**KETTLE FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING   
SEPTEMBER 7, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor John Ridlington called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Dale Drake, John Ridlington, Jesse Garrett, John Andrew and Wayne Wardlow. Michael Weatherman was absent.

**STAFF**

Staff – Raena Hallam, Michael Gettys and Larry Kulesa.

Guests – Mr. Gettys

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MAIL RECEIVED**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**INSUBORDINATE STAFF – JULY 20, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Council Member John Andrew stated the July 20, 2021 City Council meeting was nothing but chaos caused by 3 nonvoting members. He asked if that behavior continues to happen should the City Council disband? Then those people can have their own council. He stated he was threatened with court action and personally he doesn’t like to be threatened.

Council Member Dale Drake stated he agrees with Council Member John Andrew and stated he was cut off by Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam. He further explained Assistant Planner Larry Kulesza threatened the City Council by telling the people attending to go to court.

Council Member Dale Drake stated Mr. Kulesza presented the facts as he should have, but then continued to make threats.

Council Member Wayne Wardlow disagreed and stated he thought it was the best City Council meeting they had ever had. There was good discussion, healthy discussion with a lot of passion and not everyone needs to agree.

Council Member John Andrew stated the City Council was told their vote didn’t matter and the City Council should be able to vote with a conscious.

Mayor John Ridlington stated he agreed with Council Member Wayne Wardlow and would take everyone’s comments into consideration.

Council Member Dale Drake stated he was most upset about Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam interrupting him.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 15th AND JULY 20, 2021 AND JULY VOUCHERS AND PAYROLL**

Council Member Jesse Garrett made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. 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, Council Member Michael Weatherman - absent and Council Member Wayne Wardlow - yes.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**FRIENDS OF THE POOL AND UPPER COLUMBIA POOL DISTRICT**

Council Member Wayne Wardlow stated the Friends of the Pool and the Upper Columbia Pool Board are moving forward. He is currently researching the feasibility of covering the pool and determining where to place the footings etc. to possibly enclose the pool at a later date.

Mayor John Ridlington stated they have created a nice trifold informational pamphlet which they will start distributing to the public.

Council Member John Andrew suggesting making a sign that lists all of the steps to build a new swimming pool. As the groups complete each step it is crossed off the sign. This would let the public know the status of the project.

Council Member Jesse Garrett liked Council Member John Andrews idea.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**PLANNING COMMISSION**

Assistant Planner Larry Kulesza reviewed his Planning Commission staff report.

**Report from the Kettle Falls Planning Commission to the City Council**

September 7, 2021

Summary of the Aug 9, 2021, meeting and other matters of interest:

* The PC was informed that the city received a grant for the update of the Shoreline Master Plan. As this is usually a county undertaking, staff was going to investigate the matter.
* The PC was informed of the progress being made on the potential new swimming pool. Also discussed was the levy proposal for the November ballot.
* The PC is continuing its organizational process to construct an outline of points of emphasis for the Parks Plan Update.
* There was discussion about installing the old Grouch Sign on the back of the new Grouch Sign at the east side of town. Suggestions included touch-up and UV protection as the sign would be subject to western exposure.

Larry Kulesza

Contract Planning Assistant

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated Alicia Ayers with SCJ Alliance has spoke with other neighboring cities about combining the shoreline grants they have received to complete the shoreline plan. There is a little concern about Stevens County completing the plan on time since they have not yet adopted their Comprehensive Plan update. Raena stated Mrs. Ayers will keep us informed.

Assistant Planner Larry Kulesza stated to place the old grouch sign on the back of the new entrance sign can be done by either modifying the old sign or moving the electrical. Mayor Ridlington stated a lot of people would like to see the old sign again.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION OF KETTLE FALLS POLICE CHIEF**

Mayor John Ridlington stated he would like to appoint Police Officer Michael Gettys.

Council Member Wayne Wardlow moved to confirm the appointment of Michael Gettys to the position of Kettle Falls Police Chief. 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, Council Member Michael Weatherman - absent and Council Member Wayne Wardlow - yes.

Mayor John Ridlington administered the oath of office to Kettle Falls Police Chief Michael Gettys.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE**

Police Chief Michael Gettys stated there have been four burglaries in the city in the last eight days. He stated they have solved three of them and know he did the fourth.

Mayor John Ridlington asked why people with outstanding warrants are not arrested when walking around town. Police Chief Michael Gettys stated for a long time the jail wouldn’t accept people with outstanding warrants due to COVID.

**POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT TO THE KETTLE FALLS LIBRARY BOARD**

Council Member Dale Drake moved to confirm the appointment of Janell Anderson to the Kettle Falls Library Board. 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, Council Member Michael Weatherman - absent and Council Member Wayne Wardlow - yes.

**CITY HALL REPAIRS**

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam asked City Council for permission to move forward with repairs to City Hall. Raena stated the Mayor is willing to sign a waiver to not repair the asbestos in the drywall mud on the upstairs walls to save some cost.

Mayor Ridlington stated it is such a small area and as long as it isn’t disturbed it will be fine.

Council Member Jesse Garrett stated he used to decommission ships and all they had to do was cure and secure the asbestos.

Council Member Dale Drake expressed concern of not having the asbestos removed.

Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam stated she had quotes to also carpet the areas that were not damaged and she intends to include those areas in her 2022 budget request.

Council Member Jesse Garrett moved to authorize repairing City Hall. 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, Council Member Michael Weatherman - absent and Council Member Wayne Wardlow - yes.

Mayor John Ridlington stated he has spoke with Clerk/Treasurer Raena Hallam about moving the wall out to eliminate the alcove at City Hall. He stated creating buildings without alcoves will discourage homeless people from sleeping in the areas.

Council Member John Andrew stated in Idaho the 9th court circuit ruled if you do not provide a place for homeless people to stay then they have the right to stay in public parks.

Police Chief Michael Gettys stated it is more than just a place to stay. The cities must also provide certain services as well.

**OLD BUSINESS**

As there was no Old Business, City Council moved on to Public Comment.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**INSUBORDINATE STAFF – JULY 20, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Council Member Jesse Garrett stated he would like to address the comment made by Council Member John Andrew about disbanding the City Council. He stated if that happens then it creates an anarchy, you have no government. Jesse stressed the importance of being careful about what is said in the public and in public meetings.

Assistant Planner Larry Kulesza stated he didn’t threaten anyone during the July 20, 2021 meeting. Everything he said is in the City’s ordinances.

Council Member Dale Drake stated it came across as a threat.

Council Member Jesse Garrett stated the decorum was good the break down was in presentation.

Council Member John Andrew stated it was demeaning.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor John Ridlington adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ John Ridlington, Mayor

Attest:­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
 Raena Hallam, Clerk/Treasurer