

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Dorothy Slagle, Ray Smith, Bonnie Bradley, Jesse Garrett, Cris Haynes and Debbie Gaskin arrived at 7:02 p.m.

STAFF/GUESTS

Staff - Charlie Schuerman, Raena Hallam, Dave Keeley, Joel Gassaway, Chris Courchene and John Ridlington.

Guests - Jack Haynes, Larmie Edwards, Sandra Cox and Jim Giesler.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

VARNELL PROPERTY INVESTORS MEETING

Mayor Slagle announced a meeting is scheduled for tomorrow with investors interested in investing in the community of Kettle Falls. Mayor Slagle stated the meeting will be to discuss possible investment ideas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

SAVE THE POOL COMMITTEE

Fire Chief John Ridlington stated the Save the Pool Committee (STPC) has raised enough funds to open the Kettle Falls Swimming Pool this summer for lessons only. This would mean a season two weeks shorter than last year, from the last week of June through July 31, 2013. The STPC is requesting City Council review pool fees and increase the cost of lessons by \$5.00.

City Council thanked Fire Chief John Ridlington and the STPC for their hard work.

CONSENT AGENDA

APPROVAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 19, 2013 AND FEBRUARY VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMITTEE

Council Member Debbie Gaskin reported the Horizons group is organizing a city wide clean up on Earth Day, April 16th. Council Member Debbie Gaskin also stated the Planning Commission meeting discussed revitalization in the community.

FIRE DEPARTMENT - EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES

Council Member Jesse Garrett stated Mr. Beers did a presentation at the Stevens County Fire District #6 meeting regarding an Emergency Response Unit. He stated it was very informative.

STAFF REPORTS

CITY BROCHURES

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam distributed a draft City Brochure created by Secretary/Clerk Sherry Chambers. Raena requested City Council to review and suggest any changes or make comments before the brochures are printed.

PLANNING COMMISSION

City Planner Dave Keeley reported Kettle Falls Planning Commission Member Larmie Edwards has indicated he would like to resign, but would wait until a replacement is found for his position.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES

Fire Chief John Ridlington spoke more about Mr. Beers presentation at the Stevens County Fire District #6 meeting. John stated with the increase in calls, training and purchasing some equipment the cost would be around \$10,000 to get a program started.

PUBLIC WORKS

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway stated 2013 has started out to be unlucky with well Pump #2 still down and waiting to be rebuilt. The cost of repairs will be around \$75,000. Last week the transmission in the backhoe went out and will cost about \$10,000 to fix. New Tec is letting the City borrow theirs until ours is fixed. Last but not least the Garbage truck rear end went out and will cost about \$1,000 to fix.

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway stated RJ Plaster has started as Wastewater Operator 1 and is working out very well.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Chris Courchene stated they are in the process of hiring a new police officer, interviews are scheduled next week.

Chief Courchene also stated he has reviewed the work done with the nuisance ordinance last year. Chief Courchene suggested the ordinance be reviewed by City Attorney Charlie Schuerman before moving forward. Chief Courchene stated the time frame for work done last year has expired and the process would need to be started again.

Chief Courchene stated there are a lot of problems at the Skate Park and suggested creating a parent monitoring program. The program would allow adults to voluntarily take turns monitoring activities at the Skate Park. City Council liked the idea and suggested Michelle Thomas be contacted to help create the program.

NEW BUSINESS

KETTLE FALLS LIBRARY APPOINTMENT

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated Library Manager Teah Chadderdon could not be present, and referred to a letter of interest written by Matt Smith.

Council Member Debbie Gaskin moved to appoint Matt Smith to the Kettle Falls Library Board. Council Member Ray Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. Council Member Ray Smith - yes, Council Member Bonnie Bradley - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Cris Haynes - abstained and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

City Planner Dave Keeley reported Peg Daniels has resigned from the Kettle Falls Planning Commission for health reasons. Dave stated Jeanie Thompson has expressed interest in being appointed to the Planning Commission.

Council Member Cris Haynes moved to appoint Jeanie Thompson to the Kettle Falls Planning Commission. Council Member Bonnie Bradley seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Ray Smith - yes, Council Member Bonnie Bradley - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Cris Haynes - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

POLICE VEHICLES

Police Chief Chris Courchene stated the police vehicles are in very poor shape and need replaced. Chief Courchene stated he found a used police car in North Bend, WA equipped with a cage and corner strobe lights. Other equipment can be transferred from cars the City already owns.

Council Member Cris Haynes asked if Chief Courchene has considered selling one of the Ford Excursions. Mayor Slagle stated the department would need something to drive in the mean time.

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to authorize Chief Courchene to purchase the used police car located in North Bend, WA. Council Member Bonnie Bradley seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Ray Smith - yes, Council Member Bonnie Bradley - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Cris Haynes - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

NUISANCE PROPERTIES

Council Member Bonnie Bradley reported she is receiving a lot of complaints regarding junky yards. Bonnie stated she requested those who had complained to be present at the City Council meeting, but none were in the audience.

Police Chief Chris Courchene stated the ordinance needs to be reviewed and defined as to who decides what a nuisance is. Chief Courchene stated the civil penalties also need to be reviewed.

Council Member Cris Haynes stated it is the owners property unless it is a safety or health hazard.

City Attorney Charlie Schuerman stated all cities have nuisance issues and he is willing to sit down with staff and City Council to review the ordinance.

CITY ORDINANCES

Mayor Slagle stated she would like to have all City Ordinances reviewed and rewritten more clearly. This review should pay special attention to intrusions of any kind on our civil liberties.

OLD BUSINESS

AVISTA CONTRACT UPDATE

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

SECURITY SERVICES

Jim Giesler stated he would like to create a security business in the City of Kettle Falls. Mr. Giesler stated he has lived in the area for close to 20 years. Mr. Giesler stated he would like to purchase a used police car for patrol, but he does not have the authority to stop or arrest anyone.

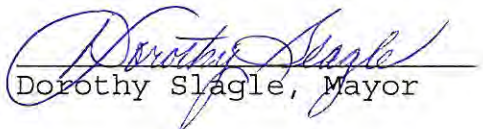
Mr. Giesler stated he recognizes the Police cannot be everywhere at once and feels the City could contract with him to have a visible presence in town to deter crime.

Mayor Slagle explained to Mr. Giesler could buy a business license for the City and contact any businesses to see if they would be interested in contracting security services.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Dorothy Slagle adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Approved:


Dorothy Slagle, Mayor

Attest:


Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer

