

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 7, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

STAFF

Staff - Larry Kulesza, Brandon Hoover, Dave Willey, Phil Adams and Raena Hallam.

Guests - Jim Geisler, Mike Delgado, Jody Emra and Shellee Haynes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

As there were no Announcements or Mail Received, City Council moved on to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC HEARING - SET AD VALOREM AND PROPERTY TAX LEVIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

Mayor Jesse Garrett opened the Public Hearing to discuss and set Ad Valorem and property tax levies for fiscal year 2024.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated the ordinance is further on the agenda and ready to be introduced for the 1% increase before November 30, 2023.

Mayor Jesse Garrett opened the Public Hearing for Public Comment at 7:02 p.m. No Public Comment was presented. The Public Hearing was closed for Public Comment at 7:03 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING - 2024 BUDGET AND 2023 BUDGET AMENDMENT

Mayor Jesse Garrett opened the Public Hearing to discuss the 2024 budget and the 2023 budget amendment.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated there have been no changes to the draft budget. One budget amendment has been identified for the 106 fund in the amount of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200.00) for the evidence room upgrade.

Mayor Jesse Garrett opened the Public Hearing for Public Comment at 7:06 p.m. No Public Comment was presented. The Public Hearing was closed for Public Comment at 7:07 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 19TH, OCTOBER 3RD, OCTOBER 17TH
AND OCTOBER VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL**

Council Member John Ridlington made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Michael Weatherman 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 after Thanksgiving they will disinfect the grey eagle tank.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated they had a successful meeting with Century West Engineering and hopes a lot of the issues are resolved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Phil Adams reported eight calls, one was a mutual aid with District #13 for an RV fire, 2 chimney fires including one at Boise lumber mill.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Brandon Hoover stated the Tahoe is back and is ready to use except it doesn't have a radio. The radio will not be available until March, 2024. Officer Hoover confirmed the Tahoe will be an unmarked vehicle.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chairperson Jody Emra stated the City scored #42 for grant funding and the cutoff was #39. She explained at this point we are considered an alternate.

Planning Assistant Larry Kulesza stated he upset about Stevens County getting grant funds by using median income levels from Hunters, WA

Council Member John Ridlington pointed out Hunters, WA isn't incorporated.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

KETTLE FALLS SWIMMING POOL

Council Member John Ridlington stated he hosted an open house on October 31, 2023 and now the pool is buttoned up for the winter.

Council Member John Ridlington stated there are a lot of upcoming events in Kettle Falls such as the Tree Lighting, Breakfast with Santa etc.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1819 - AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY AD VALOREM TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2024

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 1819 - An ordinance fixing the amount to be raised by Ad Valorem Taxes for the year 2024 by title only. Council Member Dale Drake seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Dale Drake - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

ORDINANCE NO. 1820 - AN ORDINANCE LEVYING TAXES TO RAISE REVENUE NECESSARY TO DEFRAY EXPENSES AND EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF KETTLE FALLS, WASHINGTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 1820 - An ordinance levying taxes to raise revenue necessary to defray expenses and expenditures of the City of Kettle Falls, Washington for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, by title only. Council Member Chris Shurrum seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Dale Drake - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

OLD BUSINESS

WATER RATE STUDY UPDATE

Planning Assistant Larry Kulesza stated he has been communicating with staff and the Utilities Committee. A meeting has been scheduled for November 9, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. He will then contact Rita with RCAC after the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ILLEGAL BURNING

Council Member Dale Drake stated he would like to discuss illegal burning.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated he wants to be clear Fire Chief Phil Adams is our Fire Commissioner.

Mr. Mike Delgado stated he is being harassed by Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey and the Kettle Falls Police department. He stated everytime he does something in his yard they are on him.

Mr. Delgado stated he had some piles to burn and he called everyone. He stated he is not in the UGA and his back lot where his piles were is not inside the City limits.

Mayor Jesse Garrett read language from the DOE website stating that only recreational fires are allowed in the UGA.

Mr. Delgado stated it is not legal for Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey to verbally tell him what he can and can't do on his property. It has to be in the form of a letter. He further stated he has a permit.

Council Member John Ridlington stated he felt Mr. Delgado shopped around to different agencies until someone would tell him he could burn. This has nothing to do with the City and DOE, you shopped and you got caught.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Jesse Garrett adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Approved:

Jesse Garrett, Mayor

Attest: _____
Raena Hallam, Treasurer/Clerk