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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
November 9, 2016 – 7:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilmember Lemley moved to excuse the absence of Councilmember Dunn Lee. Seconded by Councilmember Johnson. Motion carried (6-0). Immediately after the vote Councilmember Dunn Lee arrived at 7:01 P.M.

Consent Calendar

- Approval of Agenda
- Minutes from Previous Meeting (Including November 2, 2016 Council Worksession)
- Finance
  - Claim Checks #184876 to #184981 in the amount of \$348,692.93.
  - Payroll Checks #59087 to #59103 plus EFT's in the amount of \$292,073.01.
- Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County for Provision of Senior Services 2017
- Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Snohomish County Fire Protection District No. 3 and Contract with Braun Northwest for Ambulance Replacement

Councilmember Dunn Lee moved to approve the consent calendar items A through E. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay. Motion carried (7-0)

Special Presentation – Skagit 911 Update with Helen Rasmussen

Mayor Wagoner introduced Helen Rasmussen, Director of Skagit 911 who presented a powerpoint presentation on Skagit 911 to include the governing structure and historical timeline. She addressed the 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax and noted the current facility is at maximum capacity. She also reviewed user agency fees, plans for a new funding model, the benefits of the new funding model and the mission statement of Skagit 911. Rasmussen then entertained questions from Council.

## Public Comment

No comments received.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### Property Tax Levy Ordinances

Mayor Wagoner introduced the Property Tax Levy Ordinances and opened the public hearing at 7:39 P.M.

Howard Greene – 309 Reed St., spoke of being on a fixed income and is maxed out. He asked the Council how he is to pay for any increase.

Mayor Wagoner closed the public hearing at 7:41 P.M.

Council Wagoner reminded everyone that the Council has not raised property taxes in nine years and the recommended action is a 0% tax increase.

Councilmember Sandström moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1856-16 An Ordinance of the City of Sedro Woolley Approving the Property Tax Levy at an Increase of 0%. Seconded by Councilmember Lemley. Motion carried (7-0).

Councilmember Sandström questioned the ability to bypass banking. Mayor Wagoner noted the ordinance passed does not allow banking.

### Utility Rate Increases

- a) Ordinance Increasing Sewer Rates by 1.78% (cost of living)
- b) Ordinance Increasing Solid Waste/Recycling by 1.78% Plus Minor Increases to Specific Services
- c) Ordinance Increasing Stormwater Rates by 1.78% plus \$2.00 per ERU or
- d) Ordinance Increasing Stormwater Rates by 1.78% plus \$4.00 per ERU

Mayor Wagoner opened the public hearing at 7:45 P.M.

Helen Struthers – 220 N. Reed St, spoke of her property being flooded with water.

Mayor Wagoner closed the public hearing at 7:47 P.M.

Mayor Wagoner stated the ordinance is a first reading.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted a missing page in the Council packet. He reviewed four different ordinances with the recommendation to adopt three. The Mayor's budget includes a rate increase of 1.78% which is the measure of inflation (CPI) that the city has used to maintain the system at the current level.

He addressed the Solid Waste ordinance which also includes increases for tires, refrigerators, freezers and wood waste.

Berg spoke on the two ordinances presented for stormwater for consideration and addressed the lack of funding. He noted the Mayor's balanced budget includes a rate increase of \$2.00. Berg further addressed the requirement to regulate the stormwater and not being funded properly.

#### Utility Tax on Domestic Water Ordinance

Mayor Wagoner opened the public hearing at 7:56 P.M.

Howard Greene – 309 Reed St, stated his opposition due to lack of funds.

Tim Howland – 200 Murdock St, spoke regarding the stormwater fees on buildings that have been built recently and have been required to install catchment systems. He requested consideration for some sort of credit on the stormwater for those systems.

Mayor Wagoner closed the public hearing at 7:59 P.M.

Councilmember Sandström questioned how many businesses have the type of systems Howland referred to.

Tony Splane -- 714 Sapp Road, noted the stormwater on his property goes into Brickyard Creek not into city storm system but he still has to pay.

Discussion on maintenance of Brickyard Creek was held.

Public Works Director Freiburger stated that even with the more elaborate systems they still discharge into city drainage systems. He also noted the driving force of the requirements is the quality of water that goes to river.

#### Domestic Water Ordinance

Mayor Wagoner opened the public hearing at 8:08 P.M.

No comments were received.

Mayor Wagoner closed the public hearing at 8:08:30 P.M.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg presented background information on the adoption of the original ordinance and the net result to the city. He also noted the funds received are designated to the Council Strategic Reserve Fund.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 2017 Budget

Mayor Wagoner announced without Council objection he would like to bring a revised budget to the next meeting that would include a line item for funding of air conditioning at the Senior Center.

Finance Director Nelson reviewed the Mayors Preliminary Budget Line Item Budget. She noted the budget is available at the Finance Department, Library and online for public viewing. All funds have been balanced and are in line with Council goals and objectives. She noted a public hearing is scheduled for the next meeting.

#### Skagit 911 Revised Interlocal Agreement

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed Skagit 911 being a partnership of nine entities. He referred to the history presented by Helen Rasmussen earlier in the meeting and reviewed the draft interlocal agreement as a first read with action scheduled for the next meeting. The agreement would restructure Skagit 911 from a cooperative association to a nonprofit governmental purpose corporation. The objective is to build an entity unto itself to own the risk associated with running a dispatch center. Berg also addressed the governing board and funding model.

#### Ordinance – RV Park Fees

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg stated this is a component of the Mayor's budget and a request from the Parks Department. The RV Park has the lowest fees in the valley and it has been noticed we are attracting RV's that cycle from park to park. The ordinance would raise the fees from \$15.00 to \$25.00 per night at Riverfront and from \$20.00 to \$30.00 at Bingham Park. The increase would bring the parks into the range of the market and to generate adequate revenue to run the park. The ordinance is a first read with action at the next meeting.

#### Ordinances – Fourth Wednesday of December Meeting

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg stated the City has a long established practice of holding a meeting on the fourth Wednesday of December for the sole purpose of paying bills. The first ordinance would allow the City to pay the bills with ratification at the second Wednesday of January. The second ordinance would cancel the regularly scheduled meeting for the fourth Wednesday of December each year. He also discussed possible changes to the Thanksgiving week meeting but noted it is a busy stretch of time due to budget related items.

The consensus was to leave the Thanksgiving meeting on the Tuesday.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

Police Sgt. Harris – reported on the reserve program and noting there are two more candidates in the academy. He also presented an update on recent shootings and reported on a call that ended in saving the life of an individual.

Asst. Fire Chief Olson – reported on the recent flyers regarding home/business addresses sent out with the most recent utility bill and spoke on the importance of having a visible address. He also presented the “File of Life” holders which are magnetic and to be placed on refrigerators as well as the upcoming county wide MCI drill.

Planning Director Coleman – showed the plaque received for the 2016 Planning Honor Award. The award was given by the American Planning Association, Washington Chapter and the Planning Association of Washington. Coleman also reported on the recent floodplain management training he attended and an upcoming EDASC group to study ways to improve retail in Skagit County.

Finance Director Nelson – reported the State Auditors will be contacting Councilmembers notifying them of the exit conference on the recent audit to be held the first week in December.

Councilmember Johnson – expressed congratulations to Planning Director Coleman on the award. She also questioned if the results from the EDASC group study will be shared with Council and announced the upcoming United General Hospital Auxiliary benefit “Pearls for My Girls” luncheon and auction this Saturday.

Councilmember Lemley – announced a special event on Friday morning dedicated to all veterans at Lemley Chapel. They will be showing a video tribute on Arlington National Cemetery. Councilmember Lemley also expressed his sincerest thanks for all veterans that were in attendance.

Mayor Wagoner – thanked Councilmember Kinzer for acting as Mayor Pro Tem in his absence. He also announced the Veterans parade by Mary Purcell School Thursday at 10:00 A.M. and encouraged everyone to turn out as the High School football team is escorted out of town for their playoff game in Pullman.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 P.M. for approximately 20 minutes to discuss the performance of a public employee, RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) and for a Closed Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining, RCW 42.30.140(4) with no action anticipated.

An announcement was made at 9:00 P.M. that the executive session would be extended for approximately 10 minutes to discuss potential or threatened litigation under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

The meeting reconvened at 9:10 P.M.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:11 P.M.