

Pastor Dave Grauer, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, gave the invocation. He mentioned that October is "Domestic Violence Awareness Month". Simplicity Salon and Colorz by Larry are having a month long fund raiser. All proceeds are going to the Emergency Support Shelter. Mayor David Futcher led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Mayor David Futcher. Councilmembers in attendance were: Futcher, Lefebvre, McDaniel, Myers, Roberson, and Webb.

**Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Roberson, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Approve the Minutes of the 9/20/11 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**PROCLAMATION:**

Mayor Futcher read a proclamation declaring October 21, 2011, as "*National Fire Prevention Week*" in the City of Kelso. Mayor Futcher said that Cowlitz 2 Fire and Rescue is having an Open House on October 15, 2011, at the station house. The Open House is one of many activities that Cowlitz 2 Fire and Rescue do to educate people on fire safety.

**PRESENTATION:**

**Director of the Cowlitz County Tourism Bureau Mark Plotkin** brought a request to the City Council for funding for relocation of the Visitor Information Center. The new location would be at the Three Rivers Mall. The Tourism Bureau is asking for up to \$60,000 and the lease/license fee of \$6,000 per year. The current facility is made up of two aging manufactured homes. These buildings will soon need some major repairs which will run into the tens of thousands of dollars. He presented a couple of pictures of what the Visitor Information Center would look like in the new location. Mr. Plotkin said it will be a "State-of-the-Art" facility. The new Visitor Center will be able to promote Kelso and Cowlitz County in a more appealing display rather than just brochures in racks. He believes the new facility will help grow the economy by bringing in more foot traffic to the mall.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. **Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Process Authorization**
2. **'Big Idea' Committee Appointments**
  - a. Ginny Whiffen, Hotelier
  - b. Larry Alexander, Stakeholder
3. **LTAC 2011 Funding Approvals**
4. **LTAC 2012 Funding Approvals**
5. **US Cellular Tower Lease Agreement**
6. **Liquor License Renewals**

- a. **Three Rivers Golf Course, 222 S. River Rd.**
- b. **Yan's Chinese Restaurant, 300 Long Ave W.**

Mayor Futcher asked if any items should be removed for separate consideration. There were requests to remove the **Neighborhood Stabilization Program Process Authorization** and the **LTAC 2011 Funding Approval** from the Consent Agenda. Upon motion by Councilmember Roberson, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Approve the Consent Agenda with the removal of Item No. 1, and Item No. 3,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**Continuation of Consent Agenda (Items that were Previously Removed):**

**Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Process Authorization:**

City Attorney Janean Parker said that the purpose of this summary is to give a brief overview of each project. It identifies the 5 recommended courses of action required for each property. Mayor Futcher stated that the City of Kelso received an allocation of NSP funds. These funds are intended for the use in returning blighted or foreclosed properties to productive use. The four properties are as follows:

1. 1412 N. 1<sup>st</sup> Ave.
2. 816 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave.
3. 1504 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.
4. 1124 N. Pacific Ave.

Upon motion by Councilmember Myers, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Approve the recommended action 1 – 5', discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

**LTAC 2011 Funding Approvals:**

Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Approve the funding request for the relocation of the Visitor Center', Councilmember Roberson asked if it was the Lodging Tax Committee's intent is to use the 'Big Idea' funds. Mayor Futcher said it was a recommendation of the Lodging Tax Committee but it would not likely happen. Councilmember Myers spoke of his concern for keeping retail space available in the Three Rivers Mall. Councilmember Myers spoke of the perception the public may have when they see us put money into a brand new Visitor Center while we are discussing budget issues and possible lay offs. Upon motion by Councilmember Myers, seconded by Councilmember Webb, 'Table this motion until after the first of the year.' Councilmembers Myers and Webb voted yes. Councilmembers McDaniel, Lefebvre, Roberson, and Futcher voted no. Motion failed <sup>3</sup>4 to <sup>3</sup>2. Lengthy discussion followed. Councilmembers Lefebvre, McDaniel, Webb, Roberson, and Futcher voted yes. Councilmember Myers voted no. Motion carried 5 to 1.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**Dennis Richards:** 1) I looked at the Jack in the Box building plan but it didn't show what the front will look like. The fire officials are reviewing the plan now for approval. It should be back on Friday. 2) I spoke to the business owners on South Pacific and they are excited about the new streetlights. 3) There is an Airport Governance Board Workshop on October 12, 2011, in the council chambers from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 4) There will be a potluck on October 31<sup>st</sup> for Halloween upstairs at city hall. Please come and enjoy it. Mayor Fatcher said the mentioned workshop for the Airport Governance Board will involve the City of Kelso, the City of Longview, the Port, and the County Commissioners. The discussion will be about the amount of funding that will be required to keep the airport running and what the vision is for the airport's future.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Janean Parker:** No report.

**David Sypher:** No report.

**Nancy Malone:** No Report.

**Cindy Donaldson:** 1) I would like to remind everyone that the 'Friends of the Library' is having a book sale at the Kelso Library this Friday and Saturday. 2) The 'Friends of the Library' is having a pancake breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's Restaurant on October 15, 2011. Tickets for the fundraiser are \$5.00 each and they are on sale at the library.

**Andrew Hamilton:** 1) The overtime costs are going as planned. 2) The school year has started and officers are back to work those areas. 3) The staff is at full strength except for one officer on maternity leave. She will be back at the end of the month.

**Traci Howard:** There will be a Public Hearing during the October 18, 2011, City of Kelso Council Meeting. The Hearing is to discuss the revenue sources for the City's 2012 Budget and the consideration of a possible increase in property tax.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Kim Lefebvre:** No report.

**Rick Roberson:** Mayor Fatcher presented Councilmember Roberson with an *Association of Washington Cities Certificate of Municipal Leadership*. Mr. Roberson has earned this recognition for devoting at least 30 hours of training at AWC. Thank you for your dedication.


**Dan Myers:** No report.

**Todd McDaniel:** 1) We will have an idea what the new branding will be at the next CUBS meeting on October 26, 2011. 2) The Lodging Tax Committee is considering holding a workshop at the beginning of 2012 to discuss guidelines for funds distribution. 3) There is a new community committee. It consists of the different sports entities in the community. The purpose of this new committee is to coordinate the community's sports events that happen throughout the year so the hotels can stay busy all year around.

**James Webb:** 1) The 'Big Idea' meeting is this Friday, October 7, 2011.

**David Futcher:** No report.

There being no further business, Mayor Futcher adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.



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**MAYOR**



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**DEPUTY CLERK**