

**CITY OF KALAMA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 15, 2009**

1. OPENING

Mayor Pete Poulsen opened the City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Poulsen led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members present were Adam Smee (arrived @ 7:03pm), Dominic Ciancibelli, Chuck Hutchinson, Don Purvis, and Bud Gish. City staff present were Director of Public Works Carl McCrary and Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster. Members of the public present are listed on the sign-in sheet.

2. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

4. PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

A. Proclamation - Week of the Young Child - April 19 - 25, 2009

Mayor Poulsen recognized Ms. Cindy Stonex representing the United Way and the Early Learning Coalition. Ms. Stonex explained that they will be honoring young children and their teachers over the next week under this proclamation. Mayor Poulsen read the proclamation for the record.

B. Planning Commission Quarterly Report

City Planner Matt Hermen and Commission Chairman Don Mathison presented a written report on behalf of the Planning Commission. Commissioners Dena Diamond-Ott and Jeremy Somogye were also present. He stated that reports would be submitted on a more regular basis in the future. The Commission has been working to complete the commercial code update which will bring the zoning code into compliance with the updated Comprehensive Plan. Included will be architectural standards for downtown, additional permitted uses and a more user-friendly code. They also completed the review of the Fire Code the Council will be adopting. Mr. Hermen explained that out of the discussions of the commercial code, the Commission would like to explore the possibility of expanding the commercial area through possible rezoning. This would involve six to nine months of review to look at the feasibility of different areas throughout the City. The Commission would like to meet with the City Council during the budget process to work up a plan and set goals for the future. Then the City can set a budget to meet those goals. There was discussion on what the Commission had in mind with rezoning for commercial. They do not have a real plan in place as they need to study the areas available and what infrastructure is currently available in those areas and what functions or activities the different areas will be able to sustain. They would want to

involve the Chamber and the Port as well in the discussions. The Commission would like to have several workshops with the Council beginning with a brainstorming session to determine the goals in the late summer or early fall. Having a plan will help the City to be able to apply for different funding sources to cover some of the costs associated with the goals set. There are different grants available to help cities plan for the future and enhance themselves. The effects of rezoning the property tax values were also discussed. Mr. Jim Dickey asked if property owners shouldn't have a say in being rezoned or would the City force it on them? It was explained that the City would be looking at areas and making a plan, which would then be presented to the public for comment. In order for Kalama to grow for the future, these are issues the City needs to address. Property involved in a rezone would be allowed to continue as it is until such a time as it would be sold. Mr. Dickey also commended the Planning Commission and Mr. Hermen for their hard work on the code update. Mayor Poulsen thanked the Commission for the report.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Selection of Engineering Firms - Recommendations from Committee

Councilmember Adam Smee stated that the process was very efficient and easy to participate in due to Director of Public Works Carl McCrary great organization. They were able to complete the interviews in a couple of afternoons. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli commented that all the applicants were very knowledgeable and experienced, but due to all the hands on experience they have had with Kalama, Gray and Osborne Engineering was the clear choice for him. They are very responsive to our needs, plus they provided a timeline for getting the project documents together faster than the other applicants for the downtown project. The City has a very short window to get the bid packages together and get it out to get a good bid back. Mr. McCrary noted that once a contract is negotiated for the project it will have to be approved by Washington State Department of Transportation, so it may require a special Council meeting to expedite it. Mayor Poulsen requested that the selection committee also act as the negotiating committee and they agreed. Councilmember Ciancibelli thanked Mr. McCrary for organizing the process so well.

Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson made a motion the City rank the Engineers and Surveyor as follows and enter into negotiations with the firms ranked as number one:

General Engineering Services - 1) Gray & Osborne; 2)Wallis Engineering; and 3) Skillings Connolly.

Construction Management of First Street Project Phase 2 - 1) Gray & Osborne; 2) Wallis Engineering; 3) Skillings Connolly; and 4) Jerome Morrisette.

General Surveying Services - 1) Bluhm & Associates; 2) Gray & Osborne; 3) Lawson Land Services; and 4) Skillings Connolly.

Councilmember Bud Gish seconded, and the motion carried.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Cascade Natural Gas - Franchise Agreement - Renewal - Ord. 1238 First Reading

Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster explained that a franchise agreement cannot be adopted at the first meeting at which it is presented. So this will be the first reading, and it will be on the May 6, 2009 agenda for passage. The most up-to-date version was provided tonight after the attorney's had completed their reviews. She read Ordinance No. 1238 by title. The old agreement was for a period of 25 years, and this one will only be 10 years. Mr. Tom Wilson of Cascade Natural Gas was present to answer any questions. As there were none, the ordinance will be presented for passage at the next Council meeting.

9. ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS - None

10. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Notice of Cowlitz County Government Summit - May 26, 2009, 6 pm @ the Cowlitz County Event Center

B. Copy of Invitation to all City Committee members to attend Meeting on 5/6/09

11. MAYOR'S REPORT & COUNCILMEMBERS' REPORTS

A. Mayor Pete Poulsen had no report.

B. Councilmember Adam Smee reported he had attended a committee meeting regarding grouping health insurance for all entities in the County in order to get better rates. It will be a lengthy process. He will also be attending a committee meeting on the proposal to combine Building Departments countywide.

C. Councilmember Dominic Ciancibelli reported he had completed the hanging of the doors at the Police Department.

D. Councilmember Chuck Hutchinson noted the Police building is moving forward. He added that he was unable to attend the recent Chamber after hours meeting.

E. Councilmember Donald Purvis asked about the concrete slab poured at Toteff Park. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary explained this area is being prepared to be used as a bus stop, and the additional concrete was needed for handicapped accessibility.

F. Councilmember Bud Gish had no report.

12. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Director of Public Works Carl McCrary presented a written report.

B. Police Chief Bruce Hall was absent.

C. Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster provided the quarterly finance reports in a revised format and addressed the issue of the General Fund Reserves. Several of the Councilmembers stated they appreciated the information and how it was provided. Once the taxes are received in April and early May, there will be a more a complete picture. There will need to be a workshop in May.

D. City Attorney Paul Brachvogel was absent.

13. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Bud Gish made a motion the City Council approve the Consent Agenda including Claims Vouchers Totaling \$27,892.05 and the City Council minutes of April 1, 2009. Councilmember Adam Smee seconded, and the motion carried.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Poulsen adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. These minutes are not verbatim. A copy of the tape can be made available for listening.

Pete Poulsen - Mayor

Coni McMaster - Clerk/Treasurer