

CITY OF KENNEWICK
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
June 17, 2025

City Council Present:

Gretl Crawford, *Mayor*
Chuck Torelli, *Mayor Pro Tem*
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*
Steve Donovan, *Planning Manager*
John Cowling, *Public Works Director*
Chris Guerrero, *Police Chief*
Michael Heffner, *Deputy Fire Chief*

Cary Roe, *Deputy City Manager*
Lisa Beaton, *Deputy City Manager*
Krystal Johnston, *City Clerk*
Nick Farline, *Parks Director*
Chad Crouch, *Executive Services Director*
Brandon Lange, *Recreation Manager*

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Ms. Johnston stated all councilmembers were in attendance with the exception of Councilmember Anderson and that a quorum was established.

MOTION:	Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to excuse the absence of Councilmember Anderson.
SECOND:	Councilmember Millbauer.
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0)

Councilmember Beauchamp led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tina Gregory provided the invocation.

Retirement Recognition: Detective Keith Schwartz, Kennewick Police Department - 23 Years of Service. Mayor Crawford introduced Detective Schwartz and read a plaque into the record to commemorate his years of service. Detective Schwartz thanked the Mayor.

City Manager's Awards of Excellence: Ms. Erdman presented the City Manager's Award of Excellence to this year's recipients: Travis Amundson (IT Systems Administrator), Edgar Castro (Accountant II), and Jonathan Wilson (Senior Signal Electrician). She outlined their remarkable achievements, emphasizing the numerous reasons that led to their selection for this prestigious award.

At 6:40 p.m. Mayor Crawford called a brief recess to celebrate Detective Schwartz and the recipients of the Award of Excellence.

At 6:50 p.m., the Mayor reconvened the meeting.

2. VISITORS:

Three visitors spoke in regards to frustration with their perceived lack of action city action in relation to activities by residents on W 4th Ave. The speakers described the activities as illegal, to include fire danger, noise disturbances, and hazardous waste discharges.

A local organization thanked first responders for their attendance at a recent event and presented Chief Heffner and Chief Guerrero with commemorative plaques.

A visitor thanked Council for their efforts to protect girls.

A visitor spoke to issues pertaining to economic development and described his concept for combining a new city hall with a pool.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:	Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to approve the agenda as presented.
SECOND:	Councilmember Trumbo.
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0)

4. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION:	Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.
SECOND:	Councilmember Trumbo.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0)

- a. **Meeting Minutes: June 3, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting**
Motion to approve the minutes as presented.
- b. **Meeting Minutes: June 10, 2025, City Council Workshop Meeting**
Motion to approve the minutes as presented.
- c. **Meeting Cancellation: August 5, 2025, City Council Regular Meeting**
Motion to cancel the August 5, 2025, City Council regular meeting to allow Council and staff to attend National Night Out festivities.
- d. **Boards & Commissions: Re-Appointing Mike Brown to the Tourism Promotion Area (TPA) Commission and Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) for Terms Expiring August 31, 2027.**
Motion to re-appoint Mike Brown to Position 1 of the Tourism Promotion Area Commission and Position 4 of the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee with terms expiring August 31, 2027.
- e. **Board & Commissions: Appoint Amy Johnson to Position 1 to Fill a Vacancy on the Block Grant Advisory Committee**
Motion to approve the Interview Committee's recommendation to appoint Amy Johnson to Position 1 of the Block Grant Advisory Committee with a term expiring March 31, 2029.
- f. **Claims Roster: May 2025**
Motion to approve the Claims Roster for May 2025 in the amount of \$7,594,821.42 comprised of electronic payments and check numbers 319462-319853.
- g. **Payroll Roster: For the Pay Period Ending 05/31/2025**
Motion to approve the payroll roster for the pay period ending 05/31/2025.
- h. **Contract: Northwest HIDTA Contract Amendment**
Motion to approve the contract as presented.
- i. **Contract: Northwest HIDTA Contract Amendment for Julie Christine**
Motion to approve the contract amendment as presented.
- j. **Contract: River of Fire Fireworks Agreement**
Motion to authorize the City Manager to execute the contract with Wolverine West, LLC in the amount of \$133,430.00 for River of Fire fireworks display.
- k. **Contract: Kennewick Transportation System Plan Consultant Agreement**
Motion to approve the professional services agreement with Transpo Group as presented.
- l. **Contract: Amendment to USGS Joint Funding Agreement for Harmful Algal Bloom Study**

Motion to authorize the City Manager to sign the amendment to the joint funding agreement with USGS for the Harmful Algal Bloom study.

m. Grants: Authorizing a Grant Application to the US Department of Transportation SS4A Safety Grant for Projects

Motion to authorize staff to submit a grant application to the US Department of Transportation for an SS4A Safety Grant to fund the City's System Safety Street Light Project.

n. Final Plat: Apple Valley Phase 7B SUB-2025-0002

Motion to authorize the Mayor (or in her absence the Mayor Pro Tem) to sign the Final Plat of Apple Valley Phase 7B, contingent upon payment of fees and bonding for incomplete sidewalk and landscape work.

5. ORDINANCES

a. Ordinance 25-6111: Change of Zone from Commercial, Neighborhood (CN) to Commercial, Community (CC) at 1701, 1735 and 1767 S. Union St. (COZ-2025-0003)

Ms. Johnston read the ordinance title into the record:

AMENDING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF KENNEWICK LOCATED AT 1701, 1735 AND 1767 S. UNION STREET FROM COMMERCIAL, NEIGHBORHOOD (CN) TO COMMERCIAL, COMMUNITY (CC) (COZ 2025-0003, Knutzen Engineering, c/o Paul Knutzen)

Mayor Crawford announced this is a quasi-judicial matter and asked Council the following questions:

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 Councilmembers answered yes to the questions; Mayor Crawford stated that although she knows the applicant, her familiarity with them would have no bearing on her decision. Mayor Crawford announced the Kennewick City Council established it could consider this matter fairly.

Mr. Donovan provided a staff report and together with Mr. Cowling, answered Council's questions.

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

SECOND: Councilmember Millbauer

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: **The motion passed unanimously (6-0)**

The City Clerk assigned Ordinance No. 25-6111.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Resolution 25-08: Vacation of a Portion of a 15-Foot and 10-Foot Sidewalk & Utility Easement and a 5-Foot Irrigation Easement Located at 5651 W 36th Pl.

Mr. Cowling provided a comprehensive staff report.

Mayor Crawford opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

Testimony: The developer spoke in favor of the vacation and expressed support of the professional, proactive efforts of staff to bring a swift solution forward for this project.

Mayor Crawford closed the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

MOTION:	Mayor Pro Tem Torelli moved to adopt the resolution as presented.
SECOND:	Councilmember Millbauer
DISCUSSION:	A Councilmember thanked the developer for their remarks and acknowledged our staff's fair, but tough administration of the process.
VOTE:	The motion passed unanimously (6-0)

The City Clerk assigned Resolution No. 25-08.

7. COUNCIL COMMENTS/DISCUSSION:

Councilmembers reported on their respective activities, upcoming events, and items of concern.

8. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Executive Session to Review the Performance of a Public Employee Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)

At 7:34 p.m. Mayor Crawford announced Council would adjourn to executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of a public employee until 8:00 p.m. She further stated that no action or further discussion would take place after the conclusion of the executive session.

At 8:00 p.m. Mayor Crawford returned to Council Chambers and announced the Executive Session was extended until 8:15 p.m.

9. CONCLUSION: Mayor Crawford concluded the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Krystal Johnston

Krystal Johnston, 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/346151>