

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – May 27, 2021

Mayor Wiita called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 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, Vaughn, Neigel, Sivewright, Beeler; and Student Rep DeBock; It was noted that councilmember McCarty joined shortly after the start of the first action item; Absent: Walker.

Staff in attendance: City Administrator Ibershof, Public Works Director Morgan, Community Development Director Galuska, City Attorney Evans, and City Clerk Pevey.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None noted.

PRESENTATIONS**Police Chief Martin Blake Decision and legislation passed following the decision affecting Sheriff Office Operations**

Mayor Wiita provided a brief insight explaining that the supreme court recently turned over the simple drug possession laws deeming it unconstitutional. The City has been working with the Sheriff's Office and Prosecutors Office to determine what this means and the steps being taken in response in response to the supreme court decision. Prosecutor Chad Krepps with Zachor Thomas provided a brief update of the issue known as "the Blake Decision". He explained in response the senate and house passed Engrossed Senate Bill 5476 written with a 2 year sunset clause. The biggest change with the senate bill state decided to turn the war on drugs from a felony charge to a simple misdemeanor which means 90 days in jail and \$1000 fine is the maximum sentence for a simple misdemeanor. It also takes prosecution out of the state's hands if there is a local prosecutor and local court. In Sultan, the City contracts with Zachor Thomas for misdemeanor cases. Krepps explained one question that will eventually be brought before the council will be how the city wants to respond to drug crimes and if Sultan wants to continue to prosecute them. If yes, the city will have to adopt the state RCW's or some variation of them to allow the district court to prosecute these crimes. He discussed the other elements of mental health services implemented with Engrossed Senate Bill 5476.

Discussion and questions raised regarding city's financial responsibility to some of the changes and additional measures the city may need to consider, to include timing of when these changes need to be addressed. Mayor confirmed staff is working on the issue and will be coming forward with a recommendation, but they are still working thru the implications and challenges of implementation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Conner Morgan, Loves Hill Drive: Thank you to Dave Sivewright, Mayor, and folks at public services for clean up event last Saturday. Had a great time meeting neighbors and cleaning up the community. Thanked Krepps for attendance and appreciate the work they are doing to keep the community safe. Thanked those he has spoken to at the city.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Vaughn: Overdose prevention training went well and information well received. Shoutout to Genny Smith for the driving force behind it and her hard work in making the training happen.

Neigel: Assisted VOA Director Gagnon in writing a Washington State Health Care Authority for participation in the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative. Huge substance abuse and mental health initiative. If approved, VOA would receive a minimum of \$130,000 per year for substance abuse prevention and mental health services. Provided background information that has been in play over the last ten years in preparation for this grant application and the coordinated effort that has occurred between local and state agencies in these efforts.

Sivewright: Posting flags for Memorial Day on Main Street May 31st will go up at 7:00 am and down at 4:00 pm; flags at cemetery will go up Saturday and stay up thru the weekend. Short Memorial Day Ceremony at 11:00 am at the cemetery.

Beeler: Attended the shredding and food drive event at police department held on Saturday; appeared to be a well received event. Many vaccinated and Beeler pushing for in person council meetings from here on out as feels in person meetings are vital to the community and the collaboration. Concerned about signal times during peak commuting times and requesting to contact WSDOT to set the time constraint differently from the 4:00 to 6:00 pm timeframe to allow more traffic thru on US 2. Asphalt patch work completed at Wagley Creek bridge appears to have a dip forming on the west side of that area.

DeBock: Wrapping up the school year and still preparing for next year and whether school will still be online or return to back in person.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Saturday cleanup event had 18 people in attendance to assist in litter walk and Main Street flower bed cleanup. Appreciate those who came out. Farmers Market started up June 5th and look forward to that starting. Produce will be short in the start as it is a little early in the season. An assault occurred last Friday in the lobby of city hall. Suspect was arrested and it brought about a conversation about security infrastructure and protocols at city hall. Welcome packets for new residents ready and requested councilmembers to help distribute them.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Cancelling the council workshop scheduled for June 3rd. The City met with Snohomish County Sheriff's Office regarding the contract renewal and there are still a number of questions to resolve before it is ready to present to council. Acknowledged continued theft issues at the public works yard and staff will be bringing forward security responses for approval to council. Enjoyed the cleanup event and felt it was a great turn out. Started conversations about returning to in person meetings and will reach out to each councilmember about safety protocols needed to feel safe.

STAFF REPORTS

Written reports on file for Public Works Department, Community Development Department, and police Department..

CONSENT AGENDA:

On a motion by Councilmember Beeler, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council approved the consent agenda. Consent agenda items included: 1) Vouchers for approval in the amount of \$438,433.22, Void to re-issue in the amount of \$-385.02, Payroll 10 dated May 21, 2021 in the amount of \$54,010.94, benefits in the amount of \$57,501.02 to be drawn and paid on the proper accounts; 2) April 22, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes; 3) May 6, 2021 Council Workshop Minutes; and 4) May 13, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes; Motion passed 5-0

ACTION ITEMS

AB21-36_KPG Task Order #2 Park Design

Was noted that CM McCarty joined just shortly after the start of this action item.

Public Works Director Morgan reminded council many discussions have occurred about putting a park on the basin road; after those meetings staff reached out to KPG to put together a trimmed down scope of work that will give real concept options as well as the traffic impact anticipated with each park amenity suggested to help council make a more informed decision about whether to proceed with a park at the Hammer Property location; Was acknowledged this item had previously been tabled, and this discussion was now replacing the previously tabled item. On a motion by Councilmember Sivewright, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the mayor to sign task order #2 with KPG for the amount not to exceed \$22,792.00; Motion passed 6-0

AB20-20_DAHF Cemetery Grant Contract Amendment

Public Works Director Morgan explained the city initially received approximately \$9,000 to install a new sign and kiosk at the Sultan Cemetery. This amendment adds an additional \$3000 for related expenses as well as extends the timeline

an additional year to submit items for reimbursement. On a motion by Councilmember Beeler, seconded by Councilmember McCarty, council authorized the mayor to approve the grant contract amendment for the cemetery; Motion passed 6-0.

AB21-53_2021 SPPP Grant Application for Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Public Works Director Morgan explained this grant uses REET funds and requires a partnership with another organization. The city partnered with the school district and identified nine crosswalks in around the area of the schools that are in need of repair or replacement. Morgan explained this motion is to authorize staff to submit the application for the grant. On a motion by Councilmember McCarty, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the Mayor to sign the application for the 2021 Small Capital Projects Partnership Grant for safety improvements; Motion passed 6-0.

AB21-52_Resolution 21-12_Teamsters Memorandum of Understanding

Councilmember Aldrich recused herself from the discussion as her spouse is a current employee of the city. She was then moved to the waiting room for the duration of the discussion and subsequent decision.

Administrator Ibershof explained the city is changing the pay scales for building inspector and senior planner. He acknowledged the union members voted and approved the memorandum. On a motion by Councilmember Neigel, seconded by Councilmember McCarty, council approved Resolution 21-12, Memorandum of Understanding with Teamsters #763; motion passed 5-0

Councilmember Aldrich was then brought back into the meeting before resuming to the next item.

AB21-54_Office Furniture Purchase

Administrator Ibershof explained the city is updating the layout of the Community Development office that will place three employees into one office that currently only holds two; in addition chairs for the conference room are being replaced due to wear and tear. On a motion by Councilmember Beeler, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the purchase of office furniture from Everett Office Furniture for an amount not to exceed \$9,463.38; motion passed 6-0.

AB21-55_Police Station Lease Amendment #2

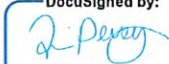
Administrator Ibershof explains this is a two year lease extension on the police station due to an expiring lease agreement; On a motion by Councilmember Siverwright, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the Mayor to sign the lease extension with Snohomish County on the police station; Motion passed 6-0.

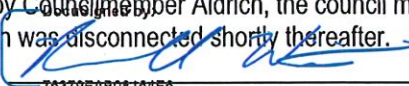
AB21-56_Resolution 21-14_Purchasing Policy

Administrator Ibershof explained the current purchasing policy requires all purchases to be authorized by council beyond supplies. This has caused significant delays as well as potential savings lost; On a motion by Councilmember Vaughn, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the Mayor to sign Resolution 21-14 adopting the 2021 purchasing policy for the City of Sultan; Motion passed 6-0

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilmember McCarty, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, the council meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:02 pm. The zoom meeting connection was disconnected shortly thereafter.

DocuSigned by:

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Tami J. Pevey, City Clerk


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Russell Wiita, Mayor