

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – July 22, 2021

Due to technical difficulties, the meeting start was delayed. Mayor Wiita called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:33 p.m. The meeting was hybrid with attendees both in person at City Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom Internet Conference Service. Mayor called roll and the following were in attendance:

Councilmembers in attendance: In person: McCarty, Aldrich, Sivewright, and Beeler; Via Zoom: Walker; Absent: Vaughn, Neigel.

Staff in attendance: City Administrator Ibershof, Public Works Director Morgan, Community Development Director Galuska, Interim Finance Director Erdman, and City Clerk Pevey.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Community Development Director Galuska delaying consideration of public hearing on AB21-59 regarding the 2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan. On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, the agenda was approved with changes as noted; Motion passed 5 to 0.

PRESENTATION**AB21-15 Sultan Visioning Project**

Elizabeth Kirk, Dale Markey-Crimp, and Maddie Immel, UW Student Interns, updated council on the Downtown Visioning project. The interns received approximately 440 responses to the community survey with 79% of the respondents from the City of Sultan with over half of the respondents between the age of 31-50 with 50% having resided in the area for over 10 years. Presented a brief update on the series of questions asked during the survey and the responses received. Maddie Immel presented the specific investment suggestions residents provided with top suggestions in order of importance being beautification combined with redoing storefronts, more/different businesses, more walkability/bikability, and address homelessness/visible drug use. Eight Washington cities of similar size were interviewed and key recommendations were provided in two buckets of information as follows: 1) Core projects lead the way for success, and 2) city needs to invest resources. The suggestion of adding an Economic Development Coordinator was received well thru the interviews. Next steps are four focus groups will meet over the next two weeks to followup with the community survey results to develop projects and preferences, bring a deeper understanding of barriers, as well as better define what would bring people downtown.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Ron Kraut, Bryant Road, Sultan: written comments on file and attached expressing concerns regarding agenda bill no. 21-63 Lot Size Averaging and Cluster Subdivisions.

Colleen Rupke, Bryant Road, Sultan: written comments on file and attached expressing concerns regarding agenda bill no. 21-63 Lot Size Averaging and Cluster Subdivisions.

Judy Heydrick, Startup: written comments on file and attached expressing concerns regarding agenda bill no. 21-63 Lot Size Averaging and Cluster Subdivisions.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Beeler: Acknowledged comments received regarding lot size averaging and cluster subdivisions. Expressed appreciation for the work being completed by the UW interns regarding the downtown visioning project.

MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Wiita acknowledged meetings held with the police chief regarding the Blake decision and the impacts moving forward. Law Enforcement are continuing to respond to calls as they work to update policies impacted by the decision. In August the farmers market will also include music in the park events. Council meetings to be placed on hold in August so staff can focus on internal projects they are finishing up.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Ibershoff shared the Sultan annual cleaup sponsored by Republic Services was a success.

STAFF REPORTS

Written reports submitted and on file for: 1) Public Works, 2) Community Development, and 3) Police. Chief Martin updated that the sheriff's office is continuing to work thru legislative updates that affect their response. Also invited citizens to the National Night Out event set for August 3, 2021, 5:00 pm at River Park Pavillion at the corner of Main and 1st Street in Sultan.

CONSENT AGENDA:

On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Beeler, council approved the consent agenda. Consent agenda items included as follows: 1) Vouchers for approval in the amount of \$173,146.04, Payroll including adjustments in the amount of \$49,353.47, Payroll Benefits in the amount of \$94,952.04, and the Tax Deposit in the amount of \$26,889.23 all to be drawn and paid on the proper accounts; 2) Minutes of June 24 2021 Council Meeting, 3) Minutes of July 1, 2021 Council Workshop, and 4) Minutes of July 8, 2021 Council Meeting; Motion passed 5-0.

ACTION ITEMS:**AB21-69_VOA ARPA Funds Grant**

Administrator Ibershof explained the money would provide residents with past due bill assistance; On a motion by Councilmember Beeler, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the Mayor to sign an ARPA agreement with the Volunteers of America for \$40,000.00; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-72_Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce ARPA Funds Grant

Administrator Ibershof explained the money would be utilized to hire a full time temporary Business Development and Tourism Manager as recommended thru the Downtown Visioning Project; On a motion by Councilmember Sivewright, seconded by Councilmember McCarty, council authorized the Mayor to sign an ARPA agreement with the Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce for \$200,000.00; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-73_Ordinance 1351-21_SMC 2.05 Council Salary Code Update

City Clerk Pevey explained the Salary Commission met the end of June to review council salaries. Due to the uncertainty of the pandemic they held off on salary increases, but did further define meeting parameters; on a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Beeler, council adopted Ordinance 1351-21 amending SMC 2.05 Council Salary Code; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-74_State Auditors Office Data Sharing Agreement

Administrator Ibershof explained each year the state audits the city and data is shared during that audit; On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember McCarty, council authorized the Mayor to sign a one-year agreement with the State Auditor's Office on a data sharing agreement; Motion passed 5-0.

AB20-62_Goldbar Geek Contract Amendment

Administrator Ibershof explained the amendment being made was a request the contractor who has retired from electrical contract work and is required to ensure other contracts reflect this change; On a motion by Councilmember Beeler, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council approved Amendment #1 to the Goldbar Geek contract; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-71_US 2 Corridor study with TSI

Public Works Director Morgan is seeking to study US 2 Corridor affects in Sultan to look for improvements and evaluate options to decrease the traffic problems and increase traffic mobility in Sultan. Councilmember Beeler suggested consideration of an additional roundabout at 6th/US 2 as well to account for traffic coming off of the Mann Road. Morgan explained this is the very first step moving forward in the discussion as the study and results will allow council and staff to ensure the proper decisions are being made moving forward. Morgan ensured the plan will take into account weekday and weekend traffic and will take the highest peak moving forward for projections. On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich,

council authorized the Mayor to sign Task order #3 with Transportation Solutions inc.(TSI) for an amount not to exceed \$72,750.00; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-70_Bowman Logging Timber Harvest Service Agreement

Public Works Director Morgan explained timber harvests are done periodically at the city's water shed to keep the area clean and free of danger trees. He further confirmed all money received goes to the Water Fund Budget; On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the Mayor to approve the Bowman Logging timber harvest agreement; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-75_Agreement for Financial Services Tara Dunford, CPA

Finance Director Erdman explained Ms. Dunford will assist the city in reviewing issues identified in the 2019 audit in preparation for the 2020 audit; On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember McCarty, council authorized the Mayor to approve the agreement for financial services with Tara Dunford, CPA; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-76_GIS Services with AWC

Administrator Ibershof explained services focused on Cemetery mapping and finish up sewer line mapping for the city; on a motion by Councilmember Sivewright, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the Mayor to approve the GIS participation agreement with AWC for tier 2 level of service; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-18_Resolution 21-18_Utility Payment Plan Policy Correction

Finance Director Erdman explained the utility payment plan was adopted and needed a slight correction to account for council recommendation to allow a 12-month payment plan and that arrangements are needed prior to disconnection; on a motion by Councilmember Sivewright, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council Approve the Correction to Resolution 21-18 Utility Payment Plan Policy; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-77_Cancel August Regularly Scheduled Council Workshops and Council Meetings

Administrator Ibershof recommended council meetings and workshops be placed on hold the month of August so staff can focus on three major projects in progress at city hall to include records reorganization, website updates, and cemetery GIS software. Council confirmed that finance committee councilmembers would review vouchers in the interm. On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council cancelled August 2021 regularly scheduled council workshops and meetings; Motion passed 5-0.

AB21-79_Interlocal with Snohomish County Drug Task Force

On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council authorized the Mayor to sign the interlocal agreement with the Snohomish County Regional Drug Taskforce. Motion passed 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) – Personnel Discussion

On a motion by Councilmember Beeler, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, council entered executive Session for an initial period of five minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 to review the performance of a public employee; Motion passed 5-0; Council started executive session at approximately 8:28 pm with City Attorney Evans in attendance. All attendees not allowed in executive session were placed in Zoom conferencing waiting room status.

Clerk noted time lag between approving executive session versus going into executive session and with placing attendees in waiting room and again bringing attendees out of waiting room to announce at approximately 8:38 pm Executive Session was extended another 20 minutes.

Clerk again noted time lag between approving executive session versus going into executive session and with placing attendees in waiting room and again bringing attendees out of waiting room. Council ended executive session at approximately 9:00 pm.


ACTION ITEMS:

AB21-78 Appointment of Lisa Erdman to Financed Director Position

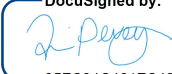
On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember McCarty, council authorized the Mayor to hire Lisa Erdman as the Finance Director for the City of Sultan; Motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilmember Walker, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich, the council meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 p.m. The Zoom meeting connection was disconnected shortly thereafter.


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Russell Wiita, Mayor

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Tami J. Pevey, City Clerk