
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
November 24, 2015 – 7:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Mike Anderson; Councilmembers: Kevin Loy, Brenda Kinzer, Keith Wagoner, Hugh Galbraith, Rick Lemley and Brett Sandström Staff: Recorder Brue, Finance Director Nelson, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, 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 #182661 to #182751 plus EFT's in the amount of \$221,515.18.
 - Payroll Checks #58744 to #58755 plus EFT's in the amount of \$202,701.44.
- Professional Services Agreement – First Insurance Agency/WAFD Insurance Group
- Resolution 929-15 – Surplus of Unit 506 1998 Crane Trash Truck
- Award of Fuel Bid – Associated Petroleum Products (APP)
- Request for Approval of Grant Agreement – FY 2015-2017 Biennial Stormwater Capacity Grant Funding Agreement
- Proposed Purchase Order No. 2015-PO-22 – Sound Ocean Metal Fabricators LTD.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to approve the consent calendar items A through H. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried (6-0).

Public Comment

No Public Comment

PUBLIC HEARING

2016 Budget

Finance Director Nelson reviewed background information regarding the 2016 Budget. The budget has been available for public viewing online as well as paper copies located in the Finance Department.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 7:03 P.M.

No comment received.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:04 P.M.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to approve Ordinance No. 1829-15 An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for the City of Sedro-Woolley, Washington, for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2016. Seconded by Councilmember Wagoner. Motion carried (6-0).

Annual Utility Rate Increases by CPI

- a. Ordinance increasing sewer rates by 1.61%
- b. Ordinance increasing storm water rates by 1.61%
- c. Ordinance increasing solid waste utility rates by 1.61%

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg introduced the second read of the Annual Utility Rate Increase by the CPI. He noted there are three ordinances, one each for sewer, stormwater and solid waste. Berg addressed deviations within the Solid Waste ordinance. The increase allows the city to tread water with the utilities with the exception of Stormwater which is being subsidized by property taxes.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 7:07 P.M. on all three ordinances.

No comment received.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7:07 P.M. on all three ordinances.

Councilmember Lemley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1830-15 An Ordinance Increasing the Fees and Charges for Use of the City of Sedro-Woolley Sanitary Sewer System by the CPI. Seconded by Councilmember Wagoner.

Council discussion was held regarding the CPI used for comparison and the application to Sedro-Woolley, the CPI measure, actual costs increase being greater than 1.61% and the prior pattern of large increases.

Motion carried (4-2, Councilmembers Kinzer & Loy opposed).

Councilmember Wagoner moved to approve Ordinance No. 1831-15 An Ordinance Amending the Fees and Charges for Use of the City of Sedro-Woolley, Storm and Surface Water Utility System by the Amount of the CPI 1.61%. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley.

Councilmember Wagoner addressed the subsidy of the stormwater noting it would require a 15.2% increase just to reach the breakeven point.

Motion carried (4-2, Councilmembers Kinzer and Loy opposed).

Discussion was held regarding the choice for commercial billing to be billed by impervious surface.

Councilmember Galbraith moved to approve Ordinance No. 1832-15 An Ordinance Amending Section 8.04.075 of the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code to Increase Solid Waste Utility Rates and Charges by the CPI. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried (4-2, Councilmembers Kinzer and Loy opposed).

Utility Tax on Water

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg provided history regarding the City's implementation of a 6% utility tax on water. He also provided information on the Wenatchee vs. Chelan County PUD which allows for a fire flow deduction. Berg stated the purpose of the ordinance is to be able to collect the intent of the Council when the original ordinance was passed. The proposed 7.5% tax results in 6% to the City. He also noted a correction in the effective date in Section 2 to January 1, 2016.

Discussion ensued regarding lack of knowledge of how the % would affect the end result when implemented; purpose of the funds for the Council restricted funds for 1) accelerate debt repayment on City Hall and; 2) to have funds available specifically targeted to investments that could create jobs or economic development.

Mayor Anderson opened the public hearing at 7:25 P.M.

No public comments received. Council discussion ensued regarding process to change what has been passed.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 7.27 P.M.

Councilmember Wagoner moved to approve Ordinance No. 1833-15 An Ordinance Amending SWMC 5.06.020 to Increase the City Utility Tax on Domestic Water, including the change to January 1, 2016 in Section 2. Seconded by Councilmember Sandström. Motion tied (3-3, Councilmembers Kinzer, Loy and Galbraith opposed).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Preliminary Approval of the Plat of Sauk Mountain View Estates North V – A Planned Residential Development (File #LP-2014-094)

Planning Director Coleman reviewed the history of the Plat of Sauk Mountain View Estates North V for 28 lots. The Hearing Examiner has recommended approval, subject to conditions. It includes a modification of the removal of lot and dedicating the lot as a play area to include playground equipment and trails. Mayor Anderson noted this was a first read with no action.

Lin Holderman – 24412 Wilida Lane, addressed the Council regarding some points with the development in order to maintain the rural atmosphere to the property he purchased. He spoke of trees being removed and requested placement of hedges to soften the impact. He also addressed the construction time and requested to limit to 7 am – 8 pm. Holderman said he was hoping for some softening and would appreciate any help.

Planning Director Coleman noted the proposed plat is located within the City limits and Holderman's property is located within the County.

Veterans Monument & Letter of Support

Councilmember Wagoner reported on the proposal of a Veterans Memorial off of Helmick Road on County owned property. The project is being spearheaded by Louie Requa and John Schmidt. They are requesting a letter of support from the City although the property is located within the County.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Report of Contracts Approved Under SWMC 2.104.060

Police Chief Tucker – announced the SWHS Cubs football team will be heading to Yakima at 8:30 am on Saturday. They will parade through town as they leave and he encouraged everyone to line the streets to wish them well for the semi-final playoff game. He also reported the radio tower has gone live and things are going excellent. Officer Wilson is now out on her own and a small remodel project in their office is being completed by Kevin and Nathan who are doing outstanding work. Tucker also informed the Council of Detective Sorsdal's first big case that involves a pharmacist at Rite Aid. Tucker announced the radar trailer is up and running thanks to Officer Rogers who has repaired it while he is doing light duty due to an injury to his hand.

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on a delay with the ambulance chassis due to an error in striping. He also reported the Department responded to a fire call in Concrete. Volunteer testing will be held on December 12th and there are two vacancies in quarters. Chief Klinger reported the Department and District 8 recently became certified in Narcan use. They can now administer Narcan which counteracts heroin for overdoses.

Planning Director Coleman – reported the next worksession topic will be on The Center for Innovation Technology Planned Action and Sub Area Plan and will be held in the Council Chambers. The Planned Action and Sub Area Plan will be on the agenda for the December 9th Council meeting for adoption. The final EIS for the project was issued on November 16th. Coleman also reported the Planning Commission is down two members and is looking for applicants. The Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on December 15th on the urban growth area expansion proposal. He also reported the 2015 Docket request was accepted by the County Commissioners.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – spoke on the 2016 AWC Legislative Conference.

Finance Director Nelson – reported on the exit conference with the State Auditors. The City received another clean audit.

Councilmember Wagoner – GO CUBS!

Councilmember Lemley – Happy Thanksgiving

Mayor Anderson brought to Council attention a letter to Skagit Valley Bulb Farm thanking them for their donation of 550 Tulip bulbs. The bulbs will be planted at the Welcome to Sedro-Woolley sign at the intersection of Ferry Street and Hwy 20.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.