
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
December 9, 2009 – 7:00 P.M. – City Hall Council Chambers

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Anderson noted the amended Claim Vouchers.

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting (Including December 1, 2009 Worksession)
- Finance
 - Claim Vouchers #67750 to #67874 in the amount of \$876,067.91 (Voided Warrants #66749 & 67842) (*Amended*)
 - Payroll Warrants #46607 to #46715 in the amount of \$248,487.13
- Fire Department Training Facility Fees
- Interlocal Agreement with Dept. of General Administration for Purchasing
- Professional Services Agreement with Widener & Associates 2009-PS-13
- Professional Services Agreement with SFE Global
- Interfund Loan – Resolution #820-09
- 2010 Census Partner – Resolution #821-09
- Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement 2008-PS-12 for Widener and Associates
- Misc. Annual Contracts/Agreements
 1. Loggerodeo
 2. Chamber of Commerce
 3. Tulip Festival
 4. Sedro-Woolley Riding Club
 5. Sedro-Woolley Farmers Market
 6. Sedro-Woolley Museum
 7. Lincoln Theatre Center
 8. Shakespeare Northwest
 9. Skagit Opera
 10. Skagit River Bald Eagle Interpretive Center
- Request for Out of State Travel – Library

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

Oath of Office

Police Chief Wood introduced the City's newest Reserve Officer, Guillermo Garcia. Mayor Anderson administered the Oath of Office to Officer Garcia.

Officer Garcia received a round of applause.

Special Presentation

Mayor Anderson presented outgoing Councilmember at Large London with a plaque in appreciation for his services on the Council from January, 2007 through December 2009.

Councilmember London received a round of applause.

2010 US Census Presentation

Mayor Anderson introduced LaVerne Lamoureux and Mike Bocker with the U.S. Department of Census. Lamoureux spoke of the upcoming 2010 census and addressed the Census process and the importance of the census in delineating the representation in the U.S. Government and funding opportunities.

Public Comment

K.B. Johnson – 889 Carriage Court, addressed the Council regarding the sewer billing for their senior community. He noted that many of the seniors go south for the winter and believes the current billing to be unfair to seniors. He encouraged a consumption based billing system or a way to stop billing for the vacant months.

Mayor Anderson noted that staff has looked into a consumption based billing system but at the present time the PUD water volume system does not mesh with our current software program and the cost is prohibitive to change at this time. Discussion ensued to include the availability of the senior low-income exemption.

Dennis O'Neil – 109 Talcott St., addressed the Council regarding recent discussions of the fuel surcharge. He questioned what steps are taken to make sure the funds are not intermixed and used for something else.

Mayor Anderson noted that the City is audited by the State which looks into such funds.

Finance Director Nelson reviewed the separation of funds which is closely watched by the State Auditors. She also reviewed the Public Funds Trust Fund loan for sewer improvements and the need for repayment which is the reason for the proposed sewer increase.

Mayor Anderson addressed the split of the infrastructure between developers through sewer connection fees and rate payer fees.

PUBLIC HEARING

Sewer Rates & Fees Ordinance

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed the need for an increase to the sewer rate in order to meet City obligations for the Public Works Trust Fund Loan. Berg noted the bond rating reflects good management within the sewer fund. He noted the original planned increase was \$4.00 and has been trimmed to \$2.00, which was achieved due to operational savings and not filling a position at the Sewer plant.

Berg addressed the topic of a flow based rate on commercial accounts and previous discussions on the inequity of the commercial vs. residential rates. A rate increase is anticipated for commercial accounts in order to close the gap. Berg noted that there is no increase to the senior exemption rate which follows the County's property tax exemption guidelines.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

K.B. Johnson – 889 Carriage Court, addressed the Carriage Court billing and the senior low-income exemption qualifications.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:26 P.M.

Councilmember Lemley moved to adopt Ordinance 1657-09 An Ordinance Amending the Fees and Charges for the Use of the City of Sedro-Woolley Sanitary Sewer System and Amending Portions of Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code, Chapter 13.30. Seconded by Councilmember Colgan. Motion carried (6-1, Councilmember Meamber opposed).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fire Station 2 Site Layout

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed proposed stormwater plans for the Fire Station 2 site layout. He addressed the probability of the need of a pond for water retainage and reviewed two options. He requested Council direction on their preference should a pond be necessary.

Discussion ensued regarding ponds and the number of drawings, with Council preference being Option 1.

NEW BUSINESS

2009 Budget Amendment #4

Finance Director Nelson reviewed the final budget amendment for 2009. She noted the amendment is due primarily because of grants received.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve Ordinance 1658-09 an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 1624-08 Entitled, "An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for the City of Sedro-Woolley for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2009." Councilmember Splane seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

2010 Salary Ordinance

Mayor Anderson reviewed the 2010 Salary Ordinance noting that elected officials, non represented staff and Police Guild employees will not receive any cost of living increase. AFSCME employees will receive a 2% increase per the collective bargaining agreement.

Councilmember Colgan moved to approve Ordinance 1659-09 An Ordinance Establishing the Salaries and Wages for Elected Officials, Union (Guild) and Non-Union Employees of the City of Sedro-Woolley for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2010. Seconded by Councilmember Storrs. Motion carried (7-0).

Banking Services Ordinance

Finance Director Nelson reviewed the proposed ordinance for Banking Services vendor. She reviewed the differences between checks and warrants and recommended transferring to checks from our current warrant system since we are currently in the process of changing the City's bank vendor. She reviewed current signing authority and recommended maintaining the same authority. Nelson requested Council approve the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to adopt Ordinance 1660-09 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington Authorizing the Payment of Claims or Other Obligations by Check; Revoking the Status of Bank of America as the City's Qualified Public Depository; Designating US Bank as the city's new Qualified Public Depository Pursuant to RCW 35A.40.020. Councilmember Meamber seconded. Motion carried (7-0).

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Police Chief Wood – reported that a representation of officers went down to the memorial service for the Lakewood police officers. He also noted that Officer Ellis worked security for the service.

Fire Chief Klinger – thanked the Council for voicing their option on the retention pond. Klinger also presented an update on the new trucks.

Engineer Freiburger – reported that due to the weather the final lift will not be able to happen on Fruitdale/McGargile. Temporary provisions will be made to make it passable. He noted the snow plows have been received as well as the roll off vehicle for 2009 expenditures.

Councilmember London – stated it has been an honor to serve on the City Council and thanked the Councilmember's for their team effort. He presented a challenge to the Councilmember's by making a personal donation to the Food Bank.

Councilmember Lemley – thanked Councilmember London for his service. He commended London for his assistance on the negotiating team with the bargaining units. He also noted the upcoming Skagit Women Build dedication for the habitat house on Polte Road and announced a donation to the food bank by JJ's Crusier's.

Councilmember Galbraith – thanked Councilmember London for his service. He noted that London was a good Councilmember and will be missed.

Councilmember Colgan – concurred with Councilmember Galbraith.

Councilmember Storrs – addressed a pothole at Highway 20 and Township. Storrs also announced the upcoming Tour of Homes benefiting the Sedro-Woolley Museum.

Councilmember Meamber – concurred with previous statements regarding Councilmember London's contributions as a Councilmember. Meamber also addressed the tree lighting and parade, noting it was one of the nicest parades Sedro-Woolley has had.

Mayor Anderson – stated the parade was great and a lot of fun. He also thanked Councilmember Splane for the use of his truck.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:01 for the purpose of litigation.

The meeting reconvened at 8:34 P.M.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:
