
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
January 10, 2007 – 7:00 P.M. – Community Center

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Pro-Tem Anderson

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Mike Anderson, Councilmembers: Ted Meamber, Tony Splane, Louis Requa, Pat Colgan, Hugh Galbraith, Rick Lemley and Dennis London. Staff: Clerk/Treasurer Nelson, Attorney Berg, Engineer Blair, Planner Moore, Police Chief Wood and Fire Chief Klinger.

Attorney Berg stated there was additional paperwork related to Item H – Request for Funding for Skagit River Impact Partnership (STIP). It is an Interlocal agreement for sharing the cost on the flood mapping issue.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #59087 to #59247 for \$796,735.51
 - Payroll Warrants #39257 to #39348 for \$144,762.74
 - Payroll Warrants #39349 to #39440 for \$200,778.25
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center – Cub Scout Pact 4067 – February 3, 2007
- Waiver of Fees – Riverfront Park – Cut Scout Pact 4067 – June 14, 2007
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center – SWSD – January 22, 2007
- Misc. Annual Contracts/Agreements
- Interlocal Agreement – Mutual Aid for Law Enforcement
- Request for Funding for Skagit River Impact Partnership (SRIP)
- Sewer Easements for SR-20/Sewer
- Interlocal Agreement – Request for Funding for Skagit River Impact Partnership (STIP) (*added*)

Councilmember Lemley moved to accept the Consent Calendar with the addition of new Item J – Interlocal Agreement between the Cities of Burlington, Mount Vernon and Skagit Dike Districts 1 and 12 and other government entities that later join this agreement to the consent calendar. Councilmember Galbraith seconded.

Councilmember Requa noted that he will be abstaining from Item I – Sewer Easements for SR-20/Sewer because his firm did legal descriptions for the sewer easements.

Motion carried with Councilmember Requa abstaining from Item I.

Public Comment

Sharon Dillon – 1116 Fidalgo St., introduced herself to the Council as the new Skagit County Commissioner. She pledged to work with all the City Councils and members to create a better and more workable Skagit County.

Julian Pavisi – 519 Sapp Road, addressed the Council regarding a neighboring fence. He noted he has addressed the Council previously on this issue but the fence is now falling down. He requested someone take a drive by and take a look at it.

Police Chief Wood – introduced Officer Adam Musgrove who is the newest addition to the police department. Wood stated he is a couple of weeks into his field training and is doing a great job.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Appointment of Mayor

Attorney Berg reviewed the process for the appointment of Mayor to replace Sharon Dillon upon her resignation to take office as County Commissioner. Berg noted that Councilmember At Large, Mike Anderson has been acting as Mayor Pro Tem since January 1.

Councilmember Lemley moved to appoint Mike Anderson as Mayor. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried.

Anderson thanked the Council for their vote and confidence in him to serve as Mayor.

Skagit County Commissioner, Sharon Dillon administered the Oath of Office for Mike Anderson for the position of Mayor of Sedro-Woolley Washington.

Appointment of Councilmember At Large

Attorney Berg reviewed the process for the appointment of Councilmember at Large for the replacement for Mayor Anderson.

Mayor Anderson noted that the City had received ten great applicants and the Council had a tough time making a decision for the replacement.

Councilmember Meamber moved to appoint Dennis London as Council at Large. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried.

Mayor Anderson administered the Oath of Office to Dennis London for the position of Council at Large.

Councilmember London joined the Council bench.

NEW BUSINESS

Election of Mayor Pro Tempore for 2007

Councilmember Requa moved to appoint Councilmember Ted Meamber as Mayor Pro Tem for 2007. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried.

Councilmember Meamber thanked the Councilmembers for the confidence placed in him.

Resolution – Rotary Request to build and donate an amphitheater for Riverfront Park

Planner Moore reviewed a proposed project by the Sedro-Woolley Rotary to build and donate an amphitheater at Riverfront Park for use for community events. Moore noted the need of Council approval to allow the application to be approved once submitted. He stated the City will be the proponent for the project but the Rotary is doing the leg work for the City on a volunteer basis.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to adopt Resolution No. 733-07 A Resolution Authorizing the Construction of an Amphitheater at Riverfront Park. Councilmember Meamber seconded.

Councilmember Splane questioned if the structure will be in the flood area.

Engineer Blair noted it is in the flood way but is a flow through structure and the only portion that are subject to flooding are the posts that hold up the roof.

Planner Moore reviewed the plans for the ground level stage. He also noted the posts are reinforced concrete buttresses at the bottom and have been engineered to withstand impacts from log debris during a flood event.

Further discussion ensued to include seating and distance from trees at waters edge.

Mayor Anderson restated the motion. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Police Chief Wood – reported on a very uneventful New Years other than a few reports of fire works. He also reported on a walk through for contractors interested in bidding on the new city hall construction.

Engineer Blair – addressed the timing of development reviews and recommended contracting out the reviews to an outside source. Blair noted that he will be working on finding a consultant firm and scope of work to bring back to Council at a later date.

Mayor Anderson – stated in the short time that he has been at City Hall he sees that Engineer Blair has many hats to wear and it is slowing up some of the development processes due to the amount of work that is coming in. Anderson supported this move and noted the City in the past has contracted out for such services.

Attorney Berg noted that that the process would not change any of the fees assessed for a permit or project and there are some costs the City would bear as part of running a Planning and Building Department. The proposal is intended to increase the speed with which plan review can be conducted with regard to the civil engineering piece and the additional cost will be passed onto the applicant. The hope would be that most applicants would see that as a valuable service because of the speedier turn around. Berg noted the other possible alternative would be to hire additional engineering staff.

Engineer Blair introduced Debbie Allen, Wastewater Treatment Plant foreman who addressed the Council regarding a line under Highway 20 that has a hole in the upper half of the pipe that creates a void and they would like to get it corrected. Allen addressed the funding within the 2007 budget that was denied in order to place as much money towards the moratorium as possible, which left no funding available for 2007 for repairs of existing sewer lines. The problem area is between Puget and Reed. Allen noted there was left over funding in the 2006 budget under the “Other Improvement” line item that was set aside for upgrades of existing sanitary sewer lines as well as adding some new gravity lines. There were also some fencing and handrail issues that were not able to be completed because of the timing of the flooding. She stated there is approximately \$280,000 left over and requested to roll those unspent funds into the 2007 budget which would require a budget amendment. Allen and Blair spoke on some new technology called “cured in place pipe” they would like to consider using and how they would like to proceed.

Discussion ensued to include proposed plan, reasons for the left over funds, length of project time, intended projects for the 2006 funding, life expectancy of material, reconnection of side sewer stub outs, process and timing of the project, other potential locations and timing of project for better pricing.

Council consensus was for staff to proceed and bring information back for formal approval.

Mayor Anderson requested Engineer Blair provide an update on damage from the last wind storm.

Engineer Blair reported the Lions Shelter at Memorial Park was extensively damaged and may need a total replacement. Damage also happened to the Bingham Park shelter and the ball field fence. There were also numerous trees that fell around town.

Planner Moore – reviewed a spread sheet listing current projects in the Planning Department for review. Moore stated this will be a report that he will be giving to Council on a regular basis. Discussion on the report ensued.

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson – discussed with Council on the state auditors preference for the handling of budget amendments. She indicated in previous years we have done one large amendment at year end. The auditors have indicated they prefer the amendment to happen prior to the funds being spent. She noted because of this Council will be seeing more budget amendments throughout the year.

Councilmember Requa questioned the recent payment to the State Auditors in the payment vouchers.

Nelson noted that the City is required to pay the auditors for their services and the annual billing is usually around \$26,000.00.

Nelson then addressed funding for City Hall and reviewed three potential sources for funding. She noted the choices are selling of bonds, bond through the Washington State Treasurer's Office and the USDA Rural Development Loan Program. Nelson explained advantages and disadvantages to the three choices and noted her recommendation would be the USDA program. The next step for the USDA program would be a pre-application and requested the Council approve the Mayor to sign the pre-application agreement.

Attorney Berg reviewed some of the steps necessary throughout the process of the USDA program.

Councilmember Colgan moved to allow the Mayor to sign an application for a loan for City Hall with USDA. Councilmember Requa seconded. Motion carried.

Councilmember London – stated he is honored to have been selected to fill the vacant Council position and is excited to be working on the Council.

Councilmember Galbraith – addressed a bump on Township and the possibility of smoothing it out.

Engineer Blair stated the bump was the joint where the road matches. It was intended to be paved on Monday but the weather has not been favorable. If paving looks to be farther away steps will be taken to smooth the bump out.

Councilmember Colgan – questioned the preparedness of the City for icy roads in the A.M.

Mayor Anderson noted the City's snow removal policy located in the back of the packet for review.

Councilmember Requa commented on several concerns that he has with the policy. Discussion ensued.

Sharon Dillon – 1116 Fidalgo St., noted that salt is not put in the sand because of the deterioration of the roads and vehicles but there is another substance mixed in with the sand.

Councilmember Splane – noted a large pothole on Sapp Road.

Councilmember Meamber – also noted a large pothole at Rita and Ferry Streets. Meamber also questioned work on the railroad tracks at Northern and Central. He commented on the disrepair of the State Street tracks and questioned whether pressure could be put on them for repairs.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to executive session for approximately 30 – 45 minutes for discussion of real estate and potential litigation with no decision anticipated. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M..

The meeting reconvened at 9:22 P.M.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 P.M.