

**KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL**  
**MARCH 19, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

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

**STAFF**

Staff - Raena Hallam, Logan Worley, Dave Willey, Phil Adams and Larry Kulesza.

Guests - Jan Hays, Paul and Bonnie Erickson, Jason York, Lan Troung and Susan Fleischman.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED**

Mayor Jesse Garrett announced City Council would enter into Executive Session at the end of the meeting - *RCW 42.30.110 (f) To receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee. However, upon the request of such officer or employee, a public hearing or a meeting open to the public shall be conducted upon such complaint or charge;*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

Clerk Treasurer Raena Hallam stated a few years ago Planning Commission recommended changing the zoning matrix to allow living quarters within the commercial district. City Council approved the matrix update at that time. However, it has come to our attention the definitions of Title 17 should have also been updated.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated the Planning Commission is still reviewing the new language for "Living Quarters". Raena asked for the public hearing to be continued to the next meeting to allow planning commission time to review.

Council Member John Ridlington moved to extend the Public Hearing to the next City Council meeting. Council Member Shellee Haynes seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris

Shurrum - yes, Council Member Cliff King - yes and Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes.

### **HOMELESS**

Ms. Lan Troung stated she owns the nail salon located on Meyers Street and would like to know the story of the homeless individual placed behind her business near the police department.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated the City is constrained by laws regarding homeless individuals. The City can't confiscate the rv because it is their home. He further stated the city is working with the individual to move his rv, but he must be willing to move it.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated he is also aware the individual has a dog he is not keeping on a leash. The City is working on this issue also.

Ms. Lan Troung stated the individual owns a home in Kettle Falls and asked why he can't be forced to move home. Mayor Garrett stated the city can't force him to go home.

Mr. Erickson asked if the Mayor has any concern for safety of the community.

Ms. Jan Hays asked if the City has a plan for the homeless issue. Mayor Garrett stated the City doesn't have the funding to provide homes for homeless individuals. We can suggest to them to contact Colville to get into their homeless camp.

Mayor Garrett stated there have been many discussions regarding the homeless issue but nothing official is in place at this time.

Mayor Garrett stated he would welcome citizen involvement to create a plan. It would be a big step in the right direction.

Ms. Jan Hays stated it is always better to have a plan than to not have a plan and just react.

Mayor Garrett stated the City can't use public funds to assist homeless individuals. We didn't fix his vehicle, only moved it from one place to another.

Mr. Erickson asked who towed the rv to the area behind the nail salon.

Mayor Garrett stated the rv was towed by City staff to City property.

Mr. Erickson stated public funds were used to tow the rv to its current location.

Council Member John Ridlington suggested everyone research the 9<sup>th</sup> circuit court case of Boise Vs. Martin. The homeless issue has been dumped on the cities. That case is where it all started, look at the legislation.

Mr. York asked how long the homeless individual would be located behind the nail salon. He also asked if he could buy the property so it's not public property. Mr. York further asked about how he is handling sanitation issues.

Council Member John Ridlington stated Stevens County needs to step up and work with cities on this issue.

Ms. Fleischman stated she is a client of the nail salon, and it is difficult to enter the salon in the back because of the dog and dog poop. She stated it is not fair the rv was moved to city property directly behind the nail salon. If she parks behind the salon, she can't get in to the salon.

Mayor Garrett stated he will speak with the police department He will make sure the dog is contained.

Ms. Fleischman asked if he could go to the homeless camp in Colville. Mayor Garrett stated no, he has assets and is not eligible.

Ms. Fleischman stated it is not fair that he was placed behind the salon.

Ms. Fleishman suggested towing the rv to the park. She further asked if this situation is fair to Lan Troung and Jason York (Salon owners).

Ms. Elaine Lewis thanked the City Council and knows their heart is in the right place by trying to help him. She stated the people need to help find solutions. She asked if the dog is approachable. She is willing to help find solutions.

Ms. Lewis stated the City has ordinances that should be updated so they are enforceable.

Ms. Lewis stated she is concerned; she knows nothing about this individual or the circumstances that made him homeless. However, it is not the City Council's job to fix everything in the City. The people have the responsibility to help find solutions.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated the City would do everything it can to solve the problem. He can't give a specific date but will continue to work on it. He stated he wishes he had the magic answer.

Mr. Erickson stated the City needs to update and create ordinances that can be enforced. The people elect people to create and enforce ordinances. That is your job.

Ms. Fleischman suggested the individual be moved to the Mayors residence.

Mayor Jesse Garrett expressed his appreciation to everyone for their comments. He asked anyone interested in participating on a committee to work on this issue to please contact City Hall.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup> AND 15<sup>TH</sup> 2024 AND MARCH 5, 2024.**

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 John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Cliff King - yes and Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

##### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Fire Chief Phil Adams reported four runs and three false alarms. The fire department assisted with a fire in Colville. The house had no fire alarms.

##### **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey reported the City Hall roof project is getting done. He further reported the Happy Dell Park bathrooms will be open the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of April, 2024.

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra reported the planning commission passed the consolidation of lots for Gold Hill Manor.

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra reported Planning Commission Member Nick Gourlie drafted a grant application for the commission to review.

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra reported a second preapplication meeting was held for a lot line adjustment that will be coming to planning commission in the near future.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**IT SERVICES**

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated he is looking at IT support for the City. He would like all of the City's IT services under one umbrella.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**KETTLE FALLS PARK PLAN**

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam reminded City Council to review the draft park plan that was previously given to them to take home.

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

Council Member John Ridlington made a motion to introduce Ordinance No. 1825 by title only. Council Member Cliff King seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Cliff King - yes and Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes.

Council Member John Ridlington stated he would like to hear from all City Council Members where they stand on the water rates and alternatives.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**PLANNING COMMISSION RESIGNATION**

Planning Commission Member Larry Kulesza announced he would like to retire and will be resigning from the Kettle Falls Planning Commission on or before August 31, 2024.

**CROSSROADS STAGE**

Mr. Kulesza stated there have been some high school age students at the stage who stated they were painting over the graffiti on the stage. Mr. Kulesza stated the second time he approached them, they were very disrespectful. Mr. Kulesza stated he didn't believe they had permission to do it.

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra stated she appreciated everyone who attended the City Council meeting. She stated the planning commission needs members and encouraged everyone to serve.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Jesse Garrett announced City Council would now enter into Executive Session for approximately 5 minutes to discuss *RCW 42.30.110 (f) To receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee. However, upon the request of such officer or employee, a public hearing or a meeting open to the public shall be conducted upon such complaint or charge;*

City Council entered into Executive Session at 8:08 p.m.

City Council returned to the regular meeting at 8:15 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Jesse Garrett adjourned the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jesse Garrett, Mayor

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