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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
January 23, 2002 – 7:00 P.M. – Community Center

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Dillon, Councilmembers Meamber, Miller, Storrs, Lemley, Warner, Grandy and Anderson. Staff Members: City Attorney Hayden, Clerk/Treasurer Nelson, Planner Hallberg, Engineer Barnet, Police Chief Cooper and Fire Chief Klinger.

**Consent Calendar**

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Claim Vouchers #44646 to #44685 for \$53,880.61 (Voided Warrants #44649 & #44650) and #44686 to #44769 for \$105,359.50
  - Payroll Warrants #28239 to #28325 for \$134,461.83
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar items A,B and C. Seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

**Public Comment**

None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Redistricting

Planner Hallberg reviewed a proposed timeline and criteria for redistricting Council wards. This is a state mandate every ten years based on census figures if Wards are disproportionate. Hallberg noted Council has had several worksessions on this matter.

Councilmember Warner reviewed a proposal with boundaries based on roads that currently exist.

Councilmember Meamber noted the criteria that states for the Wards to be as equal in number as possible and expressed concern over the numbers noted on Councilmember Warner's option.

Planner Hallberg noted that the numbers in some areas are lower to allow for expected growth as well as City boundary errors (since corrected).

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing at 7:15 P.M.

Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing at 7:16 P.M.

Council held discussion which included the population in wards, lack of Ward numbers listed on map, options presented, opportunities for growth within the Wards and Ward numbers. The consensus of the Council, was that Councilmember Warner's option "O" is the preferred option.

No action was taken, a vote will take place at the next meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Resolution – Skagit County Flood Protection

Mayor Dillon introduced a proposed Resolution for support for the Skagit County Flood Protection/Salmon Restoration project previously presented by Skagit County.

Councilmember Warner moved to approve Resolution No. 658-02 City of Sedro-Woolley Support for the Skagit County Flood Protection/Salmon Restoration Project. Seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Appointment to Sedro-Woolley Housing Authority

Mayor Dillon requested Council appoint Faye Huggins to the Housing Authority for a term that will expire on December 31, 2006.

Councilmember Storrs moved to appoint Faye Huggins to the Housing Authority, term to expire on December 31, 2006. Seconded by Councilmember Grandy. Motion carried.

### Appointment to Sedro-Woolley Library Board

Mayor Dillon requested Council appoint Mick Borroughs and Mary Lou Hauenstein to the Sedro-Woolley Library Board with terms expiring on December 31, 2006.

Councilmember Grandy moved to appoint Mick Brorough and Mary Lou Hauenstein to the open positions on the Sedro-Woolley Library Board which will expire on December 31, 2006. Councilmember Anderson seconded. Motion carried.

### Contract with David Hough and Associates

Planner Hallberg reviewed the need for an outside planner to review occasional conflict of interest projects.

Councilmember Warner moved to enter into a contract with David Hough and Associates for Planning Services for the year 2002 when conflict of interest arises. Seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Motion carried.

#### Interim Use of Hearing Examiner for Land Use Decisions

Planner Hallberg presented background information on the use of a Hearing Examiner for Land Use decisions. Hallberg stated currently, due to expired terms and resignations the Planning Commission has only four members making it difficult to guarantee a quorum. The Planning Commission is also scheduled to consider the 2002 comprehensive plan amendments and implement zoning ordinances which will involve a great deal of their time.

Attorney Hayden reviewed the role of the Planning Commission and the proposed Ordinance allowing for interim use of a Hearings Examiner. Hayden also noted that early last year the City was advised by our insurance company to consider adopting a hearing examiner system for liability reasons. Hayden noted the proposed Ordinance is for an interim period of 6 months.

Mayor Dillon expressed the need for the Planning Commission to be able to have full focus on the Comp Plan changes over the next several months.

Discussion was held by Council which included liability exposure, status of position – elected or appointed, absence of examiner, pros and cons of Planning Commission versus Hearings Examiner, Ordinance title, funding, conflict of interests, impartiality of decisions, compassion of decisions and qualifications.

Councilmember Storrs moved to adopt Ordinance #1419-02 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, Appointing a Hearing Examiner to Hear Land Use Actions in Lieu of the Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment, to be Effective for a Period of Six Months, Setting a Date For a Public Hearing, and Declaring an Emergency. Seconded by Councilmember Warner.

Roll Call Vote : Councilmember Meamber – No, Miller – Yes, Storrs – Yes, Lemley – Yes, Warner – Yes, Grandy – Yes and Anderson – No. Motion carried (5-2).

#### Contract with Debt Recovery Specialists

Attorney Hayden presented background on the City's collection services and reviewed the proposed contract to Debt Recovery Specialists for collection of select past-due accounts.

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson reviewed the arrangement with the current use of an attorney for collections and the proposed arrangements through Debt Recovery Specialists.

Council questions were answered by staff which included the type of accounts to be referred,

Councilmember Anderson moved to enter into a contract with Debt Recovery Specialists. Seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

#### Lease to Summit GIS of City Property

Attorney Hayden introduced Adrian and Sarah Mintz to the Council who are requesting to lease an unused room on the second floor of the Museum Building. Hayden briefly reviewed the lease agreement.

Councilmember Warner moved to enter into a lease with Summit GIS. Councilmember Lemley seconded. Motion carried.

#### Contract for Curtis Street Sanitary Sewer

Engineer Barnet presented background information which has led to the staff request that Council approve a contract with Leonard, Boudinot and Skodje, Inc. for Civil Engineering Services for the Curtis Street Sanitary Sewer in the amount of \$24,200.00. Barnet explained the scope of work for the project.

Council discussion ensued with questions regarding the scope of the construction portion of the contract, project status for a public works contract, process of ground wells, construction staking, use of in-house inspectors, funding and the use of pump stations.

Councilmember Storrs moved to enter into a contract with Leonard, Boudinot and Skodje, Inc. for the Engineering services for Curtis Street for the amount of \$24,200.00. Seconded by Councilmembers Warner and Miller. Motion carried.

#### Pump Station at Garden of Eden

Engineer Barnet reviewed the progress to date for a Pump Station in the Garden of Eden area. He reviewed the process, criteria and the three options available for location of the pump station. He requested Council give direction for a preferred option. Barnet noted that at this time no cost analysis has been done.

After lengthy discussion the Council consensus was for Alternative 2: Pump Station at intersection of Jones Rd. and F & S Grade Rd.

Councilmember Meamber requested a worksession on this topic when more information becomes available.

#### Manual Lifting of Garbage Cans

Engineer Barnet reviewed the history of the Council's commitment to the Sanitation Department to maintain City employees in that position. Barnet stated one of the issues at the time of the decision was the injury rate of the employees. Council authorized the purchase of new garbage

toters and mechanical lifts for the back of the truck. The intent was to not allow employees to lift garbage cans to the back of the truck.

The issue has come up is that people are still using their garbage cans as extra cans for their extra garbage. City staff picks up these old cans by lifting them and dumping them in the back of the truck.

Councilmember Warner moved to enforce the rules that govern our Solid Waste Department by toters and purchasing extra can sacks. Seconded by Councilmember Storrs. Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

Councilmember Anderson – received a complaint on Garage Sale signs being posted on the corner of Township and State streets.

Councilmember Grandy – questioned vision triangles at intersections and if the City waits for complaints or deals with them as we see them.

Councilmember Lemley – noted past concerns over the Community Reader Board responsibility and stated that members of the Sedro-Woolley Little League has now taken over complete management of the sign activity. The Chamber will accept applications for postings on the board.

Councilmember Meamber – questioned the reaction from the recently passed sewer ordinance.

Attorney Hayden noted that some people are willingly hooking up, others are not. Staff is working with people who have financial difficulties. Engineer Barnet noted that he stands firm on the hook up requirement but refers anyone with special needs or considerations to the City Attorney for an agreement to be worked out.

Fire Chief Klinger – requested to meet with the Police/Fire committee for a brief moment after the meeting.

Engineer Barnet – reported that the Ferry Street Railroad repairs will be forth coming sometime in February. Barnet stated he has been meeting with Ray Melton of the Street Department on Hammer Heritage Square. He has also met with someone that may be willing to spearhead organizing the volunteer construction activities.

Planner Hallberg – announced the first Martin Luther King “day on” City volunteer project that was held on Monday with approximately 20 employees, spouses and children who planted trees along the Fire Station and Park on Metcalf Street.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 9:17 P.M. for the purpose of land acquisition with a possible decision.

The meeting reconvened at 9:43 P.M.

Councilmember Storrs moved to hold a public hearing on February 13, 2002 to consider an option of purchasing the Forest Service building and go out to bond to the citizens of Sedro-Woolley. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried.

Councilmember Warner moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 P.M.