
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
October 14, 2020– 4:00 P.M. – Via ZOOM

Call to Order

Mayor Julia Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M. and recited the flag salute.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mayor Julia Johnson, Councilmembers: Brenda Kinzer, JoEllen Kesti, Chuck Owen, Brendan McGoffin (absent), Karl de Jong, Jared Couch and Glenn Allen. Staff: Recorder Brue, Finance Manager Scott, City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman, IT Director Chambers, Planning Director Coleman, Public Works Director Freiburger, Fire Chief Klinger, Police Lt. McIlraith and City Attorney Thompson.

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Kinzer moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Owen seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting (including October 7, 2020 Study Session)
- Finance
 - Counter Check #5012 in the amount of \$100.00
 - Claim Checks #193903 in the amount of \$300.00
 - Claim Checks #193904 to #194033 in the amount of \$859,066.35
 - Payroll Checks #60171 to #60185 plus EFT's in the amount of \$427,036.59
- Memorial Park/Community Center Caretaker Agreement
- Proposed Resolution 1058-20 declaring certain items surplus
- Transfer of Real Estate – Skagit PUD
- Renewal of Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with Skagit County for mutual assistance for minor projects, service labor, materials, and equipment

Councilmember Owen moved to approve the consent calendar items 1 thru 6. Councilmember Allen seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations

Staff Reports

Fire Chief Klinger – reported on an interesting call to Hammer Heritage Square.

Police Lt. McIlraith – announced Drug Take Back Day on October 24. It will be a drive thru format from 10 A.M. – 2 P.M. at City Hall. He also noted boxes are available at Sedro-Woolley Police Department and Schaffner Pharmacy.

Councilmember Allen questioned the availability of deactivation packets.

Public Works Director Freiburger – reported on a number of projects winding down as well as a number of projects in the works.

Planning Director Coleman – updated Council on the Skagit Stabilization Campus noting building permits are ready. Another project in the works is a fuel station/convenience store at the corner of Cook and Trail roads. He also stated the Planning Commission has continued the Reed St. property discussion to the November meeting.

IT Director Chambers – reported being busy with the ADA Transition/Advisory Group, email migration, wind server, Bias Cloud, CARES Act, Council AV upgrade and door security.

Finance Manager Scott – reported on a new phone payment system that will be available in December. The information will be going out with the November billing. She has also been busy with the CARES grant, hosted bias, budget and auditor requests.

City Attorney Thompson – reported she continues to be working behind the scenes with some code enforcement activity and public records requests.

City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman – stated the budget is almost complete. He also informed Council of the audit in progress. Their main focus this year is Court, electronic payments and cost allocations. Merriman also presented a COVID update and stated the 3rd Quarter numbers are almost complete. City Hall is receiving some security upgrades to include security panels and door security.

Councilmember Couch asked if there was any real estate update.

Councilmember and Mayor's Reports

Councilmember Couch – announced his resignation from Council effective the end of the month. He requested to do a farewell talk at the next meeting and said it has been a pleasure serving the community and working with the Councilmembers.

Councilmember Allen – requested to be excused from the Joint Study Session as he was tied up with a medical appointment.

Mayor Johnson stated that it had been noted at the joint meeting and he was excused. She also stated she was remiss in requesting a motion to excuse Councilmember Owen from the same study session.

Councilmember de Jong moved to excuse Councilmember Owen from the October 7, 2020 Joint Study Session. Seconded by Councilmember Allen. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilmember de Jong reported of happenings within Ward 6 and stated it has been an honor to serve with Councilmember Couch.

Councilmember Kinzer – thanked Mayor Johnson for forwarding her the pictures of the damage to the Northern State Hospital Cemetery.

Councilmember Kesti – stated she has enjoyed the short time she has been able to work with Councilmember Couch.

Mayor Johnson – announced a start time for Council meetings to be at 6:00 P.M. beginning with the November 4 Study Session . She reviewed the COVID numbers stating they are up and it is reported that most people are being exposed at gatherings.

Mayor Johnson

Proclamation(s)

National Take Back Day

Mayor Johnson read a proclamation declaring October 24, 2020 as Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The proclamation called upon the people of Sedro Woolley to observe and participate in this event in order to reduce prescription drug abuse and diversion and prevent the number of opioid overdoses.

Public Comments

Public Hearings

Unfinished Business

New Business

Cemetery Rates

Public Works Director Freiburger introduced the Cemetery Rate ordinance. He stated there has been no adjustment to the rates since 2012 and we are behind market pricing. No decision is necessary due to this being a first read.

Discussion was held regarding the subsidy of the cemetery from the general fund. Councilmember Owen questioned if there had ever been any discussion about privatizing the Cemetery.

Amendments to Title 17 SWMC to address Model Homes

Planning Director Coleman introduced the model home ordinance which would allow model homes to be build prior a subdivision being complete. He reviewed the process and noted no sales or occupancy of the homes would be allowed until completion of the subdivision. Coleman stated the Planning Commission has recommended approval.

Discussion ensued regarding liability to the city.

Information Only Items

Fire Department Monthly Incident Data – September 2020

Minor Contracts approved under SWMC 2.104.060

Public Works Director Authority Record

Good of the Order

Executive Session

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 P.M.