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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
March 12, 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: Finance Director Nelson, City Attorney/Supervisor Berg, Engineer Frieberger, Planner Moore, Police Chief Wood and Fire Chief Klinger.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Claim Vouchers #62789 to #62909 for \$563,501.70
  - Payroll Warrants #42071 to #42166 for \$249,085.77
- Agreement – Pitney Bowes for Postage Meter
- Interlocal Agreement – Skagit County District Court Probation 2008-2010
- Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County – Maintenance of USGS Gage Stations 2008
- Interlocal with WSP for State Mobilization Reimbursement 2008 – 2013
- Pipeline License – BNSR Railway Company & City of Sedro-Woolley
- Final Acceptance – Sterling Street & Township Street Sewer Project (Ram Construction)

Councilmember Meamber moved to approve the consent calendar. Councilmember Colgan seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

Special Presentation – Bob Blakely – 30 Year Employee Award

Mayor Anderson presented Bob Blakely of the Wastewater Treatment Plant a commemorative plaque for his 30 years of service to the City of Sedro-Woolley and a job well done.

Public Comment

Larry Willis – District Manager for Waste Management of Skagit County, introduced himself to the Mayor and Council and also introduced Steve Goldstein, Community Relations Director for Waste Management.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### City Hall Update

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg noted the completion of the New City Hall is getting real close. City staff are busy packing in anticipation for the move. Berg noted City Hall will close at Noon on Friday, March 14, 2008 for the move and will reopen on Monday, March 17, 2008 at the new building; however, the phones will not be functional until Tuesday afternoon. An open house is scheduled for May 28, 2008 from 4-7 P.M. with a Council meeting following.

### Resolution – Establishing Hearing Examiner Fees

Planner Moore reviewed the proposed fee schedule for the Hearing Examiner that was established under Ordinance No. 1607-08. He reported that he reviewed other jurisdictions fees and contacted a consultant to discuss average times and billings for different types of projects in order to determine fees. He also pointed out the resolution also allows for fees in excess of the minimum charge to be paid by the applicant.

Council discussion ensued to include fee range for appeals, procedures for an appeal of the Hearing Examiner's decision, hourly fee, current fees and the Hearing Examiner process.

Councilmember Requa moved to approve Resolution No. 765-08 A Resolution Adopting Fees for Projects or Actions Which Require a Hearing Examiner Decision with the removal of the word "hourly" in paragraph 2. Councilmember London seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Sign Ordinance Revision (*1<sup>st</sup> Reading*)

Planner Moore reviewed the first reading of a proposed ordinance which would allow white backlit signs. Moore noted both the Planning Department and Planning Commission recommend denial of this proposed revision.

Council discussion ensued to include a grandfather clause for existing non-conforming signs, conflict with future signage plans and different standards within the Central Business District.

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

Councilmember London – noted progress being made on the clean up of the railroad property.

Councilmember Lemley – stated he is looking forward to the new Council chambers but will unfortunately be out of town for the first meeting in the new facility.

Councilmember Galbraith – noted he investigated some junk cars behind the USPS building on Rita Street and questioned if action was being taken for clean up on the property.

Councilmember Colgan – reported a lot of cigarette butts and debris on the downtown sidewalks as he took a walk through town on Sunday.

Finance Director Nelson – noted staff’s excitement of moving into the new facility and thanked the Council for allowing it to happen. She also thanked all the staff members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty during the process.

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg – provided background information regarding Skagit County’s Solid Waste proposal. He also reported on a meeting attended today in which the County responded to the proposals presented at the previous meeting. All entities were in consensus to the revisions to the interlocal that would change the voting structure. The County’s position is still under review. Berg spoke on the proposed voting structure, budget authority and veto qualification.

Councilmember Colgan moved to authorize the Mayor to execute the interlocal with the County and other Cities and Towns regarding the governance of the Solid Waste system provided that the four Sedro-Woolley proposals are included in that draft. Seconded by Councilmember London.

Council discussion was held on the recent moratorium placed by Skagit County. Councilmember Requa stated the only way he is in favor of the motion is if the moratorium is lifted.

Motion carried (7-0)

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg – presented a status report on the Police Evidence/Storage and Parks building.

Engineer Frieberger – reported bids were opened today on the McGargile CIPP project and a recommendation will be forthcoming at the next Council meeting.

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on the completion of the hiring of the two vacant positions in the Fire Department. Chief Klinger announced Andrew VanderVeen and David DeVries were the successful candidates. He noted they will come before Council to take their Oath of Office at the next meeting and are coming on board through the volunteer ranks.

Planner Moore – reviewed a draft of a letter that will be circulated to businesses in the Central Business District regarding signs in an effort to clean up the adoption of the sign ordinance.

Police Chief Wood – reported Officer Mike Ellis has completed his field training and will be out on his own beginning Friday. He also reported the Police Department will be moving into their new offices beginning Thursday.

City Attorney/Supervisor Berg – reported on the County Commissioners confirmation of the Economic Development Facilities Committee Grant recommendation to award the City of Sedro-Woolley \$500,000 for the round-a-bout that will access the Skagit Plant, however, they did not confirm the committee recommendation for the Jameson and Highway 9 extension.

Mayor Anderson – presented a request from citizen Carol Schmidt requesting use of the Community Center for a fundraiser for her Relay for Life team supporting The American Cancer Society.

Councilmember Meamber moved to authorize the Mayor to waive fees, if allowable. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried (7-0).

#### **WORKSESSION FORMAT**

The meeting adjourned to worksession format after a five minute break at 8:11 P.M. for approximately 1 hour to discuss the following agenda items (*see Worksession minutes dated March 12, 2008*):

- Sewer Utility Rates & Capital Facilities Charge
- PWTF Construction Loan Agreement No. PC08-951-039

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

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