped with some budget concerns and helped to allow for the bulb outs at the Second Street intersection. The new parking arrangement only decreases parking places by three or four. The street would have to be fully widened to allow for any additional parking.

In the next block, the design eliminates the on-street parking altogether, which was suggested at the previous open house. This allows the elm trees on the south side to be undisturbed. New sidewalks will be installed, but the old sidewalk may be left in place to retain some of the historical features. Due to the steep grade of the street, the sidewalks include "switchbacks" in order to meet the federal ADA requirements. Under the grant funding agreement with the Transportation Improvement Board, the ADA requirements have to be met even when it seems unrealistic to imagine anyone in a wheelchair trying to navigate a street with a 22% grade. The engineers have looked at all the options and had discussions with TIB on the issue. They made some alterations at the top of the hill on Third Street to create a safe walkway all the way around the intersection. These switchbacks will require some retaining walls and railings. The engineers will provide some photos of some railing options for the City to choose from. There are some existing stairs in portions of the blocks that will be removed during the project. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary addressed the elimination of the parking on both sides of the street in this block. The last house has no off street parking and there is an empty lot that could be built on in the future. It may be better to allow for parallel parking on the north side of the street. The street width is enough to allow for two 12-foot travel lanes and an 8-foot parking strip. After some discussion it was decided that parallel parking on one side of the street would be accommodated. This meets the adopted public works standards as well.

Mr. Niemi asked about the events that occur downtown during the year. There is the Fair in mid-July plus the Car Show and Days of Discovery in mid and late-August. So these would be times that work downtown would have to be stopped. Exactly when the construction on the project will begin depends on the weather. It may be possible to start as early as May if it goes to bid in February, but the upper portion of the street will have to be worked on during dry weather due to the grade. The area from Frontage Road through the First Street intersection is flat and may be able to be constructed first and then the up hill portion. This would also help to avoid interfering with the City events. There were some concerns raised about communication issues that have occurred on the current downtown project and that these need to be avoided on this project. Mr. Niemi noted this and agreed that good communication is necessary on a project like this one. The staging of the project was discussed, which addressed closing Fir Street to local traffic only. The project as proposed appears to be within the projected budget for the project funding. Some of these items will be addressed in the text portion of the bid documents to be completed. Mayor Poulsen thanked Mr. Niemi and his associates for the presentation.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS - None

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Offender Services Contract - Authorize Mayor to Sign

Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council authorize the Mayor to sign the Offender Services Contract with the County. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli seconded. It was clarified that this is a renewal of the agreement and has no changes from the prior one. The motion carried.

9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS

A. **Ordinance** - None on the agenda

B. **Resolution No. 498** - A Resolution designating the applicant agent and alternate for obtaining federal and state emergency assistance funding for the storm event in November 2006. Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council adopt Resolution No. 498 appointing Director of Public Works Carl McCrary as the applicant agent and Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster as the alternate. Councilmember Don Purvis seconded. It was clarified that this appointment only applies to the application and funding for the disaster relief funds received due to the November 2006 rain/flood storm event. The

motion carried.

10. CORRESPONDENCE - No items were brought forward

A.

11. MAYOR=S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS= REPORTS

A. Mayor Pete Poulsen informed the Council that the statements made at the last City Council meeting from Mr. and Mrs. Wise regarding a judgement against the City needed to be clarified. These statements caught the Council and staff off guard and further information has been received since that meeting. The court has filed a stipulated order of dismissal under which Mr. Miller has withdrawn the boundary line adjustment request. This has been agreed to by all parties and filed with prejudice, which means the lawsuit cannot be re-filed. There is no judgement against the City for any actions taken. Several Councilmembers noted their concern with hearing about a "judgement" from outside of City staff and were pleased to find out there was not a judgement. They did not understand why it was represented as such.

Mayor Poulsen read a letter from Assistant Public Works Director Doug Pierce in which he resigns from the City effective February 28, 2007 in order to retire. All the Councilmembers noted what a valuable employee Doug is and quipped that the City should "not accept" the resignation and make him work longer. The City Council acknowledged Doug Pierce's 27 plus years of service with the City and the asset he has been to the City.

B. Councilmember Adam Smee was absent.

C. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli had no report.

D. CouncilmemberChuck Hutchinson was absent.

E. Councilmember Donald Purvis had no report.

F. Councilmember Bud Gish had no report.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary presented a written report. He noted that Doug Pierce has been the best individual to work with and has always worked with the best interest of the City in mind.

B. Police Chief Bruce Hall reported that he will present a year end statistical report at the next meeting. He added that the new tasers had arrived and the officers would be receiving training on how to use them.

C. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster reported that thanks to Director of Public Works Carl McCrary having applied for available funding the City will receive a \$1000 grant from AWC to be used to replace the doors in the Headstart Room at the Community Building.

D. Mayor Pete Poulsen introduced new City Attorney Paul Brachvogel to those present. Mr. Brachvogel had no report.

13. CONSENT AGENDA -

Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including the Claims Vouchers totaling \$ 155,892.48 for December, 2006, the Payroll Vouchers totaling \$ 130,915.05 for December, 2006, and the minutes of the December 20, 2006 City Council Meeting. Councilmember Don Purvis 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 tape can be made available for listening.

(signed)

Pete Poulsen - Mayor

(signed)

Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer