

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 16, 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, Shellee Haynes, and Michael Weatherman.

STAFF

Staff - Brandon Hoover, Logan Worley, Phil Adams, Dave Willey and Raena Hallam.

Guests - Jody Emra, Ron Anderson, Greg Daniels, Blanca Vincent, Taryn Rogers and Lisa Wolfe.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

OATH OF OFFICE FOR CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated City Council already confirmed Mr. Ron Andersons appointment to the Kettle Falls Civil Service Commission. He asked City Attorney Logan Worley to administer the oath of office to Mr. Anderson.

City Attorney Logan Worley administered the oath of office to Mr. Anderson.

LOT ON 5th STREET (PARCEL #0329200) WITH CITY UTILITY EASEMENT

Ms. Blanca Vincent stated she owns the lot at the end of 5th street that has been maintained by the City and has a City utility easement through it. She received a letter from the weed board addressing noxious weeds on the lot. During previous discussions between Mr. Daniels and City Superintendent Dave Willey Mr. Daniels suggested the City should buy the lot since it is technically a city street.

Mr. Daniels stated the City should make it right and purchase the lot. The City currently maintains it and the lot is not useable to Ms. Vincent. He further explained if someone purchases the Ferguson place it will need to be used as an access.

After discussion, Mayor Garrett asked if City Council would like him to work with Ms. Vincent to determine a suitable price and then return to City Council for further discussion.

Council Member John Ridlington made a motion to pursue the possible purchase of lot #0329200 from Ms. Blanca Vincent. 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, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

SIDEWALK IN FRONT OF THE FOOD BANK

Ms. Lisa Wolfe stated the sidewalk in front of the food bank is deteriorating and needs repaired. Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated it has been identified and is on a list to be repaired.

REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM GARBAGE SERVICES

Ms. Lisa Wolfe stated a couple months ago she came to City Council requesting an exemption from garbage services.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated he does not wish to set a precedent by granting an exemption from garbage services. For enforcement, if there is evidence of trash build up it will be dealt with accordingly.

Ms. Wolfe stated that is different, everyone is required to have garbage services. It is an issue that people try to comply and have issues with the contractor. They have shotty business practices and it is now a City issue to resolve.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated a new drop box has been installed at City Hall to monitor when the payments are picked up by the contractor.

Ms. Wolfe explained on the back of the bill it states it is delinquent at the end of the month. The issue is they charge the late fee no matter when the check is deposited, and they don't timely apply the payment. They have shotty business practices.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated the drop box was placed in City Hall so it can be monitored as to when it is being picked up. She requested this in response to Ms. Wolfe's complaint to help resolve the issue.

Ms. Wolfe stated we are paying Sunshine for a service and the City shouldn't have to monitor the drop box.

Ms. Taryn Rogers stated she attended a Kettle Falls Planning Commission meeting recently and it was mentioned the reason Sunshine Disposal was contracted for garbage services was to add 10% of the money collected to the general fund. Ms. Rogers asked what the general fund is.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated the reason the City contracted with Sunshine Disposal was due to the cost of having to purchase a new garbage truck suitable for the current equipment. The garbage rates would have needed to be drastically increased.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated yes, the City has a 10% utility tax that can be applied to the general fund. The general fund pays for several things such as police, streets, parks etc. He explained water funds and sewer funds cannot be used for general fund purposes.

Ms. Rogers asked if the 10% could be used to fix the drainage issue around her mailbox.

CONSENT AGENDA

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JULY 2, 2024

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. 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, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

STAFF REPORTS

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Phil Adams stated they responded to three calls including a traffic accident. He further added thunderstorms are predicted for tomorrow evening.

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated with the excessive temperatures the City is using approximately 2.2 millions of gallons of water per day.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated he is working with Interstate to receive a quote for a pavement patch by the railroad tracks.

Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey stated CenturyWest Engineering is in the final steps of approval to go out for bid for the Kettle Falls High School Sidewalk project. He is waiting for official dates for advertising.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officer Brandon Hoover reviewed the call sheet for recent call activity. Copy on File.

Officer Brandon Hoover reported the active shooter training at the Kettle Falls School District went very well. They have identified things they performed well and things they needed to work on.

Officer Brandon Hoover stated legislation regarding homeless issues has changed to allow enforcement of sleeping in public places.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra reported the Planning Commission agreed with the proposed location of the EV charging station at Happy Dell Park.

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra thanked Planning Commissioner Larry Kulesza for his hard work researching the 6th street access issue.

Planning Commission Chair Jody Emra stated Ordinance No. 1826 was adopted by City Council allowing Planning Commission to move forward with the 440 Meyers application.

Planning Commissioner Larry Kulesza reported with research completed by Public Works Superintendent Dave Willey and himself he met with the Stevens County Segregation Committee who had made an error regarding 6th Street.

City Attorney Logan Worley stated a new map will be issued.

Mayor Jesse Garrett confirmed there is an 80 foot right of way through 6th street to the UGA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

As there were no Committee Reports, City Council moved on to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION No. 24-01 - A RESOLUTION SETTING POLICY RELATED TO ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITIES (AWC) RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICE AGENCY (RMSA) MEMBER STANDARDS

Clerk/Treasurer stated AWC Risk Management Services have created member standards that members must comply with to avoid deductibles and possible denial of coverage. Raena stated she would like to implement a program to keep the City in compliance with the required member standards.

Council Member Michael Weatherman made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 24-01. Council Member John Ridlington seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Cliff King - yes, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

OLD BUSINESS

CITY COUNCIL MEETING TABLE

Mayor Jesse Garrett showed City Council a picture of a new meeting table for City Council. He stated the current table was ruined by water for the City Hall fire. Mayor Garrett asked to use ARPA Funds for this purchase.

Council Member John Ridlington made a motion to use ARPA Funds for new council meeting table including chairs. Council Member Michael Weatherman seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member John Ridlington - yes, Council Member Chris Shurrum - yes, Council Member Cliff King - yes, Council Member Shellee Haynes - yes and Council Member Michael Weatherman - yes.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated if the cost of the chairs exceeds \$5,000 he will return to City Council for additional authorization.

PUBLIC COMMENT

TOWERS ON EVERY MOUNTAIN

Ms. Taryn Rogers asked if anyone knows why all the towers are being constructed on the mountains. There are so many being placed in a short period of time.

Mayor Jesse Garrett responded stating as communication companies expand including EMS there will be more and more towers.

POLITICAL SIGNS

Ms. Taryn Rogers asked if there was any location she could place political signs on City property. Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated she will print a copy of the City's Municipal Code regarding signs she can pick up tomorrow.

RV PARK ON CALVARY WAY BETWEEN KETTLE FALLS AND COLVILLE

Ms. Taryn Rogers stated there is no proper sewage treatment at the RV Park located on Calvary Way. She stated she was told it is in Stevens County and Kettle Falls is in Stevens County. She stated she wants everyone to have a home, but wants it done properly.

Mayor Jesse Garrett stated the location is in Stevens County. The City only has jurisdiction within the city limits.

ABANDONED VEHICLES

Ms. Rogers explained as you enter the city limits from the East there used to be families living in the complex. One day the families disappeared and what a mess in back of the complex. Her real concern is the mess and what happened to the kids.

Mayor Jesse Garrett explained the back of the complex is in Stevens County.

Police Officer Brandon Hoover stated the abandoned vehicle ordinance applies to vehicles in the city right of way.

Police Officer Brandon Hoover stated he seen a load of garbage being hauled away from behind the complex today. He hopes they have started cleaning it up.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Jesse Garrett adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Approved:

Jesse Garrett, Mayor

Attest: _____
Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer