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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
April 12, 2006 – 7:00 P.M. – Community Center

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

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Sharon Dillon, Councilmembers: Ted Meamber, Tony Splane, Louis Requa, Pat Colgan, Hugh Galbraith, Rick Lemley and Mike Anderson. Staff Present: Clerk/Treasurer Nelson, Planner Rozema, Attorney Hayden, Engineer Blair, Police Chief Wood and Asst. Fire Chief Olson.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Claim Vouchers #56967 to #57111 for \$153,161.21
  - Payroll Warrants #37612 to #37701 for \$189,100.85
- Street Closure Request – Blast from the Past – June 2 & 3, 2006
- Supplement Agreements No. 3 and No. 4 for David Evans & Associates for F & S Grade/SR 20 Intersection
- Contract – Northwest Datum & Design, Inc. for Engineering and Surveying Services
- Agreement – Northwest Diving
- Appointments to Sedro-Woolley Library Board
- Appointment to Sedro-Woolley Planning Commission
- AFSME Contract 1/1/06 – 12/31/06

Councilmember Requa requested Item D – Supplement Agreements No. 3 and No. 4 for David Evans & Associates for F & S Grade/SR 20 Intersection and Item E – Contract – Northwest Datum & Design, Inc. for Engineering and Surveying Services be moved to Unfinished Business. Requa also requested Item D be discussed in Executive Session.

Mayor Dillon requested in lieu of moving the two items to Unfinished Business to move the agenda order around to accommodate the audience members.

Councilmember Lemley moved to approve the Consent Calendar Items A, B, C, F, G, H & I, moving D and E to Unfinished Business. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried.

## Proclamation – Law Day – May 1, 2006

Mayor Dillon declared May 1, 2006 as Law Day in the City of Sedro-Woolley. She read a proclamation which encouraged citizens, schools, businesses and media to use this occasion to preserve and strengthen the rule of law.

Scott Thomas – City of Burlington Attorney and President of the Skagit County Bar Association addressed the Council encouraging them to participate in the annual Skagit County Law Day on May 1, 2006.

## Public Comment

Dr. Osmunson, a Bellevue dentist who graduated 20 years ago addressed the Council in opposition of fluoride. He noted that up until about two years ago he spoke in favor of fluoridation. He reviewed the reasons that brought him to start speaking against fluoridation and cited years of studies and information regarding the effects of fluoridation.

Ruth Thomas – 25177 Triple Creek Ln., addressed the Council regarding the negative affects of fluoridation. She noted that forced fluoride does not make good neighbors and encouraged the Council not to support the fluoridation.

Ed Koogle – 501 Fidalgo St., spoke against fluoridating the water. He spoke of certain people being at risk and encouraged the issue be put to a vote of the people.

Dr. Avery Martin – 13103 Sunday Ln., Clear Lake, reported on various researchers having opinions to the ill affects of fluoridation. Martin encouraged the Council to do their homework and research on this topic.

Nancy Swelling – 22649 Grip Rd., stated she is concerned of any decision regarding fluoridation and noted that even though she lives outside the city, she drinks water at restaurants; eats food prepared with city water and would be exposed fluoridation through those sources. Swelling also questioned the effects of fluoridation on shellfish. She encouraged an informed decision and putting the topic up for a vote.

Nan Laney – 28671 Utopia Rd., passed out a packet of information to the Council and addressed them on persons who have sensitivities to toxins which include infants, children, elderly and persons with kidney or liver damage. Laney reviewed a Harvard study of correlations of bone cancer in boys with fluoridated and unfluoridated water and addressed the topic of choice and cost to ratepayers. She requested the Council consider a reversal of their decision. She encouraged consideration of a more democratic response to the Commissioners request and consider a recommendation to the County Commissioner's that the topic be put to a vote of the people.

Pat Chavez-Pickett – Mount Vernon, spoke on the Environmental protection agency employees stance on fluoride.

Ned Currence – 28671 Utopia Rd., addressed concern of the impacts to the salmon due to fluoride. He stated he believes that the fluoride has the potential to adversely impact salmon and people should have a choice in the matter of fluoridation.

Sky Brown – 423 Spring Ln., mother of three young children stated she has chosen a naturopathic approach to medical care and feels disappointed that she and her family may be faced with fluoride without having the opportunity to vote on the issue.

Don Smith – 334 Sapp Road, spoke in opposition to fluoridation of the water system. He questioned why it would be necessary for delivery of fluoride in a method that is used for watering of lawns, washing cars and showering. He said it was a waste of resources and believes there to be a better way to accommodate those that wish to fluoridate.

James Newbaker – 935 Sterling St., said Skagit County is known for farmland and produce and the produce and crops are receiving a massive dose of fluoride through fertilization when planted and additional fluoride should not be necessary.

Orion Donovan-Smith – 334 Sapp Rd., a student at Sedro-Woolley High School stressed the value of education and stressed the necessity to educate the citizens on the issue in order to make the best decision for everyone.

Susie Williams – 1058 Wedmore Pl., stated she was surprised by the Council action on the fluoridation without public input and she did not want the issue forced on her. She spoke of a family member who had cancer and was told not to drink fluoridated water. Williams expressed disappointment in not having a voice in the matter.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Dan Burden Workshop

Mayor Dillon introduced Dan Pike of the Skagit Council of Governments to review plans for the Dan Burden Workshop.

Dan Pike addressed the Council regarding plans to bring Dan Burden to Skagit County for a community work shop on a livable community. He noted that all the other cities in Skagit County as well as Skagit County itself is participating with sponsorship. Pike noted that the other cities have contributed \$1000 towards the cost of the program. He addressed the format of the worksession, date and benefit of this program. Sedro-Woolley would be scheduled for Tuesday, April 25, 2006 from 8 a.m. to Noon. There is also a county-wide presentation on Thursday, April 27, 2006, 9 am – 1 pm at McIntrye Hall and a final wrap up that same evening from 6 pm to 9 pm.

Pike offered registration forms for audience members interested in attending.

Councilmember Meamber questioned how the work shop would affect the recent traffic study the City had completed.

Pike encouraged the traffic study be shown to Burden for comment. He also noted upcoming enhancement grants that may be available and Burden may direct staff to appropriate grants.

Councilmember Anderson moved to participate in the Dan Burden Workshop and contribute \$1000 to offset the costs. Seconded by Councilmember Galbraith. Motion carried 6-1 (Councilmember Splane opposed).

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### Ordinance – Establishing Rates at Sedro-Woolley Union Cemetery (Amending 1495-04)

Mayor Dillon opened the public hearing at 8:02 P.M.

No public input.

Mayor Dillon closed the public hearing at 8:03 P.M.

Councilmember Meamber questioned the Niche Wall pricing. It was noted that pricing at several local cemeteries was obtained for a comparison as well as manufacturers of Niche Walls were consulted.

Councilmember Lemley disclosed that he would be abstaining from any discussion or vote due to a professional conflict of interest.

Councilmember Anderson moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1541-06 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, Establishing Rates at the Sedro-Woolley Union Cemetery, And Amending 1495-04. Councilmember Meamber seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Councilmember Meamber – Yes, Splane – Yes, Requa – Yes, Colgan – Yes, Galbraith – Yes, Lemley – Abstained and Anderson – Yes. Motion carried.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### Golf Course Lease

Mayor Dillon introduced the topic of the Golf Course Lease for Council consideration.

Shane Walley – Public Lands Foreman reviewed the estimated costs of maintenance for the course. He noted that the City can terminate the lease with a 30 day written notice and encouraged Council to proceed with the lease.

Councilmember Meamber expressed concern of receiving new information at the meeting and not having a chance to study the information. He also expressed concern of public comments he has received.

Councilmember Galbraith read a letter from Curtis Ipma, Golf Coach at Cascade Middle School encouraging Council to move forward with the lease for the recreational value to students and citizens.

Walley spoke to the Council on the great opportunity of keeping the green space within the City and future possibilities with the land.

Council discussion ensued to include potential uses of the property if not maintained as a golf course and potential trade of the property for development rights.

Councilmember Requa disclosed that his business Skagit Surveyors & Engineers has in the past done business with the property owner and may in the future as well.

Attorney Hayden reviewed the conflict of interest position. Councilmembers Anderson and Meamber requested Requa abstain from comments or a vote on the issue.

Councilmember Lemley questioned Jane Rocha, audience member regarding the viability of the golf course during her son-in-laws ownership of the property.

Susie Williams – 1058 Wedmore Pl., stated that the opportunity is a golden opportunity for the City but suggested Council hold a public hearing on the topic. Williams also noted that the project could become a community project and a way to bring the neighbors together to help. She did question how the City would run the golf course without a club house.

Walley reviewed the plans for operation for the first year.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to enter into an agreement for the Gateway Golf course for a period of three years, with a review of the operation within one year. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried 4-2 (Councilmembers Splane and Meamber opposed, Councilmember Requa abstained).

Councilmember Anderson moved that the golf course operations expenses will not exceed \$39,000 for the year of 2006. Councilmember Colgan seconded. Motion carried 4-2 (Councilmember Meamber and Splane opposed, Councilmember Requa abstained).

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

Councilmember Meamber – commented on the people giving their opinions regarding fluoridation and questioned how to go about revoting on the issue. Meamber noted after hearing testimony from the audience he would like to change his vote.

Councilmember Requa – speaking in regards to the Council vote on fluoridation, he noted that at the meeting the vote took place the only audience members were those in favor of fluoridation. He also stated that now that he has received additional information he would like to study the topic further. Councilmember Galbraith also noted he would like time to study the information presented at this meeting.

Discussion of the options for the Council for possible reconsideration of their vote ensued.

Sherry Donovan-Smith – 334 Sapp Rd., questioned the type of education Council received prior to making the decision in support of fluoridation.

Councilmember Anderson noted that after he had received his Council packet he did research on the subject on the internet to be informed. Anderson noted that the group should be addressing the County Commissioners who will make the ultimate decision.

Danell Weaver – Bellingham, questioned the recommendation status the Council gave to the Commissioners.

Mayor Dillon noted that the motion and vote from the Council was to recommend to Skagit County to have PUD fluoridate the water.

Weaver noted that being involved with the fluoridation campaign in Bellingham was overwhelming and was a very divisive issue which has harbored ill feelings. She noted that both sides are very passionate on this issue.

Larry Lintz – 705 Jones Rd., requested to talk about Item D – David Evans Supplement Agreements and questioned the plans.

Mayor Dillon stated the topic is to discuss whether to move forward with the engineering work of the project. The City would still need to come up with more funding to proceed with the actual project.

Lintz noted that they have been told for some time that work would be starting. He also questioned if the left hand lane mark at F&S Grade & Highway 20 could be moved to allow the right turn vehicle more visibility.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:58 P.M. for the purpose of personnel, land acquisition and litigation with a possible decision forthcoming.

The meeting reconvened at 9:38 P.M.

Supplement Agreements No. 3 and No. 4 for David Evans & Associates for F&S  
Grade/SR 29 Intersection

Councilmember Colgan withdrew his second to Councilmember Requa's motion. (*The motion was made at the March 22, 2006 meeting*)

Councilmember Requa withdrew his motion for the Supplement Agreements for David Evans & Associates.

Councilmember Requa moved to authorize the Mayor to sign and execute a Supplemental Agreements No. 3 and No. 4 with David Evans & Associates in an amount not to exceed \$86,813.33 moving the construction of the North entrance of the Skagit Plant to Phase I. Councilmember Colgan seconded. Motion carried.

Northwest Datum & Design Inc.

Topic will be discussed at the next worksession.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.