



Our Town

Kalama honors its legacy of community pride, rich heritage and natural beauty while embracing growth and economic prosperity

City of Kalama

March 2020

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Mayor and Councilmember Macias

Mayor Mike Reuter has been serving as Mayor since January 1, 2018 after winning the election in November 2017. Mayor Reuter was born in New York, grew up in Florida, and has been a resident of Kalama for 15 years. He lives with his girlfriend and has two adult daughters. He first began serving the community on the Parks and Recreation Committee, Kalama Housing Authority Board, and the Kalama Planning Commission. Mike can often be found downtown interacting with residents and making sure Kalama is a beautiful place for visitors. He believes the Council and staff need to communicate better with the residents as they help Kalama through this period of growth. With growth will come change, and he would like to see Kalama retain the hometown feel and community spirit while welcoming in new businesses and new residents, allowing Kalama to be an attractive, small city for both.

Councilmember Sandra Macias put her name on the ballot in 2017 and was appointed to Position #2 when Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli resigned as she was running unopposed for that position. Sandra and her spouse Lynn Hughes retired to Kalama from the Bay area of California 8 years ago, and built a home in the Stone Forest subdivision. Having worked in Public Safety and Healthcare Management for 28 years, Sandra has a wealth of experience to draw from and is sharing her leadership skills and her passion for assisting others to succeed with the Kalama community. She is a strong advocate for fairness and public involvement in the community. She was the driving force for establishing an official logo, vision and mission statements supported by the public in 2018. You can find her and Lynn downtown frequently at local restaurants or shopping at the local stores. Sandra says, "Talking to residents, business owners and visitors to the town is a great way to learn what we need to do to support, maintain and manage growth in our town." Sandra is serving her third term as Mayor Pro Tem, has worked with staff in Finance helping with the new website design, and continues to work with Public Works addressing stormwater, utility, and street issues and preparing for the future.

ELECTRONIC BILLING & AUTO PAY



The City offers customers the ability to receive their utility bills via email and to set up automatic payment on a credit card or by electronic payment from a bank account. The City does not monitor the auto payments for expiration dates of credit cards, changes to cards or accounts, as this is private information of the customer and their responsibility to monitor. Customers need to remember when they get a new card, or replace a card, or change accounts they need to update any and all auto payments related to that account. The autopay system does send out email notifications that payments are not being accepted or

Contact Us
EMERGENCY/AFTER
HOURS

Police – 911

Public Works
360-703-0168 or 911

CITY HALL HOURS-
Monday-Friday-9-5

Utility Billing-
Payments
360- 673-4554

Building & Planning
360-673-5211

Finance – Accts
Payable
360-673– 4908

Clerk/Treasurer
360-673-4561

City Administrator
360-673-3265

Kalama Police Office
360-673-2165
Hours M-F 9am-
4:30pm

Kalama Public Works
360-673-3706

Kalama Library
360-673-4568
Hours – M-F Noon-5
Sat – 9-2

Kalama Community
Building
360-673-4565



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
Website
www.cityofkalama.com

Police Website
www.kalamapolice.com

Library Website
www.kalamalibrary.com

the credit card on file has expired, so it is important that customers read the emails related to the payments they schedule. Failure to update/change the information or heed the notices for rejected payments or late notices can lead to a delinquent account and disconnection of services. The City has recently experienced past due accounts due to credit/debit card expirations and the lack of attention to the notices that were issued by the system. Please be sure that you are receiving notices of payments and they are not going to a spam folder. City Staff can assist customers with the customer portal at the front counter or over the phone provided the customer’s payment information is entered by the customer. Staff is not allowed to take the information over the phone, set up, or update payment methods in the online system as it involves personal, private information and opens the staff and the City up to potential liabilities.

Census Day is Coming 4-1-2020



Invitations to respond to the 2020 Census arrive in mailboxes beginning March 12, 2020. An accurate count of Washington residents will ensure the fair distribution of political representation and of federal and state resources. These resources enable Washington and all cities to provide services to the community and its residents. Once you receive your invitation, which includes your specific filing ID number, you can respond via their on-line response system which is a user-friendly, confidential process for responding to the census. The Kalama Public Library has computers available if you don’t have access at home. The Library staff has had training on the census process and will be available to help with the filing. On April 1, 2020, designated as Census Day, the Library will host a special event day for the Census with coffee and cookies and extended hours from 10am to 6pm to help with on-line filing. If you have not responded to the census request electronically by mid-April, a paper form will be mailed out and at the end of April, and census workers will begin a door-to-door campaign to ensure everyone gets counted. Please be sure to respond to the census, as **EVERYONE COUNTS!!!!**



GARBAGE RATES INCREASE
3-1-2020

The City’s contract with Waste Control requires that all rate increases implemented by Waste Control shall be passed through to the City of Kalama customers. Waste Control has implemented an increase to their rates as of January 1, 2020. The City held a public hearing on January 16, 2020 and published the notice as required by RCW. The rates for Kalama residents will take effect on March 1, 2020. What will the new rates be based on one time a week pickup?

Cart Size	Current Rate	New Rate	Difference	Total	% of
Residential	Per Month	Per Month	Per Month	Annual Increase	Increase
32 Gallon	17.16	17.45	0.29	3.48	1.69%
60 Gallon	21.22	21.62	0.40	4.80	1.89%
90 Gallon	25.28	25.86	0.58	6.96	2.29%
Commercial					
32 Gal Cart	21.87	22.19	0.32	3.84	1.46%
60 Gal Cart	28.27	28.67	0.40	4.80	1.41%
90 Gal Cart	37.24	37.82	0.58	6.96	1.56%
Comm 300 Gal	117.73	119.85	2.12	25.44	1.80%
1.5 Yard Dumpster	117.73	119.85	2.12	25.44	1.80%

UPCOMING KALAMA CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

OPTIONS FOR FUNDING LOCAL STREET IMPROVEMENTS & TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2020 @ 6PM

Kalama City Council will hold a workshop to discuss options for funding the Transportation Benefit District which funds local street maintenance improvements in light of I-976 that will end the vehicle tab fee funding, on March 5, 2020 at 6pm in the City Council Chambers at 320 N. First Street. The meeting is open to the public, and citizens are encouraged to attend.



COMMUNITY BUILDING ISSUES THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2020 @ 6PM

The Kalama City Council will hold a workshop to discuss issues related to the Community Building and forming a Committee to review those issues on March 19, 2020 at 6pm in the City Council Chambers at 320 N. First Street. The meeting is open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend.



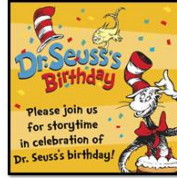
TOURISM FUNDING APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED DURING MARCH FOR 2020 EVENTS



The City of Kalama accepts applications for funding of projects that support or maintain tourism in Kalama. Applications are submitted for consideration twice a year – in September for inclusion in the next budget year, and in March for budgeted funding set aside for additional projects in the current year. The program is open to applications from public, nonprofit or private entities with a demonstrated ability to accomplish the proposed project. Pursuant to RCW 35.101 revenue collected from Lodging taxes must be used for activities and expenditures designed to increase tourism promotion and convention business, including but not limited to, advertising and marketing materials, marketing and publicizing events, community development programs, bid fees, conference/convention or trade shows, transportation costs, operation of a tourism destination marketing organization or otherwise distributing information for the purpose of attracting and welcoming tourists to Kalama that result in overnight stays. If you have an upcoming event that will draw people to Kalama, applications for funding are available at City Hall or on the City website.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss! Let's Have a Party!



Wednesday, March 4th
10:00 – 11:30
Storytime
at Kalama Library
All kids welcome!
Free Hats!
Free Books from Scholastic!
Free Cookies & Milk!
Great Stories!

hosted by
Kalama Police Department and the
Greater Woodland-Kalama Kiwanis Club*
*an international service club that focuses on helping children



Friends of the Library Book Sale – March 20-21, 2020



**Kalama Chamber of Commerce
Dinner – March 28th**

WHEN DO WE MEET?

Kalama City Council
1st and 3rd Thursdays - 7:00 p.m.

Kalama Planning Commission
2nd Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

Civil Service Commission
4th Thursday - 5:30 p.m. – As needed

Kalama Library Board
Bimonthly beginning in January on the
3rd Wednesday - 5:15 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION
Kalama City Council Chambers
at 320 N. First – Kalama Library Building

POLICE OR FIRE EMERGENCIES – CALL 911

**PUBLIC WORKS - AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY
NUMBER (360) 703-0168 – OR CALL 911**

- Kalama Police Office Non-Emergency... (360)-673-2165
- Kalama City Offices..... (360)-673-4562
- City of Kalama Fax..... (360) 673-4560
- Comcast..... (888) 226-2278
- Cowlitz County Assessor..... (360) 577-3010
- Cowlitz County Bldg. & Planning..... (360) 577-3052
- Cowlitz Public Utilities District..... (360) 423-2210
- Fire District #5 Office Non-Emergency... (360) 673-2222
- Kalama Post Office..... (360) 673-3567
- Kalama Telephone Company..... (360) 673-2755
- Labor & Industries..... (360) 575-6923
- Utilities Locate (Call Before You Dig!)... 811 or (800) 424-5555
- Waste Control..... (360) 425-4302

GO GREEN - ENROLL IN PAPERLESS BILLING. ONLINE BILL PAY AVAILABLE – ALSO AUTOPAY

Pay online 24/7 at www.cityofkalama.com

