

DECEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER



I hope you all enjoyed a Happy Thanksgiving with your family. In this month's newsletter, I will highlight the City's Small Business Relief Grants Program, the City's 2021 budget, and flood preparedness as we head into flood season.

Small Business Relief Grants

Following additional restrictions on in-person businesses announced by the Governor last month, I worked with City staff and the Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce (SVCC) to develop a program to distribute grants to small businesses in our community. The program awarded grants to businesses with physical storefronts in town that had seen a reduction in revenues due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Thanks to the diligence of staff with support from Debbie Copple with the SVCC, we were able to develop a user friendly application, receive applications, complete contracts, and distribute funds to 17 small businesses within a week and a half. I appreciate all of the individuals who helped make this happen and thank the City Council for supporting the program. It is important to support our local businesses that have been directly affected by the COVID-19 restrictions.

Another way to support small businesses during this time is to shop local for the holidays. My family and I will be buying local for the holidays this year and I encourage you to support our local businesses as well.

2021 City Budget

On November 19th, the City Council adopted the 2021 budget for the City of Sultan. This was my first budget process as Mayor and I appreciate the work of City staff and collaboration and consideration from the Council over the past few months.

Next year's budget will build on our work this year to modernize City Hall and make your City government more accessible with more online

tools and forms. We will also be making investments in our parks and streets based on the input received from the community over the past year. We will also be conducting a vision setting project to identify short and long term strategies to improve community spaces and encourage economic development.

We will be sharing more about these projects and others throughout the year in newsletters, the City website, and Facebook page.

Flood Preparedness

This month, a flood newsletter will be sent out to residents and property owners in the flood plain. There is a lot of great information in that newsletter about what we are doing as a City and community to prepare for flood events.

One of the ways we prepare for flood events is with the flood building at the Public Works yard on 1st Street. The flood building houses our sand bag filling machine and stores pallets of sandbags ready to be deployed at a moment's notice. City staff and volunteers work to keep our shelves stocked and ready in case of a flood. If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers for floods or other events, please email volunteer@ci.sultan.wa.us.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns at russell.wiita@ci.sultan.wa.us or 360.454.4145.

Sincerely,

Russell Wiita, Mayor
City of Sultan

FLOOD MAP UPDATE

New Flood Maps Have Been Adopted – Does this affect me?

FEMA has been in the process of updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) since 2006. On June 19, 2020, new FIRMs were adopted County wide, which includes the City of Sultan. The updated flood maps changed properties within the city limits of Sultan. Some people who were in the Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) are now removed from them and some people who were not in a flood zone could be in a SFHA area now.

This also has an affect on many Letter of Map Amendments, Changes, Revisions or Revisions based on Fill (respectively: LOMA, LOMC, LOMR and LOMR-F). FEMA did not revalidate all of the changes for various reasons. Some properties may have been removed from the flood zone and no longer need the letters of changes. Some documents do not have information FEMA is requiring, so they become invalid.

For more information, please visit the Building Department on the City website and click on Flood Information. Materials are being added to the website to assist you with these changes.



These changes are made by FEMA and the City of Sultan is required to adopt the changes.



GARBAGE SERVICE CHANGE COMING JANUARY 2021

Beginning January 2021, Republic Services will provide weekly collection of all garbage, recycling and compostables for the City of Sultan. Please visit this website, www.RepublicServices.com/SultanWA for details, service day maps and cart size information. All residents will receive a 32-gallon garbage cart unless the online form is completed and you choose to keep your current size. Watch your mail for communications from Republic Services regarding the new service information in the coming weeks.

Feel free to contact our Utility Billing Department by phone at 360.793.1129 or by e-mail at janice.mann@ci.sultan.wa.us with any questions you may have.

 DECEMBER GARBAGE PICK UP 	
Zone A	DECEMBER 14 DECEMBER 28
Zone B	DECEMBER 3 DECEMBER 17 DECEMBER 31
Zone C	DECEMBER 7 DECEMBER 21
Zone D	DECEMBER 10 DECEMBER 23

DECEMBER 2020 CALENDAR All Meetings Held in the Community Room	
ON HOLD	Community Alliance Meeting Check website for updates
DECEMBER 1	Cancelled Planning Board—7:00 pm Remote Attendance via Zoom or Phone
DECEMBER 3	Cancelled City Council Meeting—7:00 pm Remote Attendance via Zoom or Phone
DECEMBER 15	Cancelled Planning Board Meeting—7:00 pm Optional—Please check website
DECEMBER 17	Cancelled City Council Meeting—7:00 pm Remote Attendance via Zoom or Phone.

RATE INCREASE

THESE PREVIOUSLY ADOPTED UTILITY RATE INCREASES ENSURE THE CITY WILL HAVE SUFFICIENT REVENUE TO COVER MAINTENANCE, OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT EXPENSES FOR EACH UTILITY. THE SCHEDULED RATE INCREASES ARE AS FOLLOWS:



WATER, SEWER AND STORM RATES ARE EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 2020

Water

Residential/Multi-family water rate will increase from \$47.20 to \$51.92 per month. Every 100 CF over the allotted 300 CF will be billed at \$5.39.

Commercial water rate will increase from \$58.35 to \$64.19 per month for a 3/4" meter and increases according to meter size. Every 100 CF over the allotted 600 CF will be billed at \$5.39.

County Water

Residential water rate will increase from \$70.80 to \$77.88. Every 100 CF over the allotted 300 CF will be billed at \$8.08.

Sewer

Residential/Multi-family sewer rate will increase from \$83.77 to \$87.12 per month. This is a flat rate.

Commercial sewer rate begins at \$87.12 per month and increases according to meter size. Every 100 CF over the allotted 600 CF will be billed at \$3.69.

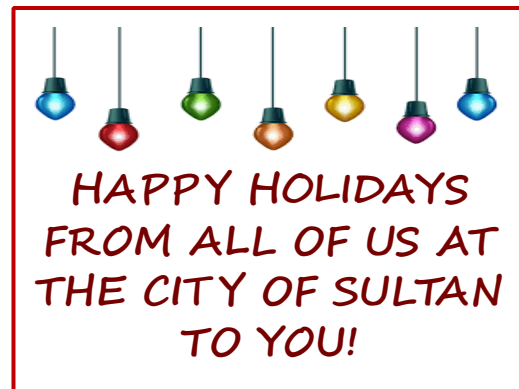
Storm Water

All classes will see a storm water rate increase of \$0.32 per ERU, from \$10.92 to \$11.24. (1 ERU = 4,510 sq.ft.)

Garbage/Recycle: (Effective January 1, 2020)

Republic Services will provide and bill these services. For further information, please go to www.republicservices.com/sultanwa

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



****CITY HALL INFORMATION****

DUE TO CORONAVIRUS AND DIRECTIVES FROM THE GOVERNOR, CITY HALL IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BUT WE ARE STILL CONDUCTING BUSINESS. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE, WE ARE AVAILABLE BY PHONE AT 360.793.2231.

Physical Address

319 Main Street #200, Sultan WA 98294

Mailing Address

PO Box 1199, Sultan WA 98294

Office Hours

Monday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday through Friday

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

(Closed daily between 12:00 pm—1:00 pm for lunch)

Phone 360.793.2231 • Fax 360.793.3344 •

www.ci.sultan.wa.us

NEED HELP WITH YOUR SULTAN UTILITY BILL?

IF YOU ARE HAVING FINANCIAL ISSUES AND NEED HELP WITH YOUR UTILITY BILL,
PLEASE CONTACT VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA AT 360.793.2400.

If you need to make payment arrangements, please call City Hall at 360.793.2231.

The City has temporarily suspended shutting off utilities for non-payment due to the Governor's proclamation.