

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 5, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dorothy Slagle called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Ray Smith, Dorothy Slagle, Jesse Garrett, Krist Matthews and Debbie Gaskin.

Council Member Ray Smith moved to excuse Council Member Les Callas from the meeting. Council Member Jesse Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Ray Smith - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Krist Matthews - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

STAFF/GUESTS

Staff - Raena Hallam.

Guests - Jeff Slagle and Jessie Christopher.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

As there were no Announcements or Mail Received, City Council moved on to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC HEARING - KEEPING OF ANIMALS - CHICKENS & RABBITS

Kettle Falls Planning Commission Member Jeff Slagle briefly reviewed City Planner Dave Keeley's staff report:

**Staff Report**

July 5, 2011

At the request of several residents, the Kettle Falls Planning Commission held two meetings to review, research and consider the keeping of chickens and rabbits within the city limits.

During their research, the Planning Commission discovered the following Washington Cities allow the raising of chickens for backyard egg production. These include the Cities of:

Auburn  
Bonney Lake  
Bothell  
Federal Way  
Kelso  
Kirkland  
Lakewood  
Seattle  
Spokane  
Spokane Valley

Colville allows the raising of chickens in their R1S Zone - Rural Suburban.

Each city was contacted separately by David Keeley - City Planner, Jeff Slagle - Planning Commission member, and/or Sara Brown - Citizen. All three reported back to the Planning Commission that in every case, these communities did not have any problems with chickens and in fact several communities are considering raising the number of chickens from 5 to 8 per household. None of the communities had any negative comments or complaints.

On behalf of the Kettle Falls Planning Commission, they recommend to the City Council that the Keeping of Chickens and Rabbits be allowed within the city limits with certain limitations.

Mayor Dorothy Slagle opened the Public Hearing to Public Comment at 7:09 p.m.

Mr. Slagle reviewed with City Council the guidelines outlined in the proposed ordinance:

- A. Permitted only in the Single Family Residential (SFR) zone.
- B. A maximum of five (5) chickens or rabbits total are allowed per household.
- C. No roosters are allowed within the city limits.
- D. Coops and hutches must be placed in rear yard and a minimum of 10' from all property lines.
- E. Chickens must have at least 1 wing clipped to prevent flight.
- F. The combined size of the coop and run must not exceed 200 square feet.
- G. There is an annual \$10 fee per household that is renewed in January of each year. This license fee shall be established by resolution of the City Council.
- H. Any and all complaints will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Any homeowner who receives a minimum of three (3) legitimate complaints from neighbors or other residents will be required to remove their animals.

Mr. Slagle reported he had done a lot of research and contacted several cities that allowed Chickens and/or rabbits. Mr. Slagle stated none of the cities complained about their ordinances and were very encouraging. Mr. Slagle also reported he checked with various real estate agents who each stated showing properties with chickens was not a problem.

Council Member Jesse Garrett commented that all the research presented represents chickens, but not rabbits. Jesse wanted clarification if the purpose of the ordinance was for pets only or food also.

Council Member Debbie Gaskin stated the purpose is for food and pets.

Jesse Christopher stated rabbits can be butchered in 3 to 5 months. Ms. Christopher suggested putting in the ordinance a time limits such as 12 weeks before the rabbits need to be butchered for food.

Mr. Slagle stated the Planning Commission did not address the reproduction issue.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam asked City Council to consider some issues before the final reading of ordinance.

1. Who will enforce the ordinance and what is the definition of a "legitimate complaint"?
2. Make sure the ordinance doesn't require offenders to go to court to save costs.
3. Address what happens if a chicken gets lose and cannot be caught or are killed by stray dogs.

Mayor Slagle closed the Public Hearing to Public Comment at 7:26 p.m.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

#### APPROVAL OF THE June 21, 2011 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES AND JUNE VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL

Council Member Debbie Gaskin moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Ray Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Ray Smith - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Krist Matthews - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

Council Member Jesse Garret requested a correction be made changing Dave Hudson's title be changed to President instead of Vice-President of Chamber.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

As there were no Committee Reports, Council moved on to Staff Reports.

#### STAFF REPORTS

As there were no Staff Reports, Council moved on to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

UTILITY RATES - SEWER

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam asked for direction from City Council regarding increasing the sewer rates. After discussion, City Council asked Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam to provide financial figures for two scenarios.

1. Increase the sewer rate \$12 in August, 2011 and again in August, 2012.
2. Increase the sewer rates \$6 every 6 months beginning in August, 2011 for a total of \$24.

ORDINANCE NO. 1705 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING A PORTION OF KETTLE FALLS MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 6.08 - KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1705 by title only. Council Member Ray Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. Council Member Ray Smith - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Krist Matthews - no and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

*Ordinance No. 1705 - An Ordinance amending a portion of Kettle Falls Municipal Code Chapter 6.08.*

OLD BUSINESS

AS there was no Old Business, Council moved on to Public Comment.

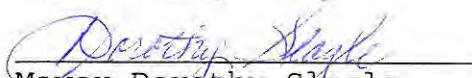
PUBLIC COMMENT


AS there was no Public Comment, Council moved on to Adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Dorothy Slagle adjourned the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Dorothy Slagle

Attest:   
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Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer