
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
July 8, 2009 – 7:00 P.M. – City Hall Council Chambers

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

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Mike Anderson, Councilmembers: Ted Meamber, Tony Splane, Thomas Storrs, Pat Colgan, Hugh Galbraith, Rick Lemley and Dennis London. Staff: Recorder Brue, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Engineer Freiburger, Planner Moore, Fire Chief Klinger and Police Chief Wood.

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #66719 to #66807 in the amount of \$170,795.39
 - Payroll Warrants #45500 to #45611 in the amount of \$229,918.33
- Verizon Wireless Proposal: Recommendation
- Rimmer Agreement
- Resolution #804-09 Adopting an Identity Theft Prevention Program
- Possible Contract Award – Professional Services Agreement 2009-PS-08 WTF Mixing Zone Study with Cosmopolitan Engineering Group, Inc.
- Supplemental Agreement 1 to the Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement 2009 – PS-05 Leonard, Boudinot & Skodje, Inc.

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

Special Presentation – Stan Sygitowicz – SW Housing Authority Commissioner 1984 – 2009

Mayor Anderson presented Stan Sygitowicz with a key to the City for his many years of service as a Sedro-Woolley Housing Authority Commissioner. He spoke of Sygitowicz's volunteer accomplishments with many organizations throughout Sedro-Woolley and Skagit County. Anderson also spoke on Sygitowicz being a role model for retired people and the citizens of Sedro-Woolley.

Sygitowicz thanked the Mayor and the City for the honor of being able to represent the City on the Housing Authority. He then presented the City with a flag that was given to him by Congressman Rick Larsen's Office noting that the flag had flown over the White House. Sygitowicz encouraged everyone to volunteer as a way to enrich your life and was met with a round of applause.

Mayor Anderson displayed a gift from visiting dignitaries, Mayor Desire Zagre and Davy Yago of Zabre Burkina Faso, Africa. The gift was presented to the City upon their recent visit. He noted in return the City presented them with a key to the City.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted that the Sedro-Woolley Rotary club had gone to their country to help build water wells and this trip was to thank them for their efforts. Rotary is now interested in looking into becoming Zabre, Africa's sister city.

Public Comment

Rick Judd – addressed the Council regarding the Fruitdale Sewer Project and the sewer connection fee. Judd addressed the “special assessment” fee as well as other costs involved for putting sewer in.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg explained the connection fee vs. the “special assessment” fee, which is a fee for the extension of the service.

Judd questioned why a ULID was not formed in order to spread the cost over a period of time. He also addressed the hook up fee and the cost of septic tank disablement with a net cost of \$13,861.00 to each resident hooking up.

Discussion ensued to include the ranking of sewer connection fee, use of the ULID process, prior discussions on including the sewer extension within the road project, waiver process, future development in the area, the County's role in the project, project cost and USDA assistance programs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fire Station # 2 Update

Fire Chief Klinger presented an update to include the final drawing for Fire Station #2. He noted the grant has been submitted and a response could be received anytime between now and September, 2010.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted that the project cost is estimated at 1.9 million for construction and he reviewed some of the features and layout of the building.

Discussion ensued regarding a sprinkler system in the building, parking, grant amount, letter of support from Senators and the roof line.

NEW BUSINESS

Solid Waste Rates – Tipping Fee Increase from Skagit County

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed the rate increase which was recently passed by the Solid Waste Governance Board. Berg noted that Sedro-Woolley voted against any

rate increase and noted that the increase will result in an extra cost to the City of approximately \$30,000 per year based on 2008 tonnage. The cost is equivalent to the cost of one half of an employee in the Solid Waste Department. He addressed the Council as to how to accommodate the fee.

Leo Jacobs – Solid Waste Department Foreman, addressed the Council on the recently voted County rate increase. He noted the increase, if passed by the Commissioners will take effect January 1, 2010.

Discussion was held regarding potential transfer station upgrades and current favorable construction costs, expiration of present bond, potential environmental fee, extension of the Interlocal agreement beyond 2013, lack of efficiency of the transfer station and the need to focus on recycling.

Jacobs noted the Skagit County Commissioner's Public Hearing for the rate increase is set for September 15, 2009.

Councilmember Storrs moved to schedule a public hearing to consider a rate increase in the City's Solid Waste utility for August 12, 2009. Councilmember Lemley seconded.

Councilmember London noted that because the increase is mandatory a public hearing isn't necessary but the Council is going above and beyond by holding a public hearing. London stated that his hope is that the public will come and hear the increase is a result of the County increase.

Discussion ensued regarding encouraging people to go to the Skagit County Commissioner's public hearing regarding the rate increase.

Motion carried (7-0).

Planning Commission Appointment

Mayor Anderson noted that Planning Commissioner Tom Peterson is having to step down from the Planning Commission and requested Council confirm the appointment of Tracy Donovan.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to appoint Tracy Donovan to the Planning Commission. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried (7-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Councilmember's London, Colgan, Storrs and Meamber all reported on comments received during the recent 4th of July Loggerodeo festivities.

Councilmember Galbraith – commented on the construction on Hwy 9. He indicated the project is going well and gave kudos to the contractor and City managers of the project.

Councilmember Splane – reported on receiving funding from the Sedro-Woolley Volunteer Fire Department Association to repair the Seagrave Fire Truck.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – addressed a recent e-mail received from a citizen regarding a yard fire at his residence as a result of fireworks.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of fireworks and potential banning altogether.

Councilmember Galbraith – reported on the Ledbetter Magic Show held at the amphitheatre during Loggerodeo and issues regarding the fencing of the area.

Councilmember Lemley – reminded everyone that the Outdoor Movies are scheduled to start this Friday and run through the month of July.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – reviewed a draft letter to the Skagit County Commissioners regarding traffic impact fees. He noted some minor changes to the letter still needed. The Council consensus was to view the final draft prior to approval.

Engineer Freiberger – presented an update on current projects. He noted they are doing their best to keep the public informed of road closures. He also noted they are close to determining a fix for the Metcalf Street Sewer project. Any work will be scheduled after completion of the round-about project. Freiberger reported the Fruitdale/McGargile project has had some groundwater control issues, however the contractor is making good use of their time, Storm drains are currently being installed on McGargile. Freiberger reviewed a request to the Council on an Interlocal agreement with Skagit County transferring EDC grant funds from the County to the City.

Councilmember Meamber moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the attached Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County, transferring EDC grant funds totaling \$500,000 from the County to the City. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan.

Councilmember London questioned time frame for the transfer to occur. Engineer Freiberger noted it was on a reimbursement basis and the turn around time is generally pretty quick.

Councilmember Splane questioned relocation of power poles. Discussion ensued regarding relocation of poles on the Hwy 9 and McGargile/Fruitdale projects.

Motion carried. (7-0).

Engineer Freiberger also reviewed the bids for the 2009 CIPP Project. He noted the low bid was approximately 21% below the estimate with Instutiform as the apparent low bidder. He intends to formally award the bid at the July 22nd meeting. Freiberger also noted the trend continues for projects to come in under budget. He stated he was

currently working on an estimate for a Metcalf Street overlay project and will provide more information in the near future.

Freiberger reported on a meeting with a consultant for consideration of replacement of the Burlington Northern Highway 20 Trestle under the TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) discretionary grants. The grants were created under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and signed into law in February 2009. He explained the grant process and Hwy 20 trestle project.

Councilmember Storrs questioned the LDS church sprinkler system in connection with the road project currently ongoing. Engineer Freiberger noted that temporary service has been installed and the sprinkler heads will be replaced upon completion of project.

Planner Moore – announced the upcoming August 4th Joint Worksession with the Planning Commission to present comp plan amendment 4 -- Analyziation of zoning designations. Specific areas of interest being Commercial, Industrial and CBD designations. Discussion of possible changes to the zoning code regarding allowable vs. non-allowable uses and possible stepped zoning and increased buffering.

Fire Chief Klinger – Reviewed an Interlocal agreement with EMS Commission for the annual agreement for reimbursement of disposable medical supplies. Chief Klinger requested Council approval.

Councilmember Colgan moved to authorize the mayor to sign agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried (7-0).

Fire Chief Klinger – reported it was quiet over 4th. There were no large fires directly related to fireworks.

Police Chief Wood – also reported the Police Department reports a quiet and calm 4th.

Councilmember London questioned the Fire Camp with the Department of Corrections and questioned if there was any protocol in place for notification.

Mayor Anderson – thanked all the volunteers associated with Loggerodeo and other events.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned to Executive session for personnel and Real Estate at 8:16 P.M. for approximately 30 minutes with a possible decision.

The meeting reconvened at 8:46 P.M.

Councilmember London moved to allow transfer of sick leave hours to an AFSCME employee. Councilmember Colgan seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.