
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
September 11, 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.

Mayor Johnson opened the meeting with a moment of silence in memory of those lost on 9/11.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Kelley moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay. Motion carried (7-0).

Consent Calendar

- Minutes from Previous Meeting (Including September 4, 2019 Study Session)
- Finance
 - Claim Checks #191475 to #191560 in the amount of \$407,477.34
 - Payroll Checks #59879 to #59889 plus EFT's the amount of \$397,923.10
- Possible Contract Award – Contract 2019-PW-21, Borseth-Robinson Sewer Extension Project – C Johnson Construction, Inc.
- Possible On-Call Professional Services Agreement No. 2019-PS-11 – Transportation Solutions, Inc.
- Interlocal with SCSO for Police Coverage
- Multi-Jurisdictional Special Investigations Task Force Interlocal
- SMART Interlocal Agreement
- Approval of Request to Surplus PD Equipment

Councilmember Kinzer moved to approve consent agenda items 1-8. Seconded by Councilmember Kornegay. Motion carried (7-0).

Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations

Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Plant Award

Mayor Johnson and Public Works Director Freiburger presented an outstanding performance award to the Wastewater Treatment Plant front the Department of Ecology. Mayor Johnson read letter from Department of Ecology honoring them for being one of the top municipal wastewater treatment plants in Washington.

Debbie Allen, Wastewater Treatment Plant Supervisor spoke on behalf of the department and thanked the Council for the continued funding to allow for operation of the plant. Also in attendance and representing the Waste Water Treatment Plant was Carrie Weyands and Tucker Johnson.

Staff Reports

SWPD Proactive Policing Update (Sgt. Jason Harris)

Police Chief Tucker introduced Sgt. Jason Harris who shared an overview of proactive policing and showed pictures of various drug operations conducted as a result of proactive policing. The presentation included what it is, how it is done and why it is done. Also included in proactive policing is pawn compliance and crosswalk emphasis. Sgt. Harris summarized the impact that has been made.

Sgt. Harris entertained questions from the council to include statistical comparisons to last year, staff requirements for operations, status of the drug problem, car prowls and thefts and compliments on the amazing work of the program.

Police Chief Tucker reported a job offer has been extended to Brandon Murdock with a target academy date of December.

Public Works Director Freiburger – gave an update on projects around town including the railroad track removal, bid award for the Borseth sewer project, sidewalk and ramp project and the community center patio project being done by Rotary. He also addressed the chip seal project with citizen complaints regarding chip sealing the streets rather than asphaltting.

City Supervisor/Attorney Berg – reported on the library project, which is still on schedule and on budget. He also introduced a late materials item for consideration at the next meeting, a resolution to establish policies for the use of the city's reader board, banner and bulletin board facilities. He spoke of the inclusion of a banner fee to cover city time for putting up and taking down the banner.

Some discussion ensued regarding former uses of the reader board, format, event posters, programming, integration onto the website and brightness.

Finance Director Merriman – gave a brief update on the budget process for 2020. He noted a public hearing would be held at the next meeting on revenues and revenue projections and lodging tax. He also announced the release by MRSC of the implicit price deflator (1.396) which is considered the correct measure for city growth.

Councilmember and Mayor's Reports

Councilmember Couch – stated he would not be at the next meeting but if need be can attend via teleconference. He also requested an update on the score of the Fire vs. Police softball game.

Chief Tucker announced the Police Department won 19-15.

Councilmember Kornegay – noted today is suicide prevention day as well as 9/11 and encouraged people to reach out to others. She also announced the Skagit Trail Builders work party on Saturday, September 14th at Northern State.

Councilmember de Jong – reported he would be attending the Skagit Watershed Council meeting. He also presented thoughts on 9/11 by reading a poem.

Councilmember Kelley – suggested honoring Rick Lemley for his work over the years updating the wording on the sign.

Proclamations

Public Comments

Mayor Johnson opened public comments at 7:46 P.M.

Sandra Tocaro-Miller – 30917 State Route 20, suggested using the old library building for an arts center. She noted Sedro-Woolley is dedicated to community growth, support, and spoke of the nice sports fields in town. She stated there is nowhere for the arts, especially for children. She spoke of the Gail Harker Center for Creative Arts in La Conner that will be having their grand opening soon and the Jensen Arts Center in Lynden that has been in operation for 7 years. She stated this would be addressing a section of community not being attended to.

Carol Walker – 1013 N. Fruitdale, stated she is part of an arts group and asked Council to please give them a home. She read a petition being circulated encouraging the existing library building to become an arts center.

Councilmember de Jong spoke of the existing arts and crafts program at the Senior Center.

Carol Torset – 718 Jennings St. thanked the crime watch patrol for house checks while they were gone on a month long trip. Torset addressed a woman on Metcalf Street with a broken wheelchair ramp. The Sedro-Woolley Lions club collaborated with E & E Lumber, BYK Construction and the Carpenters Union to make the necessary repairs.

Allen Henderson – 842 Ferry St., spoke on the affordable and supportive housing bill and questioned where to find the city median income.

Pat Hayden – 109 Warner – stated he has worked with affordable housing for many years and asked Council to pay particular attention regarding supportive housing. He addressed the need and importance of supportive housing in Skagit County.

Aaron De Boer – 8426 District Line Road, requested consideration of a safety ordinance to allow ATV/UTV's on city streets. He cited recreational opportunities and increased commerce to the city. He presented a sample ordinance from the City of Monroe for consideration.

Dennis O'Neil – 109 Talcott, questioned the number of citations issued for crosswalk violations for 2018 and 2019. He also questioned Proposition 1 and the use of scare tactics. He also addressed the Council Strategic Funds as use for the hiring of additional officers. O'Neil spoke of what he has heard of the Library building becoming a Parks & Recreation office. He also addressed Council raises.

Jim Miller – 30917 State Route 20, retired Marine, expressed his thanks for the words tonight and the support for military.

Mayor Johnson closed the public comments at 8:04 P.M.

Public Hearings

Unfinished Business

New Business

SHB1406 – Resolution Funding Affordable Housing – Presentation with Kayla R. Schott-Bresler of Skagit County

Kayla Schott-Bresler addressed the Council to speak on the Substitute House Bill 1406 that was signed during the 2019 Regular Legislative Session. Her presentation included a powerpoint that reviewed the local tax authority, deadlines, financing consideration, implementation options, eligible uses and advantages of countywide cooperation.

Schott-Bresler entertained Council questions regarding vouchers for rentals, definition of very low income, bonding, home ownership vs. rental assistance and keeping sales tax locally instead of going to the state.

Information Only Items

- Public Works/Engineering Department Report
- Fire Department Monthly Incident Data – August 2019
- Building Permit and Planning Permit Review Status
- Misc.

Good of the Order

Executive Session

Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 P.M.