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CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY  
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Regular Meeting of the City Council  
November 24, 2020– 6:00 P.M. – Via ZOOM

### **Call to Order**

Mayor Julia Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mayor Julia Johnson, Councilmembers: Brenda Kinzer, JoEllen Kesti, Chuck Owen, Brendan McGoffin, Karl de Jong and Glenn Allen. Staff: 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 McGoffin moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilmember Kinzer. Motion carried (6-0).

### **Consent Calendar**

- Minutes from Previous Meeting (Including November 4, 2020 Study Session)
- Finance
  - Claim Checks #194196 to #194198 in the amount of \$15,674.96
  - Claim Checks #194199 to #194288 plus EFT's in the amount of \$828,702.09
  - Payroll Checks #60215 to #60224 plus EFT's in the amount of \$320,286.00
- Amended Final Acceptance Agreement No. 2020-PW-36 – Sedro-Woolley Municipal Building Touchless Access Control Project – A-1 Mobile Lock & Key Inc.
- Professional Services Agreement with Rhay Design, LLC

Councilmember de Jong moved to approve the consent calendar items 1 thru 4. Seconded by Councilmember Owen. Motion carried (6-0).

Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations

### **Staff Reports**

Fire Chief Klinger – reported Covid cases continue to rise and they have been responding to an increase in Covid calls.

Mayor Johnson noted receiving information from the DEM that almost all counties are at 75%.

Police Chief Tucker – gave an update on the new officers. He also announced that Officer Katie Wilson would be returning on December 16. Officer Holmberg will be retiring in December and Detective Hannawalt will be relocating to Florida within the next year. They are keeping busy

with calls, staffing and justice involved individuals. Chief Tucker also addressed Covid compliance. He stated it will be complaint driven and they will educate and request compliance as a first step.

Public Works Director Freiburger – reported working on design for a number of projects (Public Works building, Cascade Trail and the ADA transition plan).

Councilmember Allen questioned the status of the John Liner/Jones Road Underpass.

Planning Director Coleman – reported the Planning Commission held public hearings on the Reed Street rezone request and proposed changes to the downtown parking requirements. Planning Staff has been working on a large records request and he commented on building activity.

IT Director Chambers – stated their focus has been on outfitting police vehicles and working on the email migration.

Finance Manager Scott – announced the hiring of a new AP Clerk. She has also been working towards the Cares reimbursement deadline of December 15. Scott stated December 1 the bill pay phone service goes into effect.

City Attorney Thompson – wished everyone a Happy Holiday.

City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman – reported Finance Director position applications are the being received and the AP Clerk position has been filled. Almost completed is the ball field property transfer from PUD and details are being worked out for the Reed Street property. He noted the budget and salary ordinances on tonight's agenda with the second read on December 9. The final budget amendment for 2020 will be brought to the next meeting and he requested consideration of passing the ordinance on the first read due to timing.

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

Councilmember Kinzer – questioned the status of the Council at Large position.

Mayor Johnson stated the deadline had been extended to attract more applicants and the selection will be made the first meeting in January.

Councilmember Kesti – thanked Leo Jacobs and the Sanitation crew for going beyond with their customer service. She thanked the Planning Commission for the Reed Street property approval and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Kesti also noted the Christmas tree would be put up on Saturday.

Councilmember Owen – spoke on the life of former Police Officer, Volunteer Fireman and City Councilmember Harold Beitler. He thanked the Police and Fire Department for providing the escort.

Councilmember McGoffin – passed on a comment regarding the Jameson overlay stating a friend of his commented there has been a decrease in sound around their house since the overlay. McGoffin also wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilmember Allen – also spoke of Harold Beitler.

Councilmember de Jong – thanked Councilmembers Owen and Allen for their kind words on Harold Beitler. He stated neighbors are quarantining and he encouraged everyone to be careful and enjoy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Johnson – announced a presentation on recycling and Community Court will be held at the January 13 meeting. She thanked Mark Freiburger and David Lee for reaching out to the county and being instrumental with placement of a cross walk at Prospect Road to Janicki Field. She announced the Skagit Covid test site has moved to the Skagit County Fair Grounds. The Christmas light parade has been cancelled. Mayor Johnson encouraged everyone to maintain social distancing, wear masks and continue handwashing. She also highlighted a combined ad with neighboring cities and organizations that appeared in the paper regarding Covid.

Councilmember de Jong – questioned gathering for installation of the downtown street decorations.

Proclamation(s)

## **Public Comments**

Mayor Johnson opened the public comments at 6:34 P.M.

Jared Couch -- 27899 W. Gilligan Creek Road, wished the Council and City Staff a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Johnson closed the public comments at 6:34 P.M.

Public Hearings

## **Unfinished Business**

### 2021 Utility Rate Ordinance

- Ordinance No. 1966-20 Solid Waste Rates
- Ordinance No. 1967-20 Stormwater Rates

Public Works Director Freiburger reviewed background information on previous discussions for the 2021 Utility Rate Ordinance. He reviewed the Utility Rate Comparison as requested and stated the utility rate structure is designed to support ongoing operations and maintenance, equipment repair and replacement and capital improvements. He highlighted each utility, the Solid Waste/Operations Facility and the importance of the rate adjustments.

Council discussion ensued regarding revenue generated, solid waste rates and questions regarding the importance of the replacement of the Solid Waste/Operations Facility.

Councilmember Kesti moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1966-20 Amending Solid Waste Rates. Seconded by Councilmember McGoffin. Motion carried (5-1, Councilmember de Jong opposed).

Councilmember Kesti moved to adopt Ordinance No. 1967-20 Amending Stormwater Rates. Councilmember Allen seconded. Motion carried 4-2, (Councilmembers de Jong and Owen opposed).

#### Ordinance No. 1970-20 – 2021-2022 Biennial Budget

City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman introduced the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget to the Council.

#### **New Business**

#### Ordinance No. 1971-20 – 2021 Salary Ordinance

City Supervisor/Finance Director Merriman introduced the first read of the 2021 Salary Ordinance for non-represented employees. He noted some positions have been added to follow the code.

Merriman entertained questions from the Council regarding minimum wage.

#### Information Only Items

- Library Project Cost Summary
- Fire Department Monthly Incident Data – October 2020
- Minor Contracts approved under SWMC 2.104.060

#### **Good of the Order**

Executive Session

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M.