
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
March 9, 2005 – 7:00 P.M. – Community Center

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Dillon, Councilmembers: Meamber, Splane, Storrs, Colgan, Galbraith, Lemley and Anderson. Staff: City Attorney Hayden, Clerk/Treasurer Nelson, Engineer Blair, Planner Lahr, Police Chief Wood and Fire Chief Klinger.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
- Claim Vouchers #53841 to #53945 for \$272,949.92 (excluding #53929)
- Payroll Warrants #35185 to #35272 for \$160,958.70
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center – SW School District – March 17, 2005
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center – SC Health Dept. – March 28, 2005
- Street Closure Request – Blast from the Past – June 3rd & 4th, 2005
- Street Closure Request – North Cascade Ford – April 17th, 2005
- Request for Out of State Travel – Legal
- Agreement – Fruitale/SR-20 Signalization with WDOT
- Lease – Museum
- Lease – Office Systems Northwest
- Oshikawa/Curtis Street Mobile Home Park
- Contract – Skagit Surveyors & Engineers

Mayor Dillon requested Council remove Claim Voucher #53929 from the consent calendar. She also noted the Street Closure Request – North Cascade Ford has been changed to April 17, 2005 only from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Councilmember Splane requested to go on record questioning why the City is paying for the traffic signal at Fruitdale and SR 20.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar Items A through L, removing warrant #53929 and changing North Cascade Ford to closure on the 17th only between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan.

Councilmember Anderson questioned various aspects of the Museum lease and the status of the Curtis Street Mobile Home Park agreement.

Councilmember Splane also questioned the cost of the copiers. Mayor Dillon noted that staff representatives extensively researched the function and costs of various copiers and the copiers being proposed were deemed to be the best product for the needs.

Mayor Dillon restated the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Susie Williams – 1058 Wedmore Pl., addressed the Council regarding the Sauk Mountain Golf Course. Williams requested the City to hold the developer to his original promises on the Sauk Mountain View Estates South that include the Golf Course which he made known publicly. She requested guidance in following the appropriate process and also requested the proper process for requesting publications as they relate to Sauk Mountain View Estates and Sauk Mountain Golf Course.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance – Sewer Fees

Attorney Hayden reviewed the proposed ordinances for Connection Fee and Rate Increase; Senior Discount and a second ordinance for Credit for Disconnecting and Decommissioning Septic Systems. Hayden reviewed three specific points of the ordinance. 1) General Facilities Charge – connection charge for single family, multiple residential and plumbing fixtures for non-residential units; 2) Increase of monthly rates; 3) Senior Citizen Discount.

Discussion ensued to include senior discount, change of qualifying amount and the effect on financing.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve Ordinance #1501-05 An ordinance Amending the Fees and Charges for Connection To and Use of the City of Sedro-Woolley Sanitary Sewer System, Amending Portions of Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code Chapter 13.16 and Chapter 13.30, and Providing for a Low-Income Senior Discount for the Monthly Fee, with the amended versions to read Section 13.16 A the amount would be changed from 80% to 89 %, Section 13.16 B (2) changed to \$35,000.00 and correct the typographical error in 13.16 E from garbage to sanitary sewer. Councilmember Splane seconded.

Councilmember Meamber and Galbraith both expressed concern of the connection fee proposed within the Ordinance.

Mayor Dillon restated the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Meamber – No, Splane – Yes, Storrs – Yes, Colgan – Yes, Galbraith – No, Lemley – Yes and Anderson – Yes. Motion carried 5-2 (Councilmembers Meamber and Galbraith opposed).

Attorney Hayden reviewed the proposed ordinance for Credit for Disconnecting and Decommissioning Septic Systems. The ordinance is proposed to give some relief to property owners who are currently on septic tanks and connect to sewer. Hayden noted the ordinance is in a rough draft form and reviewed criteria for the credit.

Discussion ensued to include self installation, perception of gifting of public funds, objective basis of credit, certification of decommissioned septic tanks, exemption of existing septic systems, justification of two tier system and further discussion at a future worksession.

NEW BUSINESS

None

APPEALS

James Hawkings – Appeal of Planning Commission Decision (Continued to March 23, 2005)

Mayor Dillon opened the closed record hearing for the James Hawkings appeal at 7:47 P.M.

Councilmember Storrs moved to continue the closed record appeal filed by James Hawkings to March 23, 2005. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried.

Request for Authorization to Settle an Appeal of the Traffic Impact Fee for Cascade Palms

Attorney Hayden reviewed background information for the appeal of Traffic Impact Fees for Cascade Palms.

Councilmember Meamber expressed concern of favoritism to certain developers. He noted history of the Trail Road sewer connection in which the subject property was involved.

Attorney Hayden stated that neither the City nor himself is paying any favoritism, the City has opposed the request at two separate hearings. The hearing examiner has made a decision and in principle is a good decision. The City has incurred quite a bit of expense fighting the applicant in court as well as fighting the applicant at the hearing examiner level.

Hayden noted that since the hearing examiner decision, every development has the option of doing a special traffic study instead of using the trip generation manual to determine the impact fee for their development. Case law has changed from 1994 to the present concerning traffic impact fees.

Councilmember Storrs moved to authorized staff to settle the Cascade Palms appeal of transportation impact fee calculations for \$1,231.85 per residential dwelling unit subject to the 55+ age restriction. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan. Motion carried. 4-3 (Councilmembers Meamber, Galbraith and Splane opposed).

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Mayor Dillon requested permission to invite the Sedro-Woolley Basketball team to the next Council meeting to honor their great season and first ever state placing.

Councilmember Colgan – noted the condition of the alleys in town and requested the Street Department drive the alleys for repair. Specifically, the alley between Nelson and Talcott Streets.

Councilmember Lemley – commented on the PUD repair work at 3rd and 5th Street that the initial work is sinking and needs attention.

Engineer Blair reviewed PUD's usual process for temporary patching and then coming back for the correct paving repair.

Councilmember Splane – questioned the status of the hole at the Railroad track on Ferry Street.

Councilmember Meamber – questioned the completion date of Hammer Heritage Square.

Mayor Dillon stated the targeted completion dates is June 1st.

Engineer Blair – reported on the progress of the Garden of Eden project.

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on the confined space training.

Police Chief Wood – announced the retirement of Officer Ken Cargile after 16 years of service. There will be a retirement gathering in honor of Officer Cargile on March 31st at 5:30 P.M. More information will be forthcoming. Chief Wood also reported that on April 8, Jason Harris will be starting the Police Academy. Harris is Cargile's replacement. Wood also stated they continue to work on Burlington Northern to get the area along the railroad tracks cleaned up.

Fire Chief Klinger – also announced the hiring of a new fireman. Mike Ellis who started on Monday.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned to executive session for the purpose of personnel with no decision anticipated at 8:13 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 8:39 P.M.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.