

**CITY OF KENNEWICK
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
December 17, 2024**

City Council Present – In Person:

Gretl Crawford, *Mayor*
Chuck Torelli, *Mayor Pro Tem*
Loren Anderson, *Councilmember*
Brad Beauchamp, *Councilmember*

Jason McShane, *Councilmember*
Jim Millbauer, *Councilmember*
John Trumbo, *Councilmember*

City Staff Present:

Erin Erdman, *City Manager*
Laurencio Sanguino, *City Attorney*
Jessica Platt, *Finance Director*
Chad Crouch, *Executive Services Director*
Nick Farline, *Parks Director*
Chris Guerrero, *Police Chief*
Chad Michael, *Fire Chief*
Cary Roe, *Deputy City Manager*
Lisa Beaton, *Deputy City Manager*
Krystal Townsend, *City Clerk*

Steve Donovan, *Planning Manager*
John Cowling, *Public Works Director*
BJ Moos, *Police Commander*
Robert Ball, *Deputy Fire Chief*
Dana Dollarhyde, *Exec Assistant/Lead Communications Specialist*

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Ms. Townsend stated all Councilmembers were in attendance and a quorum was established.

Councilmember Trumbo led the pledge of allegiance. There were no invocations.

2. VISITORS: None.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to approve the agenda as presented.

SECOND: Councilmember McShane.

DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

SECOND: Councilmember McShane.

VOTE: The motion passed unanimously (7-0).

a. Meeting Minutes: December 3, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2024, City Council regular meeting as presented.

b. Meeting Minutes: December 10, 2024, City Council Workshop Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2024, City Council workshop meeting as presented.

c. Claims Roster: November 2024

Motion to approve the Claims Roster for November 2024 in the amount of \$5,422,740.29 comprised of electronic payments and check numbers 317091-317477.

d. **Payroll Roster: For the Pay Period Ending 11/30/24**

Motion to approve the Payroll Roster for the pay period ending 11/30/2024.

e. **ARPA Funded Park Improvement Contracts: Playgrounds at Lawrence Scott Park, Underwood Park, & Canyon Lakes Park and Civic Complex Restroom Replacement**

Motion to approve the four APRA-funded contracts as proposed for enhancing the playgrounds at Underwood Park, Lawrence Scott Park, and Canyon Lakes Park, as well as for the restroom replacement at the civic complex.

f. **Project Funding: Wastewater Treatment Plant Phase II (WWTP PH 2) Reallocation of Funding Sources**

Motion to authorize the reallocation of project funding sources to utilize an additional \$791,665 of available ARPA funds.

g. **Interlocal Agreement: Work Crew Services with Benton County**

Motion to approve the work crew interlocal agreement as presented.

h. **Acceptance of Work: 2024 Bituminous Surface Treatment (BST) Seal Coat Project**

Motion to accept the work of Tommer Construction Company for contract P2402-24, 2024 Bituminous Surface Treatment Seal Coat Project, in the amount of \$522,575.24.

i. **Interlocal Agreement and Roadway Easement with Benton County: Parcel # 124893000003001**

Motion to approve the interlocal agreement and the public roadway easement between Benton County and the City of Kennewick for W 56th Ave within Parcel 124893000003001.

j. **Boards and Commissions: 2025 Council Committee Assignments**

Motion to approve the 2025 Council committee assignments as presented.

5. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS:

a. **Ordinance 24-6075: Change of Zone from RL to IL located at 803 S. Steptoe St.**

Mayor Crawford explained the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine associated with this quasi-judicial matter. She instructed Council to ask to be recognized if their answer to any of the following questions was "yes":

1. *Do you have any interest in the property or the application, or do you own property within 300' of the subject property?*
2. *Will you stand to gain or lose any financial benefit as a result of the outcome of this proceeding?*
3. *Are you unable to consider the application in a fair and objective manner?*
4. *Have you engaged in any ex-parte communications with either proponents or opponents?*

No Councilmember came forward to answer affirmatively to these questions. Mayor Crawford announced it was established the Council could consider this matter fairly.

Mr. Donovan provided a staff report and responded to Council's questions.

Ms. Townsend read the ordinance title into the record:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL
PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF KENNEWICK LOCATED AT 803 S STEPTOE
AND AN UNIDENTIFIED PARCEL FROM RESIDENTIAL LOW (RL)
TO INDUSTRIAL LIGHT (IL)

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to adopt the ordinance as presented.

SECOND: Councilmember Millbauer.

DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: **The motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

The City Clerk assigned ordinance number 24-6075.

b. **Ordinance 24-6076: Clearing and Grading - Amending Kennewick Municipal Code 18.72**

Mr. Donovan provided a staff report and responded to Council's questions.

Ms. Townsend read the ordinance title into the record:

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO ZONING AND AMENDING CHAPTER 18.72
OF THE KENNEWICK MUNICIPAL CODE

MOTION: Councilmember Anderson moved to adopt the ordinance as presented.

SECOND: Councilmember McShane.

DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: **The motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

The City Clerk assigned ordinance number 24-6076.

c. **Ordinance 24-6077: Fall Budget Adjustment**

Ms. Platt provided a staff report and together with Ms. Erdman, responded to Council's questions.

Ms. Townsend read the ordinance title into the record:

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATION OF THE 2023/2024 BIENNIAL BUDGET

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to adopt the ordinance as presented.

SECOND: Councilmember McShane.

DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: **The motion passed unanimously (7-0).**

The City Clerk assigned ordinance number 24-6077.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING:**

a. **Ordinance 24-6078: Assumption of the Transportation Benefit District**

Ms. Beaton provided a staff report and together with Ms. Platt, responded to Council's questions.

Mayor Crawford opened the public hearing at 6:58 p.m.

A citizen spoke regarding the importance of spending tax dollars responsibly.

Mayor Crawford closed the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Townsend read the ordinance title into the record:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON
ASSUMING THE RIGHTS, POWERS, FUNCTIONS, IMMUNITIES, AND OBLIGATIONS
OF THE KENNEWICK TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT;
PROVIDING SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to adopt the ordinance as presented.

SECOND: Councilmember McShane.

DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: **The motion passed (6-1) with Councilmember Trumbo dissenting.**

The City Clerk assigned ordinance number 24-6078.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Collective Bargaining: Kennewick Police Management Association (KPMa)

Mr. Crouch provided a staff report and responded to Council's questions.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to approve the collective bargaining agreement as presented.

SECOND: Councilmember Millbauer.

DISCUSSION: The council engaged in a thorough discussion regarding the issue, taking into account several key factors: the cost associated with the proposed pay increase, the overall scale of the increase in relation to the total budget, a comparison of previous cost of living adjustments and pay raises, and the necessity of offering competitive wages to retain high-quality staff. They also acknowledged that while citizens may not see an increase in their own wages, they are being asked to contribute more through taxes.

VOTE: **The motion passed (6-1) with Councilmember Trumbo dissenting.**

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

9. VISITORS:

A visitor spoke in regards to property tax letters the County is sending to small businesses in Kennewick. He asked for Council's support in resolving the matter fairly and equitably for all business owners.

A visitor spoke in appreciation of Council's thoughtful comments regarding the importance to cut costs rather than solely relying on increased taxes.

10. COUNCIL COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

Councilmembers and Ms. Erdman reported on their respective activities, upcoming events, recent accomplishments, boards and commissions, and general items of concern.

11. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Crawford concluded the meeting at 7:39 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/323047>