
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
May 25, 2016 – 7:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Keith Wagoner; Councilmembers: Judith Dunn Lee, Germaine Kornegay, Brenda Kinzer, Chuck Owen, Rick Lemley and Brett Sandström. Staff: Recorder Brue, Finance Director Nelson, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Public Works Director Freiberger, Planning Director Coleman, Asst. Fire Chief Olson and Police Sgt. Harris.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Wagoner.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Dunn Lee moved and Councilmember Lemley seconded to excuse Councilmember Johnson absence due to travels.

Consent Calendar

- Approval of Agenda
- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Checks #183833 to #183914 plus EFT's in the amount of \$268,780.88
 - Payroll Checks #58922 to #58933 plus EFT's in the amount of \$217,485.34
- Possible Contract Award – 2016 On-Call Drainage Ditch Mowing – Contract 2016-PW-19, Industrial Mowing & Spraying
- Amendment 1 to Professional Services Agreement No. 2015-PS-18 for WWTP Structure and Equipment Assessment – Brown & Caldwell, Inc.
- Sedro-Woolley Housing Authority Appointments – K.B. Johnson, Laurie Fellers, Kacy Johnson and Lee Elliott

Councilmember Kornegay moved to approve the consent calendar items A through F. Seconded by Councilmember Kinzer. Motion carried (6-0).

Mayor Wagoner made comment regarding a social media item that states Sedro-Woolley is closing the library. He stated it is not a true statement and apologized for any confusion.

Public Comment

Loretta Saarinen – 821 Park Cottager Pl., addressed responsibilities as citizens and spoke of her opposition to the library proposal. She noted that she and others want to engage in the decision making process and referred to the proposal from January. She also addressed the lack of public forums, information posted only on the city website and requested elected officials fulfil their responsibility. Saarinen encouraged everyone to engage in the process of democracy with good will and intent.

Randy Good – 35482 State Rt. 20, President of Friends of Skagit County addressed the April 18th Planning Commission meeting and comments made regarding legal issues on a project being added to the transportation improvement program. He referenced his letter to the Council and thanked them for their consideration.

Shelia Moore – 820 Dana Dr. – noted she was a user of the library and is very confused by the library situation and would like clarity on what is going on and where to get information so that people can better understand the process.

James Moore – 820 Dana Dr. – addressed financing of the project stating he was instructed to come in to discuss. He questioned if nothing is being done, and then there would be nothing to explain. He stated there seems to be a lot of confusion.

Julie Andersen – 314 Hawthorne – addressed the uniqueness of the library and feels as a longtime taxpayer she is an owner of the library. She also questioned the legality of the process.

Chris Hunter – 23490 Mosier Rd., card holder at both the Sedro-Woolley Library and Rural Skagit Library and an employee of the Sedro Woolley Library. She noted the Rural Library has had three years to make progress and has not done so. She indicated she does not see any benefit to combining services at this time or in this way.

Pat Hammond – 729 Sauk Mtn. Dr. spoke of the excellent staff that provides excellent services and can't understand why we would want to cut down and be the second portion of the other library. She encouraged putting the topic to a vote and reminded Council and the Mayor they also come up for a vote.

Marsha Hampton – 1913 7th St. – thanked the Mayor and City Attorney for being at the library board meeting. She encouraged a vote on the topic rather than just talking about it.

Gary Moody – 1035 Clifford St.—noted there are lots of questions but wondered if they are wasting their time as there is no response from the Council. He addressed the wishes for an advisory vote for direction. He also addressed the Splash Park as another hidden subject and addressed many questions.

Cole Verner – 22906 Greenough Ln. and property owner within the city, spoke of the Library being around for over 100 years. It has been involved in the community and gives excellent service. He expressed concerns about the negotiations in process may not be in the best interest to the city and is not going to maintain the library as we know it. Verner referenced the proposal with one of the main concerns is the lack of communication and no clear objective in the negotiations. He encouraged the need for an effort to improve the communication. He reinforced the value of the library under local control and his regret in becoming a part of the central library without being under the umbrella of the city.

Christine Johnson – 801 McLean Dr. – addressed the Council and Mayor noting there are 55 people in the audience because they care about the library and they are not going away. Johnson

stated that the Mayor does not get to negotiate the library away nor does the City Council get to vote the library away. The citizens get to vote to decide the fate of their library.

Helge Anderson – 928 Beachley Rd. – stated the topic could end really quickly by taking it up for a vote.

Michael Bingham – 1231 Warner St., stated he grew up in Concrete where they had a failed library. They then joined a central library and found they were being double taxed. He questioned if that was going to happen in Sedro-Woolley. He expressed concern of the topic not going to a vote and concern for what would happen with the employees.

Wendy Granberg – 1009 Polte Rd., stated that concerned citizens have spoken up on the library issue only to fall on deaf ears and unconcerned faces. She noted that currently all Sedro-Woolley School District students have access to the library so to not make it about the students. She questioned how giving away the library is in line with Sedro-Woolley being a STEM and manufacturing center. It is in the best interest as an elected official to speak out and hold a public community meeting to eliminate confusion. Grunberg also reviewed the City's mission statement.

Jim Johnson -- 587 Carter St., addressed the Council regarding the decision they will be making and wonders what their opinion of the library is. He also questioned when a dialog will happen and hopes the Council will do their homework and are fully engaged. He also encouraged the Council to check out the children's garden at the library.

Tony Tomisino – 704 Sauk Mountain Dr., noted there are more faces here than the last time he attended and all want an advisory vote. He spoke on the requirements for taking on incurred debt and reminded Council of their fiduciary responsibility.

Dorothy DeFremery – 316 Garden of Eden, spoke of attending the library board meeting to try to get answers. She spoke of the idea being in the process of getting an idea of what we would get, what we would lose and what the points of no compromise would be. She stated the city needs to have a library as part of its heritage and the current one is perfectly located. Schools take walking Field Trips to see what a real library is, as public schools have lost their librarians. She expressed concern about growing too big and would like to see the current library expanded and remodeled in its current location.

Dennis O'Neil – 109 Talcott, addressed the size of the library and suggested having an efficiency expert come in to assess the current building. He noted the public comment arena is the only chance to speak and encouraged they be listened to noting that mistrust is starting to grow. He noted the Council was elected as individuals.

Mary Andersson – 928 Beachley Rd – referred to libraries being a quality of life service. She questioned why anyone would want to partner with a library with less than 5 years of experience and spoke of leadership in a democracy, the willingness to listen for responsible leadership and people want to enhance the library to be one of the finest city services to the citizens.

PUBLIC HEARING

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2015 Comprehensive Plan Docket Amendments

Planning Director Coleman presented background information on the 2015 Comprehensive plan docket amendments to include an introduction, land use element, transportation element, economic development element, Comprehensive Land Use Map, residential 1 zoning designation and Chapter 17.65 Regulations for Critical Areas.

Council discussion took place regarding up zoning (buildable lands analysis), TIP in reference to the Centennial Trail, history of the County acquisition of trail property, distant planning and the annual transportation improvement plan.

Councilmember Dunn Lee moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1848-16 to adopt amendments to the Land Use Element, Transportation Element, Economic Development Element and Comprehensive Land Use Map, all included in the Sedro-Woolley Comprehensive Plan. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilmember Sandström moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1849-16 to create a new Chapter 17.XX SWMC – Residential 1 Environmentally Constrained Zone and adopt amendments to Chapter 17.65 SWMC – Regulations for Critical Areas. Seconded Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilmember Kornegay moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1850-16 to adopt amendments to the Sedro-Woolley Zoning Map. Seconded by Councilmember Kinzer. Motion carried (6-0).

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg commended Planning Director Coleman for completing this herculean task. He stated the updates are usually done by consultants and complimented Coleman for completing an excellent product in the Sedro-Woolley fashion.

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Written Reports to Council

Informational Items

Police Sgt. Harris – reported that two officers from the department will be testing for HRT Team (SWAT). He also reported the internet exchange signs have been posted and extremely positive feedback has been received from all over the state. Sgt. Harris explained the purpose of the internet exchange.

Asst. Fire Chief Olson – reported they have been busy helping neighbors with fires and today was an extremely busy day with aid calls, fires call and a transport. He commended the great response from the volunteers.

Mayor Wagoner – thanked the Fire Department for providing the ladder truck for the groundbreaking ceremony of the Veterans Park.

Planning Director Coleman – thanked the Council for passing the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Public Works Director Freiburger – reported the Jameson Arterial Extension project has started as well as the Ferry Street Overlay. Freiburger also gave status reports on the SR 20/Cascade Trail and Fruitdale Road projects.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – reported the jail project is on track and he has arranged for a tour of the jail for Councilmembers.

Finance Director Nelson – reported the 2015 annual reports have been completed. She also reported on the dollar amount threshold required for the Federal Single Audit. We are under the threshold and therefore do not expect to have the annual audit until later in the year. She reviewed the audit process and noted it will be a financial and compliance audit this year.

Councilmember Dunn Lee – gave a brief report on the EMS Delivery Committee meeting. She noted that it is becoming apparent that a shared vision statement is needed. She also, on behalf of a constituent reported fires blowing in on him.

Councilmember Kornegay – reported on graffiti at the corner of Sapp/Reed and Waldron/Ball. Kornegay also announced the upcoming Blast from the Past Celebration, June 3-5th.

Councilmember Kinzer – addressed the intersection at Walley and State with the difficulty of making a left hand turn.

Councilmember Owen – thanked Planning Director Coleman for his hard work on the Comprehensive Plan. He also noted he had a list of areas that need to be looked at for vision enhancements.

Councilmember Lemley – noted a thank you to Public Works Director Freiburger for all he does. Lemley then passed on a request for a bike lane to be placed on one of the major arterials of the city as well as a request for a crosswalk at Warner and Township.

Councilmember Sandström – addressed the confusion of people with the Library and the inability to have dialog. He requested to have a public forum meeting (open house) to present a snapshot and timeline on what is happening.

Some discussion took place with the consensus of the Council to proceed, meeting time, advertising, needs assessment by architectural firm and a discussion of sharing similar frustrations.

Mayor Wagoner – invited anyone to come and join him placing flags on graves at the cemetery. He also reminded everyone of the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday beginning at 10:30 A.M.

and reported on the upcoming State Track meet with four Sedro-Woolley High School participants.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.