
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
May 28, 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, Miller, Lemley and Anderson. Staff Members: City Attorney Hayden, Clerk/Treasurer Nelson, Planner Hallberg, Engineer Blair, Police Chief Cooper and Fire Chief Klinger.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #48675 to #48779 for \$132,636.42
 - Payroll Warrants #31134 to #31226 for \$156,294.56
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Riverfront Park
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Community Center
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Riverfront Park
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Memorial Park
- Consultant Agreement – JCT Illustration
- Consultant Agreement – Stove Consulting & Design, Inc.
- Establishment of Public Hearing Date – Curbside Garbage Service
- Request for Waiver of Fees – Community Center

Councilmember Splane requested Items G and H Consultant Agreements be removed for further discussion. Councilmember Miller concurred.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar A through J with the exception of G and H. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried.

Proclamation – Hire A Veteran Month

Mayor Dillon read a proclamation, proclaiming June, 2003 to be Hire a Veteran Month.

Randy Woolsey – 933 Alexander St., donated a windmill to the City of Sedro-Woolley to be placed in a park of their choice. The windmill was a result of his recent Senior Project requirement at Sedro-Woolley High School.

Public Comment

Vern Sims – Sedro-Woolley, congratulated the Council on returning the crosswalk in front of his former business.

Craig Cole – General Delivery, Sedro-Woolley, addressed the Council and requested reimbursement of Attorney fees associated with a recent case. Cole handed out documents to the Council with a breakdown of his attorney fees.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Consultant Agreement – JCT Illustration

Consultant Agreement – Stone Consulting & Design, Inc.

The above items were removed from the consent calendar at the request of Councilmember Splane.

Councilmember Splane questioned the need for a consultant to determine the need for a Trolley Park. Splane recommended the grant be returned because it would become a burden to the taxpayers.

Councilmember Miller commented on the high maintenance of running a trolley system as experienced in the Seattle area. Miller questioned the responsibility of maintenance.

Mayor Dillon explained the grant is to look into the feasibility of a trolley system to include maintenance. The project is the result of the Downtown Revitalization Committee and citizen interest.

Pola Kelly – representing the Downtown Revitalization Committee addressed the Council and noted the grant was procured for the purpose of a feasibility study. The study will look at all the various aspects in order to have the information to supply the citizens for an informed decision. The project is supported by the Downtown Revitalization Committee.

K.B. Johnson – 889 Carriage Court, inventor of the Trolley idea for the town, addressed the Council regarding the receipt of the grant. He noted the maintenance of the equipment will be addressed in the study but that maintenance does depend on the type of trolley acquired. Johnson reviewed the vision of the trolley park and possible eventual trolley system.

Pat Huggins – 1011 Alderwood Ln., member of the Downtown Revitalization Committee, noted the Revitalization Committee was the group that obtained the grant

from the Port. The funding is only for use for the feasibility study and some drawings. He noted that the committee could have chosen the Chamber to monitor the funding but chose the City for that purpose. It is more of a bookkeeping matter for the City with no direct impact at this time. It is a citizen's grass root project and should be encouraged rather than discouraged.

Councilmembers questioned the representatives of the Trolley on the purpose of the feasibility study and intended use of the study. It was noted the trolley park is an essential part of the project. Other questions addressed were whether Stone Consulting was a local firm, logic of grant from the Port and criteria of the grant.

Hallberg addressed the priorities of the Port noting the grants were offered to upriver communities. The Port set aside funding for the upriver communities to help develop tourism.

Councilmember Meamber addressed the Council on the importance of revitalization of the downtown and encouraged Council to proceed with the feasibility study for the Trolley Park.

Councilmember Anderson while concurred with Councilmember Meamber on the need for revitalization of the downtown expressed his concern of looking at more realistic ways to accomplish the revitalization.

Pola Kelley – addressed some of the ideas for the funding possibilities such as forming a non-profit organization for running the Trolley.

Attorney Hayden reminded Council that they have previously given their authorization the use of the funds for this purpose. People have proceeded in good faith to get the grant proposal. The contracts are in front of the Council as a formality.

Vern Sims – gave a brief history of the Skagit River Railway that the town once had and was not profitable. He cautioned about investing in capital investments. Sims also spoke on the revitalization of a town called Chamus B.C.,

K.B. Johnson – spoke on some of the ways to get work done with no cost to the City and other details of the plan.

Councilmember Pearson questioned if a trial period had ever been considered.

Pat Huggins – 1011 Alderwood Ln. noted that the SKAT trolley was in town for the Woodfest Festival and was well received. He noted there were 102 people riding it in a 6 hour period. Huggins noted the feasibility study will point out the information needed to make an informed decision and addressed the reason for having to go out of the area for a firm to do the feasibility study. He noted the effort on the part of the Committee to try to stay local wherever possible.

Mayor Dillon noted the effort to get people involved and this is a grass roots group that has spent numerous hours working on the plan. She stated she believes they should be afforded the opportunity to move forward with the feasibility study to see if the plan is even a possibility.

Councilmember Storrs moved to execute a contract with JCT Illustrations not to exceed \$2500. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried 5-2. (Councilmembers Anderson and Splane opposed).

Councilmember Storrs moved to sign a contract with Stone Consulting and Design for a park feasibility study not to exceed \$6000. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried 5-2. (Councilmembers Anderson and Splane opposed).

Councilmember Anderson cited a quote by Bob Dillon “You don’t need to know which way the wind blows by a weatherman”. Anderson stated he believes the feasibility study will come back telling that the project will not run.

NEW BUSINESS

Economic Development Project List

Planner Hallberg introduced the SCOG updating of the County’s Economic Development Plan. The goal is to submit a list of priority projects to be part of the County’s updated Economic Development Plan to be eligible for grant funding. Hallberg noted the projects are just preliminary. Council spent some time prioritizing and discussing projects.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Fire Chief Klinger – announced the upcoming Blood Drive at the Fire Station on June 20, 2003.

Engineer Blair – discussed an offer of a stump grinder available through the City of Burlington. The Street Department is requesting authorization to purchase and the offer is only available for a short time and is a good deal for the City.

Councilmember Storrs moved to authorize the Street Department to purchase a \$2,900.00 plus tax, Stump Grinder. Councilmember Lemley seconded. Motion carried.

Attorney Hayden – addressed a brief provided to the Council for the Growth Management Hearing Board, administrative level hearing. The brief is asking that Sedro-Woolley be treated like any other City with regard to the Urban Growth Area.

Councilmember Anderson – questioned the status of Craig Cole’s gun.

Attorney Hayden noted that Mr. Cole can go in at any time and get his gun released by taking a copy of the order in. This was confirmed by Chief Cooper.

Leo Jacobs – Sanitation Foreman, addressed the Council regarding the City of Burlington’s sanitation services. Jacobs requested permission to approach Burlington with the idea of an interlocal agreement between Burlington and Sedro-Woolley to provide garbage service to Burlington. The idea would be to take over their equipment with the same rate structure as Sedro-Woolley. Jacobs listed several other City’s that provide services to others in similar situations.

Council discussion was held to include L & I, garbage containers, staffing, rates and competing with private enterprises.

Councilmember Storrs moved to give Leo Jacobs the authority to approach the City of Burlington to explore collecting their solid waste. Councilmember Meamber seconded. Motion carried.

Councilmember Lemley – reported on the Memorial Day ceremonies held at the cemetery. Lemley thanked Councilmember Meamber for spearheading the memorial plaque that was dedicated on that day.

Councilmember Storrs – commented that the Cemetery looked great for Memorial Day as well as the downtown area.

Councilmember Meamber – thanked Mayor Dillon for her participation in the Memorial Day ceremonies.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.