

**CITY OF KENNEWICK
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
September 3, 2024**

City Council Present – In Person Unless Noted Otherwise:

Gretl Crawford, Mayor
Chuck Torelli, Mayor Pro Tem, Officially
joined via Zoom at 6:49 p.m.
Loren Anderson, Councilmember

Brad Beauchamp, Councilmember
Jim Millbauer, Councilmember
Jason McShane, Councilmember, Arrived at
6:37 p.m.

City Staff Present:

Erin Erdman, City Manager
Dan Legard, Deputy City Manager
Cary Roe, Deputy City Manager
Lisa Beaton, City Attorney
Chris Guerrero, Police Chief
Chad Michael, Fire Chief

Nick Farline, Parks Director
Jessica Platt, Interim Finance Director
Chad Crouch, Human Resources Director
Krystal Townsend, City Clerk
Dana Dollarhyde, Lead Communications
Specialist/Executive Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Crawford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Townsend stated that all Councilmembers were in attendance, except for Mayor Pro Tem Torelli, Councilmember McShane, and Councilmember Trumbo. She added that Councilmember Trumbo had informed her earlier in the day about his inability to participate because of an illness.

MOTION:	Councilmember Anderson moved to excuse the absence of Councilmember Trumbo.
SECOND:	Councilmember Millbauer.
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (4-0). (Mayor Pro Tem Torelli was ineligible to vote due to the Council rules of attendance. Councilmember McShane had not yet arrived.)

Ms. Townsend informed everyone that Mayor Pro Tem Torelli was also unexpectedly ill but hoped to attend remotely. Ms. Townsend suggested addressing the matter more comprehensively after the reception to honor Battalion Chief Harkins.

Councilmember Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Crawford noted that no one had signed up to deliver the invocation and encouraged any citizens interested in offering the invocation to register with the City Clerk.

Service Recognition: Tim Harkins, Fire Department, 24 Years of Service: Mayor Crawford awarded a plaque to recognize Battalion Chief Harkins for his dedicated years of service to the residents of Kennewick throughout his career. Battalion Chief Harkins expressed his deep respect and gratitude for the Kennewick Fire personnel and others within the City of Kennewick. He advocated for enhanced support to address the emotional and mental strain that fire department personnel are experiencing due to the heightened intensity of the calls they answer.

In appreciation of his service, Mayor Crawford announced a 10-minute recess at 6:37 p.m.

Councilmember McShane arrived at 6:37 p.m.

Mayor Crawford reconvened the open session at 6:47 p.m. and called upon Ms. Townsend to elaborate on Mayor Pro Tem Torelli's attendance.

Ms. Townsend stated Mayor Pro Tem Torelli was logged into Zoom and ready to participate. Due to his sudden illness, he was unable to provide the notice required by KMC 2.04.048.

Ms. Townsend described how Roberts Rules of Order, the governing principles adopted by Council, controls Council rules of procedure unless an alternative is included in the Code. In the case of KMC 2.04.048, there is no alternative. Pursuant to Roberts Rules of Order, a 2/3 supermajority, five votes, is required to suspend the rules.

MOTION:	Councilmember Anderson moved to suspend KMC 2.04.048 to permit Mayor Pro Tem Torelli to attend and vote remotely.
SECOND:	Councilmember Millbauer.
DISCUSSION:	Concerns were raised about the inconsistency between tonight’s enforcement of KMC 2.04.048 and a situation from two weeks ago, where the Clerk allowed a last-minute remote attendance request. Ms. Townsend explained that while drafting the Governance Manual, she studied the Code more closely and noticed the term “shall provide”. Despite the customary practice of the Clerk accommodating late notice, the Code does not give the Clerk the authority to grant exceptions. With this understanding, Ms. Townsend realized the importance of returning this authority back to Council as originally intended. Ms. Erdman addressed the ongoing efforts to develop a governance manual and announced plans to bring this matter for further discussion at the next workshop. Council expressed general support to facilitate remote attendance to prevent absences when feasible while emphasizing the importance of sufficient notice to ensure staff is able to accommodate remote attendance-related tasks.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (5-0). <i>(Mayor Pro Tem Torelli was ineligible to vote for this motion due to the Council rules of attendance).</i>
Upon the suspension of the rule, Mayor Pro Tem Torelli officially joined the meeting with full voting powers.	

2. VISITORS: None

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:	Councilmember Millbauer moved to approve the agenda as presented.
SECOND:	Councilmember Anderson.
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **Meeting Minutes: July 16, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting**
Motion to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2024, City Council regular meeting as presented.

- b. Meeting Minutes: August 20, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting**
Motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2024, City Council regular meeting as presented.
- c. Meeting Minutes: August 27, 2024, City Council Workshop Meeting**
Motion to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2024, City Council workshop meeting as presented.
- d. Claim Roster: Toyota Center Operations and Box Office Accounts**
Motion to approve the Claims Rosters for the Toyota Center Operations and Box Office Accounts for July 2024 in the amount of \$131,619.85 comprised of check numbers 27490-27550 in the amount of \$88,991.99 and electronic transfers in the amount of \$42,627.86.
- e. Claims Roster: Columbia Park Golf Course Account**
Motion to approve the Claims Roster for the Columbia Park Golf Course Account for July 2024 in the amount of \$49,415.99, comprised of check numbers 2834-2856 in the amount of \$12,937.00 and electronic transfers in the amount of \$36,478.99
- f. Payroll Roster: For the Pay Period Ending 08/15/2024**
Motion to approve the Payroll Roster for the pay period ending 08/15/2024.
- g. Resolution: Setting October 1, 2024, as the Public Hearing Date to Consider Vacating a Portion of the Nutmeg Street Right of Way**
Motion to adopt Resolution 24-14 as presented.
- h. Boards & Commissions: Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) Appointment for a Term Expiring August 31, 2026.**
Motion to appoint Gabi Lopez to serve as a voting member of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee with a term expiring August 31, 2026.

MOTION:	Councilmember Millbauer moved to adopt the consent agenda as presented.
SECOND:	Councilmember Anderson.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

5. **ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS: None.**

6. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

- a. Resolution 24-15: Vacation of 10.00 foot and 20.00 foot Water Line Easement Located at 6192 W 28th Place**

Mr. Roe provided a staff report and responded to Council questions.

Mayor Crawford opened and closed the public hearing at 6:58 p.m., as there were no public testimonies offered in favor or against the issue.

MOTION:	Councilmember Millbauer moved to adopt the resolution as presented and authorize the Mayor to execute all necessary documents.
SECOND:	Councilmember Anderson.
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Contract: 2024-2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement - IAFF

Mr. Crouch highlighted the terms of the agreement, stated the contract was a win for both parties, thanked those who participated in the negotiations, and passed along the appreciation of IAFF Local 1296 for Council's support during the process. Mr. Crouch also spoke to the positives contributions of those involved in the process and the successful outcome.

MOTION:	Councilmember Millbauer moved to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the 2024-2026 collective bargaining agreement as presented.
SECOND:	Councilmember McShane.
DISCUSSION:	Council spoke to their appreciation for the efforts of all parties to negotiate the agreement and resolve differences to reach a compromise.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

9. VISITORS: None.

10. COUNCIL COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

Ms. Erdman briefly spoke to the convention center project status.

Councilmembers reported on their respective activities, upcoming events, items of concern and gave advance notice of their absence or remote attendance at future meetings.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Crawford concluded the meeting at 7:12 p.m.



Krystal Townsend, CMC, CPRO
City Clerk

At the time of publishing these minutes, the City Council meeting recording is available at:

<https://kennewickwa.new.swagit.com/videos/314083>