

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL WORKSHOP– February 4, 2021

Mayor Wiita called the workshop to order at approximately 7:01 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom Internet Conference Service with all members in attendance at remote locations via computer or phone. Mayor called roll and the following were in attendance:

Councilmembers in attendance: McCarty, Aldrich, Walker, Vaughn, Neigel, Sivewright, Beeler. It should be noted that Student Rep DeBock joined the meeting shortly after the start of the discussion.

Staff in attendance: Administrator Ibershof, Public Works Director Morgan, City Planner Galuska, and City Clerk Pevey.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None Noted

DISCUSSION

Transportation Issues Facing Sultan

City Planning Director Galuska explained in 2020 the Traffic Element of the Comprehensive Plan was adopted and updated. Galuska explained the city currently has 12 development projects in various stages at the present time that would add 900 lots to the city; explanation of traffic impact fee usage and the state requirements on how the money can be collected and utilized to design and construct new projects incorporated into our transportation improvement plan. Galuska discussed the most direct traffic improvement options that are currently listed on the city's transportation improvement project list and suggested projects shown in image concept form.

Discussion on Washington State Department of Transportation safety projects planned, some of which include parts of city projects incorporated in the 6 Year TIP. Those shown in image concept form as well.

CM Beeler requested the addition of improvements to Sultan Basin Road at US2 and provided examples. Galuska explained an East West Connection is possible and conceptual options presented with an estimated project cost. Public Works Director Morgan explained the options being presented are very conceptual suggestions and actual technical studies have not been completed to determine feasibility. Morgan also confirmed trips data is as of Friday PM peak hour in the projected year 2040.

Many councilmembers expressed their support of project #T-75 East West Arterial Connector #3 from 8th Street to 135th St SE/Bryant Road project as it appears the most feasible option; Discussion among councilmembers and staff on the impacts of each option and additional factors for consideration. Discussion shifted to design cost and potential timeline to include the need for additional grant funding; include anticipated revenues and current revenues already collected for traffic improvement needs.

Discussion shifted to potential city focused improvements on US 2 and options were presented; final agreement on pursuing design of the following:

- US-2 Improvements: Main St and 5th/Mann Rd (Estimated Project Cost: \$3,500,000)
- Main Street Improvements (Estimated Project Cost: \$2,010,000)
- New Road from 8th St to 135th St SE (Estimated Project Cost \$5,520,000)

City staff recommended using money from the transportation impact fee fund to begin 30% design on all three projects immediately. Design is estimated to take twelve to eighteen months, and staff explained the importance of beginning work as soon as possible to help improve the city chances of obtaining grant funding which will speed up construction of these needed improvements. Councilmembers echoed their support for the recommendation of staff as suggested.

Discussion on future grant opportunities presented in relationship to the traffic improvement projects as presented to include deeper discussion on each programs pros and cons.

- TIB Urban Arterial Grant Program (opens every year)
- PRSC Rural Town Centers & Corridors (open in 2021 comes up every two years)

Throughout the discussion staff explained that Public Works Director Morgan and Planning Director Galuska have been in continued talks with Washington State DOT about the recommendations and they have confirmed their support for the city improvements suggested.

Discussion on lobbying efforts for funding support & suggested future community involvement. Staff will continue working in direction suggested and bring it forward to a future council meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None Noted

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Beeler, the council meeting was adjourned at approximately 815 pm, all ayes. The zoom meeting connection was disconnected shortly thereafter.



Tami J. Pevey, City Clerk



Russell Wiita, Mayor