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

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

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

Councilmember Anderson requested to add to the Consent Calendar the Janitorial Service Contract. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. There being no objections it was placed on the Consent Calendar as Item #D.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Claim Vouchers #46888 to #47008 for \$141,763.53
  - Payroll Warrants #29871 to #29960 for \$140,212.71
- Setting Public Hearing – 2003 Budget Ordinance
- Janitorial Service Contract (Addition)

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar A through D. Seconded by Councilmember Anderson.

Councilmember Meamber questioned a Claim Warrant to Skagit Lumber and Paint for a pressure washer.

Engineer Barnet noted that the pressure washer in question was for the Sanitation Department and was one that heated the water and created a steam which helps in cleaning the grease which accumulates in the garbage trucks.

Mayor Dillon restated the motion. Motion carried.

Appointing New Councilmember in Ward 2

Mayor Dillon reviewed the redistricting process and the vacancy in Ward 2. She noted that the City advertised for interested parties to apply and received one application. She

requested Council approve the appointment of Tony Splane to fill the vacant position in Ward 2.

Councilmember Storrs moved to accept Tony Splane to represent Ward 2. Seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

Mayor Dillon administered the Oath of Office to Tony Splane and he then joined the Council bench.

### Skagit Valley Tulip Festival Presentation

Audrey Smith, Director of the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival presented the Mayor and Council with the 2003 Tulip Festival Poster. Smith thanked the Council for their continued support of the Festival. She also announced that she will be stepping down as director but will encourage her successor to include all areas within the County as part of the festival.

Mayor Dillon thanked Smith for her dedication to the Tulip Festival and for including Sedro-Woolley as part of the festival over the years.

### Public Comment

Alice Hansen – Realtor in the area, spoke giving a personal reference for Jeff's Janitorial Service. Hansen noted she has used his janitorial services personally and for some of her clients in buying and selling homes. Hansen also addressed having services provided by local companies.

John Rowley – retired coach, addressed the Council on the service of Jeff's Janitorial when he has utilized the Community Center.

Tena Brown – 1105 Fidalgo St., spoke on behalf of Jeff's Janitorial. She noted her opposition to anything that would eliminate work for local residents and going with a company that would cost the taxpayers more.

Cheri Good – spoke on her employment with Jeff's Janitorial Services and the need to consider and hiring local firms and people.

Councilmember Miller questioned her hourly wage and time of service. Good stated she is paid currently paid \$10.00 per hour. She noted she trained at Paccar for several months and was paid approximately \$8.00 per hour.

Tamera Blunt – 30752 Lyman Hamilton Rd., spoke against Jeff's Janitorial. She noted as a City employee, the City is fortunate to have great cleaners who happen to work for Jeff's Janitorial. She noted that is not always the case. The quality goes from very good to very poor and the inconsistency depending on the cleaner. She noted her problem lies

in having to deal with Jeff personally when there is a problem with the cleaning and his behavior.

Jeff Nims – noted his length of tenure with the City and apologized for any behavior that might have offended anyone. He noted his understanding of his contacts from the Police Department were either Chief Cooper or Lt. Wood. Nims stated that anytime he has been contacted the problem has been taken care of immediately. He also presented ideas to improve communication and spoke on prevailing wage issues. Nims stated his belief that his company is the best company for the City and also spoke of implementing a manager to communicate with the City.

## **PUBLIC MEETINGS**

### Property Tax

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson presented background information on the 2003 property tax allocation. Nelson noted that the City's portion of taxes for 2002 was 25% and noted it is not just the City that affects the property tax bills but other entities as well. Nelson reviewed the maximum allowable increase as well as banking unused portions and the legislative changes that have taken place governing the increases.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing at 7:33 P.M.

Ron Forshier – 1315 Railroad Ave., commented on the tax structure in comparing business and residential property. Forshier also spoke on the E911 levy and the possible impact on taxes.

Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing at 7:36 P.M.

The consensus of the Council was to follow the recommendation of the proposed ordinance of 100% and banking the 1%.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Appeal for Charles Dralle from Denial of Variance Request

Mayor Dillon presented background information on the proposed resolution which would memorialize the Council decision on the Dralle Appeal.

Councilmember Storrs moved to adopt Resolution #668-02 A Resolution of the City Council of Sedro-Woolley Regarding the Appeal of Charles Dralle from a Decision of the Sedro-Woolley Hearing Examiner Denying the Request for a Variance. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried 6-1 (Councilmember Pearson opposed).

### Award of Bid – Wastewater Treatment Plant Fill & Grade Improvements

Engineer Barnet presented background information on the proposed Fill and Grade Improvements at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Barnet reviewed the bids and recommended Council accept the low bid from Interwest Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$80,610.00 and authorize the Mayor to sign the contract.

Barnet answered Council questions which included phasing of the project, funding and the quote on mobilization.

Councilmember Meamber moved to accept the low bid from Interwest Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$80,610.00 for the demolition of the existing buildings and the placement of the fill at the City Waste Water Treatment Plant and authorized the Mayor to sign the contract. Councilmember Storrs seconded. Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### E911 Levy – Ballot Issue

Mayor Dillon reviewed the upcoming E911 Levy which will be on the ballot on November 5, 2002. She noted this levy is on the ballot earlier than expected due to an error in filing by the County. Mayor Dillon reviewed the impact of the levy on the City budget. She noted should it pass, she believes a good use of the funds would be for the hiring of additional staff in the Police and Fire Departments. She recommended Council pass the proposed resolution supporting the passage of the levy.

Council discussion ensued.

Councilmember Storrs moved to adopt Resolution #669-02 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sedro-Woolley Supporting Skagit County Proposition No. 1 Sales and Use Tax for Emergency Communications Systems and Facilities. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried 6-1 (Councilmember Anderson opposed).

#### GMA Framework Agreement – Amended Version

Attorney Hayden reviewed the background of the Framework Agreement which will be used to make amendments to the countywide planning policies. Hayden outlined the amendments to the original agreement and requested Council authorize the Mayor to sign the amended agreement.

Councilmember Miller moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the 2002 Framework Agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Storrs. Motion carried.

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

Police Chief Cooper – announced the hiring of a new police officer, Daniel McIlrath. He will start work on November 1, 2002. Cooper noted McIlrath is currently working as a corrections officer at the Skagit County Jail and is a lifelong Skagit County resident. Cooper thanked the Council for allowing the addition to the staff, which is the first addition since 1996.

Engineer Barnet – pointed out the information included in their packet regarding W. Talcott Street and the Improvements to SR 20 between Reed Street and Sapp Road to be done by the WSDOT.

Councilmember Anderson questioned emergency access to Jones Road should Sapp Road be closed. Councilmember Miller questioned if the DOT would be holding any public hearings on this topic. Engineer Barnet stated he would try to find out more information on their concerns.

Planner Hallberg – announced the grants that were submitted to the Port Commission were accepted. The grants will be for start up funding on the Railroad Park and to complete a signage program encouraging people into the downtown area.

Councilmember Meamber – questioned the status of various Engineering projects that have been ongoing.

Engineer Barnet presented a brief update on the F & S Grade Road Intersection and the Sewer update. Barnet noted both of the project are still being worked on and more information will be forthcoming to the Council at a later date.

Councilmember Storrs – thanked Councilmember Meamber for requesting the updates. He noted he has received several calls from citizens wondering the status of the F & S Grade Road project. Storrs also noted the Building and Structures committee met and are interested in anyone's suggestions on City Hall in order to compile information and explore what is needed.

Councilmember Pearson – questioned the maintenance of the Main Street Clock and the Jameson Street Sidewalk.

Councilmember Miller – reported on the recent meeting with McLean Drive residents.

Councilmember Lemley – announced the upcoming Halloween Parade and the left over gravel on East Talcott after the street repair.

Councilmember Anderson – noted comments from former Councilmember Beitler on the use of the community reader board.

Mayor Dillon – noted the updated committee assignments and that it is now time to be thinking of committee assignments for next year. She noted because of the newer additions to the Council, committees may be left the same with a change in chairpersons.

Councilmember Miller – questioned the status of the skateboard park.

Mayor Dillon noted that she has had six different people who have volunteered to make the necessary repairs and times have been set up, materials are in line and there has been no follow through by the volunteers. Dillon requested if anyone knows of someone that can make the repairs to let her know.

Mayor Dillon – announced the next workshop on November 4 on the budget.

Councilmember Meamber requested all Councilmembers be in attendance on this important subject.

Discussion was held on the date due to conflicts with some of the Councilmembers. It was decided to meet on Tuesday, November 5 and all Council agreed.

Engineer Barnet – spoke on the upcoming Christmas Season and the role of City Staff with the Christmas Lights. Council gave Barnet direction to continue as in the past with the City’s commitment to the lights.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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