

Chaplain Steve White of the Kelso Police Department 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, Myers, McDaniel, Roberson, and Malella.

**Minutes:** Upon motion by Councilmember Slater, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Approve the minutes of the 3/17/09 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**SWEARING IN CHIEF OF POLICE ANDREW HAMILTON:**

City Manager Dennis Richards spoke about the process the City went through to hire a new Chief of Police. Five strong candidates went through a day-long assessment lab and **Andrew Hamilton**, who is so well respected in this community, stood out. Mayor Futcher swore in Andrew Hamilton. Andy's daughter Jennifer, his mother Carol, and his wife Noelle took part in a pinning ceremony. Chief Hamilton thanked his family for coming and said the former police chiefs and officers who have guided this department to make it what it is today need to be remembered. Chief Hamilton is looking forward to working with the great people in the Kelso Police Department.

Mayor Futcher requested a five-minute break. At 7:20 p.m. the meeting was called back to order.

**PROCLAMATION:**

Mayor Futcher read a proclamation declaring the week of April 19 through April 25, 2009, as "Week of the Young Child" in Kelso. Cindy Stonex, a representative of Cowlitz United Way and Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Early Learning Coalition, accepted the proclamation and spoke about the importance of honoring young children. She thanked teachers and all those who make a difference in the life of a child.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**Revisions to Title 16 & 17 of the Kelso Municipal Code:**

Mayor Futcher opened the Public Hearing at 7:23 p.m. Community Development Director Michael Kerins gave a power point presentation and spoke about some of the proposed zoning and subdivision ordinance changes needed due to compliance issues, conflicting internal standards and contradictions, and difficulty in understanding the code.

Councilmembers were handed a letter from Northwest Sign Council stating their objections to the proposed language in Title 17.62.

There were no comments from the public. Mayor Futcher closed the public hearing at 7:27 p.m.

Council discussion followed.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

**Adoption of Title 18B of the Kelso Municipal Code:**

Mayor Futcher opened the public hearing at 7:29 p.m. Community Development Director Michael Kerins gave a power point presentation and spoke about the proposed project permit and plan amendment administration ordinance. Current requirements are scattered throughout three different ordinances, older review requirements were never removed, and requirements are difficult to understand. A document called "Planning Commission Permit Process Ordinance Review" was handed to Councilmembers.

The following people spoke from the audience:

**Anthony J. Currena**, 803 S. 6<sup>th</sup>, asked if these changes would affect homeowners wanting to make changes on their home or property. Discussion followed

**Rick Von Rock**, 400 N. 7<sup>th</sup>, asked if the changes would expedite the ability to get permits. Discussion followed.

Hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Futcher closed the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

**CITIZENS BUSINESS:**

**Anthony J. Currena**, 803 S. 6<sup>th</sup>: 1) Asked why licenses are required for dogs, but not cats. 2) Presented a photograph and spoke about water standing in the street in his neighborhood, even during dry spells. 3) Congratulated the new police chief. Discussion followed.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**2008 Public Works Annual Report:** Public Works Director David Sypher gave a power point presentation of the Public Works 2008 Report and the 2009 Plan, which was given to Councilmembers. Their main goal is to be efficient and provide the services that the community is expecting, especially in these economic times. David praised his staff and expressed appreciate to Don Bell who volunteers as an assistant airport manager.

**Changes at the Cowlitz County Expo Center:** County Commissioner Axel Swanson and Brian Magnuson, Representative of the Public Facilities District Board, spoke about the strategic plan for the forty-seven acres at the fairgrounds and the conference center. Representatives from the City of Kelso, City of Longview, Public Facilities District, and Cowlitz County have been involved in discussing how to move forward with this plan. Commissioner Swanson spoke about a proposed Memo of Understanding between the four jurisdictions at a cost of \$27,500 each. Council discussion followed. City Manager Richards suggested using a fund called 0.09%, since it is designed to be used for economic development.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Firework Permits:** 1) Kelso Recreation Council (2 Stands); 2) Kelso Kiwanis (1 Stand).

**Receive & File:** Corrected Six-Year Capital Improvement Program Summary 2009-2014.

**Close Out Summary:** Project #600901, Stormwater Pipe Installation at North 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Burcham, with NW Metal Fab & Pipe, Inc., in the amount of \$25,555.33.

**Interlocal Agreement:** City of Longview, City of Kelso, and Cowlitz County - 2009 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award.

**Bridge Painting Contractor Award:** Project #800801, Hancock Sandblasting & Painting in the amount of \$242,640.

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

**MOTION ITEMS:**

**Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) – Revision of Title 16 and Title 17 of the Kelso Municipal Code:** The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember McDaniel, seconded by Councilmember Roberson, 'Pass on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO REVISING THE SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE, TITLE 16 AND THE ZONING ORDINANCE, TITLE 17 TO ELIMINATE INCONSISTENCIES AND OMISSIONS, REFORMAT TO ALLOW FOR EASIER UNDERSTANDING, AND MAKE CERTAIN CHANGES MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED HEREIN,' motion carried, all voting yes.

**Ordinance (1<sup>st</sup> Reading) – Adoption of Title 18B of the Kelso Municipal Code:** The Deputy City Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Roberson, seconded by Councilmember Myers, 'Pass on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading, 'AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO ADOPTING A PROJECT PERMIT AND PLAN AMENDMENT ADMINISTRATION ORDINANCE, TITLE 18B, ESTABLISHING STANDARD REVIEW PROCESSES FOR ALL LAND USE PERMITTING AND PLAN AMENDMENTS AND RESCINDING KELSO

MUNICIPAL CODE TITLES 18.04.080, 18.04.090 AND 18.16.' Discussion followed. Motion carried, all voting yes.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

**Dennis Richards:** 1) Dates for upcoming meetings are as follows: Task Force April 13 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., All Aboard Washington Group April 27 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Action Plan Council Workshop April 28 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. 2) Public Works staff moved the benches in front of City Hall away from the street. Since the benches need to be refinished, I have opened this up for Eagle Scouts to use as a project. We have received many calls. 3) I'm looking forward to the transition with Andy as the new Chief of Police. 4) Due to the current economic situation, Councilmember McDaniel would like to have a budget workshop to stay on top of things.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**Janean Parker:** No report

**David Sypher:** We are working hard on our Airport Master Plan. Councilmembers were given a handout called "Excerpt from Chapter 5 – Alternatives Analysis" concerning the airport runway extension alternatives. Tomorrow, this draft will be released to the technical advisory committee. Recommendations from URS Corporation (the professional consultant), the technical advisory committee, and the airport board will be brought to Council at a later date for the final decision. Discussion followed.

**Michael Kerins:** 1) We will be starting to work on the comp plan. 2) The Aldercrest Advisory Group, which has been meeting for about ten months, will be submitting a document to Council concerning their short-term and long-term recommendations for integrating that area into the City's open space plan.

**Cindy Donaldson:** 1) We have been busy at the library, especially during spring break. Several group tours have been given and another book discussion group was very well attended. 2) Tonight when I left the library there was a sewing group in one room, story time was getting ready to start, and a some high school seniors working on their senior projects were busy painting the windows for our summer reading program.

**Andrew Hamilton:** 1) Officers went through an active gunman shooter training, which hadn't occurred since around 1996. The training was held here to avoid travel costs. 2) Today all the supervisors went through some training. People were brought in so the class could be held here. 3) I am in process of doing a review of the department to work on a strategic plan.

**Brian Butterfield:** 1) Saturday, April 18th, the Earth Day event will be held at the Convention Center at the fairgrounds. We will have a booth highlighting our recycling

program and our new stormwater drainage requirements. 2) Concerning Councilmember McDaniel's budget concerns, we are down three employees from last year.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

**Rick Roberson:** 1) I have attended several diking district meetings to keep updated on what is taking place. 2) I attended the Government Summit meeting and volunteered to be on a subcommittee pertaining to building codes. One of the main functions will be to provide uniformity.

**Dan Myers:** 1) At the Fibre Federal Credit Union Annual Meeting, the president announced plans to build a new branch in Kelso across from the Dairy Queen. 2) I also attended the government summit and I am on a committee. 3) April 27<sup>th</sup> will be the first meeting with the All Aboard Washington group here in the Council Chambers. I have taken on this project and will be looking for volunteer hosts.

**Alan Slater:** Spoke about a photograph given to Councilmembers of downtown Kelso in 1949. There were many small businesses at that time.

**John Karnofski:** No report

**Gerald Malella:** No report

**Todd McDaniel:** No report

**David Futcher:** I was going through my stack of mail today. Apparently the number one cause of global warming is eating meat. Since I'm a vegetarian, I am personally saving the environment!

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

  
MAYOR

  
CITY CLERK