

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



My Fellow Citizens,

As we close out 2019, I want to thank the community for the many years of support I have enjoyed during my term as a Planning Commissioner, my two terms on council, and the last two years as your Mayor.

I have enjoyed working on the Highway 2 Safety Coalition for the last 22 years, the Sultan Education Foundation for 21 years, and most recently, the #Finish 522 Project. Each of the roles has taught me how valuable our community is and how important it is we continue to work together to face the challenges of today and tomorrow.

As I reflect on my tenure with the City, I am proud we have accomplished a great deal together. I recall numerous trips to Olympia with a shortened yard stick to show the legislators how narrow the pedestrian crossing is on US-2. That was back in 2011. Since that time, we on the Hwy 2 Safety Coalition have continued to push for, and have received, millions in funding for safety and capacity enhancements to Highway 2. I am also proud to see the construction underway for the new pedestrian bridge and think back on the challenges we faced and overcame to secure funding for this critical project.

Speaking of projects, who can forget the famous dip in the road on Third Street? Well the dip is gone, and we have a repaved street, replaced sidewalks and improved water and sewer lines on 3rd. We have also completed several new projects within City Hall. The council chamber now has a professional sound system installed, new desks and video monitors so all in attendance can see and hear presentations at Council meetings and other public functions. Last year when you walked up the stairs, you had a customer counter that was difficult for customers to sign documents or have a private conversation with a staff member. Now, we have a safe professional lobby area.

City crews have also repaired sections of curbing and sidewalks in several areas of the City and repainted crosswalks and striping in many areas downtown. We also have a new functioning flood building that will enable citizens and city employees to rapidly pick up sandbags when flooding is eminent. We also made major improvements to Travelers Park including the "Freedom Rock", new signage, and an improved parking area. The fountain should be operational again shortly as well. Finally, we now have a living Christmas tree for the annual tree lighting ceremony in River Park!

These are just a few of the many accomplishments I am proud of. As I have stated many times to family and friends and guests to our community, Sultan represents everything good about small town America. We are a tight-knit community that truly takes care of our own.

Next year will be a different year for Sultan. I would personally like to welcome our new Mayor, Russell Wiita. Russell served 4 years as a council member and I wish him the best as he takes over the reins of our city. In addition, we welcome a new council member, Calei Vaughn. Calei is very active within our community and I also wish her the best as she starts a new chapter of her life as a Sultan council member.

Again, I would like to thank the citizens of Sultan and Sky Valley for their support over the years. I will continue my efforts on the US2 Safety Coalition, the #Finish 522 Board, and the Sultan Education Foundation.

I would like to wish our community a very Merry Christmas!

All the Best,

John Seehuus

Mayor

DECEMBER 2019 CALENDAR

All Meetings Held in Community Room at
319 Main Street Unless Otherwise Noted

December 2	Community Alliance Board—5:30 pm
December 3	Planning Board—7:00 pm
December 5	City Council Meeting—7:00 pm Public Hearing: 2020 Budget & Property Tax Levy
December 7	Winterfest, Sultan PD Open House and Tree Lighting See City website for more information
December 16	Community Alliance Board—5:30 pm
December 24 & December 25	CITY HALL CLOSED—Christmas Holiday
December 30	Community Alliance Board—5:30 pm



DECEMBER GARBAGE PICK UP



Zone A	DECEMBER 2 DECEMBER 16 DECEMBER 30
Zone B	DECEMBER 5 DECEMBER 19
Zone C	DECEMBER 9 DECEMBER 23
Zone D	DECEMBER 12 DECEMBER 26

NEED HELP WITH YOUR SULTAN UTILITY BILL?

Don't wait until your water is shut off. Past due payments or payment arrangements **MUST** be made by **5:00PM on December 31, 2019**.

If you are a *RENTER*, the owner needs to approve any payment arrangement. Please contact us at 360.793.2231 to see how we can help.

STREET SAFETY IN BAD WEATHER

The weather affects so much of our day to day activity. As the mornings get colder and wetter, it's important to be prepared for adverse conditions. The Public Works crew endeavors to keep the roads safe at all times. However, we can do our part to stay safe when the weather turns wet and cold. Here are a few tips for driving on the streets and roads in our area.

- ⇒ Lower your speed – adjust your speed for the conditions. The posted speed limit may be too fast for the road conditions.
- ⇒ Do not tailgate – keep a safe distance between you and the vehicle ahead of you. It is much harder to stop when roads are icy.
- ⇒ Accelerate and decelerate slowly – this will help maintain traction and avoid skids.

More safety tips can be found on the AAA website at: <https://exchange.aaa.com/safety/driving-advice/winter-driving-tips>

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SURVEY

The City has partnered with the University of Washington to study how the community uses parks and open space. As part of this project, the University has created an online survey.

Please visit <https://bit.ly/357IMa4> and share your experience to help us improve our park system.

BUILDING CORNER

**Happy Holidays Citizens of Sultan!!
Are you ready for 2020?**

I thought I would provide you an update on some of our more exciting projects that your building department is working on for the rest of this year for 2020!

As you know, residential housing is still on an uptick in our city. I am getting ready to start reviewing plans for the plat of Sky Ridge Estates on 124th Ave off Sultan Basin Rd. There are approximately 250 lots in that subdivision. There are a couple of other plats in the pipe line but those won't be ready for building until later in the summer/fall time-line. There are a couple of duplexes and a 5-plex on the review table as well.

On the commercial side, there are several exciting projects coming down the line. First, most is our new "Public Safety Center". This structure will house Fire District #5 Fire Station and have a multitude of occupancy types develop into it. One of which is an EOC/Public Education Center. This area will be for safety training for both firefighters and classes for the general public. These will be identified at a later date, but how exciting is A NEW Fire Station!!!

O'Reilly Auto Parts has renewed their interest in opening a new store on the corner of Main and Stevens avenue. They will be turning in new plans soon.

Red Pepper Pizzeria and Pasta, a new restaurant, has a permit for the clean up of 303 Main Street. Red Pepper is a restaurant that features pizza, hot wings and pastas dishes. We are excited for their opening date that has not been set but I know I can't wait for their hot wings! They currently have outlets in Duvall and Carnation. Vick's Burger Shack is remodeling the structure next to them and will be coming in for permits soon for that new location. You will be able to sit inside for those famous Vick's Burgers!!

I wish you all the very best of Holiday Cheer! Be safe, be smart and most important be GOOD! for Santa!!! As always, I am available to you at any time you need a building guy! Best Regards,

Richard Karns, CBO
Building Official, City of Sultan

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT CITY HALL TO YOU!



These previously adopted utility rate increases ensure that the City will have sufficient revenue to cover maintenance, operations and capital improvement expenses for each utility. The scheduled rate increases are as follows:

Inside City Limits

Water: (Effective December 1, 2019)

Residential/Multi-family water rate will increase from \$42.91 to \$47.20 per month. Every 100 CF over the allotted 300 CF will be billed at \$4.90.

Commercial water rate will increase from \$53.05 to \$58.35 per month for a ¾" meter and increases according to meter

size. Every 100 CF over the allotted 600 CF will be billed at \$4.90.

County Water: (Effective December 1, 2019)

Residential water rate will increase from \$64.36 to \$70.80. Every 100 CF over the allotted 300 CF will be billed at \$7.35.

Sewer: (Effective December 1, 2019)

Residential/Multi-family sewer rate will increase from \$80.55 to \$83.77 per month. This is a flat rate.

Commercial sewer rate begins at \$83.77 per month and increases according to meter size. Every 100 CF over the allotted 600 CF will be billed at \$3.54.

Storm Water: (Effective December 1, 2019)

All classes will see a storm water rate increase of \$0.32 per ERU, from \$10.60 to \$10.92. (1 ERU = 4,510 sq.ft.)

Garbage: (Effective January 1, 2020)

All classes will see a scheduled rate increase of 2%. This increase will take effect January 1, 2020 and be reflected on your February, 2020 billing statement.

Recycle: (Effective October 1, 2019)

Residential recycle rate increased from \$10.65 to \$11.00.

Please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231 with your questions or concerns.

A NEW WAY TO PAY YOUR BILL ON-LINE! NO FEES!

The City is using a new system called Civic Pay for you to pay your utility bills on-line! This system also allows you to sign up for electronic statements and automatic payments.

Want to save some paper?

SIGN UP FOR ELECTRONIC STATEMENTS OR AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS!!

Go to our website at www.ci.sultan.wa.us

If you have questions, please contact City Hall at 360.793.2231

INFORMATION & EVENTS

Sno-Isle Library Programs: For more info on programs, contact 360.793.1695 ext. 4301 <http://www.sno-isle.org/locations/sultan/>. Click on [Classes/Events](#).

City Hall is located at 319 Main Street, Sultan WA

Office Hours: Monday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday through Friday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Phone 360.793.2231 • Fax 360.793.3344 • www.ci.sultan.wa.us