
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
February 13, 2008 – 7:00 P.M. – Community Center

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

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 Attorney/Supervisor Berg, Engineer Freiburger, Planner Moore, Lt. Tucker and Fire Chief Klinger.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting (Including February 5, 2008 Worksession)
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #62519 to #62687 for \$527,029.12
 - Payroll Warrants #41879 to #41974 for \$232,622.97
- Interlocal Agreement – Joint Purchasing with Douglas County Fire District No. 4
- Street Closure Request – North Cascade Ford – Ferry Street – April 20, 2008

Councilmember Lemley noted a change in the date on the request of North Cascade Ford to April 13, 2008 due to a conflict with another car show.

Councilmember Colgan moved to approve the consent calendar with noted changes. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried (7-0).

Public Comment

No Public Comment

PUBLIC HEARING

Removal of Planning Commission Member

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg reviewed background information regarding the potential removal of a Planning Commission member due to multiple absences. He noted that staff has made efforts to contact the member and the Mayor wrote a letter requesting the intentions of his membership. Berg stated, to dated, the member has not contacted any City staff to indicate his wishes. Berg stated it was a functionality issue with the Commission being only 7 members with one member having numerous absences. Several community members have expressed interest in serving on the Commission. Berg stated the code allows a Planning Commissioner to be removed by the Mayor with the consent of the Council following a public hearing. Berg then reviewed the process.

Council discussion ensued regarding communication on the feeling of other Planning Commission members regarding the absences and how the letter was sent (i.e. certified).

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 7:07 P.M.

No public comment received.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:07 P.M.

Councilmember London moved to table the issue to the next Council meeting and directed the Mayor to send a certified letter to Kevin Loy for notification. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried (7-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Anderson reversed the order of unfinished business to accommodate County Commissioner Munks and Chief Civil Deputy Will Honea's schedules.

Interlocal – Solid Waste (3rd reading)

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg noted this was the 3rd reading of the proposed Interlocal – Solid Waste agreement and introduced County Commissioner Munks and Chief Civil Deputy Will Honea to the Council. Berg acknowledged the County for taking the lead role in trying to put together an agreement which included the cities. He noted the Council's concerns are not intended to be negative towards the County but is a reflection of concern of some of the details of the draft, not the concept. Berg reviewed the Council documents within the packets and reminded Council that the agreement addressed the overall governance of a County-wide solid waste system, does not address any specific sites or any specific proposals and has no relationship to the pending land use application for Deluxe Recycling.

County Commissioner Munks addressed the Council regarding their concerns on the proposed Interlocal – Solid Waste agreement. He noted the County has been trying for years to make changes to the Solid Waste system and always seemed to come up against the Municipalities committee which is an advisory committee made up of local Mayor's. The agreement is meant to approach the future of solid waste in Skagit County in a different manner by bringing the cities, towns and county together as partners to discuss issues affecting the future of solid waste, including the facility. Munks also addressed a consultant's report, limitations regarding current contracts and the future of waste stream.

Council discussion ensued with Commissioner Munks and the Council to include liability of landfills, the current system and costs, the future of solid waste.

Will Honea, Chief Civil Prosecutor for County addressed the Council's questions regarding the issues of liability noting the liability within the agreement is no different

that the current Interlocal agreement with the cities. He reviewed specific parts of the agreement which addressing liability.

More discussion was held regarding amendments to Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan, commission representation and veto power.

Honea addressed the veto power within the agreement stating that state law requires the County to run a system keeping, it financially viable and operational forever. He addressed the long-term viability of the system beyond the horizon of which the cities no longer have to participate by contract and spoke of the processes in place prior to any veto vote.

Some discussion was held regarding the budgeting, income and expenses, new agreement vs. current agreement, privatization, history of the current resolution on record, other expiration dates of agreements, profits from waste products and the scheduling of a county-wide meeting.

Councilmember London moved to table the Solid Waste Interlocal to the first meeting in March. Councilmember Splane seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

City Hall Update

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg presented information on late materials given to the Council which included the recent bid results for moving services and an elevator service agreement.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a moving agreement with Central Moving & Storage in the amount of \$8,950.00. Councilmember Meamber seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

Councilmember Meamber moved to enter into a “Gold” maintenance agreement with ThyssenKrupp Elevator with modifications by the City Attorney. Seconded by Councilmember Galbraith.

Discussion ensued regarding term length and cost of repairs. Motion carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Lt. Tucker – reported on some recent “tagging” of the Public Safety Building and the graffiti abatement group.

Mayor Anderson noted he has received positive comments regarding the work of the abatement group under the leadership of Bob Parks.

Lt. Tucker also reported on a recent shipment of tazers to outfit all officers with tazers. He noted Officer Sorsdahl is at the academy and is on schedule to graduate in May and announced Sergeant Salyer's last night on patrol is tonight and he will officially retire at the end of the month.

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on the practice burn of the house on River Road. He noted they got a full 8 hours of training from the burn and things went very well with volunteer Captain Josh Carpenter overseeing the burn. Klinger also reported on a request of the Mount Vernon Fire Chief to the Mount Vernon City Council to provide ambulance services. He noted the letter that was sent out to the Mount Vernon City Council leaves the impression that all County Fire Chiefs have discussed and are in accordance with the request. The proposal is not endorsed by the remainder County Fire Chiefs.

Engineer Frieberger – noted he has been tasked with a review of the rate study and analysis that was done by Katy Isaksen which will be brought forward to Council at the March worksession. He reviewed a proposed agreement with Katy Isaksen & Associates to assist the City with updating the 6 Year Sewer Financial outlook that was presented to Council in November. He also spoke of the opportunity to possibly refinance the sewer bonds for a potential cost savings of \$25,000 per year. The proposed agreement would provide the necessary independent review of the sewer financial outlook that would support refinancing those bonds.

Councilmember Colgan moved to authorize the Mayor to execute the attached Amendment 1 to the Agreement for Professional Services with Katy Isaksen & Associates of Seattle, WA for update of the six year sewer financial outlook and workshop assistance in the amount of \$4,100. Councilmember Requa seconded. Motion seconded (6-1 Councilmember Member opposed).

Frieberger then reviewed the periodic report on projects from the Public Works and Engineering departments and specifically hi-lighted the SR20 Sewer project with some minor changes with the existing utilities locate and the SR20/F&S Grade Road project and the round-a-bout studies as well as recent meetings with WSDOT regarding the project.

Discussion ensued regarding the McGargile Road Improvement open house. Frieberger noted it was a well attended meeting with some positive comments from the public and property owners. He noted the information gathered will be assembled and passed onto the County.

Frieberger reported on the joint efforts with the School District to submit a “Safe Routes to School” grant application sponsored by WSDOT, the outcome of a recent meeting with the Brickyard Creek Sub-Flood committee and the status of the Township Street Sewer Extension from Polte to McGargile.

Mayor Anderson commented on the success of the McGargile Open House.

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg – reported on the Skagit County Economic Development Grant Committee meeting with the committee recommending \$500,000 for the SR20/F&S Grade Road project and \$400,000 to the Jameson/Hwy 9 project. Berg encouraged Councilmembers contact the County Commissioners regarding the importance of these projects. He also reported on the issuance of a “Notice to Proceed” for the police evidence/parks buildings. Berg requested Council authorize the Assistant Fire Chief to, at no cost to the City travel to Canada for some training. Berg then proposed ideas for a 3-D lighted sign to direct people to the Police/Fire departments and was directed to work through the Public Safety Committee.

Clerk/Treasurer Nelson – addressed refinancing sewer revenue bonds and the possible savings of \$25,000 per year to the City. She requested permission to work with the Finance Committee for preliminary research. She also reported on a letter from Skagit County Auditor Jeanne Youngquist regarding voter registration fees and requested direction from Council on the billing and appropriate response.

Attorney/Supervisor Berg reviewed further background information regarding the change in calculation and recommended the bill be put aside until November and review the budget and either pay or review consequences at that time. Berg noted the unfairness of being billed for something post budget without any notification.

Nelson reported on the status of other Cities actions or planned action.

Council consensus was to review the billing and budget and send a letter to the Auditor regarding the decision.

Councilmember London – questioned the status of abatement action on 1211 Batey noting more action needs to be taken. London also addressed scotch broom growing on railroad property near his home which is a hazard and requested the railroad be contacted for care. Lt. Tucker stated there are numerous issues with the property and the Police Officers patrol it heavily.

Berg noted all concerns will be check out.

Councilmember Galbraith – stated he had been contacted regarding junk vehicles on Waldron Street and requested to review the current ordinance in order to make it more stringent.

Councilmember Colgan – commended the Police and Fire Departments on the recent practice burn.

Councilmember Splane – reported on a large fabrication (103 Ft. Long, 12 ½ Ft. Wide, 40 tons) coming out of the Skagit Industrial Plant next week. Splane thought it might behoove the City to watch the process for possible future access plans.

Councilmember Meamber – reported graffiti on the backside of the Museum building and also questioned the status of continuance of the sewer line on Jones Road.

Berg reported the sewer line was a developer driven installation and the time frame is unknown.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 9:25 P.M. for a period of 30 minutes for the purpose of potential litigation and personnel with a possible decision.

The meeting reconvened at 9:45 P.M.

Councilmember Meamber moved to enter into an agreement between Rick Hanson and the City of Sedro-Woolley. Seconded by Councilmember Galbraith. Motion carried (7-0).

Councilmember Colgan moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Galbraith. Motion carried (7-0).

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 P.M.