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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Work Session of the City Council  
August 5, 2008 – 7:00 P.M. – City Hall Council Chambers

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Mike Anderson, Councilmembers: Ted Meamber, Tony Splane, Louis Requa, Pat Colgan, Hugh Galbraith, Rick Lemley and Dennis London. Staff: Finance Director Nelson, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Planner Moore and Engineer Freiburger (Late). .

**Public Comment**

- Dennis O’Neil – 109 Talcott St. spoke to Council regarding Economic Development needs and the deteriorating buildings downtown. He also suggested it is necessary to have a mechanism for citizens to communicate issues and ideas.

**Parks Committee Report**

- Councilmember Galbraith reported on meeting with the YMCA regarding a Recreation Program partnership in Sedro-Woolley. The committee proposes to provide funding by increasing the utility tax on City utilities 4% (1% to recreation, 1% to economic development and 2% to streets). This would be a three year commitment beginning in 2009. City staff would learn from the YMCA staff and establish a recreation program. Galbraith reported we need additional funding for a Parks program no matter who runs it. After the Council retreat, the importance of a part-time employee to generate economic development was apparent, as well as dedicated monies to improve our streets is critical. The YMCA will be conducting a survey to see what recreation opportunities Sedro-Woolley residents would like to see provided.

**Economic Development Director Position**

- Council discussed the vision for the position of Economic Development Director, partnership with the Chamber, EDASC, Port, etc. The Mayor’s “Blue Ribbon” Committee would set the general focus and goals. This person’s effort could generate sufficient revenues to eliminate the proposed 1% utility tax in future years.

**Engineering Report**

- Engineer Freiburger reported on the sewer projects and noted the contractor is replacing manholes on Metcalf Street; the pipe should be reamed and pulled

this week. A press release will be issued on the Township Street project as the railroad crossing will be leveled and portions of the street closed for approximately a month. He also reported the McGarigle CIPP project will begin soon.

### **Executive Session**

- The Council adjourned to Executive Session at 7:50 P.M. for the purpose of litigation. The session will last approximately ½ hour with a possible decision. Due to a conflict of interest within the Executive Session, Councilmember Requa left the worksession at 8:25 P.M.

The worksession reconvened at 9:00 P.M.

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

The worksession adjourned at 9:00 P.M.