

-----  
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
-----

Special Meeting of the City Council  
January 5, 2018 –5:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Keith Wagoner at 5:00 P.M.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Keith Wagoner; Councilmembers: Judith Dunn Lee, Germaine Kornegay, Brenda Kinzer, Julia Johnson, Chuck Owen, Karl de Jong and Jared Couch. Staff: Recorder Brue, Finance Director Nelson, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg, Fire Chief Klinger and Police Chief Tucker

Mayor Wagoner welcomed the new Councilmember's de Jong and Couch and congratulated Councilmember's Kinzer and Kornegay as they begin their second term.

**1. Mayors Report**

Mayor Wagoner reported he has been selected as State Senator for the 39<sup>th</sup> District. He spoke of the accomplishments made over the past two years and does not feel it is fair to the city to hold both positions, although it is legal. The Mayor's job takes a lot of time and it is in the best interest to have a quick turnover. In reviewing the new procedures it was discovered there is no specific process to select a mayor. He reviewed a proposal that is consistent with past history noting there is value of having someone who is involved with process and up to speed.

**2. Resolution amending Resolution 972-17 to establish a formal process to appoint a Mayor when a vacancy exists.**

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg pointed out the memo in the packet covers history. He spoke of the work put into the policies and procedures and that it is within Council purview to determine its policy and process. He stated it is up to the Council to decide process and up to the Council to name a replacement as long as it's done within 90 days of the vacancy. The goal tonight is to decide if and when the Mayor resigns how the city council would like to deal with that vacancy.

Councilmember Owen commented that Sedro-Woolley used to be a small second class city. He believes the proper process and fair process is to open the Mayors vacancy up to the people of the City. Sedro Woolley has grown and is still growing. It would give a pool of people to go through the process and pick the best.

Councilmember Kinzer concurred with Owen and stated it is not the first time there has been a vacancy and it will not be the last and feels the Council is limiting them and is an insult in the Council to not make an intelligent decision.

Councilmember Couch stated the voters have spoken placed people in the Council seats with a trust and belief to carry out the duties. He stated he has not heard a good reason why we would not look at the Council in order to keep the city moving. There is a benefit to put someone in the Mayor's office that understands the city and is aware of the current projects and the status of the city and to keep us from playing a catch up game. You're always going to find a qualified candidate out of a seven person Council.

Councilmember Kornegay concurred with Councilmember Couch noting it is a critical time with a lot of things going on. They have had training and know the details of what is happening.

Councilmember Couch – questioned policy provision #2. City Supervisor/Attorney Berg stated as drafted a special meeting would occur at the next regular meeting after the Mayors resignation. Berg noted that a provision could be added that if none of the city council are interested, the process for appointing the vacancy of a council seat would then be followed.

Councilmember Dunn Lee addressed the fact that someone has expressed interest and only just left the Council and does not feel that picking from the council is a good idea.

Discussion ensued regarding not being surprised by the vacancy and the make-up of the Council.

Councilmember Couch moved to adopt Resolution No. 979-18 A Resolution Amending Resolution 972-17 to Establish the Process by Which the City Council Fills Vacancies in the Office of Mayor. Councilmember Kornegay seconded.

Councilmember de Jong made a parliamentary inquiry regarding Section 2 that Council would not be able to take a nomination and vote on the vacancy tonight.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted a special meeting is limited to what is on the agenda.

Councilmember de Jong moved to amend the main motion to strike Paragraphs 1 and 2.

It was noted that at this time there is no vacancy and motion died from lack of second.

Mayor Wagoner called for the vote. Motion carried (4-3, Councilmembers Dunn Lee, Kinzer and Owen opposed).

Mayor Wagoner announced his resignation as Mayor of Sedro-Woolley effective midnight January 6, 2018. He stated it has been a pleasure to be the Mayor and he has enjoyed every minute of it and loved working with everyone and know that you will find the right person.

Without objection the Special Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 P.M.

Mayor Wagoner received a robust round of applause and standing ovation from the audience and members of the Council.