

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 20, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dorothy Slagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

STAFF/GUESTS

Staff - Raena Hallam, Scott Sterland, John Ridlington and Joel Gassaway, Charlie Schuerman and Dave Keeley.

Guests - Steve Bruchmann and Jim Hall, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

As there was no Public Comment, City Council moved on to the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Debbie Gaskin moved to approve the first half of December vouchers. 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.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

STAFF REPORTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief John Ridlington reported the Fire Department had responded to a gas leak at Ferrell Gas. John stated one of the valve caps appears to be leaking. Mayor Slagle expressed her concern to John and asked him to keep on top of it and make sure it is fixed as soon as possible.

UGA BOUNDARY UPDATE

City Planner Dave Keeley reported the Stevens County Commissioners adjust the Urban Growth Area for the Kettle Falls. Dave stated he expects Mr. Varnell to move forward with the annexation process in the near future. This annexation would add another 60 acres to the City limits.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Scott Sterland reported he had approached Booth and LaDuke Motors about donating a police vehicle and they have determined they cannot do that at this time. Scott stated his car is in bad need of repair.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Police Chief Scott Sterland reported the Focus Newspaper will be doing an article about Special Olympics and his involvement.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Slagle moved Agenda Item #1 Ordinance No. 1710 from Old Business to discuss first.

ORDINANCE NO 1710 - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF KETTLE FALLS FOR THE YEAR OF 2012

Mayor Slagle stated the draft budget/Ordinance No. 1710 is a balanced budget with the following cuts made to the Current Expense Fund:

- Mandatory furlough days for all non-union positions.
- Layoff one Police Officer
- Kettle Falls swimming pool will be closed this summer. All swimming pool staff positions have been eliminated.
- The Building Inspector position has been eliminated and the duties added to the City Planner.
- One Summer Helper position has been eliminated and one Summer Supervisor position has been cut back one month. -
- \$50,000 will be withdrawn from the City's savings accounts

City Council reviewed the proposed budget.

Council Member Krist Matthews stated he didn't realize there would be any layoffs. Mayor Slagle stated layoffs have been discussed numerous times throughout the budget process.

Council Member Krist Matthews suggested cutting all janitorial services and have the employees take out their own garbage.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated none of the employees would have a problem taking out their own garbage but the City is obligated to provide janitorial services to the Information Center. Raena stated the amount of money saved would not make up the difference to keep a police officer position.

Police Chief Scott Sterland stated he recognizes the difficult decision of the Mayor and City Council but asked them to consider keeping the position for the first quarter.

Police Chief Scott Sterland expressed his concern that there will be times when Stevens County does not have any one in the area to respond and there will be times when the City of Kettle Falls will not have police coverage.

Mayor Slagle explained to City Council that if the budget is adopted to meet RCW requirements, that it can be amended at a date if new funding sources are identified.

Mayor Slagle suggested City Council take a break for a few minutes. City Council took a break at 7:53 p.m. Mayor Slagle called the meeting back to order at 8:03 p.m.

Mayor Slagle suggested City Council address the remaining items on the Agenda and return to the budget discussion at the end of the meeting.

City Council moved on to Old Business.

OLD BUSINESS

AVISTA UPDATE

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway requested City Council to authorize the Mayor to sign the Avista MOU #1, MOU #2 and the Water Rights Purchase and Sale Agreement.

Mayor Slagle expressed her excitement and relief about finally having this issue wrapped up. She thanked everyone for their hard work in getting to this point.

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Avista MOU #1, MOU #2 and the Water Rights Purchase and Sale Agreement. Council Member Debbie Gaskin 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.

ORDINANCE NO 1710 - AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF KETTLE FALLS FOR THE YEAR OF 2012

CONTINUED:

Council Member Krist Matthews stated he would like another week to review the draft 2012 budget. Krist suggested meeting December 27th at 6:30 p.m.

Council Member Krist Matthews moved to schedule a Council meeting for December 27, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. to further discuss the 2012 budget. 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.

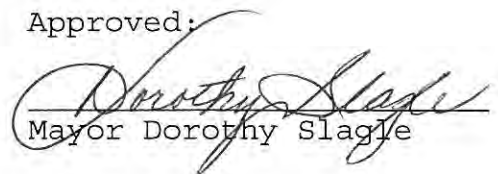
PUBLIC COMMENT


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

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Dorothy Slagle adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Approved:


Mayor Dorothy Slagle

Attest: 
Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer