
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
June 25, 2014 – 7:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Mike Anderson, Councilmembers: Kevin Loy, Brenda Kinzer, Germaine Kornegay, Keith Wagoner, Hugh Galbraith, Rick Lemley and Brett Sandström. Staff: Recorder Brue, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Public Works Director Freiburger, Planning Director Coleman, Fire Chief Klinger and Police Chief Tucker.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Calendar

- Approval of Agenda
- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Checks #179442 – 179544 plus EFT's in the amount of \$715,582.15
 - Payroll Checks #58178 to #58192 plus EFT's in the amount of \$181,960.93
- Possible Contract Award – Contract 2014 – PW-18, 2014 Bingham Park Sidewalk Project – Backstrom Curb & Sidewalk, Inc.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to approve the consent calendar Items A through D. Seconded by Councilmember Wagoner. Motion carried (7-0).

Special Presentation – Retirement of Sergeant Melissa Dougher

Mayor Anderson presented Sergeant Melissa Dougher with memento upon her retirement to honor her service to the City from 1992 – 2014. He commented on how fast the time went, what a great job she has done for the City and that everyone will miss “Mama Dougher”.

Former Police Chief Wood spoke about Sergeant Dougher's time with the City coming in as a dispatcher, becoming a reserve officer and then a full time officer and her advancements throughout her career. He noted she is highly respected within the law enforcement field.

Police Chief Tucker commented what a pleasure Dougher has been to work with and wished her luck on her retirement.

Sergeant Dougher thanked everyone for their support and was given a round of applause.

Swearing-in of Sergeant Dave Pierce

Mayor Anderson administered the oath of office to David Pierce as Sergeant for the City of Sedro-Woolley. His wife, Cindy Pierce had the honor of pinning on his badge. He was greeted with a round of applause.

Swearing-in of Officer Christopher Rogers

Mayor Anderson administered the oath of office to Christopher Rogers as police officer. His wife, Melissa pinned on his badge as he received a round of applause.

Police Chief Tucker noted Officer Rogers will be starting in about ten days.

Public Comment

Mike Shay – 412 Lilac Dr. Mount Vernon and owner of a commercial building at 420 W. State St. spoke to the Council regarding the location of the I-502 retail store in their neighborhood. He noted a group has gathered together to try to research the problem and believes that the public and Council are not aware of all the issues being presented. He expressed concerns of possible misinformation regarding zoning. Stating from a letter received from the Liquor Control Board it is the City's responsibility to set zoning. He also stated the sale is going to happen but where it's placed is the concern. Shay requested the Council reconsider zoning and to hold a public hearing. He also spoke of other communities reviewing the process, the right to adjust the distances and the business being in the early stages of application.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Preliminary Approval of the Amended Plat of Arbor Glen (File #06-SD-02)

Planning Director Coleman reviewed the second read for the Plat of Arbor Glen which is a 23 lot plat previously approved for 22 lots and is located at the corner of Cook and Trail Road. Action today would allow applicant to move forward with construction plans.

Councilmember Wagoner moved to approve Resolution #900-14 to approve the amended preliminary Plat of Arbor Glen subject to the conditions contained in the Hearing Examiner's Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reminded Council that the reason the plat is being approved for residential in a mixed commercial is because it was vested prior to a zoning change.

Motion carried (7-0).

Proposed Modification to the Municipal Code Regarding Sidewalk Dining in the Central Business District

Planning Director Coleman reviewed the proposed modification regarding sidewalk dining. He reviewed the history of the trial period of parklets. He noted passage of the ordinance is to make sidewalk dining a permanent allowed use in the Central Business District. He addressed previous concerns expressed by Council to include the definition of dining and fence heights and noted the ordinance is strictly for sidewalk dining in front of restaurants.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg stated the intent of the ordinance is to create a business friendly environment for those businesses that choose to do outdoor vending and to create more vibrancy and attract more business to the downtown core.

Council discussion ensued regarding the 5 ft. clear from any obstruction; fence is up already at the market and is out of compliance, the feeling of being pushed to accommodate them and being a backwards process. Further discussion ensued regarding the history of the previous ordinance sun setting, No parking space dining allowed, allowance of animals, tables being contiguous to the property, oversize vehicles up over the curb impeding passage on sidewalk and sandwich boards.

Councilmember Wagoner moved to approve ordinance #1795-14 amending the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code to allow the use of public Sidewalks as outdoor dining areas in front of restaurants in the Central Business District with the exception of amending Paragraph F to indicate 5 ft. directly adjacent to the business.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg lead a discussion regarding the proper wording and paragraph to clarify the Council's intent.

Councilmember Wagoner retracted his motion.

Councilmember Wagoner moved to approve ordinance 1795-14 amending the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code to allow the use of public sidewalks as outdoor dining areas in front of restaurants in the Central business District with the exception of adding amendment to item E, exceed the width of the business and shall be contiguous to the building. Seconded by Councilmember Sandström.

Councilmember Loy requested the ordinance include a sunset clause to December 31, 2015. There was no motion or second for this request.

Motion carried (7-0).

Mayor Anderson acknowledged former Councilmembers in the audience, Pat Colgan, Harold Beitler and Sharon Dillon.

NEW BUSINESS

Skagit River GI Study Presentation

Skagit County Commissioner Sharon Dillon, 1116 Fidalgo, addressed the Council and thanked them for their past support in the GI Study. She noted because of the combined support they are close to getting the report finished. Dillon requested to make sure that the City gets their comments in by the deadline noting that the alternative has an effect on the City of Sedro-Woolley. Commissioner Dillon introduced Kara Symonds, Watershed Planner who presented information regarding the GI Study including background information, current status, open comment period, preliminary schedule and the preferred alternative. She noted the comment period expires on July 21, 2014 and is the last formal comment period of the study. Symonds entertained multiple questions from the Council. She also noted the plan was available online and the purpose of the plan was a reduction of economic damages and public safety.

Phillip Murray – 223 State St. asked what the study would do to Janicki Cove.

It was noted Janicki Cove was a neighbor to the City but was in the County and not under City jurisdiction.

The Council requested a resolution with the City's comments to be prepared for the next meeting.

Resolution authorizing an Interlocal Agreement with other Municipalities in Skagit, Whatcom and Island County to participate as a Member of a HOME Consortium

City Supervisor/ Attorney Berg gave a brief introduction on the proposed HOME Consortium Interlocal agreement. He then introduced consultant Paul Schissler representing Skagit County who spoke of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. Schissler reported this would be a combined effort to address short term homelessness and would attempt to deal with the shortage of affordable housing.

Council questions and discussion ensued.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Police Chief Tucker – reported on an early morning burglary at Coho Liquidators that resulted in the arrest of youths between the ages of 13-15 years old. He noted they are suspected of other burglaries and vehicle prowls. He also reported that Officer Rogers will be starting soon after July 4th. Chief Tucker informed the Council of the passing of a former police officer, Les Visten. He was part of the department from 1970 – 1979. Services will be held Saturday at 11:00 A.M.

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on the candidate testing held on Sunday. He also updated Council on the new trucks and the state bid process.

Public Works Director Freiburger – reported the roundabout project is ahead of schedule and will reopen the Highway 20 to Ferry section on July 1st. He also reported on the

progress of Bingham Park, the entire park should open by July 31st, depending on the grass. He gave updates on the Third Street project, LED retrofit project and spoke on a joint participation project with the County for a low cost repair on Fruitdale Road as well as upcoming grant opportunities.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – reported on recent file server issues and updated Council on the progress of the jail finance committee, Northern State and the Sedro-Woolley Police repeater and a possible joint project with the School District.

Councilmember Kornegay – reported on an open house she attended for Whatcom Skagit Housing.

Councilmember Lemley – commented the downtown looks good and wished everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Councilmember Sandström – reported on the personnel committee meeting regarding insurance coverage for the Council and Mayor. It appears there is not enough interest to proceed.

Mayor Anderson – announced the Wastewater Treatment Plant has received another Department of Ecology achievement award. They will be recognized at a meeting in the near future.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Anderson adjourned the meeting to Executive Session at 8:51 P.M. for the purpose of personnel under RCW 42.30.140 (4) for approximately 10 minutes with a possible decision.

The meeting reconvened at 9:10 P.M.

Councilmember Sandström moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Sedro-Woolley and the Sedro-Woolley Police Safety Guild. Seconded by Councilmember Galbraith. Motion carried (7-0).

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 P.M.