



Study Session Meeting of the City Council  
May 6, 2026 - 6:00 PM Hybrid Meeting

**a. Call to Order**

Mayor JoEllen Kesti called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**b. Pledge of Allegiance**

**c. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor JoEllen Kesti, Councilmembers Paul Cocke, Kevin Loy, Nora Pederson, Allan Henderson and Nick Lavacca. Councilmember Karl de Jong had an excused absence.

**d. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation**

1. Recognition - David Davidson - 39 Years of Service to the City of Sedro-Woolley

Maintenance and Operations Division Supervisor Nathan Salseina recognized David Davidson for his 39 years of service, dedication and his hard work to the City of Sedro-Woolley.

**e. Unfinished Business**

1. City Council Strategic Goals

City Administrator Charlie Bush led a discussion regarding City Council Strategic Goals and sought direction and feedback to prepare a final draft of the City Council Strategic Goals for Council adoption.

City Council had a discussion regarding strategic goals and activities, drafting, coordinating and strengthening partnerships. All the city council agreed to remove activity 3.3. Implement prioritized improvements that do not fall under maintenance repairs. Emphasize completing gaps in pedestrian facilities, including both sidewalks and trails.

The City Council requested to strike out names of goal-setting activities 3.1–3.3 and change language to working with community partnerships on the strategic goals list.

On goal 3.2 Work with Port of Skagit. Innovation Center, Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce, and EDASC to recruit two new businesses to locate at the SWIFT Center. The City Council has requested removing the word two, hoping to get more than two and not putting a cap on the number of businesses.

2. Central Skagit Library District

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken shared information related to the city's potential annexation into the library district. City staff requested a motion by council on which option to pursue.

Motion made by Councilmember Pederson and seconded by Councilmember Henderson for staff to move forward with option 2. The City of Sedro-Woolley will place an annexation on the November 2026 ballot to annex into the Library District in 2027 and reduce the levy by up to 474,115. Motion carried (4-1). Councilmember Loy opposed.

**f. New Business**

1. Skagit Transit Board Appointment Confirmation

Mayor JoEllen Kesti presented a mayoral message regarding the Skagit Transit Board Appointment Confirmation.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Lavacca to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Karl de Jong to serve as the City Council representative on the Skagit Transit Board of Directors at the pleasure of the Mayor pursuant to Section 2.1 of the Skagit PTBA bylaws as amended in March 2026. Motion carried (3-2). Councilmember Cocke and Councilmember Pederson opposed.

2. Flock License Plate Reader

Police Chief Dan McIlraith spoke with the City Council regarding the Flock Camera License Plate Reader.

Motion made by Councilmember Cocke and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to restore Flock Cameras for reading license plates and to heighten public safety. Motion carried (5-0).

**g. 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](mailto:finance@sedro-woolley.gov) Attn: 'Public Comment' until 4:30pm the day before the meeting.

A public comment period was held.

Philip Murray, Chrissy Friberg, Chester Allhouse and Crystle Stidman made public comment.

**h. Adjournment**

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to adjourn City Council meeting at 8:45pm. Motion carried (5-0).

ATTEST:

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*Kelly Kohnken*

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Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Signed by:



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JoEllen Kesti, Mayor