
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
May 23, 2007 – 7:00 P.M. – Community Center

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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #60393 to #60522 for \$602,063.41 (#60392 voided)
 - Payroll Warrants #40191 to #40290 for \$157,016.97
- Proposed Resolution 742-07 Declaring Certain Item Surplus
- Professional Services Agreement – Planning Consultant

Councilmember London moved to approve the consent calendar. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan. Motion carried (7-0).

Public Comment

K.B. Johnson – 889 Carriage Court, addressed the Council regarding a recent need for non-emergency help from the Police Department. He spoke of the procedure which the manner was handled and the insensitivity portrayed.

David Bricka – 9343 Claybrook Road, speaking on behalf of the Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce. He congratulated Rick Lemley for his recent honor of Business of the Year Award. He also invited all to the upcoming Blast from the Past event June 1st and 2nd. Bricka noted the upcoming start of the Farmers Market and congratulated Melissa Dougher on her promotion to Sergeant with the Sedro-Woolley Police Department.

Julian Pavisi – 519 Sapp Rd., expressed concern of cars rolling through stop signs and the speed of the vehicles traveling down Sapp Road in the early mornings and evenings. He also addressed a continuing fence issue with a neighboring property and concerns with blocked vision along the street

Police Chief Wood addressed comments made by Mr. K.B. Johnson. He noted due to the construction of the New City Hall there is a temporary entrance to the Public Safety

Building in which people have to talk through a speaker. The New City Hall will be more personal and friendly and Wood requested the public's patience during the construction. He stated the Police and Fire Department employees feel what the public feels because they are inconvenienced as well.

Special Presentation – Promotion Ceremony for New Sergeant at the Police Department

Police Chief Wood introduced Melissa Dougher, a 15 year employee of the Department upon her promotion to the position of Sergeant. Mayor Anderson administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Dougher. Her Sergeant's badge was pin in place by Police Officer Bill Storie.

APPEALS

Closed Record Hearing for Appeal of Planning Commission Denial of Zoning Variance #06-ZV-5 and Final Decision

Mayor Anderson announced this item has been postponed to the June 27, 2007 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) 2007-2012 Adoption by Resolution

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing.

Attorney Berg reviewed the purpose and process of updating the Six-Year TIP on an annual basis.

Discussion ensued to include priority of projects on the list and F & S Grade Road Signalization.

Councilmember Requa requested the TIP be continued to the next meeting to give more time for a review of the list. Councilmember Meamber seconded.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:24 P.M (Mayor Anderson determined the public hearing must be closed before entertaining a motion).

Attorney Berg reviewed the topics for the next worksession and some options for scheduling upcoming topics.

Councilmember Requa moved to forward the Six Year Transportation Plan to the Public Lands Committee for review. Councilmember London seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Hall Update

Attorney Berg presented an update on the construction of the new City Hall. He stated the project is progressing as expected with footings being completed at week's end and stem walls next week with a couple of weeks of ground work. He also updated the Council regarding the gas line situation and the time loss and financial impact to the project.

Berg reviewed late material items regarding a change order request to restructure the Building, Planning and Engineering Department in order to redesign the way citizens will interact with staff. The change is a result of the request of Council and citizens for the City to become more customer friendly towards businesses and customers and will allow for a more inviting permitting area. Berg noted that the changes do not yet have an engineer's estimate but believes the cost to be no more than \$25,000. He noted the time sensitivity of the decision because of the upcoming rough plumbing schedule.

Councilmember Meamber moved to authorize the Mayor to accept the change order as outlined in the attached floor plan revision in an amount not to exceed \$25,000. Councilmember Splane seconded. Motion carried (6-1, Councilmember Galbraith opposed).

Sewer Pretreatment Ordinance (2nd Reading)

Debbie Allen – 433 Talcott St, Waste Water Treatment Plant foreman spoke of the need for the proposed Sewer Pretreatment Ordinance in order to keep pollutants out of the treatment plant. Allen requested Council approve the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Lemley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1575-07 An Ordinance Adopting Pretreatment Standards Related to the Wastewater Treatment Plant for the City of Sedro-Woolley. Councilmember Galbraith seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

Biodiesel Pilot Project Results and Authorization to Use Biodiesel in all Public Works Vehicles

Wastewater Treatment Plant Foreman Allen presented information to the Council regarding the Six Month Biodiesel pilot project with Whole Energy Fuels. She noted this project started in September of 2006 with three diesel vehicles selected for the study. Allen reviewed pricing comparisons and emission testing results for the selected vehicles.

Joshua Clemens of Whole Energy Fuels spoke of the increased endorsement with the use of biodiesel fuel. Clemens and Allen answered questions from the Council to include delivery fee, process, cost of storage tank, tax rebates, cost of diesel vs. biodiesel, environmental benefits and the effects of cold weather.

Leo Jacobs – Solid Waste Foreman addressed the Council regarding the experiences of his department’s use of biodiesel. Jacobs stated he used two vehicles for the test period and they did not have any trouble using the biodiesel. He also stated that he had previously been receiving citizen complaints of diesel smell and did not receive any complaints after changing to the biodiesel.

More discussion ensued to include type of blend, positive reasons for moving to biodiesel, environmental benefits and increased engine life of vehicles.

Councilmember Splane requested to see if there are any tax rebates available and what they might be prior to making a decision.

Further discussion was held on tank size, type and location and cost projections.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to table the item until more data and cost for the tank to the June 13, 2007 Council meeting. Councilmember Splane seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Supporting Deluxe Recycling & Disposal to Locate Within the City

Attorney Berg reviewed information from Deluxe Recycling & Disposal’s request for a letter of support from the City. Berg noted at this time there is no formal application for land use action but the company is looking for a commitment of support from the various cities in Skagit County for an alternate materials handling facility. Berg reviewed the process that the company would need to go through should they decide to locate at the site they are considering.

Councilmember Requa recused himself from any vote due to a conflict of interest. Requa then addressed the audience regarding e-mails received and misconceptions in references being made with Deluxe Recycling & Disposal’s proposal.

Steve Snell – representing Deluxe Recycling & Disposal addressed the Council and audience members to review his company’s plan to build a state of the art recycling transfer station facility within Sedro-Woolley and spoke of some of the benefits to the City. Snell presented a power point presentation about the facility operation and the company’s plans. He also addressed the SEPA process they will be required to go through as well as other permitting processes through Skagit County and the City.

K.B. Johnson – 889 Carriage Ct., questioned the smell from the operation.

Julie Clayton – 22331 Morris St., who owns property bordering to the proposed site addressed yearly flooding, wetlands, required environmental clean up left over from other industry and questioned barriers for the view from her home, noise, traffic, impact of property values, security measures to prevent illegal dumping and future expansion plans.

Larry McCarter – Owner RDS, Whatcom County, addressed Clayton’s concerns regarding homes located in the vicinity of the Ferndale plant and stated they have not received any noise, dust or order complaints.

Annie Wilson – expressed concern of the City road conditions and increased traffic. She stated the operation should be located outside the City limits it does not belong next to a High School.

Mark Venn – Superintendent of Sedro-Woolley School District, addressed the Council regarding the School District involvement in the process. Venn spoke of the need for the School District and the City to work together to keep each other informed and requested the School District be kept informed on the progress of the project and of future projects as well.

Richard Weyrich – student at Sedro-Woolley High School, expressed concern of the project. He presented a petition to the Council with approximately 150 signatures from students opposed to the project.

Josh Clayton – Senior at Sedro-Woolley High School, requested more information on the project in order to inform the Student Body of the High School.

Snell addressed the citizen’s questions and comments after each individual spoke.

At the request of Councilmember London, Attorney Berg reviewed the SEPA review process and notification of property owners within 500 feet of the project site. He stated the SEPA process is the time for citizens to comment on impacts to include traffic, noise, odor, pollution and other environmental impacts. There is then a review period by staff to determine the course of action which is then published to the public and a window of opportunity for the public to address the results. The process takes approximately 45-60 days.

Berg reviewed the proposed resolution supporting the concept of the business facility within the City.

Council discussion ensued to include City Council role in the process, hearing bodies and technology.

Councilmember London moved to approve Resolution No. 743-07 A Resolution Indicating the City’s Support for the Concept Presented by Deluxe Recycling for the Location of a Materials Handling Facility Within the City of Sedro-Woolley. Councilmember Lemley seconded. Discussion ensued, Motion carried (4-2, Councilmembers Meamber and Galbraith opposed. Councilmember Requa recused).

A five minute recess was taken at 9:35 P.M. The meeting reconvened at 9:40 P.M.

Storm Water Utility (1st Reading – No Action Requested)

Attorney Berg reviewed the proposed ordinance establishing storm drainage fees. He noted the Ordinance is modeled after the City of Ferndale's ordinance and there are some areas that still need to be worked on specific to Sedro-Woolley. Some of the specifics are linking the ordinance to the Senior Citizen exemption, addressing multi-family split, Brickyard Creek Sub-Flood Zone, undeveloped parcels, open space and lot size.

Council discussion ensued with the emphasis on lot size calculation, funding and rates.

Recycling and Block Clean Up Program

Leo Jacobs – Solid Waste Department Foreman, addressed the Council regarding a proposal for a modified block clean up program with emphasis on recycling. He provided background information on past practice for the block clean up and some proposed financing options for the program.

Discussion ensued to include proof of residency, notification, dates and funding.

Councilmember Meamber moved to authorize the Solid Waste Division to move forward on the Recycling part 1 of the Clean up program. Start date June 9, 2007 finish date July 28, 2007. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan.

Councilmember Requa amended the motion to include part 2 with no increase in rates. Councilmember London seconded.

Mayor Anderson presented a call for question on the amended motion. Motion carried (5-2, Councilmembers Meamber and Galbraith opposed).

Mayor Anderson restated the original motion to include the amendment and called for the question. Motion carried (5-2, Councilmembers Meamber and Galbraith opposed).

Interfund Loan Resolution (Land Purchase)

Attorney Berg reviewed a request and process for an interfund loan in order to complete the purchase of the Swedelius property.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to adopt Resolution No. 744-07 A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Sedro-Woolley Authorizing an Interfund Loan from the Sewer Cumulative Reserve Fund (410) to Purchase Land, and Providing for Repayment Thereof. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan. Motion carried (7-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Fire Chief Klinger – announced the start of the Fire Prevention presentations and noted the Fire Prevention posters placed on the fence at Metcalf Ball Field. Klinger stated the

poster was a Senior Project for a Sedro-Woolley High School student. He also stated the truck specifications were approved by the Police and Fire Committee and the publication for bid will go out tomorrow. Klinger reminded Council that the fireworks season is fast approaching.

Attorney Berg – addressed the new timeline for delivery of the Council packets and questioned Council's preference on the delivery of late materials.

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson – questioned Council regarding the information on upcoming meeting dates and topics.

Councilmember Meamber – reported on a recent Downtown Revitalization Committee meeting. He noted that Johnson's Sedro-Woolley Floral is going out of business but the store front will be filled by Sheila's Arts and Crafts.

Councilmember Splane – questioned the status of the old Loggers & Contractors building.

Mayor Anderson stated that they are cleaning up the building in hopes of someone relocating into the building. Anderson spoke of an idea of a beautification recognition program he would like to see implemented.

Councilmember Requa – questioned the sewer billing for the Helping Hands Food Bank.

Councilmember Colgan – addressed recent comments regarding graffiti, responsibility of clean up, and questioned what help might be available in the City.

Police Chief Wood addressed the comments and noted some upcoming public education and the recent gang awareness meetings that have been held.

Councilmember Lemley – announced the upcoming closure of The Pizza Factory.

Councilmember London – noted the TV is still in the field where the City crew cleaned up.

Councilmember Meamber – expressed concerns of some of the bills that the Helping Hands Food Bank are paying and inquired about the possibility of a waiver of the sewer and garbage charges. Discussion followed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of Real Estate and Personnel for approximately 30 minutes at 10:30 P.M with possible action following.

The meeting reconvened at 11:01 P.M.

Councilmember Meamber moved to enter into an on-call contract with Reichardt and Ebe Engineering. Councilmember Splane seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

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

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 P.M.