

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 there would be an Executive Session item regarding the purchase of a property. Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Page, 'Approve the agenda with the acknowledgement of the purchase of property executive session item.' Upon motion by Councilmember Hill, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, 'Add a discussion item for the purpose of obtaining a grant writer regarding applications for the reimbursement of Catlin Hall funds from the Department of Commerce and funding assistance towards a Creative Arts District.' Councilmembers Hill, Karnofski, Lefebvre, and Page voted yes. Councilmembers Alexander, Harvey, and Wood voted no. Motion passed, 4 to 3.

Mayor Karnofski returned to Councilmember Harvey's motion to approve the amended agenda. Motion passed, all voting yes.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Lefebvre, seconded by Councilmember Harvey, 'Approve the Minutes of the 4/18/23 Regular Meeting and the 4/18/23 Special Meeting.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

PRESENTATION:

Allen St. Corridor Transportation Study: Transpo Group Senior Transportation Engineer Brent Turley provided an update regarding potential safety and mobility improvements to Allen Street between South 8th Avenue and North 17th Avenue. He commented that an open house is scheduled later this month. Discussion followed.

CITIZENS BUSINESS:

Two citizens spoke from the audience.

COUNCIL BUSINESS / MOTION ITEMS:

Fuel Tank Replacement Project-Airport Contract Award: Airport Manager Chris Paolini briefed the Council on the contract. Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Page, 'Approve the contract with Mascott Equipment Company for \$591,001.22 and authorize the Airport Manager to enter into the agreement.' Motion passes, all voting yes.

Permit Specialist Reclassification: City Manager Hamilton briefed the Council on the proposed reclassification. He commented that the reclassification would move the permit specialist to a non-represented position and a part-time employee would be hired to take over the union work portion of the position's duties. Upon motion by Councilmember Lefebvre, seconded by Councilmember Alexander, 'Approve the reclassification of the Permit Specialist to Planning Assistant M-4.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

Discussion Item-Document Recording Fees: Mayor Karnofski brought forward, for Council's consideration, the option for the City of Kelso to operate a homeless program separate from Cowlitz County. Lengthy discussion followed. Upon motion by Councilmember Wood, seconded by Councilmember Harvey, 'Table the item to allow staff more time to research this option.' Councilmembers Alexander, Wood, Hill, Page, and Harvey voted yes. Councilmembers Lefebvre and Karnofski voted no. Motion passed, 5 to 2.

Discussion Item-Grant Writer Services: Councilmember Hill requested the Council to consider a grant writer position for the purpose of applying for funding toward a Creative Arts District Designation Certification along with other grant funding opportunities. Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Alexander, 'Table the item to be brought back at the next council meeting'. Councilmembers Alexander, Wood, Karnofski, Page, Lefebvre, and Harvey voted yes. Councilmember Hill voted no. Motion passed, 6 to 1.

Resolution No. 23-1282 Emergency Waterline Repair – Edinburgh Ct: The Deputy Clerk read the proposed resolution by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Wood, seconded by Councilmember Page, 'Pass Resolution No. 23-1282 with a correction in Section 2. to show waterline instead of sewer failure; A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KELSO FINDING A FAILED WATER MAIN ON EDINBURGH CT. BETWEEN HARRIS ST. RD. AND GLEN MORE DR. TO BE A SPECIFIC EMERGENCY AND APPROVES CONTRACT FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR WORK WITHOUT FORMAL BIDDING.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Andrew Hamilton: 1) Commented on recent meetings he attended. 2) Spoke about the legislature wrap up and informed the Council that all the requests from the City of Kelso were granted. 3) Announced that the Port of Longview awarded the City \$46,000 for the purchase of property relating to a future kayak launch site. 4) Announced that the City earned the 2% premium discount from Association of Washington Cities. 5) Commented that a workshop will be scheduled for May 16, 2023, at 5:00 p.m., regarding zoning and document recording fees.

Finance Director Brian Butterfield: Provided an update on staffing.

City Attorney Janean Parker: Announced that the Winters Anchor Point Land Use petition appeal of the City's decision approving the Tramel Crow Development has been set for a Zoom hearing on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

Community Development Director/City Engineer Mike Kardas: Provided an update on the Paxton Road Water Main Project.

Public Works Manager Devin Mackin: 1) Provided an update on the current activities in the department. 2) Reported on an additional leak recently discovered on Cowlitz Way.

Chief of Police Darr Kirk: Provided a staffing update.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Brian Wood: Commented that he attended a special meeting of the Airport Operating Board.

LaDonna Page: No report.

Jim Hill: Spoke about the benefits of hiring a grant writer.

Keenan Harvey: 1) Commented that he attended the City of Longview Council Meeting. 2) Commented that he participated in the Kelso Clean-up Day event. 3) Spoke about the interviews for the new Chamber of Commerce CEO. 4) Reported on the Cowlitz Economic Development Council meeting he attended. 5) Mentioned that he attended recent school board meetings and various County Commissioner meetings.

Lisa Knight Alexander: 1) Reported on the Parks Board Meeting she attended. 2) Reported on a meeting with Mayor Karnofski and Mike Murray regarding food truck vendors in the City. 3) Participated in the Kelso Clean-up Day Event.

Kim Lefebvre: No report.

Mike Karnofski: 1) Reported on the Kelso Business & Community Association meeting he attended. 2) Reported on the Kelso Clean-up Day event. 3) Represented the City at the Council Economic Development Strategy meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 7:23 PM, Mayor Karnofski announced that the Council would convene into executive session to discuss a possible purchase of property. The session was estimated to last 10 minutes and an action may follow. The City attorney was present.

At 7:33 PM, the Council reconvened into regular session.

Upon motion by Councilmember Page, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, 'Approve the purchase of property in the amount of \$37,270.56 for a future kayak launch site.'

There being no further business, Mayor Karnofski adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM.


MAYOR


CITY CLERK