

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 23, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Jesse Garrett, Chris Shurrum, John Ridlington, Shellee Haynes and Michael Weatherman. Cliff King was absent.

STAFF

Staff - Logan Worley, Dave Willey, Raena Hallam.

Guests - Larry Kulesza, Nick Gourlie, Sterling Hite, Sunny Hite, Kelly Butterfly, Gabriel Gaul, Christian Schena, Joe and Jodi Ownes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC HEARING - KFMC TITLE 17 ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT *LIVING QUARTERS*

Planning Commission Member Larry Kulesza stated the Planning Commission has not seen the final new proposed language.

Planning Commission Member Nick Gourlie stated the Planning Commission reviewed the new language with Alicia of SCJ Alliance. He stated the presented language has all the changes requested by Planning Commission. It should not include C3 which the Public Hearing language only mentions C1 and C2 zones.

Planning Commission Member Larry Kulesza stated he does not object to the new language but does object to the process. He stated this is out of the proper Planning Commission protocol.

City Attorney Logan Worley opened the Public Hearing for Public Comment at 7:09 p.m. No Public Comment was presented. The Public Hearing was closed for Public Comment at 7:10 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

MARCH VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL

As there was no Consent Agenda, the City Council moved on to Staff Reports.

STAFF REPORTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Phil Adams stated the Fire Department responded to 10 calls. One was a camper fire, but most were batteries in fire alarms.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey reported the roof on city hall is complete and looks nice.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey reported issues with the call out systems at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He stated he has computer experts working on the issue, but so far, they have not identified the problem.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated the department is currently doing leaf pickup in town.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey reported no applications were received for the summer parks position.

CITY HALL

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam reported Tammy Owens-Smith was hired to fill the vacant position in City Hall.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commissioner Larry Kulesza reported the planning commission approved purchasing three trees, tree rings and drip irrigation from the planning budget. Volunteers will install the tree rings and do the trimming around the rings.

Planning Commissioner Larry Kulesza stated he is working on park protocols for park events. He will be discussing it at the next Planning Commission meeting.

Planning Commissioner Larry Kulesza stated everyone is misunderstanding about the status of Panorama RV Park. This has

been going on for over a year. He explained in 2010 the ordinance changed the limitations of how long rv's can stay in RV parks. It appears it was a misinterpretation of the RCW's. He feels it would be in the city's best interest to reinstate the time limitations but have language that states current rv's are included as existing status.

Planning Commissioner Larry Kulesza stated the planning commission is waiting on City Council for recommendations for the parks plan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Council Member John Ridlington stated the Town & Country Days planning committee is moving right along. They will have a drone display and several other events. He also stated the beautification committee is moving along also.

NEW BUSINESS

NE WA MUSHROOM FESTIVAL - KELLY BUTTERFLY

Ms. Butterfly, Inland NW Permaculture Guild, explained this year's Mushroom Festival will be May 11th. It will be a family fun event with many activities.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated the event seems to be growing each year. He expressed some concern that in the future Happy Dell Park may not be large enough.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated the local baseball team just provided their schedule and have scheduled a ball game on May 11th. Earlier in the year they said it wasn't a problem, but now they have a game the same day. He is going to try and resolve the issue. By nature of the park, it was gifted to the youth of Kettle Falls for their primary use. He is not asking for them to cancel their event but may need to curtail public foot traffic in certain areas.

Ms. Butterfly stated the fence doesn't wrap around the entire field, making it difficult to curtail the pedestrian traffic.

Planning Commissioner Larry Kulesza stated a protocol needs to be followed so this doesn't happen.

ORDINANCE NO. 1826 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING C-2 ZONING, AMENDING THE ZONING MATRIX IN KFMC 17.02.020, AND ADDING A DEFINITION IN KFMC 17.01.042

Mayor Jesse Garrett commented he would like to see something regarding parking.

Council Member Michael Weatherman referred to footnote 8. He stated there's a period of 180 days to find a new tenant if they can't find someone in 6 months, will it be renewable. Mayor Jesse Garrett stated renewing may be possible, but not guaranteed. A conditional use permit is currently renewed every year.

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 1826 by title only. Council Member John Ridlington seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

FRIENDS OF THE POOL - AGREEMENT TERMINATION

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated over the last year the City leased the pool property to the Friends of the Pool and Parks for construction of the pool. At this time the pool is complete, and the agreement has been terminated. The pool now belongs to the City of Kettle Falls.

Council Member John Ridlington stated they are hoping to have a free swim day the weekend of Town & Country Days.

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to write a letter of commendation to the Friends of the Pool and Park. Council Member Chris Shurrum seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - abstained, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1825 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE WATER RATES FOR WATER USERS

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated the ordinance has already been introduced. He is not asking for a vote but would like to have a discussion.

Council Member Chris Shurrum deferred discussion to Larry Kulesza.

Mr. Larry Kulesza stated the Council Utilities Committee wants to keep the rate in line with inflation (5.1%) He further stated the Utilities Committee would also like to have the 2023 data to compare anticipated revenues.

Mr. Kulesza stated it is the recommendation of the Utilities Committee to table this ordinance and draft a different ordinance providing for a 5.1% rate increase. In the meantime, the Utilities Committee will review the revenues.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated increasing the rate by inflation only doesn't add to the water fund reserves, it only helps with operating costs.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated increasing the rate by inflation is only a band aid. The RCAC study results are almost identical to the water study provided by Century West Engineering three years ago. If it wasn't for ARPA funds the city would not have been able to fix the water well this year. Increasing by only inflation is not enough to sustain for the future.

Council Member John Ridlington stated this issue has been studied to death.

Mr. Kulesza explained the ordinance isn't being rejected, the Utilities Committee just wants to update the numbers and verify the revenues.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated the RCAC study was supposed to be completed June 2023.

Mr. Kulesza stated he was the only one talking to RCAC last July. He talked with staff, the Utilities Committee and RCAC. All communication had broken down.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated he takes offense to that comment. Staff provided the information to RCAC three times.

Council Member John Ridlington stated he wants to keep it simple and just be done with it.

KETTLE FALLS PARK PLAN

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to approve the Kettle Falls Park Plan. Council Member John Ridlington seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

HORSE TEMPORARILY KEPT IN CITY LIMITS

Miss Sunny Hite stated her horse Yellow Jacket has been injured and needs medicine twice a day. Normally she keeps him at her grandma's out of town, but it is a long drive. She requested permission to keep her horse at her grandma Hite's house on 3 acres inside the city limits. This would be temporary while her horse needs medicine.

My name is Sunny Hite, and I have a injured horse named Yellow Jacket. He usually stays at my grandpa Barry and grandma Nyla farm on Kelly Hill. Recently we have taken him to the vet. He wants me to give him two shots a and to walk him daily. The reason is to ask the city of Kettle Falls to allow me to keep my horse on my great grandma Diana Hite's property to help him.

It is in the city limit
close to three acres. I am
trying to help my horse.
And it would mean every-
thing if you would let me
keep him at my grandma
Dianes and grant me
permission.

Thank you,

Sunny Hite

Council Member John Ridlington made a motion to approve the Mayor authorizing temporary use for keeping the horse in town after consulting with legal counsel. Council Member Michael Weatherman seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Jesse Garrett adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Approved:

Jesse Garrett, Mayor

Attest: _____
Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer