

Pastor Scott Olin, New Hope City Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Don Gregory led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Mayor Gregory. Councilmembers in attendance were: Gregory, Karnofski, McDaniel, Futchter, Chester, and Wheeler. Councilmember Slater was absent.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Chester, seconded by Councilmember Futchter, 'Approve the Minutes of the 11/05/07 Special Meeting, 11/6/07 Regular Meeting, and the 11/7/07 Special meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Gregory read a Proclamation announcing the retirement of Finance Director/City Clerk Veryl Anderson after 40 years of employment with the City and Assistant Finance Director/Deputy City Clerk Cindy Keeney after 33 years with the City of Kelso. Mayor Gregory also presented plaques to Veryl and Cindy. Mayor Gregory and the Councilmembers thanked Veryl and Cindy for their contributions to the City including events such as the Highlander Festival and the Kelso Tree Lighting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Auditing of Accounts: \$1,533,466.57

Liquor License Renewals: 1) Plaza Jalisco, 400 W. Main; 2) Quick Stop Market, 807 S. Pacific

New Liquor License Application: Savono's Pizzeria, 200 Kelso Drive, Suite 236

Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Futchter, 'Approve the Consent Agenda and the Auditing of Accounts in the amount of \$1,533,466.57,' motion carried, all voting yes.

MOTION ITEMS:

2008 Offender Services Agreement: Upon motion by Councilmember Futchter, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, 'Approve the 2008 Offender Services Agreement between the City of Kelso Municipal Court and Cowlitz County Offender Services.' A short discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance No. 07-3653 – Fixing Ad Valorem Taxes for 2008: The Deputy City Clerk read the ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Wheeler, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Adopt Ordinance No. 07-3653, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO FIXING THE ESTIMATED AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY AD VALOREM TAXES AT \$1,182,285 FOR THE 2008 BUDGET OF THE CITY,' motion carried, all voting yes.

Resolution No. 07-952 – Authorizing an Increase in the Regular Property Tax Levy and Establishing a Limit Factor of 106% for Purposes of Establishing the

Maximum Levy Permitted to the City: The Deputy City Clerk read the resolution by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Fatcher, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, 'Adopt Resolution No. 07-952, 'A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KELSO AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN ADDITION TO ANY AMOUNT RESULTING FROM NEW CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENTS AND ANY INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF STATE ASSESSED PROPERTY AND LISTING SPECIFIC NEEDS FOR INCREASING PROPERTY TAXES.' Mayor Gregory stated the total increase for this tax is \$26,665. The increase is made up of new construction and a 1.00% increase over the prior year levy. Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance (1st Reading) – Amending the 2007 Budget: The Deputy City Clerk read the ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Fatcher, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Pass on 1st Reading, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO AMENDING THE 2007 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.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Paul Brachvogel: 1) Paul commented on the Humane Society contract. When more information is obtained, the contract will be brought back to Council. 2) I have moved to the City Manager's office. 3) My Executive Director Shelly Timm, who was hired a couple of weeks ago, is doing a great job. 4) I have asked Public Works Director David Sypher to discuss the status of our engineering contracts at the next Council meeting. 5) An Executive Session will be needed to discuss litigation.

STAFF REPORTS:

David Sypher: 1) The work has been completed on the Talley Way Bridge. 2) The Catlin Sewer project is finished and it came in under budget. 3) I am working on a plan review report to present at the next meeting. 4) I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. 5) The crews are busy putting up Christmas decorations.

Michael Kerins: 1) I attended a meeting in Longview regarding a survey being created to get input from various cities in Cowlitz County to determine the feasibility of constructing a new regional community center. A copy of the survey was given to Councilmembers. 2) We continue to keep busy. We have a pre-application on a 194-lot subdivision. The preliminary review for the Red Canoe is complete and the project is moving forward. We are waiting for their building permits.

Geraldine de Rooy: 1) The library is getting in the holiday spirit with a special book truck decorated with Christmas lights that has a display of holiday books. 2) Happy Thanksgiving!

Wayne Nelson: About fifty local law enforcement officers went through training conducted by Kelso Police Sergeant Khembar Yund and Kelso Police Officer Mike Meier. Khembar and Mike set up an auto cross course and a low speed placement course on some land near the Port of Longview owned by Lemmons Trucking. I want to thank the owners of Lemmons Trucking for letting us use their property.

Brian Butterfield: Things are going smoothly in our office with everyone learning their new positions. We also have two new people in the office. I want to thank the employees for doing a good job.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Todd McDaniel: No report

Mark Chester: No report

John Karnofski: No report

David Fatcher: It would be good to have an update from the airport manager to hear what is going on at the airport. Mayor Gregory suggested setting up a special workshop with the airport board members, the airport manager, and the public works director.


Joe Wheeler: I want to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!


Don Gregory: 1) The building next door looks great. It looks like they should be moving in soon. 2) I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Council convened into Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss litigation and a personnel issue. The Council reconvened into Regular Session at 8:17 p.m.

Upon motion by Councilmember Fatcher, seconded by Councilmember Wheeler, 'Move to Adjourn,' motion carried, all voting yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.


MAYOR


CITY CLERK