

KELSO CITY COUNCIL
7:00 P.M.

JANUARY 6, 2009
REGULAR MEETING

Pastor Scott Olin, New Hope City 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, Slater, Karnofski, Myers, McDaniel, Malella, and Roberson.

OATH OF OFFICE:

Finance Director/City Clerk Brian Butterfield swore in the following individuals to the Kelso City Council:

Rick Roberson, Council Position #1
Gerald P. Malella, Council Position #5

Minutes: Upon motion by Councilmember Karnofski, seconded by Councilmember McDaniel, 'Approve the minutes of the 12/16/08 Regular Meeting,' motion carried, all voting yes.

PRESENTATION:

Library Board, Recognition: Jack Keolker, Library Board Member, presented a power point presentation honoring **Geraldine de Rooy** for her accomplishments during the past four years as Library Director. Geraldine has accepted a position in Pullman and will be leaving later this month. **Councilmember Roberson**, also a library board member, presented a plaque to Geraldine. Jack read the inscription on the plaque and presented Geraldine with a picture taken at the last board meeting. Geraldine said it has been her pleasure to work for the City of Kelso. Mayor Futcher wished Geraldine well in her new position.

CITIZEN'S BUSINESS:

Joe Trussell, 686 Eufaula Heights Rd., Longview, spoke about ideas concerning the Longview Senior Center. A sheet showing the number of members, visitors, and other information was handed out. Citizens were invited to visit the facility and become members. Discussion followed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Humane Society Annual Agreement

Liquor License Application: Kelso Theater PUB, 214 S. Pacific

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

Rick Johnson, Executive Director of the Humane Society, presented some ideas for changes in the future that might be beneficial to the City of Kelso and the Humane Society. Mr. Johnson recommended raising the license fees and changing the due date from March 1st to January 1st, because officers are unable to penalize someone during the two-month grace period. Discussion followed. It was the consensus of the Council to discuss these issues at a later date.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Dennis Richards: 1) I was on a conference call with the Department of Emergency Management and the National Weather Service out of Portland concerning the possibility of flooding. Later today representatives from all the cities in Cowlitz County, the Sheriff's Office and several fire departments met at the Department of Emergency Management. Dave LaFave, Fire Chief of Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue, did an excellent job pulling all the entities together to work towards the safety of local residents. 2) Councilmembers were reminded to use their City of Kelso email addresses. 3) A Council Workshop will be held on Wednesday, February 11th, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to review the Five-Year Community Development Block Grant HOME Plan. 4) The Community Assessment Task Force has announced the following meeting dates: January 12th at Huntington Middle School at 6:30 p.m.; January 31st at Coweeman Middle School Library, at 10:00 a.m.; and February 9th at Wallace Elementary School, at 6:30 p.m. 5) The Giving Tree event was a success. Two local families had a special Christmas because of the generosity of City employees. 6) I want to thank our Public Works Department for all the extra hard work they did during the snow. 7) Councilmember McDaniel asked about the Saturday closing at the library. Dennis said records indicated the fewest number of patrons visited the library on Saturday.

STAFF REPORTS:

Janean Parker: 1) I want to say Happy New Year to all. 2) I'm glad the weather is better now.

David Sypher: 1) I appreciate the great job the crews did during the snow event. They put in long hours. We will exceed some budget expenditures due to the overtime. 2) We don't anticipate any major flooding during this rainy period; however, if water does rise, sand bags will be available at the Operations Center on Parrott Way.

Michael Kerins: A letter was received from the State of Washington Office of Community Trade and Economic Development that indicated the City of Kelso is in line to receive around \$400,000 for the revitalization of housing. We will meet soon with staff from COG and the Kelso Housing Authority to come up with a plan which we are required to submit to the state by April 1st.

Geraldine de Rooy: I want to wish Cindy Donaldson the best in her new position at the library.

Wayne Nelson: 1) The police department was busy during the recent snow event. We are fortunate to have two four-wheel drive vehicles which allowed us to respond to all the calls that came in. 2) A copy of a letter to City Manager Richards outlining the various degrees obtained by Kelso Police Officers was given to Councilmembers. This was in response to a recent news story about a Washington State Patrol investigation into the college degrees used by some troopers to obtain extra educational pay. 3) At an upcoming Council Meeting, I will be introducing, Aaron Marthaller, our newest police officer. Aaron, who is from this area, replaced Sarah Hoffman.

Brian Butterfield: No report

Carol Bradbury: 1) I want to wish Geraldine de Rooy well in her new job in Pullman. 2) Congratulations to Cindy Donaldson in her new position at the library.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Dan Myers: No report

Todd McDaniel: No report

John Karnofski: No report

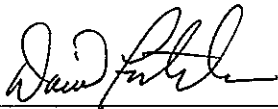
Alan Slater: 1) Spoke about the potential flooding problems due to the continuous buildup of sediment in the rivers since the Mt. St. Helens eruption. Citizens should be alert and stay safe. 2) The gas prices have gone up about 25 cents a gallon. 3) Years ago, the City of Kelso used to block off some streets during the snowy weather to give kids a safe area to sled. 4) Happy New Year!

Gerald Malella: No report

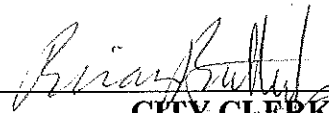
Rick Roberson: No report

David Futcher: I spoke with museum personnel concerning the City of Kelso's 125th anniversary which is this year. We will probably have a ceremony this summer and possibly revisit some of the people who were involved in the centennial ceremony.

There being no further business, Mayor Futcher adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.



MAYOR



CITY CLERK