**KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Jesse Garrett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Chris Shurrum, Jesse Garrett, John Ridlington, Dale Drake and Michael Weatherman.

**STAFF**

Staff – Dave Willey, Logan Worley, Larry Kulesza, Brandon Hoover and Raena Hallam.

Guests – Jody Emra and Nick Gourlie.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Jesse Garrett announced an Executive Session at the end of the City Council meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss Collective Bargaining Negotiations – *RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a) Collective bargaining sessions with employee organizations, including contract negotiations, grievance meetings, and discussions relating to the interpretation or application of a labor agreement; or (b) that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

As there was no Public Comment City Council moved on to the Consent Agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JULY 18TH, AUGUST 1ST, 15TH AND SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

Council Member John Ridlington made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Chris Shurrum seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.

Council Member Chris Shurrum – yes, Council Member John Ridlington – yes, Council Member Dale Drake – yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey reported Stevens County is currently painting the lines as a final step in the seal coat project.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated they will begin fixing the cracks in the Grey Eagle Water Tank on October 2, 2023.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey reported the department is currently blowing out sprinklers and preparing the water meters for winter.

Council Member Dale Drake asked if the water in the Grey Eagle tank would be dumped out and wasted. Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated no. The Grey Eagle Tank is the same elevation as the blue water tank. Therefore, the Gray Eagle tank will be drained into the Blue Tank as the water is used by the customers.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief Phil Adams reported the department responded to 7 calls including one mutual aid assist call in Evans and a vehicle accident at the Hwy 25 and Hwy 395 intersection. The department also responded to a fire at the Stevens County Landfill.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra reported the Planning Commission held a special meeting on September 13, 2023 to review a grant application before the September 19th deadline. Chair Jody Emra commended Planning Commissioner Nick Gourlie for doing an excellent job drafting the grant application.

Planning Assistant Larry Kulesza stated Mr. Kenner also attended the Planning Commission meeting to discuss access behind the NAPA Store.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Police Officer Brandon Hoover stated the kids are back in school. He stated next summer they are planning an interagency active shooter training at the Kettle Falls School District.

**CLERK/TREASURER**

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated she would like to schedule a Budget Workshop for next Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**KETTLE FALLS SWIMMING POOL**

Council Member John Ridlington reported they are pouring the deck for the swimming pool.

**TREES AT POOL PARK**

Council Member Dale Drake asked if there are any plans to plant a couple trees to replace the dangerous ones removed at the pool park. Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated not yet.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**POSSIBLE BID AWARD – CITY HALL ROOF**

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated only one bid was received. The bid is the base price and does not include damaged decking.



Council Member Dale Drake moved to award the City Hall Roof Project to D&D Construction 1, Inc. in the amount of $47,871.24. Council Member John Ridlington s3econded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Chris Shurrum – yes, Council Member John Ridlington – yes, Council Member Dale Drake – yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

**RELEASE OF POOL FUNDS**

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated the Upper Columbia Pool District has requested the City release the remaining funds set aside for the Kettle Falls Swimming Pool maintenance and operations. Raena stated $20,000 was included in both the 2022 and 2023 budget for a total of $40,000. Raena referred to a breakdown of the expenses with a remaining balance of about $14,000. If City Council wishes to release the remaining funds any invoices the City receives and or future work done in the will be billed directly to the Upper Columbia Pool District.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated that money was set aside for maintenance and operations and the pool is not open at this time. Raena stated she is seeking a motion from City Council if they want to release the funds.

Council Member Dale Drake asked if the funds are released is the $20,000 in next years budget enough to start up the pool next year. Mayor Jesse Garrett stated no it won’t be enough. It will be the City’s contribution to operating expenses.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated LEBO’s Plumbing is still doing work and not all the invoices have been submitted for payment.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated if the money is released, it relinquishes the City of the cost and it puts a limit on what is being spent.

Council Member John Ridlington stated there’s a lot of things on the expenditure list he was never aware of being billed separately. I was kind of working with a budget buying supplies and stuff. Most of the stuff on here, the little here, the little there I wasn’t aware of was being charged against that money. John stated he is a little concerned about the future since there remains some cleanup to be finished. He would consider not releasing the money. There is still work that needs to be done.

Council Member John Ridlington stated there were surprises in costs. Public Works Dave Willey and I were surprised with the cost of copper pipe, Officer Brandon Hoover was also surprised about the amount of copper pipe in there.

Council Member John Ridlington, after discussion, maybe we should hang on to the money and keep going as we are going.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated the City has been very generous. The wages billed are for the demolition only, the building permit fee was already waived.

Council Member John Ridlington stated he wasn’t aware of all of this going on. Paint was out dated, lighting was more expensive. I say don’t transfer the money.

Council Member Dale Drake asked if someone requested the money. Council Member John Ridlington stated yes, they didn’t want to leave money on the table and have it lost.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam referred to an email from the Upper Columbia Pool District requesting the funds.

Council Member John Ridlington stated we need a little more information about how that money will be transferred. There is the water fountain and miscellaneous things remaining. Getting very close, there is no rush to get this money.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated the City hasn’t received all of the bills, the water fountain isn’t the only thing left to be paid.

Council Member John Ridlington stated he didn’t know where they sit, Lebo Plumbing has been a little mysterious. Lack of communication.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated she would like a motion to either keep the money or release it to the Upper Columbia Pool District.

Council Member Dale Drake made a motion to not release the funds to the Upper Columbia Pool District. Council Member John Ridlington seconded the motion.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated most of the bills that have come to the City have been a surprise to the City as far as what they were for or at a cost that was excessive. This is part of the problem with this. Is there anything that can be done to ensure when obligating funds will be more open to the City’s input. If we are not going to release the money, the City needs to have some say in how the money is spent.

Council Member John Ridlington stated wait a minute you have had a say, I have been talking with Dave on everything. Nothing has been a mystery. The only mystery is Lebo Plumbing putting copper pipe in there.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated it should have never been copper, it should have been poly pipe. I said 2” pipe, not copper pipe at $280 dollars a stick. In my defense when I got this bill for $13,988.00, I was shocked. It did not need to be copper. We installed 150 feet of 2” pipe including fittings with HD Fowler for $1,134.32.

Council Member John Ridlington stated Lebo Plumbing did that and didn’t say anything to anyone.

Council Member John Ridlington stated he is confused, there was $20,000 budgeted for maintenance and operation of the pool and another $13,000 for miscellaneous supplies and other stuff from ARPA Funds.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated the city has been very open that the money spent is out of the $20,000 and 2022 budget carry over.

Mayor Jesse Garrett called for the vote to retain the pool funds.

Motion carried. Council Member Chris Shurrum – no, Council Member John Ridlington – yes, Council Member Dale Drake – abstain and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes. Mayor Jesse Garrett – yes.

Mayor Garrett stated this issue would be revisited in the future.

**RESOLUTION NO 23-05 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PERSON(S) TO ACT AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE/AGENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF KETTLE FALLS AND TO LEGALLY BIND OUR ORGANIZATION WITH RESPECT TO PROJECT NO 23-1759 MNT, KETTLE FALLS PARKS MAINTENANCE FOR WHICH THE CITY SEEKS GRANT FUNDING ASSISTANCE MANAGED THROUGH THE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE (RCO)**

Planning Commissioner Nick Gourlie stated authorization to the RCO grant application needs to be formally adopted.

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-05. Council Member Chris Shurrum seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Chris Shurrum – yes, Council Member John Ridlington – yes, Council Member Dale Drake – yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

**KETTLE FALLS MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 6.04 – DOG ORDINANCE REVIEW**

Police Officer Brandon Hoover stated there is a residence in town that has a dog barking constantly. The neighbor has complained several times and was always told there was nothing the City can do. The City has an ordinance but it needs to be updated in order to be enforceable.

City Attorney Logan Worley stated the City of Chewelah updated their ordinance for the same issues. They chose to add language declaring dog barking a noise nuisance measured by a decibel meter.

City Attorney Logan Worley recommended reviewing ordinances from the City of Colville and the City of Chewelah.

Council Member Dale Drake stated there are problems with barking dogs in the Horseshoe area also.

**STEVENS COUNTY BUILDING PERMITS – HOME OWNER EXEMPTION PERMIT**

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated no matter what Stevens County does with its building permit process, the City will still have its permitting process.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated Stevens County had a very public meeting discussing Owner Exemption building permits. If Owner Exemption permits are not allowed, then owner builders can still get a permit, but must meet all of the engineering and inspection requirements.

Planning Assistant Larry Kulesza stated no one is trying to stop owners from building their own house, it’s just what rules they have to follow and inspections required.

Planning Commissioner Jody Emra stated Owner Exemption permits can sometimes cloud a property title for lending and insurance purposes.

Mayor Jesse Garrett explained for people building inside the city limits it is a nonissue. The city has its own permit process and building inspection requirements.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**WATER RATE STUDY UPDATE**

Planning Assistant Larry Kulesza stated the water asset list was updated and the number of residential accounts were verified. He expects to hear something from RCAC in the next couple days with the updated data.

Planning Assistant Larry Kulesza stated the utilities committee had a meeting to bring Council Member Chris Shurrum up to speed and reviewed tier structure billing. In theory, they talked about the pros and cons, water usage and effect on revenues.

**HIGH SCHOOL CONNECTOR SIDEWALK PROJECT**

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey reported the drawing for the sidewalk project didn’t include a buffer between the sidewalk and the street. He stated Century West Engineering is updating the drawing.

**ORV ORDINANCE REVIEW**

Council Member Dale Drake stated at the last Council meeting discussion included review of the ORV ordinance and was supposed to be discussed tonight.

Mayor Garrett stated we are still gathering ordinances from other city’s. City Attorney Logan Worley stated there are new laws that need reviewed.

**NUISANCE PROPERTIES**

Council Member Dale Drake asked if a nuisance letter was sent to the property located on Kalmia. Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated yes, a letter was sent.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**CROSSWALK ON JUNIPER STREET**

Mrs. Jody Emra stated there are a lot of kids walking to school from Woodhaven Apartments and it would be nice to place a crosswalk in that vicinity crossing Juniper Street.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated he would have the crosswalk painted and order signage.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – UNION NEGOTIATIONS***RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a) Collective bargaining sessions with employee organizations, including contract negotiations, grievance meetings, and discussions relating to the interpretation or application of a labor agreement; or (b) that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.*

Mayor Garrett stated the City Council would now enter Executive Session for approximately 15 minutes.

City Council entered Executive Session at 8:51 p.m.

City Council returned to the regular City Council meeting at 9:13 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Jesse Garrett adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

Approved:

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Attest:­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
 Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer