
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
January 22, 2003 – 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, Lemley and Anderson. Staff Members: City Attorney Hayden, Clerk/Treasurer Nelson, Planner Hallberg and Police Chief Cooper.

Mayor Dillon announced the addition to the consent calendar, Item G Appointment to the Housing Authority and an agenda item under New Business – Authorization to Sign an Engineering Contract with Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #47387 & #47549 to #47623 for \$77,191.41
 - Claim Vouchers #47624 to #47721 for \$129,052.72
 - Payroll Warrants #30410 to #30497 for \$147,115.24
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Memorial Park
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Community Center
- Request for Out of State Travel – Fire Dept.
- Reimbursement Agreement – State of Washington and SWFD
- Appointment to the Housing Authority – Dick Morris and Ken Rosencrantz

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar A through G. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Toni Ruhl – P.O. Box 249, Sedro-Woolley, President of Soroptomist International, Sedro-Woolley presented the Mayor and Council with the original blueprints of the Community Center to be displayed in the Community Center. Ruhl presented a brief history of Soroptomist International role in the Community Center.

PUBLIC HEARING

E911 Ballot

Mayor Dillon presented background information on the E911 sales tax increase to be placed for vote on an upcoming ballot. Several options were presented for use of the savings should the tax levy pass.

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing at 7:10 P.M.

Todd Olson – 821 Talcott St., stated he believes the funds should be kept within the Police and Fire Departments due to growth.

Police Chief Cooper – spoke on the staffing of the Police and Fire Departments in regards to being short staffed. Cooper reviewed the call load for the department and encouraged Council consider putting the savings back into the Public Safety Departments and increase the resources available for the safety of the citizens of Sedro-Woolley.

Louie Requa – 810 W. Bennett, recommended setting priorities based on the amount with the first priority being used for what the 911 services are initially intended for.

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

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Amendment – Dog Impound Fee Ordinance

Police Chief Cooper reviewed the current ordinance and fees. The Humane Society has increased their fees and Cooper noted the ordinance needed to be revised to cover the cost to the City. He noted that the City is only covering the cost for this service. Cooper recommended Council pass the proposed Ordinance with wording to provide for the recovery of actual costs.

Councilmember Lemley moved to approve Ordinance #1441-03 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley Amending SWMC 6.08.220 to Provide for Collection of the City's Out-Of-Pocket Cost for Boarding Animals. Councilmember Storrs seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Meamber – Yes, Splane – Yes, Storrs – Yes, Pearson – Yes, Lemley – Yes, Anderson – Yes. Motion carried.

Settlement – Fire District 8

Mayor Dillon presented background information regarding the taxing of the Wicker Road apartments and fire protection services provided by the City. She stated the City has negotiated an agreement with Fire District No. 8 in the amount of \$10,016.34 payable to the City. The error has been corrected and the City is now collecting the proper property taxes on the apartments.

Councilmember Pearson moved to enter into agreement between the City of Sedro-Woolley and Skagit County Fire Protection District No. 8 regarding the distribution of taxes and charges for the fire protection services. Seconded by Councilmember Anderson. Motion carried.

Interlocal Agreement – Unincorporated UGA

Attorney Hayden presented background information on the adoption of the City's development regulations and impact fees. Hayden noted that the County has not adopted the impact fees in full. The County has protested the City's traffic impact fees. Hayden stated we received a proposed Interlocal Agreement from the County for consideration and reviewed changes staff recommended.

Mayor Dillon noted that the agreement comes at the request of the County Commissioners to enable them to pass the development ordinances submitted by the City.

Louie Requa – Skagit Surveyors, 806 Metcalf St., reminded Council that the only developments the ordinance refers to are developments of 4 lots or less. Requa presented handouts and discussed numerous items within the handouts.

Attorney Hayden noted the proposed Ordinance does not set the development standards but only says the County will follow the city's development standards. He noted the development standards are currently under review and will follow the appropriate channels of approval.

Discussion ensued on annexation and infrastructure requirements with GMA.

Requa discussed the short plat process and its importance as well as development without sewer services. He cautioned Council of the effects of passing the proposed Interlocal agreement.

Kirby Hoskinson – 8615 Garden of Eden Rd., expressed concern if passed of having to extend sewer for four lots.

More Council discussion was held which included developer expectations, fairness to taxpayers, comp plan update and impact fees.

Kirby Hoskinson – 8615 Garden of Eden Rd., questioned the process within the UGA and the effect of the agreement and time frame.

Councilmember Pearson expressed concern of restricting development within the UGA.

Planner Hallberg noted most all of the development in the east side of the city has been by short plat. The consequences are sub standard infrastructure which places the city in a pay now or pay later position.

Planner Hallberg also addressed the traffic impact fee and the county's wishes to have the fee broken out by zones. She noted should this analysis be done it could benefit the traffic impact fees within the Central Business District.

Requa spoke on the development in the UGA to clarify Hallberg's statement regarding short plats. He also spoke on the funding mechanism of the UGA, ULID'S and Latecomers Agreements.

Councilmember Pearson moved to put the agreement on hold for a period of six months. Councilmember Meamber seconded. Motion carried 5-1 (Councilmember Storrs opposed).

Stiles – Engineering Fees (Cascade Palms)

Attorney Hayden presented background information on the Stiles request for a refund of engineering fees for the Cascade Palms project on Trail Road. He also addressed the time involved with engineering and the fee structure.

Bill Stiles III – representing his parents on the Cascade Palms project, addressed the staff memo in regards to the engineering fees. He noted that the engineer required easements to be recorded and to change construction drawings prior to signing off. Stiles agreed that they did spend additional time with the engineer but it was due to what they believed to be unreasonable requests and beyond the scope of duties. Stiles reviewed the engineering fees and the tracking of the inspection time for the engineering and requested they be reimbursed for the difference between what they received for services and what was paid.

Stiles stated the City should have some kind of administrative appeal process for administrative decisions instead of having to come directly to the Council.

Council discussion was held to include calculation of fees and repetitive fees.

Pat Hoyle – Contractor presented background information on the Cascade Palms project. He noted decisions of other staff that were being overridden by the engineer and believes there was a bias towards the Stiles.

Discussion on the current ordinance and whether it should be reviewed and changed to charge by the hour.

Councilmember Pearson moved to remand the challenge to the Mayor to come to an adequate conclusion. Seconded by Councilmember Storrs. Motion carried.

Contract with Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje Inc.

Planner Hallberg stated that Council had previously authorized an agreement for staff to utilize Skagit County Public Works in the absence of a City Engineer. Hallberg stated due to scheduling conflicts Skagit County is unable to provide some of the services in a timely manner. Staff recommends contracting with Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje, Inc. to provide services on specific projects. They will start with the Sauk Mountain View Estates Planned Residential Development. The engineering services will be billed to the applicant so the city will not incur any costs. Hallberg noted the developer has agreed to this condition.

Councilmember Pearson moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a contract for engineering services with Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje, Inc. Councilmember Lemley seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Mayor Dillon -- thanked the staff members who participated in the Martin Luther King Day community project. Those staff members were Julie Rosario, Christine Salseina, Jeroldine Hallberg, Debbie Allen and Pat Hayden. They worked for approximately 3 ½ hours and did yard improvements for some citizens who were unable to do the work themselves. This project was headed by Street Department Forman, Ray Melton.

Councilmember Meamber – noted a pothole by the railroad tracks on Ferry Street.

Louie Requa – presented an update on the progress of Hammer Heritage Square and the Clock Tower.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 9:10 P.M. for the purpose of personnel with no decision anticipated.

The meeting reconvened at 9:24 P.M.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.