

Pastor Wayne Schneider, Kelso United Methodist Church, gave the invocation. Mayor David Futcher led the flag salute. The Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council was called to order by Mayor Futcher. Councilmembers in attendance were: Futcher, Karnofski, Slater, McDaniel, Roberson, and Malella. Councilmember Myers was absent from the meeting.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, 'Approve the minutes of the 1/14/09 Special Workshop and the 1/20/09 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Futcher read a proclamation declaring the week of March 1 through March 9, 2009, to be "**One Book, One Community Week**" in the City of Kelso. Interim Library Director Cindy Donaldson accepted the proclamation and invited citizens to participate in the community events featuring the book, *The Hearts of Horses*, by Molly Gloss. Councilmembers and staff were given a copy of the book. The author will give a presentation and autograph books at the LCC Student Center on March 9th.

APPOINTMENTS:

With Council's consensus, Mayor Futcher reappointed **Betty Wilson** to the **Housing Authority**, term ending January 1, 2014.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Set Public Hearing to Allocate 2009 HOME Funding: It was the consensus of the Council to set the Public Hearing date for Tuesday, April 21, 2009.

Set Public Hearing for the 2009-2013 HOME & CDBG Consolidation Plan Development: It was the consensus of the Council to set the Public Hearing date for Tuesday, March 17, 2009.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Special Occasion Liquor License: Ladies Auxiliary of Elks #1482, 900 Ash Street

Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, 'Approve the Consent Agenda,' motion carried, all voting yes.

MOTION ITEMS:

Resolution No. 09-986 – Approving Contracts for Certain Emergency Repair Work Without Formal Bidding: The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed resolution by title

only. Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Karnofski, 'Pass Resolution No. 09-986, 'A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KELSO FINDING SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES AND APPROVING CONTRACTS FOR CERTAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR WORK WITHOUT FORMAL BIDDING.' Due to the extreme snow and heavy rainfall weather events in early January, several major landslides occurred. Public Works Director David Sypher said an offer for help was accepted from Terry Lee Excavating without going through the bid process; however, the small works roster process was used before entering into a contract with RC Northwest, LLC. Public Works is trying to obtain funds from FEMA. Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance (1st Reading) – Card Room Tax Reduction: The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Pass on 2nd Reading, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO, WASHINGTON, TEMPORARILY SUSPENDING FOR SIX MONTHS THE TAX RATE SET FORTH IN KMC 5.32.045, REDUCING THE RATE OF TAX IMPOSED ON CARD ROOMS FROM 10% TO 6% FOR A PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS, AND ESTABLISHING A SUNSET DATE.' Mayor Futcher said the goal is to help preserve the viability of facilities in our city that employ many people in this industry. Motion carried, all voting yes.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dennis Richards: 1) Last week I attended another session with the Emergency Management Group to discuss the flood situation a few weeks ago. We were told some of the Hispanic people didn't understand what was happening when the police officers were evacuating residents. Some people were frightened and hid their families in the back of their houses. It was suggested that some material written in Spanish needs to be available to hand out when emergencies arise. Discussion followed. 2) The last citizens outreach meeting will be held February 9th in the Wallace School cafeteria beginning at 6:30 p.m. 3) Reminded Councilmembers of the Council Workshop on Wednesday, February 11th, at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 203.

STAFF REPORTS:

Janean Parker: No report

David Sypher: A storm drain was severely damaged by the slide that occurred at 4th & Burcham. We are in process of checking for grants that may be available to cover some of the costs.

Michael Kerins: No report

Cindy Donaldson: Things are going very well at the library and we are gearing up for the community events for *One Book One Community Week*.

Wayne Nelson: 1) Aaron Marthaller will be going to the Police Academy later this month. 2) The KPD Annual Report will be presented at the February 17th Council Meeting. 3) A new jail contract will be brought to Council for consideration in a few weeks.

Brian Butterfield: 1) There is currently a bill that would limit cities and counties from collecting delinquent utility charges from property owners when the tenant contracts for service directly with the utility company. 2) A citizen who attended one of the citizens meetings said they were told \$60,000 from the general fund was used for the Highlander Festival. This is incorrect. Twenty thousand dollars was spent from the Stadium Fund, which was created to promote tourism. The festival is primarily funded by user fees, button and program sales, and donations.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Rick Roberson: I attended the community meeting at Coweeman Middle School. The main focus was nuisance abatement and cleaning up the city.

Gerald Malella: There were not many in attendance at the community meeting, but we had a good discussion. Other topics discussed were the need to support the Highlander Festival and the Tree Lighting. Evidently, there was some confusion about where the \$60,000 came from.

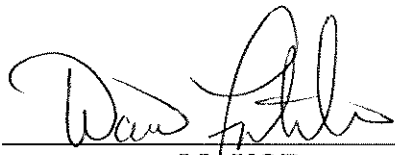
Alan Slater: Spoke about the landslide and the concern that trains may be creating a heavy vibration that could be creating some of the problems. It would be a good idea to put some equipment in the area to monitor the vibrations.

John Karnofski: No report

Todd McDaniel: 1) The last Kelso boy's basketball home game will be on Friday, February 6th. 2) Kelso is hosting the District Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, starting at 10:00 a.m. 3) The Cowlitz County Deputy Association's comedy night fundraiser in memory of Mike Riley will be March 14th at the Kelso Theater Pub. The proceeds are for a \$1,000 LCC scholarship. Tickets can be purchased from me or through the Sheriff's Office.

David Futcher: No report

There being no further business, Mayor Futcher adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.



MAYOR



CITY CLERK