
CITY OF SEDRO-WOOLLEY

Regular Meeting of the City Council
May 24th, 2023– 6:00 P.M. Hybrid Meeting

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call:

Present: Mayor Julia Johnson, City Council Members Joe Burns, Sarah Diamond, JoEllen Kesti, Glenn Allen, Brenden McGoffin, and Nick Lavacca. Councilmember Chuck Owen joined via zoom.

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Councilmember McGoffin to approve the agenda with the addition of a discussion of the Fire Department levy lid lift and funding of new radios, and removing item 1 from New Business. Motion carried (7-0).

Unfinished Business

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes- Regular Meeting- May 10th, 2023
2. Check Register - Regular
3. Digital Imagery Agreement with Skagit County

Motion made by Councilmember Kesti and seconded by Councilmember Lavacca. Motion carried (7-0).

Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations

Community Paramedic

Fire Chief Frank Wagner introduced Steve Monrad the Community Paramedic for the City of Anacortes, his PowerPoint presentation is included in additional materials. Steve answered questions made by Councilmembers, and Mayor Julia Johnson.

City Administrator Report

Director of Public Works Mark Freiberger Director shared improvements for Rita and State St Pedestrian Crossing, City Administrator Charlie Bush, and Finance Director Kelly Kohnken recommended using \$20,000.00 of the Council Strategic Reserve to complete the project.

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Allen to use funds from Council Strategic Reserve Fund to complete Rita St and State St pedestrian crosswalk project. Motion carried (7-0).

City Attorney Nikki Thompson shared information and gave updates on the Blake legislation, and notified council there will be a new drug ordinance brought to council to an upcoming city council meeting to include RCW 69.50.4013.

Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Mayor Julia Johnson shared information regarding American Legion and flag set up and take down for Memorial Day, Mayor Julia Johnson also shared information about the City and Council Leaders Leading Session; Councilmember Owen had nothing to report; Councilmember McGoffin shared information about the Farmer's Market Wednesdays 3pm-7pm and made comment on the Community Development Director position; Councilmember Diamond made comment on the position for the Community Development Director, and gave updates from the Strategic Planning Meeting, Friday Night Lights starting June 2nd, 2023, Council Assignments and length of term, and shared information on Sedro-Woolley Fast Pitch going to State; Councilmember Burns made comment on the Community Development Director position and Loggerodeo; Councilmember Kesti shared information regarding America Legion and the need for volunteers to help set up and take down flags at the Union Cemetery for Memorial Day; Councilmember Allen had nothing to report; Councilmember Lavacca made comment on the Community Development Director, and opinions from residents for future planning in Sedro-Woolley.

Public Comments –

Open Public comment 6:54pm

Paul Woodmansee - 702 Metcalf St - Shared the letter he wrote about the position for the new Community Development Director and how important this position is to Sedro-Woolley. See additional materials.

John Janicki -711 Metcalf St - Made comment on hiring the new Community Planning Development Director, and the need to challenge creativity.

Allen Henderson- 842 Ferry St - Made comment on the upcoming city ordinance regarding the use hard drugs.

Close Public comment 7:01pm

Public Hearing(s)

Unfinished Business

1. Amending Fiscal Year 2023 Budget- Ordinance 2048-23- 2nd read

Motion made by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Councilmember Owen. Motion carried (7-0).

2. Discussion regarding Levy Lid lift and Radios.

The Mayor requested the council address three items: the number of firefighter/EMTs to fund in the levy lift lid, whether community paramedicine professional position should be funded, and a funding source for the Fire Department replacement radios. Finance Director Kelly Kohnken and Fire Chief Frank Wagner answered questions made by councilmembers, after lengthy discussion, councilmembers noted the following.

Councilmember McGoffin, Councilmember Diamond, Councilmember Burns, Councilmember Kesti, Councilmember Lavacca and Councilmember Owen supported 8 firefighters / EMTs to be added to the levy lid lift request and placed on the general election ballot. Councilmember Allen supported 4 firefighter / EMTs.

All councilmembers were in support of not including the community paramedicine professional position to the levy lid lift request.

All councilmembers supported funding new radios for the Fire Department with one-time federal ARPA moneys.

New Business

1. Confirm Mayor's Appointment of New Information Technology Director- Begin January 1st, 2024 – Removed from agenda under Approval of Agenda above.
2. Riverfront Park Landowner Agreement with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Public Works Director Mark Freiberger shared information with the councilmembers on the agreement with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and explained the details included in the design and improvements being made.

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Allen. Motion carried (7-0).

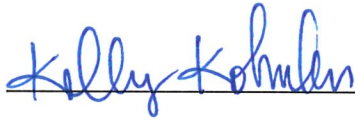
Information Only Items

1. North Star City and County Leaders Session Invitations
2. Minutes from April 13th, 2023, City Council Planning and Business Development Committee Meeting

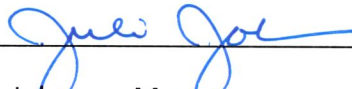
The meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:



Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk



Julia Johnson, Mayor