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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
October 28, 2020– 4:00 P.M. – Via ZOOM

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Julia Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Julia Johnson, Councilmembers: Brenda Kinzer, JoEllen Kesti, Chuck Owen (arrived 4:05 P.M.), Brendan McGoffin, 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 Chief Tucker and City Attorney Thompson.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Councilmember Kinzer moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilmember de Jong. Motion carried (6-0).

### **Consent Calendar**

- Minutes from Previous Meeting
- Finance
  - Claim Checks #194034 to #194104 plus EFT's in the amount of \$986,852.42
  - Payroll Checks #60186 to #60199 plus EFT's in the amount of \$370,002.26
- Final Acceptance – Contract 2020-PW-02, 2020 Jameson Street Pavement and Pedestrian Improvement Project – Fisher Construction Group
- Proposed Contract No. 21-0005 with King County/Boulder Park Inc. for Biosolids Beneficial Use Services for the City of Sedro –Woolley at the Boulder Park Project

Councilmember McGoffin moved to approve the consent calendar items 1 through 4. Seconded by Councilmember Allen. Motion carried (6-0).

Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations

### **Staff Reports**

Fire Chief Klinger reported there has been an increase in calls, mostly mental health issues. He also noted the COVID numbers are holding their own.

Councilmember Owen joined the meeting at 4:05 P.M.

Police Chief Tucker announced an upcoming protest on Friday at 4 P.M. He stated a group of students would be protesting the recent Supreme Court nomination. He also stated the Skagit County Auditor has requested additional security for the voter ballot box until the night of the

election. He and Lt. McIlraith are going to be going south to visit the four recruits attending the academy.

IT Director Chambers – stated he is still busy working on the email migration.

Finance Manager Scott – reported she is close to submitting for reimbursement for CARES Act funding and has been busy with the GEMT report.

Planning Director Coleman – stated he has been working with finance on the BARS accounting numbers and has been working on a Shoreline Management grant in the amount of \$16,000.

Public Works Director Freiburger – reported on the ADA Transition Plan and an advisory group meeting that was held. The next advisory meeting will be held on November 8. He also addressed the Library and street paving, utility committee meeting and the Cook Road pump station.

City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman – reported the preliminary budget would be ready for the November 7 study session. He also reported the State Auditors continue with the audit and he will be bringing forth the lodging tax applications soon. Merriman also reviewed some upcoming staffing changes

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

Councilmember de Jong – thanked Councilmember Couch for his service on the Council.

Councilmember McGoffin – concurred with de Jong. He also requested to be excused from the last meeting due to work commitments.

Councilmember Couch moved to approve Councilmember McGoffin's absence from the October 14 meeting. Seconded by Councilmember de Jong. Motion carried (7-0).

Councilmember Allen – also acknowledged Councilmember Couch's commitment to the Council noting he will be missed.

Councilmember Kinzer – expressed a thank you to Cheryl Brue for her years of service as she readies for retirement. She also spoke of the vandalism at the Northern State Hospital Cemetery.

Councilmember Couch expressed his appreciation to Councilmember Kinzer along with her passion for the NSH Cemetery project.

Mayor Johnson presented a status update of the funding for the fencing at the NSH Cemetery.

Councilmember Owen requested to be excused from the remainder of the meeting.

Councilmember de Jong moved to excuse Councilmember Owen from the remainder of the meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Kinzer. Motion carried (7-0).

Councilmember Kesti – announced the need of volunteers for decorating the light standards for the downtown Christmas. She also wished farewell and good luck to Councilmember Couch.

Councilmember Couch – expressed his thanks to the Mayor, Council and citizens of Sedro Woolley for their support during his tenure. He spoke on the importance of having healthy debate and disagreements for the betterment of the community. He noted that he was proud of the steps taken in the area of public safety, city staff and the movement on the Public Works/Solid Waste building. He also recommended Councilmember Kesti to be his replacement as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Councilmember Couch moved for Councilmember Kesti to serve out the remainder of his term as Mayor Pro-Tem. Seconded by Councilmember Kinzer. Motion carried. (6-0).

Mayor Johnson spoke of the asset Councilmember Couch has been on the Council, noting he will be successful in whatever he does. She presented him with a plaque in honor of his time with the Council.

Mayor Johnson also reported on the recent ground breaking on the Skagit County Stabilization Treatment Center on Hwy 20.

Proclamation(s)

### **Public Comments**

Mayor Johnson opened the public comment period at 4:33 P.M. with no comments received, public comments was closed at 4:34 P.M.

### **Public Hearings**

#### 2021 Property Tax Levy Ordinances 1963-20 and 1964-20

#### Utility Revenues for 2021 Budget

- Ordinance 1967-20 Stormwater utility rates
- Ordinance 1966-20 Solid waste utility rates
- Ordinance 1965-20 Wastewater utility rates

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing at 4:34 P.M. on the 2021 Property Tax Levy and Utility Revenues for 2021 Budget.

City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman noted he received word from Helen Williams who would like to speak at the November 12 meeting.

With no other comments received, Mayor Johnson closed the public hearing at 4:35 P.M.

City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman introduced the 2021 Property Tax Levy noting a full presentation will be given at the November 12 meeting. He then reviewed the Utility Rates for the 2021 Budget. These will also be fully presented at the November 12 meeting.

Discussion ensued with Council expressing interest in trying to come up with some type of education process for the public regarding utility rates and the number of exemptions, who is exempt and equitability.

## **Unfinished Business**

### 2020 Cemetery User Fee Update

Public Works Director Freiburger addressed the subsidizing of the cemetery from the general fund and the impact of the increase in rates. He stated the staff recommendation is to adopt the proposed ordinance. The new pricing would become effective January 2021.

Councilmember Allen moved to adopt Ordinance 1968-20 amending the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code Chapter 2.80 to increase certain rates & charges for the Sedro-Woolley Union Cemetery. Councilmember Couch seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

### Amendments to Title 17 SWMC to address Model Homes

Planning Director Coleman reviewed the second read of the amendments to Title 17 SWMC to address Model Homes.

Councilmember de Jong moved to adopt Ordinance 1969-20 an ordinance adopting amendments to Title 17 to establish regulations for the construction of model homes in a subdivision that has not yet received final plat approval. Seconded by Councilmember McGoffin. Motion carried (6-0).

### RCO LWCF Grant Match Certification

Public Works Director Freiburger reviewed the request for authorization of signing the certification of applicant match for the Olmsted Park Development Project. Some discussion was held regarding park impact fees, funds available and the November 2 deadline.

Councilmember Couch moved to authorize the City Administrator Doug Merriman to sign and submit the attached Certification of Applicant Match for the Olmsted Park Development Project. Seconded by Councilmember Allen. Motion carried (6-0).

## **New Business**

### Proposed Annexation – Properties at SW Corner of Township St. & Bassett Rd.

Planning Director Coleman reviewed the annexation request by Valley High Investments Inc. He stated it is a 20.6-acre parcel located just north of the Sedro-Woolley Fire Station 2. He reviewed background information of a previous annexation request.

Discussion was held regarding contiguous to city limits, mixed commercial uses, zoning timeline and building restrictions around power lines.

Councilmember Kinzer moved to continue the proposed annexation process requested by Valley High Investments, Inc. for three parcels north of city limits. Seconded by Councilmember de Jong. Motion carried (4-2, Councilmembers Couch and Kesti opposed).

Councilmember de Jong moved that the City require the simultaneous adoption of a proposed zoning regulation. Councilmember Allen seconded. Motion carried (4-2, Councilmembers Couch and Kesti opposed).

Councilmember McGoffin moved that the City require the assumption of all or of any portion of existing city indebtedness by the area to be annexed. Seconded by Councilmember Kinzer. Motion carried (4-2, Councilmember Couch and Kesti opposed).

### *City of Seattle – Cooperative Purchasing Agreement – Late Materials*

Public Works Director Freiburger reviewed the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the City of Seattle. This agreement would allow the city to purchase a 2019 Ford F-550 Bucket Truck from Northend Truck Equipment of Snohomish WA. Action would also allow for the surplussing of the existing 2000 GMC Truck with 60' man lift.

Councilmember de Jong moved to authorize Mayor Johnson to sign the attached Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the City of Seattle. Councilmember Kinzer seconded. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilmember Allen moved to authorize the Public Works Director to issue the attached Purchase Order No. 2020-PO-22 for the purchase of a 2019 Ford F-550 Bucket Truck in the amount of \$153,005.83 from Northend Truck Equipment of Snohomish, WA. Seconded by Councilmember McGoffin. Motion carried (6-0).

Councilmember McGoffin moved to authorize Mayor Johnson to declare as surplus equipment as listed on attached Resolution 1059-20 and offer the item for sale to the highest bidder, as trade in on new units or for disposal if no offers received. Seconded by Councilmember de Jong. Motion carried (6-0).

### Information Only Items

Good of the Order

Councilmember de Jong requested a point of privilege to thank Cheryl Brue for her years of taking minutes and congratulated her on her retirement.

Executive Session

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Johnson announced the next worksession would be November 4 beginning at 6:00 P.M. She stated the various departments would present their 2021 projects and budgets. She gave a final thank you to Councilmember Jared Couch.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 P.M.