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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
September 25, 2019– 7:00 P.M. – Council Chambers

**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Julia Johnson, Councilmembers: Brenda Kinzer, Germaine Kornegay, Chuck Owen, Judith Dunn, Karl de Jong, Jared Couch (absent) and Pola Kelley (absent). Staff: Recorder Brue, Finance Director Merriman, City Supervisor/Attorney Berg (absent), Public Works Director Freiburger, Fire Chief Klinger and Police Chief Tucker

Councilmember Dunn moved to excuse the absences of Councilmembers Kelley and Couch. Seconded by Councilmember Kinzer. Motion carried (5-0).

**Approval of Agenda**

Councilmember Kornegay moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Dunn. Motion carried (5-0).

**Consent Calendar**

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Counter Checks #4966 to #4970 in the Amount of \$34,470.31
  - Claim Checks #191561 to #191652 plus EFT's in the amount of \$359,192.46
  - Payroll Checks #59890 to #59896 plus EFT's the amount of \$297,812.37
- Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County for Probation Services
- Proposed Purchase Order No. 2019-PO-16 – 70kW Genset – Cummins
- Klinger HOA PSE Streetlight Bills

Councilmember Kornegay moved to approve the consent calendar items 1 through 5. Seconded by Councilmember Dunn. Motion carried (5-0).

**Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations**

Acknowledging Sedro-Woolley Fire Departments continued support and donations to the Burned Children Recovery Foundation

Mayor Johnson acknowledged the Sedro-Woolley Volunteer Fire Department's Give Burns the Boot fundraising efforts to benefit the Burn Children's Foundation. She stated the Fire

Department has been fundraising for the past 30 years and over that time, they have raised \$364,000. In 2018, they raised \$34,000. Mayor Johnson displayed a plaque that the Fire Department has been receiving since 1990 from the Burn Children's Foundation for their fundraising efforts.

Fire Captain Josh Carpenter and Bobby Castilleja accepted the acknowledgement on behalf of the Volunteer Fire Department. Captain Carpenter gave a brief history of the foundation that started in 1989 by Michael Mathis, a burn victim himself. He stated the money raised is used to pay for kids to attend Camp Phoenix held in August at Camp Lutherwood at Lake Samish and he also spoke of the Phoenix Recovery House. He reported that 280,000 kids are burned annually. Captain Carpenter reported they were the first organization to raise money and 100% of the proceeds go to the organization. A slide show of Camp Phoenix was shown. The volunteers sponsor a day at the camp where they go and participate in activities with the kids and host a BBQ.

Bobby Castilleja spoke of the upcoming Give Burns the Boot dinner and auction to be held on October 26 at the Community Center. He stated there will be a silent and live auction and the tickets are \$10.00 per person. He noted this event is near and dear to all firemen. Castilleja also stated besides the camp for the kids the money raised helps burn families with expenses and with counseling and social reentering.

## **Staff Reports**

### **SWPD Code Enforcement Update (Officer Laura Carr)**

Police Chief Tucker introduced Code Enforcement Officer Laura Carr. She presented a PowerPoint presentation on code enforcement efforts within the city. The type of work she does is in conjunction with the proactive policing. Officer Carr reviewed the number of calls for services handled over the last three years. She summarized the types of calls she responds to regarding animal control (nuisance domestic dogs, running at large, animal bites, dangerous domestic dogs, neglect and dog licensing). Carr noted there are 100 impounds per year. She also works on nuisance property and abandoned vehicles. She showed before and after pictures of properties cleaned up and vehicles removed through Code Enforcement efforts. She has also been successful in obtaining a grant for the past two years for a trap and release program for cats.

Police Chief Tucker stated Officer Carr only hit the high points. She has many contacts in community and he encouraged Council to participate in ride along with her.

Fire Chief Klinger – addressed Council regarding a request to accept a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. He reported they were notified of the grant award in the amount of \$282,565 to purchase 36 new Scott air packs, 8 masks and 3 rescue bags. Chief Klinger requested Council authorize the Mayor to accept the grant.

Councilmember de Jong moved to authorize the Mayor to accept the Assistance to Firefighters Grant for \$269,110 and allocate the 5% matching funds for \$13,455 for a total of \$282,565. Seconded by Councilmember Owen. Motion carried (5-0).

Planning Director Coleman – reported working on budgets that are now due. He also reported he has Asst. Planner Katherine Weir working on the natural hazards mitigation plan that is due every five years.

Public Works Director Freiburger reported on project updates including the sidewalks and the Borseth sewer. He noted they have received the WWTP design engineer specs for upgrades to the aeration system at the plant. Also they are getting close on the sewer comp plan update and financial analysis. Work has been completed on the Puget Street railroad removal and work will start soon on the Cascade Trail. Freiburger also reported on a longstanding issue with the Klinger Estates Homeowners Association regarding billing of street lights that has been resolved. An action item was approved under the consent calendar for this issue.

Mayor Johnson – commented to Public Works Director Freiburger on the Puget St. railroad lowering project. She noted she received several positive comments from people at the Senior Center.

Councilmember de Jong – commented on the road repair at Marshall and Jennings and the graffiti removal at State and Greenstreet.

Finance Director Merriman – announced that he would be speaking on the budget later in the meeting.

### **Councilmember and Mayor's Reports**

Councilmember Owen – reported on his presentation to the County Commissioners for Senior Services day.

Councilmember de Jong – reported on the Skagit Watershed Council meeting he attended representing the City.

### **Proclamations**

Diaper Need Awareness Week – September 23<sup>rd</sup> through September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Mayor Johnson read a proclamation declaring the week of September 23<sup>rd</sup> through September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 as Diaper Need Awareness Week and encouraged the citizens of Sedro-Woolley to donate generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and those organizations that distribute diapers to families in need to help alleviate diaper need in Sedro-Woolley and region.

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month – September 2019

Mayor Johnson read a proclamation recognizing September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in the City of Sedro-Woolley. The proclamation encouraged all Sedro-Woolley residents

to learn more about childhood cancers and consider what we all can do to support children with cancer and their families.

## **Public Comments**

Mayor Johnson opened public comments at 7:56P.M.

Sarah Johnson – representing the Sedro Woolley Chamber thanked the Council for their past support with the Christmas Parade and activities. She stated the goal is to offer a free magical Christmas experience. She noted some changes in this year's event will include an Ugly Sweater Run.

Sandra Tocaro Miller – 30917 SR 20, spoke on her wish to make the Sedro-Woolley Library building into an arts center. She spoke of the value of therapeutic arts to veterans, cancer patients and survivors as well as the role of art in coping with life's events. She also addressed currently having to go out of town to attend arts events and the economic possibilities to the city.

Jim Miller – 30917 SR 20, spoke of the benefit of arts and the positive way to express different forms of art. He spoke in support of turning the Sedro Woolley Library into an arts center. He encouraged Sedro-Woolley to embrace art and make it a part of our community.

Dennis O'Neil -- 109 Talcott St., requested answers to some follow up to questions. He questioned what the allowance for police enforcement last year vs. this year. He also questioned the budget for the library project and the domestic water tax and why it can't be used to hire an additional police officer. O'Neil questioned the net revenue to the city from Brewfest and spoke of losing candidate signs.

Phillip Murray – 223 State St., owner of property at 101 W. Woodworth St. questioned what is happening to the old Seattle/Lakeshore property next to his. He indicated there has been no notification but heard it was city owned and to be used for parking.

Aaron De Boer – 8426 District Line Road – spoke in favor of allowing ATV/UTV's on city streets and roads. He addressed the commerce and recreational opportunities as well as the coolness factor. He said he is speaking to continue to raise awareness for the growing popularity of them.

Carol Walker – 1013 N. Fruitdale Rd. spoke against allowing ATV/UTV vehicles in town. She cited noise and traffic issues and encouraged consideration of the other side of the coin.

Mayor Johnson closed public comments at 8:12 P.M.

## **Public Hearings**

2020 Annual Budget – Revenues

Finance Director Merriman presented a power point presentation on Revenue projections for Budget year 2020. He noted presentation of the final budget is expected at the November 26, 2019 meeting. Merriman spoke of many factors that are considered in the budgeting process to include economy influences, traditional yield curve, inverted yield curve and predictors of an upcoming recession. He also addressed property taxes, sales tax (recession sensitive) and utility tax. Also addressed are fund balance/ending cash reserves and the importance of maintaining a minimum cash balance. Merriman then entertained council questions.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing on the 2020 Annual Budget – Revenues at 8:49 P.M. With no comments received, Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing at 8:49 P.M.

### **Unfinished Business**

SHB 1406 – Resolution of Intent to fund affordable housing

Councilmember Dunn moved to adopt Resolution No. 1034-19 declaring the intent of the City to adopt legislation to authorize a sales and use tax for affordable and supportive housing in accordance with substitute house bill 1406 (Chapter 338, Laws of 2019) and other matters related thereto. to authorize a sales and use tax for affordable and supportive housing in accordance with SHB 1406. Councilmember de Jong seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

Reader Board, Banners & Bulletin Board Policy

Councilmember Kornegay moved to approve Resolution No. 1035-19 establishing a policy for usage of the city's reader board, banner location and bulletin boards. Councilmember Owen seconded. Motion carried (5-0).

### **New Business**

Wheeled All-Terrain Vehicles

Mayor Johnson noted this was a first read.

Councilmember de Jong moved to approve Ordinance No. 1038-19 allowing all legally authorized WATV/ORV to operate on city streets. Motion died due to the lack of a second.

Councilmember Kornegay requested to postpone discussion to the next meeting.

### **Information Only Items**

- Building Permit and Planning Permit Review Status
- Library Project Update
- Report of Contracts approved under SWMC 2.104.060

**Good of the Order**

**Executive Session**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 P.M.