

KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Ridlington called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Dale Drake, John Ridlington, Jesse Garrett, John Andrew and Steve Hedrick. Michael Weatherman was absent.

STAFF

Staff - Logan Worley, Raena Hallam, Phil Adams, Ken House, Chris Courchene, Katy Pike, Sean Kelly and Michael Gettys.

GUESTS

Guests - Jerry Antoine, Larry Kulesza, Gabriel Cruden, Dale Smith, Stacy Kelly and Betty Forgey.

Council Member Dale Drake moved to excuse Council Member Michael Weatherman from the Council Meeting. Council Member John Andrew seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Dale Drake - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member John Andrew - yes and Council Member Steve Hedrick - yes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED

As there were no Announcements and mail Received, City Council moved on to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

OATH OF OFFICE - POLICE OFFICER

City Attorney Logan Worley administered the oath of office to Mr. Sean Kelly to become a Kettle Falls Police Officer. Mr. Kelly will be starting the police academy mid February, 2019.

PUBLIC HEARING - ANNEXATION

City Attorney Logan Worley stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to hear public testimony regarding annexation.

Mayor John Ridlington opened the Public Hearing to public testimony at 7:10 p.m.

Mr. Jerry Antoine stated he is not in favor of his property being annexed into the City limits. Mr. Antoine stated it will

cost him an additional \$200 per year and there are no benefits to annexing. He is already in a fire district and his insurance will not decrease if he annexes.

Mr. Dale Smith stated he agrees with Mr. Antoine and does not want his property to be annexed either.

Mayor John Ridlington closed the public hearing to public testimony at 7:12 p.m.

1025 OAK STREET - RV

Mrs. Betty Forgey stated she is present on behalf of her daughter Crystal Thompson. Ms. Forgey stated that her daughter has found housing financing and she will be starting a new job after she is released from the doctor to work.

Council Member Dale Drake questioned how soon the daughter had tried to look for an apartment. Dale stated he doesn't think the family is trying to get out of the RV.

Council Member John Andrew stated he would be in favor of a motion allowing an additional two weeks and then would update City Council of their progress.

Council Member Dale Drake moved to allow Mrs. Thompson and her family to remain in the RV at 1025 Oak Street for an additional two weeks with no more extensions. Council Member John Andrew seconded the motion. . Motion carried. Council Member Dale Drake - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member John Andrew - yes and Council Member Steve Hedrick - abstain.

CONSENT AGENDA

JANUARY 2019 VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL, CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 6th AND 28, 2018

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Steve Hedrick seconded the motion. Motion carried by all. Council Member Dale Drake - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member John Andrew - yes and Council Member Steve Hedrick - yes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Council Member Dale Drake stated he met with Police Chief Chris Courchene last week. Dale stated there is a lot of turmoil in

the police department, but there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

STAFF REPORTS

LIBRARY

Library Manager Katy Pike reviewed library statistics for the Kettle Falls library in 2018. Katy stated the library averages 140 people per day.

INCOME SURVEY

Gabriel Cruden stated the income survey is moving forward. Tri County Economic Development will be conducting the survey on behalf of the City of Kettle Falls for no charge. There may be a small charge for postage. The goal is to have the survey completed by late spring.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Phil Adams stated the department responded to three calls since the last meeting. An ambulance assist, smoke investigation and a fifth wheel camper trailer on fire which was a total loss.

Fire Chief Phil Adams stated the ratings bureau kept the city's rating the same. The Fire Department is doing a great job.

CITY COUNCIL RETREAT

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam asked City Council when they would be available to have a City Council Retreat. After discussion, City Council determined February 23, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. would work best.

POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated Police Officer Crystal Lofts resigned effective January 31, 2019. Officer Kelly will be attending the police academy leaving only Police Chief Chris Courchene and Officer Michael Gettys.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated hiring a police officer is not in the budget and will require a budget amendment. There is a little bit of money in the beginning fund balance and the swimming pool capital outlay. Raena City council consider hiring a police officer for 30 hours per week, for 30 weeks.

Council Member Dale Drake moved to hire a temporary police officer for 30 hours per week, for 30 weeks. Council Member

John Andrew seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.
Council Member Dale Drake - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member John Andrew - yes and Council Member Steve Hedrick - yes.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Chris Courchene thanked City Council and stated there isn't any turmoil in his department. The problem is they are very short handed. Chris stated the department has had 77 calls since the first of the year.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE NO. 1777 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KETTLE FALLS, WASHINGTON PROVIDING FOR THE AMENDING OF THE KETTLE FALLS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND OFFICIAL ZONING MAP, AND FOR THE ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LYING CONTIGUOUS TO THE CITY OF KETTLE FALLS IN STEVENS COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON

City Attorney Logan Worley explained to City Council the ordinance is for introduction only. If the ordinance is adopted at the next City council meeting the property owners will have 45 days to begin a referendum of appeal. If a referendum is not established, then the ordinance will be final.

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to introduce Ordinance No. 1777 by title only. Council Member John Andrew seconded the motion.

Discussion:

Council Member Dale Drake addressed Mr. Antoine stating if his family called 911 then the City Police Department would not be able to help if his property is not inside the City limits. The City would also be able to collect property taxes for snow plowing in front of his home.

Mr. Antoine stated he wouldn't have a problem with annexing into the City, but it will cost him money. He currently takes his garbage to the landfill and the City will charge him \$12 per week for garbage services. His taxes will increase \$128 per year.

Mayor John Ridlington stated Mr. Antoine water rates will decrease \$192 per year. His taxes will increase by \$13.06 per year and garbage will be \$170 per year.

Mayor Ridlington stated the Growth Management Act created the requirement for a UGA. Stevens County will be reviewing the UGA

and probably shrinking it. The City is not able to annex any property that is not inside the UGA.

Council Member Dale Drake stated the City is scratching to pay for police officers and any support would be appreciated.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Motion carried by all. Council Member Dale Drake - yes, Council Member Jesse Garrett - yes, Council Member John Andrew - yes and Council Member Steve Hedrick - yes.

CHRISTSCHURCH COMMUNITY PROJECT

Mayor John Ridlington stated ChristsChurch would be returning to the City of Kettle Falls this summer to help with projects. John asked City Council to let him know if they had any project ideas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

INFORMATION CENTER FLAG

Mr. Larry Kulesza stated the lights shining on the flag pole at the Information Center are on during the day and off at night.

1025 OAK STREET - RV

Mr. Kulesza stated he was disappointed in City Council only allowing a two week extension. Other than the family violating the ordinance there hasn't been a cost or harm to anyone and we are going into the coldest time of the year.

Council Member John Andrew stated this is the third year and they have a right to prove to us they are trying.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor John Ridlington adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Approved:

John Ridlington, Mayor

Attest: _____
Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer