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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
December 8, 2010 – 7:00 P.M. – City Hall Council Chambers

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Mike Anderson, Councilmembers: Ted Meamber (Late), Tony Splane, Tom Storrs, Hugh Galbraith, Rick Lemley and Brett Sandström. Staff: Recorder Brue, Finance Director Nelson, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Engineer Freiberger, Planner Moore, Fire Chief Klinger and Police Chief Wood.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Claim Checks #70826 to #70911 in the amount of \$346,434.92 (Voided Checks #70857 - #70867 & #70907)
  - Payroll Checks #49251 to #49358 in the amount of \$272,786.54
- Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County – Electronic Messaging Support Services
- Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County – Maintenance of USGS Gage Stations
- Agreement – Riverfront Park Caretaker for 2011
- Memorandum of Agreement with King County – Biosolids Application Equipment
- Ordinance #1691-10 – 2010 Budget Amendment #3

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar as presented, Items A through G. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried (5-0).

Public Comment

No public comment received.

Ward 4 Candidate Interviews

Councilmember Meamber arrived at 7:10 P.M.

Councilmember's interviewed the following candidates for the Ward 4 Council position vacated by Councilmember Pat Colgan.

Eric A. Johnson, Pola Kelley, Keith L. Wagoner, Ken Van Liew, Glenn Allen, Josh Williams, Kippert J. Jacob and Jerry Timblin.

The Council adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of evaluating qualifications under personnel at 8:25 P.M. for approximately 30 minutes with a decision anticipated.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg appeared at 8:58 P.M. to announce that Council will be approximately 10 more minutes in Executive Session.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg appeared again at 9:10 P.M. indicating that Council will be approximately 5 more minutes in Executive Session.

The Council reconvened at 9:17 P.M.

Councilmember Lemley moved to nominate Keith Wagoner for Councilmember Ward 4 position. Seconded by Councilmember Storrs.

Councilmember Meamber moved to nominate Pola Kelley for Councilmember Ward 4 position. Nomination died for lack of a second.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to nominate Ken Van Liew for Councilmember Ward 4 position. Seconded by Councilmember Sandström.

A Council vote was taken with the following results: Keith Wagoner - 4; Ken Van Liew - 2.

The new Councilmember for the Ward 4 position by a 4-2 vote is Keith Wagoner.

Mayor Anderson thanked everyone who applied for the position and stated he hoped they would get involved with other areas of the City such as Planning Commission.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### Comcast Franchise Agreement

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg introduced the proposed Comcast franchise agreement noting the proposed agreement was a renewal of an existing franchise agreement and has been reviewed at several meetings.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 9:21 P.M.

No comments received.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 9:22 P.M.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve Ordinance #1692-10 authorizing the Mayor and Finance Director to sign the Franchise Agreement with Comcast of Washington IV, Inc.

for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable system in Sedro-Woolley. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried (6-0).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Proposed Modification to Use Restrictions in the Central Business District (CBD)

Planner Moore reviewed the topic which has previously been before Council as a discussion item. He noted the Mayor and Planning Department have received comments from citizens and commercial property owners questioning whether quasi-public uses are appropriate in the core shopping district. These opinions are supported by the Washington State Main Street program as presented at the 2010 Annual Downtown Revitalization Training Institute attended by members of the Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce and the City Planning Director. The Planning Commission has held public hearings to gather public input and recommend adoption of the ordinance.

Council discussion took place regarding boundaries, effect on current applications and vesting of applications which are at time of application.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to adopt Ordinance #1693-10 An Ordinance Modifying SWMC 17.24.010 Requiring Conditional Use Approval for Quasi-public Uses in Certain Areas in the Central Business District. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber.

Councilmember Sandström questioned possible use of upper stories for quasi-public uses. Discussion ensued regarding parking impacts and the conditional use process.

Motion carried (6-0).

### Proposed Modification to Zoning Code to Regulate the Use of Shipping Containers

Planner Moore reviewed the proposed modification to the zoning code to regulate the use of shipping containers. He noted that the Planning Department has received numerous concerns regarding use of shipping containers in various locations. The Planning Commission has held an open public hearing to discuss how to regulate the containers and recommends approval of the proposed ordinance.

Discussion regarding definition of a storage container, code enforcement of containers, grandfathering, engineered foundation and an increase in the allowable size of pre-built storage sheds up to 200 sq. ft. took place.

Councilmember Lemley moved to adopt ordinance #1694-10 An Ordinance Modifying the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code to Regulate the Use of Storage Containers Within City Limits. Councilmember Splane seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

## Code Books

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted as staff looks to cut costs one area of consideration that has come up is the City's code books. He noted the City currently has 50 copies which are routinely updated and is an expensive process. It is believed that the number of books can be trimmed to 10, providing Councilmember's do not need a personal copy. The code is currently available online.

The Council consensus was they did not individually need books, just the availability to look at one when necessary. Discussion was also held on looking into electronic versions of the Council packets as another cost saving measure. It was noted that the current paper method costs approximately \$450 per Councilmember per year.

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

### Fire Station 2 Update

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed the progress on Fire Station 2 noting the project is progressing well and is getting close to the punch list stage.

Fire Chief Klinger reported the testing for firefighters has been completed and the Department has hired new residents for Station 2. Most are already trained; all but one is an EMT.

Police Chief Wood – reported the Police Department has been very busy with various crimes this past week.

Engineer Freiberger – reported on the successful completion of the settlement agreement for the Metcalf Street project. The project is currently in the closeout phase. He requested Council move to accept the final construction on the Metcalf Street Sewer Project.

Councilmember Storrs moved to accept the final construction agreement regarding Metcalf Street Sewer Project with Granite Construction of Bellingham. Seconded by Councilmember Splane. Motion carried (6-0).

Freiberger noted they are moving forward with the design on the SR 20 widening project and he noted he is still waiting to hear on the Safe Routes to Schools grant.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – reported that the City has a number of engineering projects planned for 2011 and 2012. There is interest in hiring an Assistant Engineer, specifically David Lee formerly of Leonard, Boudinot and Skodje who last week closed their doors of operation. Berg reviewed the cost benefits of hiring in place of utilizing consultants to work and design projects. He noted in the 2011 budget there is \$150,000 budgeted for consultants and part of that money could be used to pay the salary of this person. Berg requested Council authorization to proceed with hiring.

Councilmember Galbraith stated for the record and a point of reference, that the City will save money at the end of two years. The City will gain because we would be hiring someone as a consultant anyway.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to authorize the City Supervisor to hire David Lee as Assistant City Engineer with a starting salary of \$5,500 per month. Seconded by Councilmember Meamber. Motion carried. (6-0).

Finance Director Nelson – reminded Council that for the first time in recent history we will have a second meeting in December for the sole purpose of paying bills. The meeting will be held at 4:00 P.M. in the lobby around the Christmas Tree.

Councilmember Sandström – announced the upcoming Holiday Home Tour this coming weekend to benefit the Museum.

Councilmember Lemley – commented on the recent Christmas parade, which was once again an outstanding event. He gave kudos to the Chamber of Commerce and Sedro-Woolley Riding Club.

Councilmember Storrs – noted the view of downtown is gorgeous from his home with all the holiday lights.

Councilmember Meamber – wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to adjourn. Seconded by all. Motion carried. (6-0).

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 P.M.