

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 17, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dorothy Slagle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Dorothy Slagle, Jeanie Thompson, Bonnie Bradley, Jesse Garrett and Debbie Gaskin. Cris Haynes unexcused absence.

STAFF

Staff - Joel Gassaway, John Ridlington, Mary Schultz, Dave Keeley, Charlie Schuerman and Eric Middlesworth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Mayor Slagle informed City Council she has appointed a new Civil Service Commission. City Attorney Charlie Schuerman will be working with the commission to get them started.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mayor Slagle stated that Mark Coon has resigned from the Kettle Falls Police Department. He has been hired by Stevens county, so Kilo and Mark are no longer with the Kettle Falls Police Department as of March 25th.

Mayor Slagle also stated Police Chief Chris Crouchene will be placing an ad in the paper for a new officer. Chris has some concerns because the city cannot compete with the county's salary and benefits package they offer to their employees. Chris will be asking City Council to come up with an incentive to bring in new candidates to Kettle Falls.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam has been in contact with Teamsters Union Representative Joe Coon.

Mayor Slagle stated Officer Tim Dollar will be released full duty by the first of April. Tim has mentioned there may be an upcoming surgery on his shoulder, but L & I will inform us of that.

RABBITS

Mayor Slagle stated about three years ago rabbits were released and continued to populate throughout the city. The people living in town are finding the rabbits to be nuisance because they are eating people's flowers, gardens and digging up their yards.

Secretary/Clerk Mary Schultz stated there are three options to help the rabbits. Mary said she has been in touch with an animal rescue place in Spokane called River Sanctuary. They are willing to take up to six rabbits on the condition they are already spayed and neutered. Mary spoke with Dr. Work from the Colville Animal Hospital and Dr. Work would be willing to help under the condition the city understands she has never spayed a rabbit and there could be complications. The clinic would give the city a discount by only charging for the cost of medications and equipment. The cost would be \$50.00 for both sex. The second option would be to spay or neuter them and then released onto Chief Chris Crouchene's property. Third option is to release them onto Chris' property and allow them to reproduce.

City Council and Mayor Slagle concurred to trap and release the rabbits onto Chris' property without the cost of spaying and neutering.

PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Mayor Slagle stated she would like City Council to start thinking about getting a Public Development Authority (PDA) because she started to think about North Bonneville and their marijuana retail store and how they went about opening it. Before North Bonneville could open their marijuana retail store they had to set up a PDA. All of the permits and licenses have been allocated for Stevens County. Mayor Slagle found out that we can set up a PDA and hold onto it for a year weather we use it or not. To have a PDA it would allow the city to jump on a business opportunity, if one should arise without having to wait. The investors explained a PDA would allow the city to own the business and collect revenue from the business but keep it

separate from the city. City Council Members received a packet of information on Public Development Authority.

CONSENT AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MARCH 3, 2015

Council Member Debbie Gaskin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Jeanie Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Jeanie Thompson - yes, Council Member Bonnie Bradley - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITY COMMITTEE

Council Member Debbie Gaskin stated she and Jesse Garrett met with City Superintendent Joel Gassaway on the Mission Ridge Agreement, and everything went great.

FIRE COMMITTEE

Council Member Debbie Gaskin attended a fire meeting and they talked about burn piles.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Council Member Bonnie Bradley stated there was no Planning Commission Meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief John Ridlington reported no fires and stated people can have a recreational fire three feet in height and three feet diameter in width.

PUBLIC WORKS

WELL PUMP

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway stated the backup pump for well #7 should be ready by next week. Joel had another video of the well taken, which indicated iron and scum build up. Fogle Pump advised they should run their cable rig through the well

for a day to remove the solid build up. The cost of doing this would be about \$2,500.00.

AVISTA

Avista finally got their own water system up and running. They are still using about 10,000 gallons a day but are planning on eliminating that soon. They have two wells and plan on putting another well in for a backup.

There has been one out of town water hook up installed, three others been approved and a fourth one in progress.

WATER HOOK UPS

Jim Harberd is talking about finalizing his long plat and short plat, a total of twelve lots, approved by Stevens county. The requirements he needs from the county to receive an approval is to get water to these lots. He has some concerns with how the city ordinance is written. He does not feel he can get county approval in six months, which is the time line to put in the water meter once the connections are approved by the city. He is stuck between the city won't give him water unless the county approves his subdivision and the county won't approve his subdivision unless he has a guarantee of water. Joel has talked with the county about these issues and he thinks that it can be worked through, but Joel wants to have a meeting with the mayor and the utility committee regarding the proper procedures to follow.

LIBRARY PROJECT

City Planner Dave Keeley stated the Library project is moving along smoothly. The architect has been great to work with. The projected bid date was mid-July, now it is the end of May, so it is ahead of schedule. When we presented to Council, the plans included a community / catering kitchen, it is now scaled back to a residential kitchen, which will help keep some of the cost down.

SKATE PARK

City Planner Dave Keeley is also working with a group of volunteers to finish up the last improvements on the skate park. They will be pouring a slab for a second set of bleachers, putting down grass and sod in the back area by the aisle. They will also be putting a fence up by the back aisle to prevent vehicles from parking back there.

Mayor Dorothy Slagle suggested a motion detector light at the skate park.

HAPPY DELL PARK STAGE PROJECT

City Planner Dave Keeley stated when the Skate Park project is done any leftover materials will be used on the stage at Happy Dell Park. Dave announced there will be a music extravaganza, another fundraiser for the stage on March 28th at Northern Ales Brewery. Dave set up a website called go fund me where people can donate money online towards the stage and it has raised \$1,210.00 since Tuesday this week.

NEW BUSINESS

As there were no new business, City Council moved on to old business.

OLD BUSINESS

MISSION RIDGE WATER HOOK

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway stated he met with Mission Ridge Water, Utility Committee, City Attorney Charlie Schuerman and the Department of Health. Joel gave a brief summary of the significant changes to the last draft on the wholesale water supply agreement (Wholesale Water Supply Agreement on file, changes are on page 3 starting at section 3 - section 4.1).

The PUD called Joel during their board meeting regarding the third paragraph up on the third page. It states "That the city will provide as much prior written notice, in the event of a termination as possible". The PUD is thinking not so much in terms of a catastrophic event, because the PUD knows you can't give notice for something like that, but thinking in a one year renewal after the thirty year agreement period is up. The PUD would like at least a one year notice from the city before water termination.

Mayor Slagle stated she wouldn't think it would be too difficult to add that subjection into the agreement.

City Council Member Jesse Garrett asked if the city chooses not to renew the agreement, does the PUD require a one year notice not to terminate, but not to renew.

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway stated that was the PUD's greatest concern.

City Council Member Jesse Garrett stated if the city terminate water for any reason stated in the agreement, because we can't run the water or not allowed to provide the water, then it doesn't take a one year notice. What takes a one year notice is if the city is not going to renew the agreement.

City Council Member Bonnie Bradley agreed with City Council Member Jesse Garrett. City Council Member Jeanie Thompson disagreed.

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway stated that they don't have the exact language interpreted, but in the particular section the PUD would like it to say at least one year in advance in that section of the agreement.

Mayor Slagle stated the contract says the PUD has to give us 90 days and they are asking us for a year.

City Council Member Jeanie Thompson asked if the reason we can't give the PUD water, is because the Kettle Falls citizens don't have water, in that case the city would not be able to give the PUD a one year notice of termination.

City Council Member Jesse Garrett and City Council Member Bonnie Bradley agreed with City Council Member Jeanie Thompson.

City Council Member Jesse Garrett can see the city giving the PUD a year's notice that says the city doesn't wish to provide water and the agreement will expire on the normal termination date, but not have a reason the city wishes not to no longer provide the water. If the city would terminate at any other time, force termination then the city would have a reason.

City Council Member Bonnie Bradley stated she feels it is all covered in the agreement, when it states after the end of the

thirty years contract the PUD has a year to year lease and so to have to give them a notice of termination would only apply if there would be a valid reason, for example a pump went out.

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway stated if the reasons for termination are in the cities control, the PUD would like a one year's notice.

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway and all City Council Members further discussed the verbiage for the new Wholesale Water Supply Agreement.

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway, Utility Committee and Charlie Schuerman will be meeting again to discuss the necessary verbal changes needed for the Wholesale Water Supply Agreement.

PUBLIC COMMENT

MISSION RIDGE WATER HOOK UP

Chief John Riglington stated the issue is quality not quantity, so if you get into a situation where the city has to ration the city of water, but they don't have a quantity problem and the city is trying to still supply enough water to dilute the PUD's quality problem and the city has to ration water that needs to be considered.

City Superintendent Joel Gassaway and City Council Member Jeanie Thompson discussed the different cost of water sales to the PUD compared to Kettle Falls residents. City Council Member Jeanie Thompson also was concerned if the customers of the PUD were going to be taxed for their water, because she is under the impression she is being taxed for her water.

Mayor Dorothy Slagle stated she would look into, if the city of Kettle Falls is being taxed for their water, but it wouldn't change.

HWY 395 NORTH SIDE SIDEWALK

City Planner Dave Keeley stated he and Tom Haggary JR. went out last month to measure off and spray paint where it needed to be marked. Dave spoke to all of the businesses and hopefully the sidewalks will be done by the end of the summer.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Dorothy Slagle adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Approved:

Dorothy Slagle, Mayor

Attest:

Mary Schultz, Secretary/Clerk