
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
February 8, 2012 – 7:00 P.M. –City Hall Council Chambers

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Mike Anderson, Councilmembers: Kevin Loy, Tony Splane, Tom Storrs, Keith Wagoner, Rick Lemley and Brett Sandström. Staff: Recorder Brue, Finance Director Nelson, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Engineer Freiburger, 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 (Including February 1, 2012 Worksession)
- Finance
 - Claim Checks #73745 to #73833 in the amount of \$113,486.63.
 - Payroll Checks #52284 to #52394 in the amount of \$251,911.39
- Possible Bid Award – Public Works Agreement No. 2012-PW-01 thru 12 Miscellaneous On-Call Maintenance Services
- Ordinance No. 1730-12 – Reserve Fund Revision
- Ordinance No. 1731-12 – Repealing Chapters of the SWMC

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the consent calendar Items A through E. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried (6-0).

Public Comment

Myra Martin – 708 Brickyard Blvd. addressed the Council regarding home break-ins. She noted she had addressed the Council regarding the same subject previously and is questioning what citizens can do to help. She said she is aware of at least 7 home break-ins and they are happening in broad daylight.

Police Chief Wood noted that there has been a huge increase in burglaries. He noted an article will be appearing in the paper which will encourage citizens to notify the police and to be aware of suspicious activity within their neighborhoods. He also addressed the “Block Watch” programs and that officers are currently working overtime patrolling neighborhoods as well as the detectives have been working to try to come up with solutions. Chief Wood also noted this is a county-wide problem and there is communication ongoing between the different law enforcement agencies.

Discussion ensued regarding going through the 911 Dispatch center.

Troy Erwin – 124 N. Reed, addressed the Council regarding a previous discussion of a cross walk to be located at Reed Street and Highway 20.

Engineer Freiburger noted within the scope of the highway project they attempted to locate a crosswalk at Reed Street and Highway 20 but DOT would not allow it. He did address the plans for a crossing between Haines and Puget which is a pedestrian crossing to include a HAWK signal.

Erwin also noted he is in favor of the proposed Juvenile Rehabilitation program to be located at the Northern State site.

Elizabeth Fernando – 805B Metcalf Street, owner of Simply Silver and More, commented on the great job of snow removal this year during the recent snow event. She also thanked Councilmembers Sandström, Lemley and Loy who were downtown during the snow storm to check on the businesses. She did address some drainage issues on the East side of Metcalf as the snow melted.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance – Community Center Fees for Consecutive Users

City Supervisor/Attorney reviewed the history of the changes in the Community Center Fees to include a cleaning fee for the hard cleaning after each rental. This was approved by Council last year. At the time of the change, there was no consideration of multi-day rentals. The proposed ordinance corrects the multi day rental so they pay the cleaning fee only once.

Councilmember Lemley moved to adopt Ordinance 1732-12 An Ordinance Amending SWMC 12.36 to Establish a New Rental Rate for Consecutive Users. Seconded by Councilmember Wagoner. Motion carried (6-0).

Scheduling of Council Retreat

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted that generally after the formation of a new Council a retreat is held. He reviewed the topics from the last retreat which included discussion on economic growth, including a revised vision statement and mission statement. He noted since that time the economy has taken a turn for the worse and revenue streams are getting tighter with increased mandates which cause considerable strain on the City budget. Berg proposed scheduling a day long retreat to focus on prioritizing functions and services of the City, looking toward the next budget year. He proposed the retreat to be held sometime in May. He also noted the Swinomish Tribe has offered space in their new hotel including food at no cost to the city.

Council discussion ensued regarding ramifications of accepting free space and food and various dates. The consensus was to hold the retreat on May 10th or May 17th and to take the Tribe up on their offer. The final date will be announced in the near future.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Police Chief Wood – reported on a restitution hearing in Superior Court to recover medical expenses incurred by a criminal. Wood presented a brief background of the event and noted the Prosecutor was successful in getting the restitution order. Chief Wood also noted that the department may be losing an officer who has applied to another agency. Putting on his Rotary hat, Wood reported on the progress of the proposed skate board park. He noted the enthusiasm is high for the project and they are beginning fundraising efforts. The park proposes to be a quality park with a possible economic boost to the City.

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on the authorization to proceed with the 2010 FEMA grant for mobile data terminals.

Planner Moore – reported the Cascade Middle School project pre-app is scheduled for next Wednesday. He also reported two appeal requests have been received on Conditional Use Permit #1-11 for Hydroponic gardening. Moore advised the Council not to discuss the issue with anyone as the closed record hearing will be held at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Anderson also stressed no discussion of the issue.

Engineer Freiburger – reported on the Highway 20 project which is essentially complete. Item remaining is the signal and a few punch list items.

Discussion of DOT not allowing the crossing request at Reed and Highway 20, the HAWK system which will be implemented for the crossing located between Haines and Puget, placards at other crossings stating “no crossings allowed” and traffic revision signs.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – reported the City has been approached by a producer for a program called “Today in America” hosted by Terry Bradshaw. He noted the show runs once nationally on the Discovery channel and is rebroadcast numerous times in the regional markets. There was some excitement for participation until the funding requirements were disclosed. There is a follow up conference call scheduled for Friday to gather more information. The Chamber of Commerce is intrigued as a marketing aspect. More information will be presented after the follow up call.

Discussion ensued regarding value of the advertisement and the possible need to develop a marketing plan and strategy.

Finance Director Nelson –reported that Standard and Poor is reassessing the City’s credit standing on the GO bonds for the public safety portion of the City Hall building. She is working on gathering the information requested and will report the results when available.

Councilmember Loy – reported the County Parks Department will be paving the trail from where it ends in Burlington to the edge of the city limits of Sedro-Woolley. They are also looking for grant funding to pave from the Sedro-Woolley city limits to Fruitdale Road. A volunteer program is being considered for maintenance of the trail from Sedro-Woolley East to Concrete.

Councilmember Storrs – thanked Engineer Freiburger and Planner Moore for their written progress reports placed in the Council packets.

Councilmember Wagoner – noted the discussion of the inappropriateness as a Council body of endorsing the upcoming school levy, but as an individual person wanted to remind everyone to vote.

Councilmember Sandström – questioned the condition of Hammer Heritage Square which seems to be deteriorating. He questioned the quality of the staining of the Gazebo.

Nathan Salseina – noted the stain work is fine but the gazebo will need ongoing maintenance. He noted they do not have the proper tools to make the spindles. A call has been placed to the High School wood shop to see if they might be able to make the parts. The sealant used was a high quality industry standard product.

Councilmember Sandström – also reported receiving calls from people regarding late night solicitors in the vicinity of Independence Blvd. He questioned what solutions can be offered.

A discussion ensued regarding peddler's rights and enforcement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:55 P.M. for the purpose of litigation pertaining B&M v. Sedro-Woolley, RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), litigation pertaining to Grandview v. Sedro-Woolley, RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), and Collective Bargaining AFSCME, RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) a for approx 20 minutes with possible decision.

The meeting reconvened at 8:38 P.M.

Councilmember Storrs moved to approve the memorandum of understanding between the City of Sedro-Woolley and AFSCME regarding Shane Walley. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilmember Lemley moved to adjourn. Councilmember Wagoner seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.