

Rev. C. LeRoy Borders, Saint Matthew's Episcopal Church, gave the invocation. Mayor Gregory led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Mayor Gregory. Councilmembers in attendance were: Karnofski, Futcher, Wheeler, McDaniel, Chester, Slater, and Gregory.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Chester, seconded by Councilmember Futcher, 'Approve the Minutes of the 9/4/07 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS:

Leon Wheeldon, a member of the Kelso VFW and the Kelso American Legion, spoke about the Vail of Tears Flag. He asked if the City would be willing to fly the flag on the appropriate days. A schedule of dates was given to City Manager Paul Brachvogel. Mr. Wheeldon stated the Veterans would be happy to help the City staff to make sure the flags are being flown at the proper times.

Anthony Currera, 803 S. 6th Avenue, spoke about dogs and cats running around the city and the need for an ordinance. Mayor Gregory stated the City has a contract with the Humane Society and suggested City Manager Brachvogel contact the new Humane Society Director concerning the services the City pays them to handle. Mr. Currera also spoke about a possible dress code to ban the inappropriate low-rider pants. Other topics discussed were a sink hole near 800 S. 6th which still needs repaired and drivers running the stop sign at the corner of 6th & Cedar.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Auditing of Accounts: \$1,626,679.46

Upon motion by Councilmember Chester, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Approve the Auditing of Accounts for \$1,626,679.46,' motion carried, all voting yes.

PUBLIC HEARING – REVENUE SOURCES FOR THE CITY'S 2008 CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET:

Mayor Gregory opened the Public Hearing at 7:26 p.m. City Manager Brachvogel stated revenues are coming in as expected and the City doesn't anticipate any disruptive expenditures unless the economy goes bad. All things will go as projected. The figures were not presented at the meeting but would be provided soon. There were no citizens present. Mayor Gregory closed the Public Hearing at 7:28 p.m.

MOTION ITEMS:

Accept Bid Proposal with Columbia Steel Construction for Metal Pole Building at the Operations Center: This proposal is to construct a 144' long x 24' wide and 16' high metal pole building to be used at the Operations Center for necessary storage of materials and vehicles. Councilmember Slater suggested Public Works Director David Sypher get a price quote for a 20' side wall, instead of the 16' side wall, because the extra four feet would come in handy when working on large trucks. Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Chester, 'Authorize the approval of the contract with Columbia Steel Construction, and change to a 20' side wall if the price is reasonable.' Council discussion followed. Councilmember Wheeler suggested trying to get more bids from other contractors. Public Works Director Sypher said after advertising in the Daily News and calling various contractors, only the one bid was received. Motion carried, all voting yes.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Paul Brachvogel: 1) The Finance Department was trying to follow a B & O Ordinance and a letter was sent out to the Realtors' Association which caused some confusion. No action will be taken until we get a determination. 2) A new manufacturing company in Kelso called Speedy Boot invited some of the staff to their facility. They will manufacture duct work. They have developed a canned lighting system on tracks which will be useful to contractors. 3) I have some labor negotiations and personnel issues to discuss in Executive Session. 4) The Daily News wrote an article about our two audit findings reported by the State Auditor for the 2006 audit. The City discovered the error of undercharging on permit applications. The other finding involved a building applicant who was constructing without permits. The builder has paid for and received the required permits. Our controls are in place and we are in compliance. We have determined there is a need to hire another planner.

STAFF REPORTS:

David Sypher: 1) The crews are busy crack sealing. 2) Becky Hill is getting some quotes for a brass plaque to be placed on the bench in front of City Hall in honor of Sid Snyder. The inscription will say 'In Honor of Senator Snyder, a Kelso Native Son.' Mayor Gregory would like to have a special ceremony. 3) Mayor Gregory noticed the State cleaned up the debris around the bridge. 4) The State will be repairing the street in front of the Hall of Justice the end of the month.

Mike Kerins: I met with the person we hired to look at grant applications for the skateboard park. It was our consensus to hold off on the applications because there is a requirement for a 50% match. More local money needs to be collected before we apply. The estimate on the skateboard park construction is between \$280,000 and \$300,000.

Currently we have between \$42,000 and \$45,000. Mayor Gregory asked Mike to see if donated land could count for the City's part of the grant. Council discussion followed.

Geraldine de Rooy: No report

Wayne Nelson: 1) Three officers who have been gone on extended leaves for most of the summer have returned to work. 2) Just a reminder that this is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Day of Remembrance, which is sponsored by the families of people who have lost their lives to crime, will be at the Hall of Justice (not the Cowlitz County Conference Center as reported earlier) on Tuesday, September 25th, at 7:00 p.m.

Cindy Keeney: No report

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mark Chester: No report

Alan Slater: 1) Since Washington is an apple state, I was shocked to read "apple concentrate from China" printed on the bottle of apple juice I just purchased. 2) We talked at a previous Council meeting about a place to work on the City's equipment. If Dick Hannah is unable to do the work, we might want to talk with Columbia Ford.

Joe Wheeler: I have received some e-mails about the DNR property. I think we need to have a citizen's advisory committee to come up with some ideas for this land. City Manager Brachvogel will need to find out the extent of any development under the deed restrictions before making any plans.

John Karnofski: No report

Todd McDaniel: 1) CAPP is starting a Community Voice Mail Program which would allow citizens who do not have a phone to have a way to get messages. I will get more information at the next CAPP meeting. 2) The Deputy Sheriff's Benefit Association will host a Comedy Night on Saturday, October 13, at 7:30. This will also introduce people to the Kelso Theatre Pub and the new Back Stage Café. After the show you can meet comedian Ron Osborn, the winner of the Seattle International Comedy Competition.

David Fatcher: Candidates are being interviewed this week for the Director of the Cowlitz Transit Authority position, due to the retirement of Steve Harris.

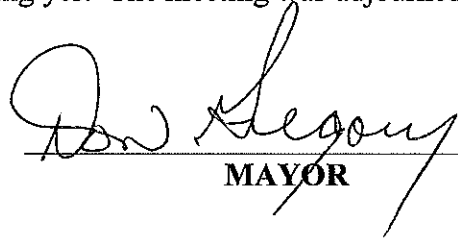
Don Gregory: No report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Council convened into Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations, a personnel issue, and a property issue. At 8:38 p.m. the Council reconvened into Regular Session.

Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, '**Approve the Amendment to the AFSCME Contract,**' motion carried, all voting yes.

Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Fletcher, 'Move to Adjourn,' motion carried, all voting yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.



MAYOR



DEPUTY CITY CLERK