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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
December 11, 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, Splane, Storrs, Pearson, Miller, Lemley and Anderson. Staff Members: City Attorney Hayden, Clerk/Treasurer Nelson, Planner Hallberg, Police Chief Cooper and Fire Chief Klinger.

Mayor Dillon noted item D Contract – City Engineer/Public Works Director was being pulled from the consent calendar and in its place will be a Request for Waiver of Fees for the Community Center.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Claim Vouchers #47208 for \$1,398.75
  - Claim Vouchers #47209 to #47383 for \$391,134.85
- Payroll Warrants #30144 to #30231 for \$126,812.89
- Misc. Annual Contracts/Agreements
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Community Center

Councilmember Miller questioned the warrant for janitorial services. Councilmember Anderson questioned the Annual Contract for Skagit Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar A through D (the D being the Waiver of Fees for the Community Center). Councilmember Miller seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Pat Hoyle – 8195 Avery Lane, Sedro-Woolley, addressed the Council on the unfair practice of charges that are being levied against him as a general contractor. Hoyle addressed the fact of having to pay a plan check fee for 8 plans when it is the same building being built. He also addressed a plan review fee. He cited an example of Whatcom County's procedure and requested Council consider this topic for a future worksession.

Louie Requa – presented an update on the progress of Hammer Heritage Square. Requa also addressed the need for an updated study for the needs of City Hall.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### Ordinance – Sewer Infrastructure (Interim)

Attorney Hayden presented background information and reviewed the request for renewal of the six-month interim ordinance regarding development standards in the City and UGA. Hayden noted this is a temporary ordinance in order to give the Planning Commission time to look at all the development regulations in conjunction with the Comp Plan and development revision and recommendations later this year.

Planner Hallberg presented the schedule for comp plan review.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing at 7:17 P.M.

Louie Requa – Skagit Surveyors & Engineers, 806 Metcalf St., addressed Council and noted the number of times this topic has been before them. Requa reviewed his view of changes in circumstances that affect this ordinance and he encouraged Council to deny passage of this ordinance.

Allison Greenwood – 8087 Fruitdale Rd., questioned the status of the Sauk Mountain Development and requested a special hearing be held regarding the development.

Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing at 7:26 P.M.

Council discussion was held to include existing standards for short plats, leap-frog development, responsibility of City services, use of term “emergency” for ordinances and timing.

### Ordinance – Hearing Examiner (Interim)

Planner Hallberg reviewed background information and the need for the request to extend the interim hearing examiner ordinance. Hallberg noted that the Planning Commission has voted in support for the extension of the hearing examiner ordinance.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing at 7:41 P.M.

Allison Greenwood – 8087 Fruitdale Rd., thought a hearing examiner was a wonderful idea.

Planner Hallberg read into the record comments from Rob Janicki, James Johnson and the Planning Commission who wrote in support of continuing with a hearing examiner.

A letter was also received from Mary Anne Manville-Ailles who stated there are pro's and con's to either system and had no definite recommendation.

Louie Requa – 806 Metcalf, Skagit Surveyors & Engineers, spoke from experience as a former Skagit County Planning Commission member and encouraged Council to continue the use of the hearing examiner until the present Planning Commission can get through the comp plan review process.

Councilmember Storrs commented on his support of continuing with the hearing examiner.

Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing at 7:46 P.M.

### 2002 Budget Amendments

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson reviewed the proposed budget amendments to the 2002 budget and noted they are primarily a housekeeping matter.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing at 7:49 P.M.

Allison Greenwood – again to the podium, questioned the budget revenue amounts on developments that are not complete.

Clerk/Nelson noted that this is a wrap up of the 2002 budget to balance the budget and the revenues she spoke of wouldn't take place until next year.

Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing at 7:51 P.M.

Councilmember Anderson questioned the amendment amount for property tax.

Nelson stated that she was conservative in the original estimations during the budgeting process for 2002.

Councilmember Anderson commented that he is pleased to see the passports doing well.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Ordinance – Sewer Infrastructure (Interim)

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve Ordinance #1437-02 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, Continuing Ordinance No. 1428-02 Amending SWMC Chapter 16.16, To be Effective for a Period of Six Months, and Declaring an Emergency. Councilmember Miller seconded.

Councilmember Anderson announced that he will be voting no and he stated he hoped this would be the last time Council will be voting on this topic.

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

Ordinance – Hearing Examiner (Interim)

Councilmember Miller moved to adopt Ordinance #1438-02 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, Continuing the Office of Hearing Examiner Created by Ordinance No. 1419-02 to Hear Land Use Actions In Lieu of the Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment, to be Effective for a Period of Six Months, and Declaring an Emergency. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Meamber – No, Splane – Yes, Storrs – Yes, Pearson – No, Miller – Yes, Lemley – Yes and Anderson – No. Motion carried (4-3).

2002 Budget Amendments

Councilmember Storrs moved to adopt Ordinance #1439-02 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 1416-01, An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2002. Seconded by Councilmember Anderson.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Anderson – Yes, Lemley – Yes, Miller – Yes, Pearson – Yes, Storrs – Yes, Splane – Yes, Meamber – Yes. Motion carried (7-0).

**NEW BUSINESS**

Agreement – BNSF RR and Sedro-Woolley LLC

Attorney Hayden presented background on the proposed upgrade to the railroad crossing on Rhodes Road. Hayden noted that Sedro-Woolley LLC will be reimbursing the City for the costs but that only the City can sign the agreement with the railroad. Staff is requesting Council to authorize the Mayor to execute a construction agreement with BNSF RR and a reimbursement agreement with Sedro-Woolley LLC.

Councilmember Miller moved to authorize the Mayor to execute both the Construction Agreement with BNSF RR and the Reimbursement Agreement with Sedro-Woolley LLC. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried.

Several Councilmembers made comments on the benefit of this project to the City.

Ordinance – Year 2003 Salaries & Wages

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson reviewed the proposed salary ordinance. She stated the wages for the AFSCME and Public Safety Guild employee wages are per their contracts and the non-represented employees are scheduled to receive a 1.7% increase.

Allison Greenwood – spoke on the need to be competitive in wages in order to retain employees. She noted the benefits of length of tenure to the City with employees who have knowledge of their positions.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve Ordinance #1440-02 An Ordinance Establishing the Salaries and Wages for Elected Officials, Union (Guild) and Non-Union Employees of the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2003. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Meamber – Yes, Splane – Yes, Storrs – Yes, Pearson – Yes, Miller – Yes, Lemley – Yes, and Anderson – Yes. Motion carried (7-0).

#### Elect Mayor Pro-Tem

Councilmember Pearson moved to elect Dean Miller as Mayor Pro-Tem for the year 2003. Councilmember Anderson seconded. Motion carried.

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

Councilmember Anderson – inquired on the status of the construction on Highway 20 and the timing of the project. Anderson noted that there are other businesses that are being affected by the ongoing construction.

Councilmember Lemley – gave praise to the Street Department and any others involved with the activities of the Christmas Parade which was enjoyed by many.

Councilmember Miller – noted that the City decorations look awesome.

Councilmember Splane – moved to authorize the Fire Chief to find a buyer for the existing fire truck being replaced in January and to declare the existing fire truck surplus. Seconded by Councilmember Miller. Motion carried.

Councilmember Splane moved to authorize the Fire Chief to obtain formal bids for a ladder truck. Councilmember Miller seconded. Motion carried.

Councilmember Meamber – noted the exceptional job of the main street Christmas decorations and the wonderful parade.

Mayor Dillon – thanked the Street Department for their hard work on the building lights and other decorations. She thanked the Parks Department for their work as well.

Fire Chief Klinger – noted he needed to take pictures of Councilmembers after the meeting. He also announced that an ambulance will be housed at the intersection at West State and Highway 9 and briefly explained some of the changes in the ambulance services to become effective January 1, 2003.

Police Chief Cooper – will also be taking pictures for ID cards.

Planner Hallberg – presented information on a critical areas violation that was hi-lighted in the Skagit Valley Herald. She noted that an agreement had been reached with the developer but there are now other concerns from the Department of Ecology and Fisheries. She noted there has been a good level of cooperation on the part of the developer.

Mayor Dillon -- wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Councilmember Anderson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.