
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
November 22, 2016 – 7:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Keith Wagoner; Councilmembers: Judith Dunn Lee , 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 Freiberger, Planning Director Coleman, Asst. Fire Chief Olson and Police Chief Tucker.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Calendar

- Approval of Agenda
- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
 - Claim Checks #184982 to #185067 plus EFT's in the amount of \$159,272.26.
 - Payroll Checks #59104 to #59115 plus EFT's in the amount of \$221,478.33.
- Employment Contracts
- Sedro-Woolley Housing Authority Appointment
- Interlocal Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Bainbridge Island Fire Protection District
- Skagit 911 revised Interlocal Agreement
- Ordinance No. 1857-16 RV Park Fees
- Ordinance No. 1858-16 Cancelling the Regularly Scheduled City Council Meeting for the Fourth Wednesday of December each year and Ordinance No. 1859-16 Authorizing the Payment of Claims in Advance of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting on the Second Wednesday of January Each Year.
- Amendment 7 to the Interlocal Agreement dated 10/18/2011 with Skagit County Conservation District for FY 2017 Activities Related to NPDES Permit Compliance.

Councilmember Lemley moved to approve the consent calendar items A through J. Seconded by Councilmember Owen. Motion carried (7-0).

Public Comment

Mary Andersson – 928 Beachley Rd., stated that Washington became a state on November 11, 1889. She then reviewed the implementation of the Public Library system under the jurisdiction of library boards. Andersson addressed libraries being critical and valued as the primary source of information and spoke of the upcoming retirements of two Sedro-Woolley Library Board members with new members being appointed by the Mayor. She noted that it is important the

appointees be regular and current library patrons and cautioned the Council to exercise care and wisdom when approving the appointees.

Dennis O'Neil – 109 Talcott St., questioned the Library frequently asked question sheet regarding when the voters approving or disapproving annexation would take place. He also questioned how many Councilmembers were in attendance at the recent meeting and the \$25,000 architect drawing of a new building. He suggested giving a year end bonus to the Police Department or regular city employees. O'Neil questioned the process for employees having other jobs or being involved in other entities.

Tim Howland – 220 Reed Street. addressed the stormwater and deriving a benefit for stormwater by not having a flooded city. He did request some consideration for the kind of investments made by businesses in stormwater systems as he mentioned at the last meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

2017 Budget Ordinance

Mayor Wagoner introduced the second reading of the 2017 Budget Ordinance and opened the public hearing at 7:10 P.M.

Dennis O'Neil – 109 Talcott St. questioned the revenue projections with the loss of Mike and Sons and True Value closing.

Mayor Wagoner closed the public hearing at 7:12 P.M.

The vote on the budget was moved to Item 8 on the agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed presentation of the budget both at a worksession and at the last meeting. The rate increases were part of the discussions on the budget and have been included within the 2017 Budget.

- a. *Ordinance Increasing Sewer Rates by 1.78% (Cost of Living)*

Councilmember Sandström moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1860-16 An Ordinance Increasing Sewer Rates by 1.78%. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay.

Councilmember Sandström addressed the reasoning for the CPI increases to incrementally raise rates instead of having large rate increases as in the past.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted the rate increases do not affect qualified low income seniors.

Motion carried (6-1, Councilmember Kinzer opposed).

b. Ordinance Increasing Solid Waste/Recycling by 1.78% plus Minor Increases to Specific Services

Councilmember Lemley moved to approve Ordinance No. 1861-16 An Ordinance Increasing Solid Waste Utility Rates by 1.78% plus Minor Increases to Specified Services. Seconded by Councilmember Owen. Motion carried (7-0).

c. Ordinance Increasing Stormwater Rates by 1.78% plus \$2.00 per ERU

Councilmember Kornegay moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1862-16 An Ordinance Increasing Storm Water Rates by 1.78%, plus \$2.00 per ERU. Seconded by Councilmember Johnson.

Discussion was held regarding what is an ERU (Equivalent Residential Unit).

Motion carried (6-1, Councilmember Kinzer Opposed).

Utility Tax on Domestic Water Ordinance.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg reviewed the second reading to increase the effective rate of tax on domestic water to 6%. He reviewed the history of the tax and the water utility being allowed to deduct a portion of water for fire flow. He noted all the funds collected goes into the Council Strategic Fund and to date has been used to pay down the debt.

Councilmember Johnson moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1863-16 adopting a utility tax on domestic water. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay.

Discussion was held regarding the use of the funds.

Motion denied (3-4, Councilmember Dunn Lee, Kinzer, Owen and Sandström opposed).

2017 Budget Ordinance

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg noted that the previous action on the utility tax on domestic water will cause a reduction in both revenue and expenditures but would be easy to track as it only affects a couple of line items.

Councilmember Dunn Lee moved to approve Ordinance No. 1863-16 the (2017) budget minus expenditures that are a result of the failure on the utility tax on domestic water. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay. Motion carried (7-0).

NEW BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

Police Chief Tucker – updated Council on the two candidates for the reserve academy. They will be doing 6 month training and will be a minimal cost for the department. He also reported on the recent shootings. Chief Tucker noted they are fielding complaints on the closure of Mike and Sons and reported on the recent active shooter training. He also reminded everyone of the Christmas Parade on December 3rd.

Asst. Fire Chief Olson –announced the training of two new volunteers and two resident vacancies. He spoke of their participation in the active shooter training and that Fire Chief Klinger will return on Monday to light duty.

Planning Director Coleman – reported the Planning Commission is working on planned residential definitions and building height. He noted there is a lot of project review going on in the Building and Planning Department.

Public Works Director Freiburger – reported on the results of the TIB funding stating we were not successful in obtaining funds for the Fruitdale Road project but will try again next year. The State Street Overlay was also not funded and will be tried for next year as well. He stated he continues to look for other opportunities with grants and funding.

Finance Director Nelson – thanked Council for passing the budget. She noted at the next meeting will be a copy of the revised budget ordinance reflecting the changes with the utility tax on water. The budget will also be reposted on the website as changed. Also at the next meeting the Salary ordinance will come before Council.

Mayor Wagoner announced a closed session under RCW 42.30.144 for collective bargaining for approximately 5 minutes at the end of the meeting.

Councilmember Kornegay – announced the upcoming Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Cascade Middle School beginning at 12:30 P.M. on Thanksgiving Day.

Councilmember Kinzer – wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Johnson – announced Sedro Woolley High School Football Coach Ward was recognized at a recent Seahawks game. She also brought to the attention of the Council an affordable housing letter she sent to them.

Councilmember Owen – had some questions regarding the radar gun.

Councilmember Lemley – announced the birth of his granddaughter, Mackenzie Noel.

Mayor Wagoner – announced the tree will be going up Thanksgiving weekend and the great season for CUBS Football. He also announced the receipt of a Department of Ecology award by the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mayor Wagoner reminded everyone of the upcoming Shop Local Month.

Councilmember Dunn Lee – stated she will not be at parade.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 P.M. and a closed session was held.