

Pastor Chris Davis, Kelso Abundant Life Nazarene Church, gave the invocation. Deputy Mayor John Karnofski led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Deputy Mayor Karnofski. Councilmembers in attendance were: Karnofski, Slater, Myers, Roberson, and Malella. Councilmembers McDaniel and Fatcher were absent.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Approve the minutes of the 11/4/08 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2009-2010 Biennium Budget:

Deputy Mayor Karnofski opened the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m. There were no comments from the public. Deputy Mayor Karnofski closed the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Liquor License Renewals: 1) Plaza Jalisco, 400 W. Main; 2) Quick Stop Market, 807 S. Pacific

Auditing of Accounts: \$1,375,461.92

Upon motion by Councilmember Malella, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Approve the Consent Agenda and the Auditing of Accounts in the amount of \$1,375,461.92,' motion carried, all voting yes.

PRESENTATION:

New Kelso Brochure: Mark Plotkin, Cowlitz County Tourism Director, presented the new Kelso Brochure. The brochures are currently being distributed throughout the local area and mailed to visitor centers up and down the I-5 corridor from California to Canada. Discussion followed. Mark invited Councilmembers and staff to the Tourism Bureau's annual meeting Wednesday, December 10th, at the Red Lion from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Production of three new videos, which have just been completed, will be previewed at the meeting.

MOTION ITEMS:

Ordinance No. 08-3688 – Increasing Water and Sewer Rates: The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Myers, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Adopt Ordinance No. 08-3688, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 07-3658 TO INCREASE WATER AND SEWER RATES.' Public Works Director David Sypher

said the study included a \$5.5 million dollar revenue bond issue to address urgent water projects identified in the Capital Improvement Program. Discussion followed.

Rick Von Rock, 400 N. 7th, spoke from the audience in favor of changing to a monthly utility billing due to the increase in water rates.

Finance Director Brian Butterfield said the biggest problem with changing to a monthly billing cycle would be the need to hire additional staff.

Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance No. 08-3689 – Setting Stormwater Rates: The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Myers, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, ‘Adopt Ordinance No. 08-3689, ‘AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO REPEALING ORDINANCE NUMBERS 07-3659, 97-3379, 95-3294, 94-3252, AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 93-3225 RELATING TO STORMWATER MANAGEMENT BY ESTABLISHING A NEW BASE RATE FOR SINGLE-FAMILY PARCELS, AND LISTING THE CURRENT MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGE FOR ALL CATEGORIES OF OTHER DEVELOPED PARCELS.’

Discussion followed. Councilmembers Myers, Roberson, Malella, and Karnofski voted yes. Councilmember Slater voted no. Motion passed 4 to 1.

Ordinance No. 08-3690 – Budget Revision No. 1: The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Roberson, seconded by Councilmember Myers, ‘Adopt Ordinance No. 08-3690, ‘AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO AMENDING THE 2008 BUDGET TO REFLECT REVENUES AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO COVER EXPENDITURES OVER AND ABOVE THOSE ANTICIPATED AT THE TIME SAID BUDGET WAS ADOPTED.’ Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance No. 08-3691 – Setting the 2009 Property Tax Levy Amount: The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed Ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Myers, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, ‘Adopt Ordinance No. 08-3691, ‘AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO FIXING THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY AD VALOREM TAXES AT \$1,286,735 FOR THE 2009 BUDGET OF THE CITY.’ Finance Director Butterfield said citizens would see an increase of approximately \$11.75 a year for a \$150,000 home. Motion carried, all voting yes.

Close Out Project No. 790802 - Tam O’Shanter Parking Lot “A” Paving Improvements: Public Works Director Sypher said this was an excellent process and he thanked Lakeside Industries for giving us some excellent prices. Upon motion by Councilmember Roberson, seconded by Councilmember Myers, ‘Approve the close out of the contract for the Tam O’Shanter Parking Lot,’ motion carried, all voting yes.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dennis Richards: 1) Councilmember McDaniel and I attended a task force meeting with the Kelso/Longview Chamber to discuss branding. Some citizens of our community were selected to be on various committees. 2) On December 18th five applicants will be interviewed for the Police Chief position. 3) City employees have decided to adopt a needy family for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

STAFF REPORTS:

David Sypher: The crews have worked hard during our recent rainy weather.

Michael Kerins: The Planning Commission will be advertising for volunteers. Three terms are up this month and at least one position will be open.

Geraldine de Rooy: I have accepted a position east of the mountains. I want to say that it has been a pleasure to serve the citizens of Kelso. Deputy Mayor Karnofski said Geraldine will be missed.

Brian Butterfield: No report

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Gerald Malella: No report

Dan Myers: 1) City staff is doing a great job clearing the leaves from the street. 2) An article from the newspaper was read concerning the City of Sultan. Their councilmembers voted to disband their police department and contract with the county sheriff's department. I would be interested in getting some metrics to define what constitutes good coverage in case we are faced with that option and need to write a contract.

Alan Slater: The City of Castle Rock has discussed disbanding their police department. With the financial difficulties we are currently facing, we need to do the best we can to try to solve our problems. It will take help from everyone.

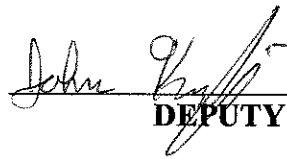
Rick Roberson: 1) I attended the downtown Veteran's Day event. The Kelso Eagles had a pancake breakfast. There was a ceremony at noon at the Kelso Commons Park and the Kelso/Longview Elks held a candlelight ceremony. Mike Zonich and Carol Zonich did a great job. 2) I attended the Governor's Town Hall meeting concerning disabilities and the difficulties disabled people face each day. 3) I am glad to hear staff members are helping a family over the holidays. 4) I want to say thank you to Geraldine for doing a great job at the library.

John Karnofski: No report

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Council convened into Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss possible litigation. At 8:03 p.m. the Council reconvened into Regular Session.

Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Move to Adjourn,' motion carried, all voting yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.



DEPUTY MAYOR



CITY CLERK