

Pastor Jay Peach, from the Faith Center gave the invocation. Mayor Mike Karnofski led the flag salute. Mayor Karnofski called the Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council to order. Councilmembers in attendance were Keenan Harvey, LaDonna Page, Kim Lefebvre, Mike Karnofski, Jim Hill, Brian Wood, and Lisa Alexander.

Agenda Approval: Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, 'Approve the Agenda as written,' City Manager Andrew Hamilton commented that there was a need for a closed session to discuss labor negotiations. Councilmember Harvey withdrew his previous motion. Mayor Karnofski asked for a motion to approve the addition of a closed session. Councilmember Hill motioned to add another item but stated to continue with the motion on the table. Mayor Karnofski asked if there was a second to 'Approve adding a Closed Session to discuss Labor Negotiations to the Agenda.' Councilmember Lefebvre gave a second. Council unanimously voted yes.

Upon motion by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Harvey, 'Add a Discussion Item regarding the Refurbishment of the Senior Center Exterior,' motion passed, all voting yes.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Page, 'Approve the Minutes of the 5/03/22 Regular Meeting.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Karnofski read a proclamation declaring May 1 –7, 2022 as "Professional Municipal Clerks Week" in the City of Kelso. Finance Director/City Clerk Brian Butterfield accepted the proclamation.

PRESENTATION:

2022 Legislative Session: Gordon Thomas Honeywell Government Affairs City Advocate John Weiss provided an overview on the end results of the legislative session. Discussion followed.

CITIZENS BUSINESS: None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Auditing of Accounts: \$2,200,089.38

Upon motion by Councilmember Lefebvre, seconded by Councilmember Harvey, 'Approve the Consent Agenda and the Auditing of Accounts in the amount of \$2,200,089.38,' motion carried, all voting yes.

COUNCIL BUSINESS / MOTION ITEMS:

Set Public Hearing – Allocation of 2022 HOME Program Dollars: City of Longview Planning Manager, on behalf of the Longview-Kelso HOME Consortium, briefed the Council on the program. Discussion followed. Upon motion by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Page, ‘Set the Public Hearing on the Allocation of 2022 HOME Program Dollars for the June 7, 2022 Regular Council Meeting.’ Motion passed, all voting yes.

Project Management Services Agreement – South Kelso Railroad Crossing Project: Community Development Director/City Engineer Mike Kardas briefed the Council on the agreement. Discussion followed. Upon motion by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, ‘Direct the City Manager to enter into agreement with Robertson Engineering in the amount of \$417,900.’ Motion passed, all voting yes. One citizen spoke from the audience.

Discussion – Senior Center Grant Match for Exterior Updates: Upon motion by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, ‘Provide up to 2/3^{rds} grant match for exterior updates to the Senior Center.’ Lengthy discussion followed. Senior Center Board Member Richard Sims spoke from the audience

Upon motion by Councilmember Wood, seconded by Councilmember Page, ‘Suspend the council rules to allow councilmembers to speak to this item over two times.’ Councilmembers Wood, Lefebvre, Karnofski, Page, and Hill voted yes. Councilmembers Harvey and Alexander voted no. Motion passed, 5 to 2. Discussion followed.

Mayor Karnofski reiterated the original motion, ‘the City will provide a Senior Center Grant Match up to 2/3^{rds} of the exterior update project.’ Motion failed, all voting no.

Upon motion by Councilmember Wood, seconded by Councilmember Page, ‘Resolve as a Council to support the Kelso Senior Association and look forward to their grant application at the next council meeting.’ Motion passed, all voting yes.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

Andrew Hamilton: 1) Reported on the various meetings he attended. 2) Announced that this was the 17th consecutive year that the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Finance Reporting to the City of Kelso under Finance Director Butterfield’s leadership.

STAFF REPORTS:

Finance Director/City Clerk Brian Butterfield: Reported that the City is currently in the middle of the annual state audit. He commented that the financial annual report will be submitted for certification upon completion of the audit.

Community Development Director/City Engineer Mike Kardas: Reported that the 4th & Oak St. project was stalled due to discovering petroleum in the soil. It is currently being tested. Discussion followed.

Public Works Superintendent Randy Johnson: Provided a staffing update.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Brian Wood: Announced that City of Battle Ground Councilmember Troy McCoy was elected to represent municipalities on the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board.

Keenan Harvey: 1) Spoke about the City of Longview's decision to move junk RVs to the old water treatment plant. 2) Commented that he attended the Chamber of Commerce After Hours.

Kim Lefebvre: No report.

Lisa Knight Alexander: 1) Reported that the Cowlitz Transit Authority Board meeting was rescheduled to May 25th. 2) Commented that the ARRR Pirates will be holding a supply drive for the Emergency Support Shelter.

LaDonna Page: Reported on a meeting with the Kelso Baseball Association regarding international play.

Jim Hill: 1) Spoke about potential international baseball and softball games in Kelso. 2) Spoke about the vandalism at the Rotary Skate Park.

Mike Karnofski: Commented that the next meeting of the Kelso Business & Community Association will be May 26th, 9:00 AM, at the Cowlitz Historical Museum.

CLOSED SESSION:

At 7:21 PM, Mayor Karnofski announced that the Council would adjourn into closed session to discuss labor contract negotiations. The session was estimated to last 15 minutes and no action would be taken. The city attorney was not present.

At 7:39 PM, the council reconvened into regular session.

There being no further business, Mayor Karnofski adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.



MAYOR



CITY CLERK