

Mayor Fatcher led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Mayor Fatcher. Councilmembers in attendance were: Fatcher, Karnofski, Slater, Myers, McDaniel, and Student Representative Jim McDaniel. Councilmembers Roberson and Malella were absent.

**Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Karnofski, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Approve the minutes of the 11/18/08 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**Continuation of Budget Hearing:**

Mayor Fatcher opened the Budget Hearing at 7:02 p.m. There were no comments from the public. Mayor Fatcher closed the Budget Hearing at 7:03 p.m.

**Student Representative:**

**Jim McDaniel, ASB President:** 1) Over 130 students gave a pint of blood at our first annual blood drive today. 2) Winter Ball will be Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 p.m. to midnight. 3) The choir, band, and orchestra concert will be Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. 4) Students will be performing a play called "Applause for Plautus" December 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> at the school auditorium at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 for students and seniors and \$7.00 for adults. 5) Winter break begins December 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

**PROCLAMATION:**

Mayor Fatcher read a Proclamation in recognition of **Pacific Barber Shop** and the Ammons Family, who have maintained a family business in the City of Kelso for 75 years. Bill Ammons was not able to attend the meeting. Bill's sister accepted the proclamation. Councilmember Slater said their father, Bert Ammons, established the downtown quarterbacks and started a fantastic foundation that has taken care of Kelso kids and many people in need.

**CITIZENS' BUSINESS:**

**Leo Lin**, 936 Edinburgh Court, spoke from the audience about changing Section I of the City of Kelso's Ordinance and handed out a copy of Chapter 8.28 titled "Noise." Discussion followed.

**Rick Von Rock**, 400 N. 7<sup>th</sup>, spoke from the audience concerning the possibility of allowing citizens to pay their utility bills using a budget plan. Finance Director Brian Butterfield said another employee may be needed if a budget plan was implemented, because extra billings would be needed. Discussion followed.

**Daniel Dale**, 173 Basswood Dr., Silver Lake, owner of The River Casino, asked Councilmembers to reconsider their proposed tax scale modification.

**David Pennington**, 718 Ostrander, the River Casino General Manager, presented additional information for Councilmembers to review. He and his wife Christine, who is the Comptroller at the River Casino, invited Councilmembers to contact them if they would like to discuss this further.

Mayor Futch said currently the tax rate for casinos is 10% of the gross gambling taxes. The proposal is to use a sliding scale. Discussion followed.

**MOTION ITEMS:**

**Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) – Final Budget 2009/2010:** The Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Karnofski, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, ‘Pass on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, ‘AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO MUNICIPAL FINANCE AND ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF KELSO FOR THE 2009/10 FISCAL YEARS,’ motion carried, all voting yes.

**Amend Professional Services Contract for Engineering Plan Review Service with Wallis Engineering for Supplemental Agreement No. 2:** Public Works Director David Sypher said this would update the agreement to their 2009 rate schedule and lower their contract by \$15,000. Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, ‘Authorize City Manager Richards to sign the Supplemental Agreement with Wallis Engineering,’ motion carried, all voting yes.

**Consideration of Talley Way Corridor Study Implementation Plan Consultant Agreement with David Evans and Associates:** Public Works Director Sypher said in 2008 the City budgeted \$40,000 to conduct a study of the Talley Way corridor. Three firms were interviewed and David Evans and Associates was selected based on their qualifications and high degree of interest shown. Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Myers, ‘Authorize entering into a consultant agreement with David Evans and Associates, Inc.’ Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

**Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) – 2008 Budget Revision #2:** The Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Slater, ‘Pass on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, ‘AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO AMENDING THE 2008 BUDGET TO REFLECT REVENUES AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO COVER EXPENDITURES OVER AND ABOVE THOSE ANTICIPATED AT THE TIME SAID BUDGET WAS ADOPTED,’ motion carried, all voting yes.

**Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) – Authorize an Interfund Loan To Finance Phase II of the Parking Lot at Stan Rister Field:**

The Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, 'Pass on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE STADIUM FUND, DECLARING SUCH TRANSFER TO BE A LOAN, SETTING A RATE OF INTEREST TO BE CHARGED, AND PROVIDING FOR REPAYMENT OF SUCH LOAN.' Mayor Fatcher said in an effort to finance Phase II of the parking lot at Stan Rister Field without depleting the Stadium Fund reserves, the money will be borrowed from the General Fund and paid back over a five-year period. Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**Dennis Richards:** 1) A contract for the City Attorney has been signed with Kenyon Disend. City Manager Richards introduced Janean Parker, the new City Attorney. 2) The KDRA had a meeting here last night with approximately thirty people in attendance. The next meeting will be December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. People are excited and interested in putting some life back in the downtown area. 3) I am proud of the staff for the successful Thanksgiving food drive. Four turkeys and two huge boxes of food were delivered to Wallace School. The staff will have another food drive and adopt a couple of families for Christmas. 4) Councilmembers were reminded to use their city email accounts for all city business.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Janean Parker:** Please call me if you have any questions. Mayor Fatcher welcomed Janean.

**David Sypher:** 1) David asked for direction from the Council concerning the "at grade" crossing, a pedestrian crossing to provide citizens access over the railroad tracks to the riverfront property behind City Hall and a potential park. A few years ago, the City applied for and received a \$300,000 grant for the design. Various types of crossings were explained; however, additional money would be needed to complete the project. If the design is completed and money is spent, we are committed to the Fed and would have to pay back the money if construction of the crossing isn't completed. One suggestion was to spend \$33,000 that was budgeted to do a pre-design study. Mayor Fatcher said Councilmembers need to determine how they want to proceed before deciding to get the study. Lengthy discussion followed about the need for a pedestrian bridge if the riverfront park is not developed. It was the consensus of the Council to have David research the issue to find out if the grant can be transferred to another project. 2) Various options were discussed to fund street construction and street overlay. David recommended an interfund loan. Discussion followed. Mayor Fatcher would like to have a workshop to discuss this further.

**Mike Kerins:** No report

**Geraldine de Rooy:** No report. Councilmember Slater would like to donate to the Kelso Library additional copies of a book by John McClelland, Jr., called *R. A. Long's Planned City – The Story of Longview*.

**Andy Hamilton:** 1) Citizens are invited to the Kelso Tree Lighting Festival Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A bazaar will be held at 204 S. Pacific. There will be entertainment, free cookies and cider, kids' crafts, prizes, and a visit from Santa. 2) The Police Association, along with Target and other local businesses, will host the first "Shop with a Cop" program on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. Kids who are in need will be chosen by the schools to shop with a police officer. 3) Spoke about the budget revision ordinance that was passed on first reading tonight. Chief Wayne Nelson discovered some Homeland Security money hadn't been spent and was successful in securing a \$33,000 grant for the purpose of replacing aging police radios.

**Brian Butterfield:** I would like to thank the girls in the Finance Department for all their hard work putting together the Kelso Tree Lighting Festival. Mayor Fatcher will light the tree at 7:15 p.m.

**Traci Gowdy:** I am here tonight because Carol, the Deputy City Clerk, is waiting for the birth of her new grandchild.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Todd McDaniel:** No report

**Alan Slater:** Merry Christmas!

**Dan Myers:** Asked about the date of the KLTV 'no-host' Christmas party. Mayor Fatcher said the movie, *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street*, will be shown at the Kelso Theatre Pub on Saturday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m.

**John Karnofski:** No report

**David Fatcher:** No report

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Council convened into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss a couple of legal issues. At 9:04 p.m. the Council reconvened into Regular Session.

**MOTION ITEM:**

Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Approve the employee contract with Dennis Richards for the permanent City Manager position.' Mayor Futcher said Denny has proven to be a valuable addition to our staff and he is excited to support him as the permanent City Manager. Motion carried, all voting yes.

There being no further business, Mayor Futcher adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

  
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MAYOR

  
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CITY CLERK