

Pastor Nick Stumbo, East Hills Alliance 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 David Futcher. Councilmembers in attendance were: Futcher, Myers, Lefebvre, McDaniel, Schimmel, Archer, and Roberson.

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Myers, seconded by Councilmember Schimmel, 'Approve the Minutes of the 3/06/12 Special Council Workshop and the 3/06/12 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. **Appointment:** Kenneth Maney, Highlander Festival Board
2. **Additional Funding Request:** Reimbursable Work-Chip Seal – Cowlitz County
3. **Contract Award:** Citywide Overlay Project – Lakeside Industries
4. **Closeout:** Water Line Replacement Project on 1st Ave., N 2nd Ave., and Barnes Street - Landis & Landis
5. **Liquor License Added Privilege:** Target Corporation, 205 Three Rivers Drive
6. **Auditing of Accounts:** \$1,628,893.19

Upon motion by Councilmember Roberson, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Approve the Consent Agenda and the Auditing of Accounts in the amount of \$1,628,893.19,' motion carried, all voting yes.

CITIZEN BUSINESS:

Cindy Hardin, Cowlitz County ABATE Safety & Education Committee Chairman, spoke from the audience about a proclamation for the Month of May, 2012, to be 'Motorcycle Awareness Month.' Mayor Futcher referred her to contact City of Kelso Executive Assistant Shelly Timm.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Boards & Commission – Council Assignments:

The following positions were assigned:

- **911 Council:**
 1. Gary Schimmel as Regular Attendee
 2. Gary Archer as Alternate
- **Cowlitz County Government Summit:**
 1. Dan Myers
 2. Rick Roberson
 3. Gary Archer

MOTION ITEMS:

Resolution No. 12-1059 – Emergency Work Approval Without Formal Bidding: The Deputy Clerk read the proposed resolution by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Pass Resolution No. 12-1059,' A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KELSO FINDING SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES AND APPROVING CONTRACTS FOR CERTAIN EMERGENCY REPAIR WORK WITHOUT FORMAL BIDDING.' Motion carried, all voting yes.

WALK ON ITEM:

Resolution No. 12-1060 – WSDOT Aviation Grant Match Funds Availability: The Deputy Clerk read the proposed resolution by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Schimmel, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Pass Resolution No. 12-1060,' RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF KELSO, WASHINGTON, TO THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AVIATION GUARANTEEING GRANT MATCH FUNDS AVAILABILITY.' Public Works Director David Sypher explained that this is an airport aid application that the city submits every year. The grant money will be used to accomplish the West Side Hangar Development Project Environmental Assessment, the GPS Instrument Approach Procedure Development Survey and Engineering Project, and the Runway Extension and Wetland Mitigation Design. Councilmember Myers asked about the match funds being available in the budget. Mr. Sypher said we have a \$450,000 grant from the County that can be used for match funds. In addition, we have some monies already budgeted for local matches on grants. Councilmember Archer asked about the \$62,500 local match required. Mr. Sypher said in order to get these grants local agencies are required to pay a certain percentage. The \$62,500 is already included in the airport budget. Mayor Fatcher asked when the new Airport Board will be taking over the airport business matters. Mr. Sypher said Kelso City Attorney Janean Parker is currently working on it. At the next Airport Board Meeting Mr. Sypher is going to suggest that the City of Kelso is allowed to continue to handle the airport business matters during the transition period. The transition period will be complete after the airport budget for 2013 is adopted. Motion carried, all voting yes.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dennis Richards: 1) This is my last council meeting with the Kelso City Council. It has been an honor to serve the citizens of Kelso. It has been a lot of work and a lot of fun. I look back on what has happened since I have been here. We promoted Andy Hamilton to Chief of Police. It will be 3 years next week since he has been Police Chief. He has done a very good job. With the help from the City Council, the library was relocated from the old building to the Three Rivers Mall. This move has turned out wonderfully. We now have a very nice senior center that is very active. I acknowledged the Train Depot Volunteer Program when it came across my desk. Dan Myers is doing an excellent job running that. There have been a lot of team building activities such as: pot lucks; the flower baskets; the Giving Tree, which is a fund raiser for less fortunate families in

Kelso; and a Wellness Program which promotes good health and saves a lot of money on insurance costs. The City has built up a nice rapport with the business owners in town. I feel very good with what has happened over the last 3 1/2 years. I would have liked to accomplish more but I received an offer from Gig Harbor that I could not turn down. It will allow me to have more time at home with my spouse of 48 years. Mayor Futcher announced that there will be a reception for Denny Richards on Wednesday, March 28th, at 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the council chambers. Mayor Futcher stated that he appreciated what Denny has done for the city and that he wrote an article about him. The article will be published in the Chamber of Commerce Business News Letter next month. He commented that Denny has been dedicated toward getting business in the city and making sure it prospers once it is here. He said Denny's dedication helped get Kelso pointed in the right direction during these difficult economic times. Councilmember Schimmel thanked Denny for his optimism and for proactively encouraging positive things in the community. Councilmember Myers commented on how Denny handled situations in a very professional and skillful manner and that he appreciates everything Denny has done. Councilmember Roberson said he hopes that the council can make as good a decision hiring the next city manager as they did when they hired Denny Richards.

Janean Parker: Thank you to Denny Richards for giving me the opportunity to serve the City of Kelso. Denny has been very responsive and helpful with all of the legal issues. I am really going to miss him. Mayor Futcher commented about the 'Listening Post' which is a community forum that is scheduled Saturday, March 24th, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. He said there may be at least 4 councilmembers attending the forum so it will be announced as a special meeting. He asked Ms. Parker if it would be possible to continue tonight's meeting to the Saturday meeting so that if a councilmember does not attend the Saturday meeting, it would not be recorded as an absence on their record. Ms. Parker replied that it would be a reasonable solution to have a continuation of a meeting to a date certain and post it the same way we do any other meeting. Finance Director Brian Butterfield asked if it would be required to have someone take minutes and record the Saturday meeting since it will be a continuation of tonight's meeting. Ms. Parker explained that the level of service and the level of minute taking are up to the council. She understands that the 'Listening Post' will be in a public forum mode where councilmembers will break into a separate one on one session with the public. Recording is not required under state law and the minutes are whatever level of detail of minute taking that makes sense to what type of meeting it is.

David Sypher: 1) We received some excellent bids on our 2012 Citywide Overlay Project. Because of these bids, we will do some change orders that will allow us to do some things in an expanded fashion which will be beneficial to the city. We also received an additional \$5,000 grant for the CHAP portion of this project. 2) The Allen Street Project that caused so much consternation went together very well. I want to thank the Community Catholic Church for graciously allowing us to get in where we needed to be to take care of the grease issue. We have found the source of the grease and we are working with the people involved. We feel confident that this will be taken care of so that it will not turn in to a legal matter and that is a good deal. Councilmember Myers asked

about the small lane closure on the west side of the Cowlitz Way Bridge being the state's responsibility. Mr. Sypher said the city will be taking care of that because it is our utility line that needs work. Councilmember Archer asked about the traffic lights missing from the new intersection on Tally Way. Mr. Sypher said that since they have not been activated they were removed to prevent vandalism. Mayor Fatcher asked if the Overlay Project included Allen Street. Mr. Sypher said that Allen Street is included and the overlay will extend as far as where the previous overlay project on Allen Street ended.

Nancy Malone: 1) We should be issuing the Wilco permit by the end of this week. I am very excited about that. 2) I have really enjoyed working with Denny Richards. He has turned the atmosphere in the upstairs office around by 100% since I have started working here. We are really going to miss him. Mayor Fatcher asked if a permit application has been turned in for a hotel behind the Jack in the Box site. Mrs. Malone said she has spoke to Mr. Parsons and he is getting his finances in order but no application has been received at this time.

Cindy Donaldson: 1) We continue to be very busy at the library. We are up another 3% in issuing library cards from last year. 2) Our downloadable books will launch on Monday, March 26th. Come in with your library card and we will get you signed up and give you the instructions on how to download books. 3) I am looking forward to the community forum on Saturday. 4) I want to thank Denny Richards for making the relocation of the library transition so easy. It has been a whirlwind of a year with all that has happened. Denny has been awesome every step of the way.

Darr Kirk: 1) We are about 6 days ahead of where we were last year with our calls for service. This is an increase of about 200 calls for our patrols and detectives which includes processing reports and citations. We are staying busy, keeping up, and working hard. 2) I would like to thank Denny Richards for the leadership he has given the city and particularly the police department over the last several years. We appreciate him and we are going to miss him.

Brian Butterfield: 1) You have the Monthly Financial Reports through February 29, 2012. As of the end of February, 2011, it looks like we will have about a \$125,000 surplus which is better than the \$180,000 deficit that was in the budget. 2) It has been a pleasure working with Denny Richards. He has been a good boss.

Traci Howard: I just wanted to say that I will miss Denny. He would come downstairs almost every day to say good morning with his happy face.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Gary Schimmel: No report.

Kim Lefebvre: I just wanted to say that I am going to miss you Denny.

Rick Roberson: 1) I have received several calls after the article in the Daily News was published about the Skate Park Landscaping Project. I received a few great suggestions and a couple of good leads on fund raisers. 2) I recently attended the CWOG Board Meeting. They are going to reinstitute the Regional Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation. They want to reinstitute it in a policy mode. 3) CWOG Transportation Planner Rosemary Siipola sent an email stating that there are 7 MPOs being cut from the state budget. One is a Cowlitz County municipal organization. The budget has been sent to the Senate. I have not yet heard the outcome on that. 4) This is the second time I have participated in the Citizen's Academy. It has never been a disappointment. Darren Ullmann gave a fascinating talk about the history of law enforcement in the area.

Todd McDaniel: I want to thank Denny Richards. I appreciate the great job he has done. He is my third city manager since I have been on the city council. Even though his home is in Gig Harbor he became part of our community. He attended football games and community events. He did a great job. It is bad for Kelso that he is leaving but it is good for him and his wife. He made a good decision. Good luck Denny.

Dan Myers: No report.

Gary Archer: 1) The Park Board Meeting this month was cancelled. 2) I suggest that anyone who has not been to the library yet needs to go. It is more than just a library. There is a lot about the history of Kelso to learn. It is a nice lay out and the ladies who work there are doing a good job. 3) Even though I did not get a chance to get to know Denny too well, but whenever I had a question for him, he would always give me an answer.

David Futcher: 1) I was recently asked to do a little cameo role for a high school student's project at the high school. It was some kind of news skit they did at lunch-time. It was neat to go there to be with the kids. When I was that age I did not know anything about city government or even who the mayor was. It is nice to have the kids involved. 2) I ran in to Julie Hourle recently and she said no one has applied for HOME Funding this year so we will not be seeing her in April. We have about \$49,000 to spend on HOME Funding so it will carry over to next year and then we will have more to spend. Councilmember Myers commented that he did a tag along with the AmeriCorps Volunteers at Barnes Elementary School last week. He said it was very interesting.

Mayor Futcher spoke about the continuation of this meeting in a public forum mode to Saturday, March 24, 2012, 1:00 p.m. at the Kelso Library. **Motion by Councilmember Schimmel, seconded by Councilmember Archer, 'Continue this meeting to Saturday, March 24, 2012, 1:00 p.m. at the Kelso Library,' motion carried, all voting yes.**

There being no further business, Mayor Futcher adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.



MAYOR



CITY CLERK