



Regular Meeting of the City Council
April 8, 2026 - 6:00 PM Hybrid Meeting

a. Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tem, Nick Lavacca called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Nick Lavacca, Councilmembers Paul Cocke, Kevin Loy, Nora Pederson, Allan Henderson, Karl de Jong, and JoEllen Kesti.

d. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Kesti and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session to discuss potential litigation RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and real estate RCW 42.30.110(1)(c). Motion carried (6-0).

e. Consent Agenda

Note: Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature and may be adopted by the Council by a single motion, unless any Councilmember wishes an item to be removed. The Council on the Regular Agenda will consider any item so removed after the Consent Agenda.

Motion made by Councilmember Kesti and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to approve the consent agenda items number #1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, with the removal of item #2 from the March 25, 2026, Regular City Council Meeting minutes to be corrected. Motion carried (6-0).

1. Check Register - Regular
2. Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - March 25, 2026
3. Minutes - Joint City Council Study Session and Planning Commission Meeting - April 1, 2026
4. Lease Agreement Amendment and Extension - Skagit Valley Farm
5. ERR Purchase - Front Mount Roadside Mower
6. ERR Purchase - Land Pride Pull Behind Gang Mower
7. Solid Waste Truck Sharing Agreement Between the City of Sedro-Woolley & the City of Mount Vernon

f. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation

g. City Administrator Report

City Administrator Charlie Bush had nothing to report.

h. Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Councilmember Kesti had nothing to report.

Councilmember Henderson attended the Vietnam Veterans Parade and afterward, all the veterans were able to come to the Museum and see the new US Military exhibit and shared that there are uniforms on display. It was a great experience and encouraged others to go next year.

Councilmember Loy had nothing to report.

Councilmember Cocke enjoyed his family's Easter at Riverfront Park and complimented staff on how great it looked. He announced he was donating to the Helping Hands Food Bank and encouraged others to donate as well.

Councilmember Pederson met with the Central Skagit Library District Director and learned some history and reviewed their finances in a little bit more depth, and said she was impressed by the level of service they provide without a levy lid lift. She also met with staff at the YMCA Rec Center near Memorial Park and announced the great work they provide for the youth in our community.

Councilmember de Jong thanked Public Works for rocking and leveling the alleyway between Fidalgo St and Sterling St between 11th and Township St and wanted to share positive feedback.

Mayor Pro Tem Nick Lavcca shared an event that happened in town over Easter weekend and thanked staff for their due diligence in resolving the issue and keeping our residents safe. Then he spoke about the SBA Administration event that he attended and talked about loan applications that have come in and April 27, 2026, being the closing date for accepting applications.

i. Proclamation(s)

j. Public Comments

Please keep comments to three minutes or less. Because State law prohibits the use of city facilities for the purpose of supporting or opposing a campaign or ballot proposition, we respectfully request that public comment not make reference to such matters.

Written comments will be accepted by letter or via email at finance@sedro-woolley.gov Attn: 'Public Comment' until 4:30pm the day before the meeting.

A public comment period was held.

Joe Kunzer made a public comment.

k. Public Hearing(s)

l. Unfinished Business

m. New Business

1. Proposed Operations Division Reorganization - 1st Read

Public Works Director Bill Bullock and Maintenance & Operations Division Supervisor Nathan Salseina proposed an operations division for reorganization.

Motion to made by Councilmember Pederson and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to adopt the proposed reorganization of the Public Works Operations Division into two coordinated but separate groups. One group focused on streets and stormwater and the other focused on parks, facilities, and cemeteries. This action will require elevating one of the Assistance supervisor positions to a Supervisor position with no net increases to the current full-time employee count. Motion carried (6-0).

2. Resolution 1181-26 - 2026 Sidewalk Trip Hazard Removal Project and Sole Source - Action Requested

Public Works Bill Bullock spoke about Resolution 1181-26 - 2026, the Sidewalk Trip Hazard Removal Project and Sole Source.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember de Jong to approve Resolution 1181-26 waiving competitive bidding requirements due to sole source criteria, for the purchase of sidewalk trip hazard removal services provided by Precision Concrete Cutting Inc of Provo, Utah, for an amount not to exceed. Motion carried (6-0).

3. Data Sharing Agreement – Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Public Works Director Bill Bullock spoke about the Data Sharing Agreement with the Swinomish Indian Tribe Community.

Motion made by Councilmember Pederson and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to authorize, or designee, to sign a Data Sharing Agreement with the Swinomish Indian Tribe Community to enable the City to access flood modeling data for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade. Motion failed (2-4). Council members Kesti, Henderson, Loy, de Jong and Lavacca opposed.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Kest to bring the Data Sharing Agreement with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community back for further discussion later. Motion carried (6-0).

4. Contract Supplement No. 6 - Reichhardt & Ebe Engineering - Township Street (SR 9) and John Liner Rd/McGarigle Rd Intersection Improvements

Public Works Director Bill Bullock shared the final amendment regarding Contract Supplement number 6, Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering, Township St (SR9) and John

Liner Rd and McGargile Intersection Improvements.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Pederson to authorize the Mayor or designee to amend the professional services agreement with Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering (R&E) to cover construction management services required for Township Street (SR9) and John Liner, McGargile Rd. Intersection, supplement not to exceed \$25,211.03. Motion carried (6-0).

5. Procedures for Filling the Mayor Vacancy

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken and City Attorney Dan Curtis shared the procedures for filling the Mayor's vacancy with the City Council.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember deJong to remove the executive session regarding the Mayoral's Appointment in the Governance Handbook. Motion carried (6-0).

6. Mayoral Appointment

Mayor Pro Tem Nick Lavacca removed himself from participating in the nomination process.

Motion to open nominations by Councilmember de Jong and seconded by Councilmember Henderson. Motion carried (6-0).

Motion to nominate JoEllen Kesti for Mayor of the City of Sedro-Woolley was made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Loy. Nomination carried. (4-2). Councilmember Pederson and Councilmember Cocke opposed.

Motion to nominate Councilmember Cocke for Mayor of the City of Sedro-Woolley was made by Councilmember Pederson and seconded by Councilmember Cocke. Nomination failed (2-4). Councilmembers Kesti, Henderson, Loy, and de Jong opposed.

Mayor Pro Tem Nick Lavacca swore in JoEllen Kesti as Mayor of Sedro-Woolley.

n. Information Only Items

o. Good of the Order

Councilmember Pederson would like to bring up FEMA, which has announced funding for a hazard mitigation plan and spoke about a grant deadline being the end of June 2026 and would like to bring information to a future meeting for discussion only.

Public Works Director Bill Bullock stated he is aware of the hazard mitigation plan and will gather more information for the City Council.

Karl de Jong congratulated Mayor Kesti and thanked staff for their expertise and stated he

is excited to work with all of them now and in the future.

Mayor JoEllen Kesti thanked everyone for their support and stated she is excited about the future of the City of Sedro-Woolley.

p. Executive Session

1. Discussion with Legal Counsel About Current or Potential Litigation (RCW 42.30.110(1)(i))

At 6:47pm, Mayor Kesti announced the City Council, along with City Attorney Dan Curtis and City Administrator Charlie Bush, would be in executive session to discuss with legal counsel about current or potential litigation (RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)) for 15 minutes to return at 7:02pm.

Mayor JoEllen Kesti returned at 7:00pm and extended the executive session by 10 minutes to return at 7:10pm

At 7:10pm, the Mayor, JoEllen Kesti, and the City Council returned. No action was taken.

q. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

ATTEST:
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Kelly Kohnken

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Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk

APPROVED:
Signed by:

JoEllen Kesti

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JoEllen Kesti, Mayor