

Pastor Dave Grauer, Glory Dei Lutheran Church, gave the invocation. Mayor David Futcher led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Mayor David Futcher. Councilmembers in attendance were: Futcher, Myers, Lefebvre, McDaniel, Schimmel, Archer, and Roberson.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Schimmel, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, 'Approve the Minutes of the 2/21/12 Regular Meeting and the 2/28/12 Council Workshop,' motion carried, all voting yes.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Futcher read a proclamation declaring *March 2012*, as "American Red Cross Month" in the City of Kelso.

PRESENTATION:

Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue Annual Report: Assistant Chief Alan Headley gave a power point presentation showing the fire district's activity for 2011. The report showed that the calls received in Kelso were up from last year. Chief Dave Lafave spoke about the Cowlitz 2 Fire District undergoing a process of change. He said Chief Headley will be retiring at the end of the year. Chief Headley's position will be eliminated after he leaves and his duties and responsibilities will be absorbed by other staff members. EMS Administrator Becky Ribelin will likely be doing the annual reports. Chief Lafave said that they are working on improving their relationship with the City of Longview Fire Department. Chief Lafave said he would like to schedule a workshop with the City of Kelso Councilmembers and the Board of Commissioners to discuss the future of the Fire and EMS delivery system and our jurisdiction as a whole. Cowlitz 2 has just received word that they are recipients of a \$400,000 grant for the Hazardous Material Response Program. Cowlitz 2 is the only Hazardous Material Response component in the area and they are in partnership with the City of Vancouver. Councilmember Schimmel commended Chief Lafave and the Fire District's leadership in the community and especially for their training of our young men and women in the Fire Science Program at the high school. Councilmember Roberson commented on the positive impact the firemen have on children when they show up in full gear during community and school events.

PRESENTATION:

Kelso Rotary Skate Park Landscaping Project: Rick Roberson, 801 Walnut Street, gave a power point presentation. He pointed out that the location of the skate park, viewed from I-5, is the first impression of Kelso and it reflects how we feel about our kids. Because of the situation of the current economy and the financial situation of the city, the skate park may never be the show place it needs to be. It has been suggested that there be a fund raiser to raise the money needed to complete the project. Mr. Roberson

presented a landscaping design from Brittell Architecture Inc. He showed projected views including estimated costs of picnic tables, a walk way, park benches, shrubs, trees and a pergola, which has already been offered as a donation. Mr. Roberson is here to ask for any ideas that may help in achieving this goal. Public Works Director David Sypher said he may be able to help with the walk way and invited Mr. Roberson to come chat with him about it. Councilmember Myers commented that we need to consider the cost of maintaining the landscaping once it is done. Councilmember Schimmel said that the high school is always looking for projects for their Horticulture and Carpentry Programs. Even the Boy Scouts are always looking for projects. Mayor Futcher said he got a lot of feed back at the last Rotary Meeting which would be very helpful to getting this done. He knows of someone that will volunteer \$10,000 in matching contributions.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Fireworks Permits** a) Kelso Recreational Council (2 stands), b) Kelso Kiwanis (1 stand)
2. **Street Closure Scooter's Bar & Grill**, N. Pacific Ave., August 12th, 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
3. **Liquor License** Kelso-Longview Ladies of the Elks, 900 Ash Street

Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Approve the Consent Agenda,' motion carried, all voting yes.

CITIZEN BUSINESS:

Al Slater, 206 Crawford Avenue, spoke from the audience about a letter he received offering insurance coverage for water lines to property owners. He believes this may be a scam. The letter was given to Finance Director Brian Butterfield for follow up.

MOTION ITEMS:

Ordinance No. 12-3764 – Amend KMC 6.04.260 Regarding Declaration of Dangerous Dogs: The Deputy Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Roberson, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Adopt Ordinance No. 12-3764, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO AMENDING KMC 6.04.260 TO AMEND THE PROCEDURES FOR DECLARING DOGS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS OR DANGEROUS AND THE PROCEDURES FOR APPEAL THEREFROM, REQUIRING MICROCHIPS FOR IDENTIFICATION, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.' Councilmember Archer asked for the definition of a "Potentially Dangerous Dog and a "Dangerous Dog". City Attorney Janean Parker without having the actual language of the code in front of her, stated that a "Dangerous Dog" is one that has actually bitten a person or another animal. A "Potentially Dangerous Dog" is a known aggressive dog that has tried to bite someone. Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance No. 12-3765 – Commercial Engineering Design Fee Update/Revision:

The Deputy Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Schimmel, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, 'Adopt Ordinance No. 12-3765, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 09-3702 AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 08-3674 TO INCLUDE STREET/ALLEY VACATIONS AND DEFINE EXEMPTIONS AS PART OF THE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCESS AND PROCEDURE, AND ENGINEERING DESIGN REVIEW FEES SCHEDULE,' motion carried, all voting yes.

WALK ON ITEM:

Approve the proposed Settlement Agreement with AT&T and Authorize the City

Manager to enter into the Agreement: Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Approve the Settlement Agreement with AT&T,' Councilmember Schimmel asked if the taxes were funneled through the city. Mr. Butterfield explained that AT&T had been sued in a class action suit by its ratepayers because it was taxing data services in addition to its phone services. AT&T submitted a request for a refund of tax paid to the City in error that was attributable to internet access services. Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dennis Richards: 1) Jack in the Box is not ready to serve burgers yet. 2) I went by the old Splits building and they are working on installing the carpet. 3) We have scheduled a group Councilmember picture on March 20th, 6:00 p.m. in the council chambers. 4) Spring time is coming and Executive Assistant Shelly Timm has asked me to give out the notice that we are now taking donations for the city hall flower baskets. The flower baskets are \$50 a piece but you can donate any amount that you would like. Please contact Ms. Timm if you would like to make a donation.

STAFF REPORTS:

Janean Parker: No report.

David Sypher: 1) In mid February, the Allen Street sewer had a back up due to fats, oil and grease (F.O.G.) issues. We were able to free up some of the lines. But now the grease is plugging some holes downstream. 2) We are continuing our efforts in keeping up with the potholes. 3) The Diking Certification is about done. Because we made the effort to be able to provide some federal money, we were eligible to use the Corp. of Engineers which saved the tax payers about \$2 million. This effort worked out great for the community. 4) Even though it is March, the de-icing is still occurring. I want to commend the crew for their extra effort in coming in early and getting that done. 5) We are still working on the 6 year Capital Improvement Program and I will be bringing it to

you within the next three council meetings. 6) The Stormwater Master Plan and the Water Master Plan are winding up. 7) A new Solid Waste Management Plan was just finalized which will make use of the land fill proposal purchase. 8) We are working hard on our dead meter program and replacing damaged fire hydrants. 9) Due to Ms. Parker's excellent work on the airport agreement, signatures are done and finalized by all of the local jurisdictions.

Nancy Malone: 1) I attended the Habitat for Humanity 'Ground Breaking Ceremony' at the 1504 North 2nd Avenue property on Sunday. Councilmembers Myers and Schimmel attended the ceremony along with quite a few other people. Habitat for Humanity is very appreciative to the City of Kelso for its help in acquiring that property. 2) I have been working with the Council of Governments, Cowlitz County, and the cities within the county on the FEMA map revisions. We are trying to identify all the properties in the current flood plain and the properties that will be in the flood plain after the revisions are made. We have discussed holding one Open House for all jurisdictions instead of each jurisdiction having their own. FEMA and DOE will be available to attend, one time only, if all jurisdictions have one Open House as a group. We have tentatively scheduled April 9, 2012, 6:00 p.m. at the Expo Center. FEMA will provide staff members that can talk to us about the Map Modernization Program and the National Flood Insurance Program. Staff members from all jurisdictions will be there to answer any questions. Mayor Futchter asked if the affected property owners will be determined and notified before the Open House. Ms. Malone said she knows of a couple of people working on that now. She hopes to provide an overlay map that will show the relevant properties and how they will be affected. Councilmember Myers stated that he has learned that it will be the local jurisdictions responsibility to resolve any appeals or complaints from property owners due to the FEMA map revision. 3) I have recently done a building permit comparison. In January and February of 2011 we issued 30 permits. In January and February of 2012 we issued 64 permits. As you can see we have been extra busy with permits, which do not include all the other programs, meetings and daily routine we do at the same time. Our permit system has helped us work more efficiently. To keep working toward efficiency, we are developing an intake issuance and inspection system. 4) Our team is struggling to keep up with addressing all of the nuisance and abatement issues. We are working fast and furious keeping our head just above water. Mayor Futchter said that in the best possible way, he hopes she continues to be overwhelmed with building permits.

Cindy Donaldson: 1) As of today, we are testing the eBooks system. Hopefully by next week, if you have a Kelso Library card, you will be able to download books. 2) The mall is hosting the "Most Beautiful Baby Contest" this weekend. 3) We are looking forward to hosting the Kelso Public Forum on March 24th. Councilmember Myers asked if the Kelso Library is participating in the "Reading is Fundamental Forum". Ms. Donaldson said she is not aware of it. Councilmember Myers said he will get her the information.

Andrew Hamilton: 1) I want to tell you about a reserve officer named Jake Stoutt. He has resigned after 10 years of service. He left to have more time with his family. He gave me a letter that expressed how his service to the City of Kelso was a rewarding experience. 2) I can not say enough good things about the partnership with the Cowlitz 2 Fire District. 3) Since the first of the year, patrols have answered 2535 calls, which are up from last year. We are working with 3 less patrol officers and one officer has been out on sick leave since December. The detectives have been involved in cases you may have read about in the newspaper. 4) The recent winter weather has kept patrols very busy with traffic mishaps. 5) Our Citizen's Academy starts tomorrow night with approximately 35 applicants. 6) Our Police Science class is finishing the second half of its year. They will be going on a field trip to the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission. This is only 1 of 3 Police Science Classes in the state of Washington. We have received accolades from the staff up there in the past on how the class acted and how they were the only ones that came in uniform attire. We have over 20 kids signed up for next year's class.

Brian Butterfield: I will take the letter that Al Slater brought and give it to the city attorney for a legal opinion.

Traci Howard: I just wanted to remind everyone that this weekend is Daylight Savings Time. Do not forget to turn your clocks forward one hour.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Dan Myers: I attended the Regional Information Forum. A report from the Port of Longview was that they have had several ships go through the EGT terminal. They stated that a 100 car train can be unloaded in just over 4 hours. They expect to handle about two hundred ships a year in the future. There will be a lot of ship traffic coming into the port for grain.

Rick Roberson: It is the middle of March and the deadline for the Public Disclosure Commission annual filing is rapidly approaching. Mayor Fatcher said that all councilmembers are required to file and the deadline is April 15th. Councilmember Myers said that it can be filed electronically and if anyone needs assistance in doing that, he would be glad to help.

Kim Lefebvre: 1) I went to the "Big Idea" meeting last Friday. We are working on the by-laws which should be wrapped up soon. They have a lot of really good ideas. 2) I am excited for tomorrow. I am participating in the Citizen's Academy and I am looking forward to having a good time. 3) I am happy that Ms. Malone is so busy. That was my wish for the year.

Gary Schimmel: No report.

Todd McDaniel: No report.

Gary Archer: No report.

David Futcher: No report

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Council convened into Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss applicants for the Interim City Manager position. The City Attorney was present. The executive session is expected to last approximately fifteen minutes.

At 8:30 p.m. the Council reconvened into Regular Session.

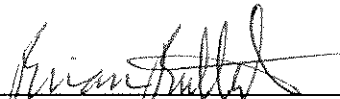
Upon motion by Councilmember Lefebvre seconded by Councilmember McDaniel 'Appoint Andrew Hamilton as Kelso Interim City Manager beginning April 1, 2012.' Councilmembers Futcher, Schimmel, Archer, Lefebvre, Roberson, and McDaniel voted yes. Councilmember Myers voted no. motion passed 6 to 1.

Mayor Futcher commented that Mr. Prothman of The Prothman Company contacted him and made a strip down version offer of their service. They would search out 6 – 8 candidates for the City Manager position. They would do the reference checks and send out the regret letters to those who did not make the cut. The cost for this service would be \$9,000. Upon motion by Councilmember Archer, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Keep the process internal for the hiring of the City Manager position.' Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

There being no further business, Mayor Futcher adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.



MAYOR



CITY CLERK