
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
July 23, 2008 – 7:00 P.M. – City Hall Council Chambers

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: Recorder Brue, Finance Director Nelson, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Engineer Freiberger, Planner Moore, Police Sergeant Dougher and Fire Chief Klinger.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #63955 to #64097 for \$269,770.31 (Voided Warrant #64009)
 - Payroll Warrants #42993 to #43100 for \$186,144.13
- Task Force Interlocal Agreement Amendment Number One
- Interlocal with Skagit EMS for Automatic Aid
- Planning Commissioner Appointment

Councilmember Lemley moved to approve the consent calendar, voiding warrant #64021. Seconded by Councilmember London. Motion carried (7-0).

Public Comment

No Public Comment

PUBLIC HEARING

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance – Fire Department Bond

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed background information on the proposed ordinance requesting Council approval to go to vote for a bond to purchase a ladder truck,

build Fire Station 2 and the purchase of a new fire engine. Berg noted that this topic has been discussed for several years and the cost only increases as time goes by. He addressed several regulations that will be coming in the near future which will place more stringent requirements on ladder trucks at even more expense to the City with no real benefit.

Berg reviewed the unsuccessful bids for a grant for a ladder truck over the past several years and reviewed budgetary constraints that do not allow such purchases within the current bare bones budget as well as continued inflation costs.

Fire Chief Klinger reviewed the needs of a ladder truck. He noted it was not only height limits but overall size of the structures which would require the need for an aerial device. Klinger noted the closest aerial truck is from Burlington and spoke of several buildings outside the city limits that the Department would be responsible for and would be hazardous to fight without such a device.

Klinger addressed property dedicated to the City for Fire Station 2 located within the Fruitdale Road area and noted the sewer moratorium has slowed things down but with the future lifting of the moratorium there is the anticipation of another 8500 people to be located within the proposed Station 2 area as property develops.

Council discussion ensued to include fire insurance rates, the effect of the proposed additions and the affect on senior and low income citizens. It was estimated the tax increase would be .17 per 1000 valuation.

Chief Klinger also reviewed the need of a replacement fire engine stating the engine's are on a 21 year replacement cycle and regardless of the bond, a new engine would need to be purchased.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1617-08, an ordinance placing the question before the voters of Sedro-Woolley on November 4th, 2008, of a bond for the fire department in the amount of two million dollars to build Station 2, purchase a ladder truck and purchase a new fire engine. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber and Lemley. Motion carried (7-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on behalf of Sergeant Dougher of the tazer training that was held today.

Engineer Freiburger – reported the Township sewer project has been awarded and should Council choose, now would be the time to start discussing lifting of the moratorium. Upon Council consent, information would be brought back to the August 13th meeting. He noted the request for qualifications for consultants for the SR 9/Jameson Intersection Project have closed and they have made a tentative selection with negotiations forthcoming and a recommendation and contract to come before Council at the next

meeting. Freiburger also reported on the Skagit Conservation District in kind contribution by Sedro-Woolley to provide lab work for stream monitoring in exchange for participation in the grant.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – reported the Police Evidence building is nearing completion and the Parks building is about 3 weeks away from substantial completion. He noted the increase use of Bingham Park with the new toys and reported on other proposed improvements. Berg reported on progress at the dog park at Riverfront Park. He noted the Parks Department has been coordinating with Rotary for installation of the fencing and they have been busy clearing other areas around River Road and Riverfront Park. Berg also reported on the completion of the Amphitheatre with an open house scheduled for August 23rd which will also include the dedication of a flag pole in memory of Janice Garrison. Berg thanked the Council for their support with the vote to go to bond tonight and thanked the Volunteer Department for their ongoing efforts to better help the community.

Finance Director Nelson – noted the June 30th financial reports for Council review and reported we are where we should be for this time of year. She reported the arrival of the State Auditors for their annual audit beginning August 4th with greater communication expected with the Council members throughout the audit. Nelson also reported that several members of the Finance Department have been participating in the recent Fire Department training sessions by being accident victims. She noted this has been on their own time and has been very rewarding watching the level of expertise of the volunteers.

Councilmember Meamber – commented on the sewer project on Main Street and stated that town still seems to be busy and things seem to be going well.

Councilmember Requa – reported that Wilder Construction went door to door in the downtown area to all business with notification. He also commented on the proposed fire bond and spoke of the benefit of having a ladder truck in order to better serve the community and also as an incentive to attracting new businesses.

Councilmember Galbraith – spoke of his appreciation to the Council for their progressive thoughts and the difficulty of decisions such as the bond issue which is necessary for the prosperity of the community.

Councilmember Lemley – expressed congratulations and a welcome to Terry Carter and Tom Peterson for their appointment to the Planning Commission.

Councilmember London – stated he is impressed on the work going on at Metcalf Street.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 7:30 P.M. for approximately 15 minutes for the purpose of discussion of litigation with no decision anticipated.

Councilmember Requa requested himself and left Executive Session at 7:45 P.M. due to a conflict of interest.

The meeting reconvened at 8:20 P.M.

Councilmember Meamber moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan.
Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 P.M.