

**KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**AUGUST 4, 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**

Jesse Garrett, Dale Drake and Debbie Gaskin. Council Member Bonnie Bradley was absent.

Council Member Debbie Gaskin moved to excuse Council Member Bonnie Bradley from the meeting. Council Member Jesse Garrett seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Dale Drake - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

**STAFF**

Staff -Dave Keeley, Katy Pike, Raena Hallam, Charlie Schuerman and Tim Dollar (arrived at 7:20).

**GUESTS**

Guests - Lu Haynes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED**

As there were no Announcements or 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**

**CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF THE July 21, 2015 AND JULY VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL**

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Debbie Gaskin seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Dale Drake - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**PUBLIC WORKS - HIRING COMMITTEE**

Mayor Dorothy Slagle stated the Public Works Department has received an overwhelming response to the open position in the department. Mayor Slagle stated City Superintendent Joel Gassaway is requesting assistance in the hiring process from two City Council Members. Mayor Slagle stated she thought the Utilities Committee would be the appropriate choice which are Council Members Debbie Gaskin and Jesse Garrett.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**UTILITY BILLING PROGRAM**

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated the staff had completed the second billing cycle with the new utility billing program. It seemed to go smoother this time, but the program is very different from the old program and the change of account numbers has caused numerous problems.

**LIBRARY**

Library Manager Katy Pike reported the initial steps for pouring the foundation for the library expansion are being taken. Katy stated relocating the library to the Information Center is working well. Katy expressed her appreciation of the volunteers at the Information Center for being so helpful and welcoming to the library staff. Katy stated participation in the summer reading program is low this year, but 114 kids attended the science show.

**NUISANCE PROPERTIES**

City Planner Dave Keeley stated he drove around town looking at properties that could be considered a fire hazard. Dave stated he identified properties with grasses and debris above his knees. Using that criteria, Dave stated he identified over 200 properties.

City Planner Dave Keeley stated a complaint was made this week about a citizens yard is full of dog poop and stinks when another citizen walks by to the Post Office.

Dave asked City Council to explain their priorities in regards to the nuisance ordinance. Staff time, costs etc. should be considered when addressing dog poop complaints and over 200 nuisance properties.

City planner Dave Keeley stated there are other properties out there that are more of a fire hazard than the two properties City Council addressed at the last City Council meeting.

Lu Haynes stated she was told this area was going to have three more months of dry weather.

Mayor Dorothy Slagle asked how does the City tell someone to clean up their own private property.

Library Manager Katy Pike suggested a City wide letter sent out to all property owners explaining the extreme drought conditions and ask them for their cooperation. Katy suggested the letter should come from the Fire Department.

Council Member Jesse Garrett stated he really liked the idea of everyone receiving a letter. Jesse suggested stating in the letter that over 200 properties were identified as fire hazards.

Council Member Jesse Garrett stated a lot of staff time is spent on complaints, but unfortunately that is the way it goes.

Mayor Slagle stated nuisance complaints are difficult, neighbors complaining about dog poop, bee keeping next door, etc. All of this is important, but the City needs to prioritize and consider staff time and court costs.

Council Member Debbie Gaskin stated she would like to see the whole community receive the letter.

Council Member Dale Drake stated the City has a hulk vehicle ordinance and Mr. Eason may have vehicles that it would apply to.

City Attorney Charlie Schuerman stated the vehicles have to be non-licensed and the value less than scrap to qualify.

#### **PUBLIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Mayor Slagle stated she is having City Planner Dave Keeley research the possibility of creating a Public Development Authority (PDA). This would allow the City to own and operate a business. The Mayor stated one idea she has is bottling City water and marketing it.

Mayor Dorothy asked City Council to be thinking of ideas.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**TOURISM FUND - FESTIVAL OF NEIGHBORS**

City Planner Dave Keeley stated Festival of Neighbors will be held September 12<sup>th</sup> and will include the Native American Dancers, Belly Dancers, family activities and a beer garden. Dave stated there is \$473 left over from last year and he is requesting \$1,500 from the Tourism Fund to help with advertising for this year. Dave stated last year's event cost a total of \$6,000.

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to allow the Festival of Neighbors to use \$1,500 of the Tourism Fund. Council Member Dale Drake seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Dale Drake - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

**ORDINANCE NO. 1742 - AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AVISTA CORPORATION, D/B/A AVISTA UTILITIES, A WASHINGTON CORPORATION, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, THE NONEXCLUSIVE RIGHT, PRIVILEGE, AUTHORITY AND FRANCHISE TO LOCATE, CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OWN, MAINTAIN, REPAIR, REPLACE, EXTEND, OPERATE AND USE FACILITIES IN, UPON, OVER, UNDER, ALONG, AND ACROSS THE FRANCHISE AREA FOR PURPOSES OF THE TRANSMISSION, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF GAS.**

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1742 by title only. Council Member Debbie Gaskin seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member Dale Drake - yes and Council Member Debbie Gaskin - yes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Police Officer Tim Dollar reported Gordon Winter is a new Police Officer for the City. Officer Winter will start regular shifts next week. Tim stated Officer Winter has lived on Peachcrest Road for years, has a family and is well established in the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Dorothy Slagle adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Approved:

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Dorothy Slagle, Mayor

Attest:

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Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer