

Pastor John Jorgenson, Three Rivers Bible 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, Malella, Roberson, McDaniel, Myers, Slater, and Karnofski.

**Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Approve the minutes of the 1/6/09 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**PROCLAMATION:**

Mayor Futcher read a proclamation declaring January 2009 as "**Big Brothers Big Sisters Month**" in the City of Kelso. Jenny Duncan, program coordinator of the Cowlitz County office of Big Brothers Big Sisters, accepted the proclamation and invited citizens to become mentors.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**Aaron Marthaller Appointment:** Chief of Police Wayne Nelson introduced Aaron Marthaller, the newest member of the Kelso Police Department. Chief Nelson administered the Oath of Office to Aaron, who will be leaving soon for the Police Academy. Mayor Futcher welcomed Aaron and thanked Chief Nelson for the fine job he has done to make the department what it is today. Mayor Futcher also congratulated Captain Andy Hamilton who will be Kelso's Chief of Police when Wayne retires the end of March.

**Airport Master Plan Update, USR Corporation:** Jerry Sorrell, Project Manager for the Airport Master Plan Update, spoke about the Technical Advisory Committee Meeting with URS Corporation and the first public open house that were held earlier in the day. A more formal presentation with recommendations to Council will be made in April. Handouts outlining those meetings were given to Councilmembers. Key areas to look at are increasing the length of the runway to 5,000 feet and obtaining adequate hangar space. Council discussion followed.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Auditing of Accounts:** \$1,114,796.73

**Liquor License Renewals:** 1) Kelso AM/PM, 1700 Allen Street; 2) The River Casino, 902 Ash Street

**West Main Realignment, Project Consultant Award to H. W. Lochner, Inc.,** Amount of project not to exceed \$182,176

Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Approve the Consent Agenda and the Auditing of Accounts in the amount of \$1,114,796.73,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**Dennis Richards:** 1) The Department of Emergency Services ran smoothly during the recent flood event. Chief Dave LaFave, the incident commander, did a great job. Some of the City employees volunteered in various ways, such as filling sandbags. Police Officers were busy evacuating residents and the Reserve Officers helped patrol areas that were evacuated to keep homes from being broken into. Thanks also to the citizens for their cooperation. 2) A workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. The Community Development Block Grant 5-Year Plan will be the topic of discussion. 3) Please take note of the new format for the Council Agenda. The software that is being used was approved by the Council several months ago. 4) An Executive Session will be needed to discuss property acquisition. 5) Congratulations to Public Works Director David Sypher for the article he wrote called **Sanitation Fund: Local Street Damage Reimbursement**. Councilmembers were given a copy of the article which was published in the Public Works Magazine.

**STAFF MEMBERS:**

**David Sypher:** 1) Mayor Fatcher thanked Public Works Director Sypher and the Public Works staff for their hard work during the flood event. A letter was received from Local 1557 congratulating the employees for their hard work. David thanked the crew and citizens who helped. 2) Al King, Project Manager for the West Main Realignment Project, was introduced. 3) We are in process of getting quotes to clean up the Burcham Street slide caused by the storm event. We will be putting together a resolution to declare it an emergency. The property owner has insurance that might eventually cover the costs and we will be talking to our insurance carrier as well. Three geologists are in process of assessing the area. Councilmember Slater spoke about the numerous slides that have occurred in the area and the potential for major problems. 4) Happy Birthday to City Manager Richards!

**Michael Kerins:** 1) Spoke about another slide on Cedar Falls Drive and the importance of not creating lots on these steepened slopes. 2) Concerning the Burcham Street slide, the owner of the house at the top of the hill has been contacted to let him know he needs to redirect any stormwater that comes off his roof into the City's drain system. Other property owners in the area will also be contacted so we can work together to correct drainage problems so as not to jeopardize the stability of houses in the area. 3) Today, I met with Melissa Taylor of the Council of Governments and representatives from the Kelso Housing Authority to discuss the use of money (approximately \$410,000) we are receiving from the State of Washington Office of Community Trade and Economic Development for the revitalization of housing. At the February 11<sup>th</sup> Council Workshop,

we will present basic information relating to the money and get feedback as to how to use these funds.

**Wayne Nelson:** I just want to take this opportunity to thank my staff, reserve officers, chaplain, and all who helped during the flood event. Some officers who were off duty were called in. Ed Nelson, who takes care of our computer equipment, came in to help. Equipment and file cabinets were moved off the ground because we were also in the evacuated area. I especially want to express my appreciation to the public for their cooperation during this event.

**Brian Butterfield:** I want to thank my staff in the Finance Department for their help getting our office ready for the potential flood. Sandbags were placed at the entrances to City Hall as well as the computer room. Thanks to Barry, our computer technician, for getting Community Development's new computer and permitting system off the ground. I have asked Barry to give us a quote for moving the computers to the upper floor.

**Carol Bradbury:** No report

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Rick Roberson:** 1) I really appreciate the dedication from the City employees and volunteers. I live in the evacuated area, and it was very stressful leaving my home. I also appreciated all the emails which kept me updated on the situation. 2) I attended the Community Assessment Task Force meeting at Huntington Junior High last week. 3) I don't think we should live with a dike that has a 50 percent chance of breaking. Community Development Director Kerins said the Coweeman River was the highest anyone can ever remember seeing, primarily due to the amount of sediment in the river. He plans to meet with the Department of Ecology to discuss having the river dredged. Councilmember Roberson suggested contacting elected officials concerning this situation. Discussion followed.

**Gerald Malella:** Spoke about flooding problems near his home largely due to a culvert being plugged with leaves and debris. The after hours number for the Public Works Department was called. Even though there were more intense problems with landslides, the City crew kept coming by to check the area. If citizens would clean out their drains, it would help eliminate some of the problems.

**Alan Slater:** Spoke about the current river problems and some of the history of the Coweeman River, including the amazing fish runs years ago.

**John Karnofski:** No report

**Todd McDaniel:** No report

**Dan Myers:** 1) My wife and I also had to evacuate due to the flood concerns. 2) Spoke about the first Community Assessment Task Force meeting at Huntington Junior High he attended. Citizens discussed beautification of the area and developing tourism.


**David Futcher:** I was fortunate not to be personally affected by the flood, but we took in some friends who were evacuated. I appreciate the efforts of the employees during this event.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Council convened into Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. to discuss property acquisition. The Council reconvened into Regular Session at 8:20 p.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Futcher adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

  
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**MAYOR**

  
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**CITY CLERK**



CITY OF KELSO

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

As of This Date January 20, 2009

The City Audit Committee Does

Approve for Payment those Claims included in the above listing, and further

described below, in the TOTAL AMOUNT of \$ 1,114,796.73

Voucher warrant Numbers: 150943 through 151070

In the Amount of \$ 447,758.09

Prepaid Warrant Numbers: 150546 through 150555

In the Amount of \$ 31,946.82

Voided Warrant Numbers: 150942, 150983, 151021 through 151046, 151071

Payroll Deduction/Benefit Claims Warrant Numbers 150920 through 150941

In the Amount of \$ 346,053.05

Payroll Warrant Numbers: 518380 through 518422

In the Amount of \$ 289,038.77

Voided Warrant Numbers: 150942 through 151071

SIGNED: [Signature]  
Audit Committee

[Signature]  
Audit Committee

Authorized for Payment per Council Action: 2008

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