

SULTAN CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

ITEM NO: Consent C 1B
DATE: February 14, 2008
SUBJECT: Council Minutes

CONTACT PERSON: Laura Koenig, Clerk/Deputy Finance Director

SUMMARY:

Attached are the minutes of the February 1, 2008 continued 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 – February 1, 2008

The continued meeting of the Sultan City Council was called to order in the Sultan Community Center by Mayor Eslick. Councilmembers present: Wiediger, Slawson, Flower, Davenport-Smith and Blair.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

On a motion by C/M Slawson, seconded by C/M Blair, the Interlocal Agreement was added to the agenda. All ayes.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Josie Fallgatter: The Council should be more considerate of the public in regards to hearings as it is difficult to get to the meeting on time and frustrating when the Council delays the hearing. The Council is encouraged not to listen to people who live in the County but the contract they are looking at will reduce the level of service to the County in order to staff the City police. The Sheriff is understaffed so why are they taking service from the County to provide service to Sultan. We all live in the community and the City is welcome to the service to keep the city safe.

Jerry Gibson: Thanked the Councilmembers for serving on committees that help the City. In regards to the Sheriff contract, he thought we were past the contract issues and then information is provided that there would be service at no cost but the spreadsheet shows a cost to the city. There is a police officer on administrative leave and the Pepperell hearing cost \$140,000 and the city can't afford it.

Loretta Storm: Recommended that the City provide information on how the money was spent for the hearings as there will be public records requests. Requested the written comments submitted at the Transportation hearings be provided to the Highway 2 Coalition file.

Rob Biedler: Representative from the Snohomish County Sheriff: Advised that when the City needs an officer, there is already an Interlocal in place to provide an officer to the City. The County will use a Detective to fill the Interim Chief position and will not take an officer off the streets. There will be no charge to the City for service unless the contract extends into May.

ACTION ITEMS:

Interlocal Agreement with Snohomish County – Interim Police Chief

Since August 2007, the City has appointed in-house police officers to act as the City's interim police chief. Using in-house staff has put pressure on both the interim police chief and the officers. The Mayor would like to have all of the available Sultan officers on the street in order to ensure officer safety and provide the best possible service to the Sultan community.

The County is offering to provide temporary interim police chief services at no cost to the City. However, there will be costs associated with the ILA.

The type and amount of costs will depend on the City Council's decisions regarding uniforms, police vehicles, and other operating expenses. The proposed ILA assumes that the City of Sultan will provide a Sultan uniform for the sheriff's sergeant assigned to Sultan. Staff estimate uniform costs at approximately \$250 to \$350. The ILA also assumes that the temporary interim chief will be assigned a Sultan vehicle. There will be regular operating and maintenance costs associated with the use of the Sultan vehicle. There may be other operating costs associated with supporting the interim chief that are currently budgeted such as phone, computer, and office supplies that would be ancillary to the ILA.

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – February 1, 2008

The County will charge the City \$9,524 per month beginning on May 1, 2008 if the City decides to extend the ILA past April 30, 2008. Under the terms of the ILA, the County will provide a Sergeant to act as the Interim Chief. The Sergeant will fulfill the regular duties of the police chief including police patrol services (reactive and proactive), administrative duties and ministerial assistance in employment matters. The interim chief will be responsible for basic operational control of the department of personnel including establishing work shifts, schedules and assignments in accordance with City policies and procedures.

Discussion was held on the duties of the Interim Chief, term of the contract, backfill contract, response time for calls, potential costs, overworked officers and the need to put Officer Marshall back to work on the streets. The Council thanked the Sheriff's office for offering to help provide police services.

On a motion by C/M Blair, seconded by C/M Flower, the Mayor was authorized to sign the Interlocal Agency Agreement with Snohomish County to provide an Interim Police Chief. All ayes.

Council Comments:

Blair: Sultan has the same issues to deal with as other cities such as the sewer plant and GMA. Other small cities have implemented a storm water utility. The Mayor and Councilmembers met with the state budget committees to request money for the sewer plant project and they still need to be proactive to lobby for funding. Two House bills for funding for Highway 2 were an issue of discussion and the City has provided testimony in support of the bills.

Davenport – Smith: Attended the AWC elected official training and received a lot of good information on city issues, legal training. There was a great session on team building and creating a common vision.

Slawson: Advised that he discussed a gun range with Val Stevens and she is willing to set up a meeting with all the necessary parties. He sat in on the testimony on Highway 2 and learned a lot about the funding and projects. It has been over 50 years since any major improvements have been made. The Highway 2 Coalition testimony was impressive. This is not about getting money for roads, it is about human life.

Public Comment

Josie Fallgatter: Thanked the Councilmembers who went to Olympia to support funding and improvements to Highway 2. Asked if someone has checked the contract to make sure the officer can be terminated if it doesn't work out.

Loretta Storm: Thanked the Council for their support at the Highway 2 hearings in Olympia.

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

Carolyn Eslick, Mayor

Laura J. Koenig, City Clerk