

# City of Kamiah

City Council

Meeting Minutes

February 28th, 2024 @ 6:00 PM

Mayor: Betty Heater

Council Members: Genese Simler, David Redden, Scott Moffett

Guests: See Attached Sign In Sheet

Mayor Heater called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

**Motion to Approve Amended Agenda** was made by Council President Genese Simler and seconded by Council Member Scott Moffett. Roll Call Vote: Genese Simler aye, David Redden aye, Scott Moffett aye.

**Motion to Approve Consent Agenda** Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Council Member David Redden and seconded by Council Member Genese Simler. Roll Call Vote: Genese Simler aye, David Redden aye, Scott Moffett aye.

## Discussion Items:

**Discuss /Approve** Resignation from Kristi Sizemore. Motion to approve Resignation from Kristi Sizemore was made by Council Member Genese Simler and seconded by Council Member David Redden. Roll Call Vote: Genese Simler aye, David Redden aye, Scott Moffett aye.

**Discuss /Approve** Candidate's for Council Seat. Mayor appointed David Busta. Motion made by Genese Simler to select David Busta for City council, seconded by David Redden. Roll Call Vote: Genese Simler aye, David Redden aye, Scott Moffett aye.

**Oath and Swearing** Mayor led Oath and Swearing in of new Council Member David Busta.

**Discuss / Approve** the Cancellation of Lewis County Sheriffs Contract for 2023/2024. Currently the contract amount is for \$300,882.63 and that includes 3 patrol officers, dispatch, and 1 public schools' officer. The City of Kamiah is delinquent in the amount of \$95,314.91 and Lewis County cannot carry the delinquency on their books. Lewis County suggests that The City of Kamiah must be up to date for payments on contract before fiscal year end, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Discuss / Approve** entering a new contract with Lewis County Sheriff 2023/2024.

The new contract discussion may include two deposits of \$85,604.00, \$17,356.00 for dispatch, \$26,712.00 for???? For a total of \$215,277.88. Mayor Betty Heater suggests another workshop.

David Redden asked if the Federal Government can help the city's financial hardship and Sheriff Jason Davis responded no they cannot. If the city cannot catch up on its delinquency's response times can be expected to be delayed. To keep 4 officers in Kamiah one officer was shifted to the Kamiah schools through a school grant.

Mayor Betty Heater comments that times are hard right now. Budget Workshops started in April and May of 2023. No Action.

**Agenda Request** from Sheri Wentland. Sheri Wentland comments on financial stability and Council President Genese Simler responds and let's Sheri Wentland know that the council reduced the budget by \$1,200,000.00.

Sheri Wentland asked when the pool donation was made, and it was received in August of 2023. Sheri Wentland wants to know who authorized spending and the response was that the Mayor and Council was responsible. Wentland asks how the city got here and the response was Ambulance wages.

**Agenda Request** from Robin Johnston. Robin Johnston comments that the Clearwater Progress did not answer all his questions based on an article written. Robin Johnston asked how much is received in monies from the LGIP (Local Government Investment Pool) each year. The Kamiah Fire Protection District is a taxing District and is only allowed a 3% increase in tax fees each year. Their budget currently is \$52,000.00 per year.

To vote in a tax increase would require 66 2/3% vote. The city has 1 Fire Truck and 3 Ambulances. Things are changing and people expect services. Another person commented that monies need to be reallocated making a comparison from a property tax bill stating the what the Kamiah Fire Protection District receives is out of balance with what Simmons Sanitation receives.

Idaho State Code does not allow charging for a taxing district to charge for fire suppression.

City Funds are deposited into the General Fund and EMS deposits stay in EMS Funds within the city accounting system. The Kamiah Fire Protection District was formed in 1974 and to date the property tax bill sits at .00047%. All rural Idaho is failing due to similar circumstances. A comment was then made regarding the Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief pay. \$70,000.00 and \$50,000.00.

**Discuss / Approve Urgent Water Plant Repairs** - Stu Bryant. Filtration screens are 11 years old And need maintenance. Materials, labor, and services will be near \$80,000.00. Without this maintenance the WTP plant will not be able to provide enough water for the community. This issue has been tabled until the March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting. No Action.

**Discuss / Approve Pay Rate** of Vincent Missman. Vince Missman led the Council through an in-depth presentation of the breakdown for his current pay. This included Fire Instruction that he led, length of days, and in general his entire work life schedule for the City of Kamiah.

Genese Simler, Council President, and Scott Moffett commented that the timing of this consideration for a pay raise was very poor timing and other city employees would also like raises but it is not possible at this time. The issue was tabled at this time. No Action.

**Discuss / Approve Adopting Adjusted Budget for 2023-2024** – Do not to reopen budget it will be changed internally. No Action.

**KFR Report on Fire at Roadside Grill on February 18th, 2024** - Chief Billy Monahan. Kamiah Fire Rescue responded to smoke and fire reported at the Roadside Bar and Grill at 6:18 PM. Forest Robinson, Morgan Saul, and Fire chief Billy Monahan responded to the call. At this time the only report from the Fire Chief is that up to 250,000 gallons of water was used to extinguish the fire.

**Maintenance Monthly Report** - Justin Lycan provided his Public Works monthly maintenance report.

**Discuss / Approve City Attorney Contract** – City Attorney Matt Jessup resigned and suggested the City of Kamiah hire McKenzie Lewis. McKenzie Lewis has been spending 10-15 hours a month assisting Matt Jessup. She has a Master of Accounting and is a Licensed practicing attorney. Her hourly billable rate is \$290.00 per hour. A motion was made by Genese Simler for the City of Kamiah to sign a contractual agreement for legal representation and services rendered by McKenzie Lewis. The motion was seconded by Scott Moffett. Roll Call Vote: Genese Simler aye, David Redden aye, Scott Moffett aye, David Busta aye.

**Motion for Executive Session at 7:45 PM** Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 74-206 (1) based on the following statutory disclosure requirements (a) (b) to consider personnel matters. The Motion to move to Executive Session was made by Council Member David Redden and seconded by Council Member Genese Simler. Roll Call Vote: Genese Simler aye, David Redden aye, Scott Moffett aye, David Busta aye.

**Come out of Executive Session at 8:16 PM** Action, motion to terminate the City Clerk was made by Council Member David Redden and seconded by Council Member Genese Simler. Roll Call Vote: Genese Simler aye, David Redden aye, Scott Moffett aye, David Busta aye.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:21 PM

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Betty Heater, Mayor