

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – January 26, 2023

Mayor Wiita called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. The meeting was a hybrid with attendees both in person at City Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom Internet Conference Service. Mayor Wiita called roll and the following were in attendance:

Councilmembers: Aldrich, Morgan, Dearborn, Hund, Sivewright, and Beeler.

Councilmembers Absent: Neigel

Staff: City Administrator Ibershof, Public Works Director Morgan, Finance Director Erdman, and City Clerk Pevey.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council approved the following changes to the consent agenda. Motion passed 6-0.

- Add Discussion Item_Naming of the Park on Sultan Basin
- Add Executive Session for Current or potential litigation RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)
- Add Consent Agenda item – Excused Absence of Councilmember Neigel

PRESENTATIONS

AB22-46_Transportation Solutions Inc (TSI)_US 2 Public Engagement Final Report

Presentation on file with the City Clerk's Office

Victor Salemann, President of Transportation Solutions Inc. (TSI) gave an overview of the public engagement process regarding US 2 corridor improvements thru Sultan. He provided a brief overview of the engagement schedule and confirmed the objective was to establish consensus on a preferred improvement alternative for the US 2 corridor with the City of Sultan. Consensus had been formed around Alternative 3, a four-lane US 2 with multi-lane roundabout intersections. This approach is compatible with WSDOT and PRSC plans. The suggested phased improvements were presented to council to include the following:

- US 2/Old Owen Road/Fern Bluff Road Roundabout
- US 2/Main Street Roundabout
- US 2 Nonmotorized Trail
- US 2/Rice Road Roundabout Expansion to Two-Lanes
- Downtown District additional community engagement
- US 2/Sultan Basin Road Roundabout and Wagley Creek Bridge Expansion
- Full Corridor and NEPA Documentation.

The full improvements are currently estimated to cost approximately \$177 million dollars.

Mayor and Council expressed appreciation for the hard work completed by TSI to date and acknowledged there was still a lot of work ahead for council. Discussion on the various elements to include traffic counter results during the Bolt Creek Fire shutdown of US 2, the significance of the non-motorized trail, and the pace of development and the reasons for phasing of the different areas as improvements are commonly development driven.

VOA_Coalition Update & VOA_Youth Prevention Update

Presentation on file with the City Clerk's Office

Lynsey Gagnon, Executive Director, provided council with an overview of Volunteers of America Western Washington (VOAWW) explaining their mission is to serve people and communities in need and create opportunities for people to experience the joy of serving others. They focus on 8 areas of service to include hunger prevention, disability services/personal support services, behavior health to include 988 crisis line and tribal hub, dispute resolution center, early childhood education and assistance program (ECEAP), Carl Gibson Center, housing services such as 2-1-1 and Maud's House, and Community Resource Centers with one located in Sultan. She acknowledged the Sultan Sky Valley Community Resource Center was founded in 1992 by current State Representative Carolyn Eslick.

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Next, Lynsey Gagnon discussed the Sky Valley Youth Coalition (SYVC) and its mission to host a safe space for teens after school, provide food, service opportunities, connections to supportive and trustworthy adult mentors, and exposure to post-secondary education and employment opportunities. SYVC aims to keep teens above the influence of harmful substances, free from self-harm and suicide, and resilient to bullying. This includes reinvigorating Citizen Suzie Hollenbeck's community garden.

Rachel Lane, Sultan Prevention Coalition Coordinator explained the prevention coalition was implemented in 2021 with the mission to promote healthy, purpose-driven lives among youth while preventing the harms of alcohol and drug use through education, outreach, and support. The coalition's long-term goals are to increase school performance, decrease youth delinquency and overall improved mental health for our youth. She presented various statistics for Sultan youth and events associated such as the drug take back day.

Both Lynsey and Rachel provided ways to get involved to include attending a meeting, connecting on social media, encouraged citizens to be a part of the conversation, and spread the word.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jeff Estes, Startup: (written comment) clarified his comments from the November 3rd meeting and their intention regarding US 2 improvement suggestions.

Genny Smith, Marguerite Lane, Sultan: (written comment) expressed concerns for AB23-04, the park environmental consultant contract being presented for action later in the meeting.

Jason Hubble, Sultan: Expressed concern with drivers on 4th Street running stop signs and speeding; requested council input on suggestions to address the situation.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Morgan – acknowledged state legislature is bringing forth a package of bills to address traffic and public safety and that may bring potential funding opportunities; acknowledged the boy scouts in attendance and confirmed they were working towards their community service merit badge; acknowledged bipartisan bill being presented at state legislature to address police pursuits and would like to show council support for that bill if possible.

Aldrich, Dearborn, and Hund thanked the presenters and boy scouts in attendance.

Sivewright – Also expressed appreciation for presenters tonight; acknowledged citizen comments regarding traffic issues and can work with the police department to address; acknowledged emails received regarding new safety signage being installed on US 2; glad to hear the Take Back Day is returning again this year; acknowledged the importance of merit badges in the scouts' program.

Beeler – acknowledge citizen comments regarding traffic issues and explained that staff can discuss with the police department to provide more focus in the area of 4th Street for traffic enforcement; acknowledged work of TSI and the importance of the city focusing on how the citizens want the town to look and the improvements being discussed on US 2; encouraged all in attendance the importance of continuing to work to move the project forward and ensure it does not get stalled in the design phase.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Thanked citizen for advising of traffic situation and will work with the Police Chief on increased traffic enforcement; acknowledged the community awards dinner is set for Friday February 3rd with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and event kickoff at 6:30 p.m. The Mayor acknowledged the Community Alliance Board will be recognized as Sultan's 2022 Volunteer of the Year at the event and invited councilmembers and citizen to attend. Stated the Snohomish County Cities and Towns met last Friday and held elections where he was re-elected as president; Councilmember Beeler was re-elected to LEOFF 1 Disability Board; and Councilmember Hund was elected to Snohomish County Community

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Development Advisory Board as well as the new Community Health Advisory Board. The mayor encouraged councilmembers to attend this monthly event as it is an opportunity to talk with elected officials all across county. Mayor acknowledged Councilmember Morgan's comments on state legislature bills presented regarding pursuits bill and bipartisan support. The Mayor acknowledged he will testify next Tuesday along with other local leaders in support of that bill. Mayor reminded those in attendance that there were openings on the community alliance board and the salary commission, and the city was accepting applications for those who may be interested.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

City Administrator Ibershof stated the city has submitted a grant funding request to the State Legislature to obtain a \$500,000 grant for the Sultan Basin area park development. Ibershof stated newly hired Community Development Director Hart had started work this week and was doing well. He reminded council of the workshop next week was regarding ARPA funds and staff would be presenting a list of projects for the council to consider. He explained himself and the mayor are working on the city emergency management process and reached out to the Department of Emergency Management to assist in that process. Also seeking key contacts for community groups and local homeowners' associations to engage them in city activities. Stated the Sky Valley Chamber presented 12 grants to needy applicants for Bolt Creek Fire restoration assistance. Reminded citizens the upcoming Sky Valley Community awards dinner was a potluck and open to all. He acknowledged a speed trailer owned by the city and confirmed he will coordinate with the police regarding traffic enforcement issues.

STAFF REPORTS

Written reports on file with the clerk's office regarding the Public Works Department, Finance Department quarterly report, and police activity for December 2022.

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council approved the following consent agenda items; Motion passed 6-0.

- 1) Voucher & Payroll thru 1/26/2023
- 2) 1/12/2023 Council Meeting Minutes
- 3) Excused absence of councilmember Neigel

ACTION ITEMS

AB23-04_Herrera Environmental Consultants_Amendment #2 to Task Order #1_New Park Environmental Consultant Contract

Public Works Director Morgan explained the city is currently in the design phase of the new Sultan Basin area park. Morgan explained the task has grown due to unexpected wetlands on a flat piece of the property the city didn't anticipate which requires research of the wetlands to determine the buffer zone requirements. Morgan confirmed it would only include the upper portion of the property. Discussion on the situation and how this could potentially affect the designs. Morgan explained staff could look for historic evidence to prove prior work may have created it but felt the time and cost to research and prove that would be greater than designing around it as needed. On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council approved the Mayor to sign the Task Order Amendment for an amount not to exceed \$35,000 which includes a 12% contingency. Motion passed 6-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Council Retreat

City Administrator Ibershof requesting input on council regarding potential retreat topics and dates that might work for council. Topics confirmed included comprehensive plan review; potential parks and recreation department to include the long-range goals and internal assessment of this potential change; and a field trip to review infrastructure changes to include seeing Lake 16 dam improvements. It was determined that June would be a nicer time of year for any outdoor activities during a retreat.

Council Photos

City Clerk Pevey explained staff would like to update elements of the website to include updated photos of council

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and staff. A local professional photographer had been chosen and requested confirmation of dates that would work for council to be in attendance. It was confirmed prior to the February 23rd council meeting would work for all involved. Pevey stated she would confirm with the photographer and include it in the agenda for that meeting.

Naming of the park on Sultan Basin

City Administrator Ibershof presented the list of names for the new Sultan Basin area park suggested by staff with the goal to narrow the selection down to three to five choices to be presented to the community for final input. Names suggested as follows:

Discussion amongst council regarding the suggested named with council confirming and narrowing the list down to three choices as follows: Creekside Park, Wagley's Creek Park, Sultan Escape Park, Sky Valley Park, Olney Park, Happy Valley Park, Mountain View Park, Runway Park, and Vista View Park. Council narrowed the list and determined the approved of the following names for public input: Mountain View Park, Runway Park, and Vista View Park. Ibershof confirmed he would include these names in a survey being prepared.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Current or potential litigation RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

On a motion by Councilmember Dearborn, seconded by Councilmember Morgan, council went into executive session to discuss current or potential litigation for an initial period not to exceed twenty minutes; Motion passed 6-0.

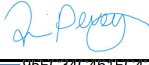
All public removed from physical room and those attending via Zoom placed in Zoom waiting room. Noted lag time between closing doors and removing members not allowed in the executive session therefore council started executive session at approximately 8:16 p.m. with City Attorney Zeinemann of Kenyon Disend in attendance.


Extended five minutes at approximately 8:36 p.m.; no public noted in person or online in attendance via Zoom, so Mayor announced the extension to the Zoom platform.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, the council meeting was closed at approximately 8:44 pm. The Zoom meeting connection was disconnected shortly thereafter.

Noted council went into closed session thereafter for collective bargaining discussion and Councilmember Aldrich recused herself due to conflict of interest.

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Tami J. Pevey, City Clerk

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Russell Wiita, Mayor