

**City of Selah  
Council Minutes  
of  
February 11, 2003**

Regular Meeting  
Selah Council Chambers  
115 West Naches Avenue  
Selah, WA 98942

**A. Call to Order** Mayor Bob Jones called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

**B. Roll Call**

Members Present: Jerry Kobes, Keith Larson, Pete McNew, Allen Schmid, Herb Schmidt, Scott Smeback

Members Excused: Ron Deatherage

Staff Present: Frank Sweet, City Supervisor; Rick Gutierrez, Police Chief; Jerry Davis, Fire Chief; Dennis Davison, Community Planner; Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Dale Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer; John Gawlik, Code Enforcement/ Building Inspector

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Councilman Allen Schmid led the Pledge of Allegiance. Lowell Welker led the group in prayer.

**D. Agenda Changes**

Mayor Jones noted an Executive Session on personnel will be held at the end of the meeting.

**E. Public Appearances**

Master Patrol Officer Eric Steen introduced Reserve Officer Bob Scott and read a statement (see attached) giving Officer Scott's background as a reserve officer, citing several demonstrations of his conduct, consistent service and helpfulness. He awarded Officer Scott the Selah Police Department's Meritorious Service Medal. Those assembled applauded Officer Scott for his meritorious service. He thanked the Department and the Council for the honor.

Mayor Jones and Council Members thanked Bob and the Police Officers present for the fine job they do for the City.

Officer Steen introduced Officer Scott's wife Sue and his mother Fran Scott.

**F. Getting To Know Our Businesses**

**G. Communications**

1. Oral
2. Written

#### **H. Proclamations/Announcements**

#### **I. Consent Agenda**

All items listed with an asterisk (\*) were considered as part of the Consent Agenda.

- \* 1. Approval of Minutes: January 28, 2003
- \* 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll – Claims check nos. 40289 - 40378 for a total of \$109,888.50 and Payroll checks nos. 50514 - 50595 for a total of \$118,697.68.

Mayor Bob Jones read the Consent Agenda.

Councilman Kobes moved and Councilman Larson seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda. By voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **J. Public Hearings**

#### **K. New Business**

#### **L. Old Business**

#### **M. Resolutions**

1. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Contract with Yakima Valley Conference of Governments for Technical Assistance for the Year 2003

Public Works Director Joe Henne stated this contract is renewed every year so that if a need for assistance arises, the contract is in place. He noted the contract cannot exceed \$5,000 per calendar year without prior Council approval.

Councilman Smeback moved and Councilman Schmid seconded to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Contract with Yakima Valley Conference of Governments for Technical Assistance for the Year 2003. Roll was taken: Councilman Smeback – yes; Councilman Schmidt – yes; Councilman Schmid – yes; Councilman McNew – yes, Councilman Larson – yes; Councilman Kobes – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **N. Ordinances**

1. Ordinance for 2003 Budget Amendment for Emergency Replacement of a Pump Motor at Well No. 4

Public Works Director Joe Henne stated that last December the telemetry system showed a failure at Well #4. He stated the bearings seized, burning the motor, so they changed out the motor. He noted it used to be a turbine, then they replaced it with a 50 horsepower submersible, and the new replacement is also a submersible

Councilman Larson moved and Councilman Schmidt seconded to approve the Ordinance for a 2003 Budget Amendment for Emergency Replacement of Pump Motor at Well No. 4. Roll was taken: Councilman Smeback – yes; Councilman Schmidt – yes; Councilman Schmid – yes; Councilman McNew – yes, Councilman Larson – yes; Councilman Kobes – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Henne answered questions Council Members had regarding warrantees, maintenance programs, differences between turbines and submersible pumps.

- \* 2. Ordinance Amending the 2003 Budget for the Purchase of Property at 108 S. Second Street
- \* 3. Ordinance Amending The 2003 Budget for a Replacement Postage Meter Machine
- \* 4. Ordinance Amending the 2003 Budget for a Traffic Study in the Vicinity of Lince Elementary.

**O. Communications**

- 1. Oral

**P. Reports/Announcements**

- 1. Mayor
- 2. Council Members
- 3. Boards
- 4. Departmental
  - a. Selah Municipal Court Report – January 2003

City Supervisor Frank Sweet reported that he and the Mayor have been approached by representatives from the new Yakima tourist center wanting donations from Selah for operation. He stated the City of Yakima ran out of money for the project, and has not put any money into maintenance and operation. Representatives will come out again trying to convince Selah to participate.

Councilman Schmid and Councilman Kobes both expressed concern about groups expecting “hand-outs” from Selah when Selah gets little or nothing in return. Councilman Schmidt cited the example of being turned down by the City of Yakima for support for salmon recovery efforts.

Councilman Smeback reported that the Park Service Area Board met with group out of Yakima who are interested in piggybacking a hockey rink with promotion of the aquatic center. He stated that current skating facilities in Yakima are not adequate for hockey leagues. He stated there is growing interest in hockey in the area, and it could be a nice “marriage” of facilities.

Councilman Keith Larson noted it’s good to see the traffic study in the area of Lince Elementary and to see the participation of the School District in that project.

Councilman Jerry Kobes expressed his concern to Councilman Keith Larson about the Civic Center remodeling relative to taking out the overhead door. Councilman Larson noted that the Board’s concern is “dressing up” the Civic Center into more of a convention facility, so they hope to keep some kind of large door, but not something you could drive through.

Councilman Allen Schmid welcomed the Mayor back.

Clerk/Treasurer Dale Novobielski reported he is doing final closing of books for year-end 2002. He noted the City ended the year with approximately \$11,200,000 in cash and investments, 64% of which is in water, sewer and garbage. He further reported the first month's sale taxes for 2003 came in a little lower than he'd hoped, but that some merchants are going to a quarterly rather than monthly reporting.

Community Planner Dennis Davison encouraged Council planning committee members who will meet tomorrow to look at proposed fee schedule amendment and bring the information to the meeting tomorrow. He stated the last increase in fees was in 1999.

Public Works Director Joe Henne noted the Civic Center planners should also think about lighting repairs, getting scissor lifts into the Center. He reported the Parks starting up, nets are up on the tennis courts and some practice games will be coming up around the first of March. He reported the courts found in the City's favor on bicycle path, so the ruling from Superior Court stands.

Mayor Jones thanked Councilman Herb Schmidt for serving as Mayor Pro Tem while he was gone. He thanked Joe Henne for clean streets when they came home from California. He reported his intention to clean up the front of City Hall, an effort begun yesterday when several shrubs and trees were removed. He called Council Members' attention to 2003 Committee Assignments. He reported crews will be moving the fence back on Field 3 at Carlon Park, so that will be 300 feet deep.

Joe Henne noted that the Library entry-way has been much quieter since removing the bushes. The Mayor asked for suggestions about finishing off the exterior and courtyard; he noted they will put in a new fence to secure the propane bottle and generator and will put flowers and plants and benches in front.

Mayor Jones declared a five minute recess.

**Q. Executive Session**

The Council moved into Executive Session regarding personnel at 4:53 pm.

The Council moved back into Regular Session at 4:55pm. Councilman Schmidt moved and Councilman Kobes seconded to increase the salary of Administrative Assistant Julie Gray to \$13.45 per hour. By voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

**R. Adjournment**

Council Member Kobes moved and Council Member Larson seconded that the meeting be adjourned. With voice vote, the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

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Robert L. Jones, Mayor

(Excused)  
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Ronald Deatherage, Council Member

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Keith Larson, Council Member

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Gerald Kobes, Council Member

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Peter McNew, Council Member

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Allen Schmid, Council Member

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Herb Schmidt, Council Member

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Scott Smeback, Council Member

ATTEST:

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Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer