

SULTAN CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

ITEM NO: Consent C 1

DATE: August 9, 2007

SUBJECT: Council Minutes

CONTACT PERSON: Laura Koenig, City Clerk/Deputy Finance Director

SUMMARY: Attached are the minutes of the July 26, 2007 regular Council meeting as on file in the office of the City Clerk.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve as submitted.

MOTION: Move to accept the consent agenda as presented.

COUNCIL ACTION:

DATE:

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – July 26, 2007

The regular meeting of the Sultan City Council was called to order in the Sultan Community Center by Mayor Pro Tem Seehuus. Councilmembers present: Champeaux, Wiediger, Slawson, Flower, and Blair. Absent: Boyd

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Consent: Excused absence of Councilmember Boyd and Mayor Tolson; move Snohomish County Contract for Police Services to action items.

Discussion: Remove Developer Agreements

PRESENTATIONS:

BNRR – Operation Lifesaver: Operation Lifesaver is a non-profit education program established in 1972 to help end collisions, injuries and deaths at highway-rail crossings and on railroad right of ways. The group provides presentations to schools, law enforcement, professional drivers and the general public on the safety issues and concerns at railroad crossings.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Bart Dalmasso: Advised that the Economic Development Committee had discussed the signs along the highway that detract from the beauty of the town and the need to amend the sign code. The Council discussed spending \$500 for a broker service and he offered to provide the service for free. The City should not raise taxes or reduce staff to balance the budget.

Courtney Flora: Presented a letter to the Council on behalf of the owner of the Skyridge Estates, Sultan 144 and other members of the community who want to help the City grow and thrive. The City needs to complete the upgrade to the Comprehensive Plan and respond to GMA Board orders. The primary areas to be addressed are: 1) amend the City's level of service for traffic and police; 2) amend the planned unit development code to eliminate the transit proximity requirement; 3) create a developer agreement that would allow property owners to pay up front for connection fees; and 4) secure a consultant to process the 2007/2008 docket as soon as practicable. The property owners may be willing to help with those costs.

Arthur Burdis: Lives in Sultan and the Council works for the citizens and in a crunch they only know how to raise fees. He was going to put a business on Main Street but the building permit fee is high and he would be required to spend \$20,000 for a water and sewer connection and traffic impact fees. The City needs business but discourages people from opening a business with the fees they charge.

COUNCILMEMBERS COMMENTS:

Blair: Advised Mr. Burdis that she was sorry to hear about the issues he was having over the charges for the permits. Thanked Ms. Flora for offering to help the City. The Council has been accused of accepting bribes from developers when they offer to help but it is a common practice for them to provide financial assistance. She noticed that at the State level citizens provide input during the process but at the City level input is often received after the plan is complete and the money has been spent. The City does the best it can to provide notice of meetings.

Flower: Agrees with Ms. Blair's comments about Ms. Flora's offer and the term to use should be partnering. Does not like to hear that a business will not open due to costs and he would like to review the water and sewer connection fees and find a way for the City to help business.

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – July 26, 2007

Wiediger: Advised that he would like to meet with Mr. Burdis on his project. Advised that staff held neighborhood meetings on the parking issues this week in the rain and there was a good turn out at the park and ride meeting. Thanked Connie Dunn for her work on the project.

Slawson: Invited everyone to community meeting on the shooting range on August 11th in Monroe. The County is also working on a park across the river and the Department of Emergency Management has allocated money to buy more of the lots and they may open the area up for camping. The Council has talked a lot about the budget and they will have to take the necessary steps but turning off the lights is not a good idea.

Champeaux: Thanked the City staff and everyone who worked on the Sultan Shindig. Would like to look into the developer's proposal. The cost of opening a business is the same elsewhere but hopes the City can help Mr. Burdis.

Seehuus: Thanked everyone for showing up. It is great to hear public input on issues.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The following items are incorporated into the consent and approved by a single motion of the Council. On a motion by Councilmember Champeaux, seconded by Councilmember Slawson, the consent agenda was approved as amended. Champeaux – aye; Wiediger – aye; Slawson – aye; Seehuus - aye; Flower – aye; Blair – aye.

1. Approval of vouchers in the amount of \$81,082.61 and payroll through July 13, 2007 in amount of \$63,739.99 to be drawn and paid on the proper accounts.
2. Confirmation of the appointment of Laura Koenig to the position of Clerk/Deputy Finance Director.
3. Approval of the Utility Committee recommendation for utility account adjustments.
4. Excused absence of Councilmember Boyd and Mayor Tolson from the July 26, 2007 Council meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

Transportation Improvement Grants: Donna Murphy presented the staff and sub-committee recommendation to submit grants to the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) for Sultan Basin Road Phase III and for 6th Street overlay and sidewalk projects. There is a 5% match for construction but there is no match for the overlay and sidewalk projects.

On a motion by Councilmember Slawson, seconded by Councilmember Flower, staff was authorized to submit a grant application to TIB for the Sultan Basin Road Project Phase III. All ayes.

On a motion by Councilmember Slawson, seconded by Councilmember Flower, staff was authorized to submit a grant application to TIB for an overlay on 6th Street. All ayes.

On a motion by Councilmember Slawson, seconded by Councilmember Flower, staff was authorized to submit a grant application to TIB for sidewalk repair on 6th Street. All ayes.

Financial Consulting Solutions Contract Amendment: The issue before the Council is an amendment to the Contract with Financial Consulting Solutions (FCS) Group for professional services for the preparation of the Sewer Rate Study. The FCS Group have been delayed in the completion of services by changes in the scope of work related to finalizing a draft multi year General Facility Charge (GFC) calculation with separation for general facilities, WWTP Short Term Improvements and Phase I.

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – July 26, 2007

Financial Consulting Solutions Contract Amendment: The amended scope of work is to include calculating a schedule of GFC updated each year from 2007 – 2013. The proposed GFC shall be updated each year based on the cost of new facilities added to the system and interest on the existing facilities. The contract time for completion of the Sewer Rate Study shall be extended to expire no later than September 30, 2007. The current contract is for Thirty Thousand Five Hundred Ten Dollars (\$30,510) the contract amendment will add Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$4,950.00) for the Multi Year GFC task. The amended contract shall not exceed Thirty Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$35,460.00) without prior Council approval. Brief discussion was held regarding duplication of items on the revised scope of work that were included on the original scope. On a motion by Councilmember Flower, seconded by Councilmember Champeaux, the Mayor was authorized to sign the amended contract with FCS in an amount not to exceed \$35,460 and to extend the contract completion date to September 30, 2007. All ayes except Councilmember Blair who voted nay.

Stormwater Utility – Set Hearing: Deborah Knight discussed the formation of the Stormwater Utility which will operate as an enterprise fund and will be self supporting. The establishment of the Utility will help eliminate budgetary issues in the General, Street and Sewer Utility funds which currently fund the stormwater treatment. The Small Works Group and the Planning Board have reviewed the proposed fee structure and have recommended the City move forward with the formation of the utility. The rate will be based on ERU's (equivalent residential units) and the Council will need to determine how credits will be calculated for properties such as the sports fields at the schools. Staff has recommended that the Council move forward with the public hearing. On a motion by Councilmember Slawson, seconded by Councilmember Wiediger, a public hearing on the Stormwater Utility formation was set for August 9, 2007 at 6:00 PM. All ayes.

Sewer Rate Study – Set Hearing: Connie Dunn reviewed the process to develop the proposed sewer monthly rate charge and the general facility charge and the public outreach completed during the sewer rate study. Staff has recommended that the Council set a public hearing on the rates. On a motion by Councilmember Slawson, seconded by Councilmember Champeaux, a public hearing on the Sewer Rates and General Facility Charges was set for August 9, 2007 at 6:00 PM. All ayes.

Snohomish County Contract for Police Services: Deborah Knight advised that the council had directed staff to finalize a contract with Snohomish County for backfill for police personnel. The City is also currently working with the Monroe Police Guild to provide backup service. Brief discussion was held regarding the Monroe Officers first to save money. On a motion by Councilmember Slawson, seconded by Councilmember Champeaux, the Mayor was authorized to sign a contract with Snohomish County for backfill police personnel and was directed to use officers from the Monroe Guild first. All ayes except Councilmember Flower who voted nay.

Adjournment: On a motion by Councilmember Blair, seconded by Councilmember Wiediger, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

John Seehuus, Mayor Pro-tem

Laura J. Koenig, City Clerk