

Kevin Kennedy, 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:** City Manager Andrew Hamilton commented that, due to illness, the Kelso Police Department Annual Report Agenda Item will be rescheduled to the next regular meeting. Upon motion by Councilmember Page, seconded by Councilmember Harvey, 'Replace the Kelso Police Department 2022 Annual Report Agenda Item with the Public Works Department 2022 Annual Report Walk-on Item.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

**Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, 'Approve the Minutes of the 3/7/23 Regular Meeting,' Motion passed, all voting yes.

**PROCLAMATION:**

Mayor Karnofski read a proclamation declaring April 2023 as "**Fair Housing Month**" in the City of Kelso. Lower Columbia Association of Realtors Government Affairs Director Mike Wallin accepted the proclamation.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**Humane Society of Cowlitz County:** Executive Director Darren Ullman provided a brief overview of the animal control/shelter services, statistics, and the future plans for the facility.

**Hilander HOPE Coalition:** Coordinator Betsy Berndt provided an overview of their services in strategizing with local agencies and school districts for the purpose of reducing youth substance use.

**Public Works Department Annual Report 2022:** Public Works Manager Devin Mackin provided an overview of his staff and their functions in all the different divisions within the department.

**Kelso Public Library Annual Report 2022:** Library Director Erik Moser provided an overview of services and resources offered by the library along with 2022 statistics and future goals.

**CITIZENS BUSINESS:** None.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Auditing of Accounts: \$1,941,500.52

Upon motion by Councilmember Lefebvre, seconded by Councilmember Hill, 'Approve the Auditing of Accounts in the amount of \$1,941,500.52,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS / MOTION ITEMS:**

**Contract – Animal Control Services:** Upon motion by Councilmember Wood, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, 'Authorize the City Manager to enter into the agreement with the Humane Society of Cowlitz County.' Councilmembers Wood, Hill, Lefebvre, Karnofski, Page, and Alexander voted yes. Councilmember Harvey voted no. Motion passed, 6 to 1.

**Contract – Reimbursable Work Agreement:** Mr. Mackin briefed the Council on the agreement. Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Alexander, 'Authorize the City Manager to enter into the contract with Cowlitz County,' motion passed, all voting yes.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**Andrew Hamilton:** 1) Mentioned the meetings he recently attended. 2) Reported on meetings between staff, the federal lobbyists, and the state lobbyists.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Finance Director/City Clerk Brian Butterfield:** Announced that Deputy Clerk Traci Howard will be retiring at the end of May and introduced Nena Barajas as the next Deputy Clerk.

**Community Development Director/City Engineer Mike Kardas:** Announced the upcoming retirement of Senior Engineer Paul Klope.

**Public Works Manager Devin Mackin:** 1) Spoke about preparing the ball park fields for the upcoming sports season. 2) Reported on a recent sewer lateral emergency work. 3) He commented that the water treatment plant is running at 100 percent capacity.

**Police Captain Richard Fletcher:** 1) Provided a staffing update. 2) Reported that the revitalization of a peer support program within the agency is in the initial stages.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Brian Wood:** Reported on the Airport Board Meeting he recently attended.

**Jim Hill:** Spoke about the Hilander HOPE Coalition.

**Kim Lefebvre:** No report.

**LaDonna Page:** No report.

**Keenan Harvey:** Reported on meetings he had with the Humane Society Executive Director Darren Ullman and the newly elected County Coroner Dana Tucker.

**Lisa Knight Alexander:** Reported on the Transit Authority Board meeting she recently attended. Commented that there will be a public hearing on April 12<sup>th</sup> to consider discontinuing the route to Castle Rock.

**Mike Karnofski:** 1) Reported on the Spirit Lake/Toutle-Cowlitz River Collaborative meeting he attended earlier today. 2) Commented that Foster Farms is celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary in Kelso on May 4<sup>th</sup>, and the Council is invited.

There being no further business, Mayor Karnofski adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM.

  
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**MAYOR**

  
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**CITY CLERK**