
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
October 24, 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, Attorney/Supervisor Berg, Planner Moore and Fire Chief Klinger.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #61664 to #61796 for \$406,663.87
 - Payroll Warrants #41202 to #41301 for \$157,477.36
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center – SWHS – October 17, 2007
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center SWHS FFA – November 16, 2007
- Waiver of Fees – Community Center – Job Corps Pasta Feed – November 1, 2007
- Interlocal Agreement – Joint Purchasing with North Whatcom Fire & Rescue
- Memorandum of Understanding – Radio Frequency Sharing with the City of Burlington
- Street Closure Request – Skagit Valley Omnium Bicycle Race – April 26-27, 2008
- Interlocal Agreement – Skagit County for Library Services 2007

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

Public Comment

Ernest Taylor – 809 Waldron St., addressed Council regarding the construction of the Rite Aid building and expressed concern of lights from the cars in the drive through window into the neighboring homes. Taylor expressed other concerns to include the height of the privacy trees, fencing at site of the drain on Waldron St., modifications to the drainage plan and the condition of the street from the heavy equipment and contractors. Taylor also presented a letter to the Council on behalf of Laurie Fellers (Bennett) regarding the deterioration of Waldron Street.

Mayor Anderson expressed his interest in looking at the concerns and made an appointment to meet with Taylor for a site visit the following day.

Chuck Owen – 833 Waldron St., also addressed the Council regarding the Rite Aid drive through. Owen noted he had spoke with the project engineer and requested 6 ft emerald greens to be placed to block the light. He also addressed the condition of the road due to the construction vehicles. Owen requested help in resolving the issues from the City.

James Martini – 837 Waldron St., concurred with the other speakers regarding the road condition.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Reenactment of Interim Zoning Control Ordinance 1574-07 (Township & Metcalf Street Sewers)

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 7:20 P.M.

Attorney Berg reviewed the proposed renewal of the sewer moratorium ordinance. Berg noted the City is getting closer to being able to reduce the moratorium area in early 2009. He reviewed the various projects and potential time frames.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:25 P.M.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1585-07 An Interim Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley Amending and Extending a Moratorium on Subdivision in Certain Areas Served by the Township Street and Metcalf Street Sewer Mains for a Period of Six Month and Requiring New Applications to be Accompanied by Confirmation from the Public Works Director that Line Capacity is Available. Councilmember Splane seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

Ordinance – 2008 Property Tax Levy (2nd Reading)

The public hearing was continued from the October 10, 2007 meeting.

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson reviewed the pre-preliminary assessed valuation forms received from the Skagit County Assessor's office which includes new construction. She noted according to their estimations the tax rate will actually be down from that of 2007. Nelson noted the final assessed valuation will not be known until January, 2008 and addressed the senior discount process.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:30 P.M.

Councilmember London moved to approve Ordinance No. 1586-07 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley Approving the Property Tax Levy. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried (6-1, Councilmember Splane opposed).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

City Hall Update

Attorney/Supervisor Berg presented a status update noting the progress to the buildings exterior. He noted the big item still pending is the PSE pole issue and is still waiting for a price estimate. The project is still on schedule and on budget.

F&S Grade Road/Highway 20 Update

Attorney/Supervisor Berg reviewed the letter sent to WSDOT requesting an extension for the SR20/F&S Grade Road project. Berg also spoke of plans for submitting an upcoming grant application to Skagit County for additional funding for the project.

Councilmember Meamber requested to be on record representing the citizens on the West side of town that there is a definite need for a signal light at F&S Grade Road and SR/20 rather than a round-a-bout.

Councilmember Splane also requested to be on record as being against round-a-bouts.

Councilmember Requa requested to be on record that the Council had previously formed a consensus to ask the Mayor to write a letter to the state and would like the consensus to remain until such time as a response from the state is received.

Ordinance – Repealing SWMC 2.72 addressing the terms and conditions for using and maintaining the City Building

Attorney/Supervisor Berg reviewed SWMC 2.72 which addresses the use and rental of the City building. He noted being that the City is in the process of selling the City building this section is not longer needed. He noted this is a housekeeping item.

Councilmember Meamber moved to approve Ordinance No. 1587-07 An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 2.72 of the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code. Councilmember Requa seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

Parks Fee Waivers/Community Center (1st Reading)

Attorney/Supervisor Berg reviewed the proposed ordinance which addressed the State Auditors concern regarding the fee waivers granted by the Council. It also clarifies the group classes and a facility monitor in order to lift the current moratorium on the use of alcohol. He noted this is the first reading with no action to be taken.

Council discussion ensued to include facility monitor fee, school district interlocal agreement and Job Corps use.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Sewer Committee Report

Attorney/Supervisor Berg reviewed background information regarding a septic decommission credit. Berg stated the current code only allows the credit for those people who connect to the sewer via the 90 day letter and not people who voluntary connect. The Utilities Committee met on September 7, 2007 to discuss the issue and came up with four recommendations as outlined in the council memo. Based on the direction of the Council the proposed ordinance will be available for the next meeting.

Fire Chief Klinger – announced the upcoming benefit dance and auction. Tickets are available from any of the firefighters. He also announced the replacement of 6 broken fire hydrants by PUD.

Councilmember Colgan – requested Mayor Anderson take the City Supervisor or Street Department foreman along when meeting with the Waldron Street residents.

Councilmember Lemley – requested the Farmer’s Market banner be taken down before it is destroyed by the weather.

Councilmember London – commented on the progress on the clean up of the Alexander Street property.

Attorney/Supervisor Berg – announced that Mark Freiburger the new Public Works Director will be joining the staff beginning November 1st.

Councilmember Meamber – thanked City staff for their help with the fencing at the Food Bank.

Councilmember Galbraith – encouraged staff to work with Rite Aid on a solution to remove the glare from headlights at their drive through.

Councilmember Splane moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried (7-0).

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.