

Mayor Anderson called the Regular Meeting of the Kelso City Council to order. Pastor Stephanie of the Reign Church gave the invocation. Mayor Veryl Anderson led the flag salute. The following Councilmembers were in attendance: Veryl Anderson, Jim Hill, Lisa Alexander, Keenan Harvey, Kim Lefebvre, Mike Karnofski, and Brian Wood.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Alexander, 'Approve the agenda with the addition of a presentation from our lobbyist's.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

MINUTES: Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Alexander, 'Approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting.' Motion carried, all voting yes.

CITIZENS BUSINESS: 1 person from the audience spoke.

PRESENTATION:

Gordon Thomas Honeywell - Session Overview: Kelso's lobbying consultant, Amina Abdalla, provided an overview of the 2026 legislative session. Discussion followed.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Revenue Sources for Upcoming Year: Finance Director/City Clerk Brian Butterfield provided an overview of revenue sources for the upcoming year. Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 6:36 PM.

There being no comment from the public, Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 6:37

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

20256 Lodging Tax Request: After discussion and upon motion by Councilmember Alexander, seconded by Councilmember Hill, 'Approve the request as presented.' Councilmembers Alexander, Anderson, Wood and Lefebvre voted yes. Councilmember Hill and Karnofski voted no. Councilmember Harvey recused himself, citing conflict of interest. Motion passed 4 to 2.

The requests were as follows:

- City of Kelso – Tam O'Shanter Park \$100,000 (requested \$100,000)
- Kelso Highlander Festival - \$25,000 (requested \$25,000)
- Kelso Longview Chamber, Visitor Information Center – \$100,000 (requested \$100,000)
- Kelso Rotary Foundation, Lights in the Park - \$2,500 (requested \$2,500)

- Kelso Wrestling Booster Club, Kelso High School Braided 64 Girls Wrestling Tournament - \$11,500 (requested \$11,500)

ACTION ITEMS:

Ordinance (1st Reading) –Budget Revision #1 for the 2025 Fiscal Year: The Deputy Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Karnofski, seconded by Councilmember Wood, ‘AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO RELATING TO PUBLIC EXPENDITURES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF RCW 35A.34.150, FIXING THE AMOUNT OF MONEY REQUIRED TO MEET SUCH EMERGENCIES AND AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEY NOT PROVIDED FOR IN THE 2025-2026 BIENNIAL BUDGET OF THE CITY.’ Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance (1st Reading) – Budget Revision #1 Mid-Biennial Review for the 2026 Fiscal Year: The Deputy Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Harvey, seconded by Councilmember Hill, ‘AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO RELATING TO PUBLIC EXPENDITURES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF RCW 35A.34.150, FIXING THE AMOUNT OF MONEY REQUIRED TO MEET SUCH EMERGENCIES AND AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF MONEY NOT PROVIDED FOR IN THE 2025-2026 BIENNIAL BUDGET OF THE CITY.’ Motion carried, all voting yes.

Ordinance No. 25-4027 Franchise Agreement- FORGED FIBER 37, LLC: The Deputy Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title only. Upon motion by Councilmember Karnofski, seconded by Councilmember Harvey, ‘AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KELSO, WASHINGTON, GRANTING FORGED FIBER 37, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (“GRANTEE”), ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, SUPPORT, ATTACH, CONNECT, MAINTAIN, REPAIR, REPLACE, OPERATE AND USE A TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM OR FACILITIES IN, UPON, OVER, UNDER, ALONG, ACROSS, AND THROUGH THE RIGHTS OF WAY OF THE CITY OF KELSO, WASHINGTON.’ Motion carried, all voting yes.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

Andrew Hamilton: Reported on various meetings and local events he attended.

STAFF REPORTS:

Finance Director/City Clerk Brian Butterfield: No report.

City Attorney Janean Parker: Announced that after 16 years with the City of Kelso, she has accepted a position with the City of Ridgefield and will be leaving her role as City Attorney.

Community Development Director/City Engineer Mike Kardas: No report.

Public Works Manager Devin Mackin: Provided council with a staffing update and current work being performed by Public Works.

Chief of Police Rich Fletcher: Provided council with a staffing update.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Lisa Knight Alexander: No report.

Brian Wood: No report.

Kim Lefebvre: No report.

Jim Hill: No report.

Keenan Harvey: Reported on various meeting and local events he attended.

Mike Karnofski: Reported on various meetings and local events he attended.

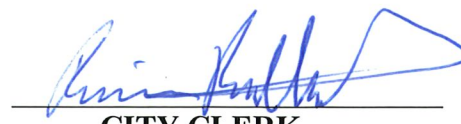
Verly Anderson: Reported on various meetings and local events she attended.

At 7:23 PM, Mayor Anderson announced that the Council would adjourn into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss the performance of a public employee. The executive session was expected to conclude at 7:36 p.m., with action anticipated. The City Attorney was present.

- At 7:38 PM, the Council reconvened into regular session. Upon motion by Councilmember Wood, seconded by Councilmember Lefebvre, Approve the amendments to the City Managers contract.' Motion passed, all voting yes.

There being no further business, Mayor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:38 PM.


MAYOR


CITY CLERK