



Regular Meeting of the City Council
October 23, 2024 - 6:00 PM Hybrid Meeting

a. Call to Order

Mayor Julia Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Julia Johnson, Councilmembers JoEllen Kesti, Paul Cocke, Kevin Loy, Joe Burns, Sarah Diamond, Allan Henderson, and Nick Lavacca.

d. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to approve the agenda. Motion carried (7-0).

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 Burns and seconded by Councilmember Kesti to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried (7-0).

1. Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - September 25, 2024
2. Minutes - City Council Study Session - October 2, 2024
3. Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - October 9, 2024
4. Check Register - Regular
5. Surplus Vehicle/Equipment - Resolution 1151-24

f. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation

1. Family Promise Executive Director Audrea Woll

Family Promise Executive Director Audrea Woll gave a presentation and shared a proposal with the Council and requested funding in the amount of \$104,800 from House Bill 1590.

2. Helping Hands Food Bank Executive Director Rebecca Skrinde and Grant and

Contract Manager Erik Larsen

Helping Hands Food Bank Executive Director Rebecca Skindre gave a presentation and shared a proposal with the Council and requested funding in the amount of \$40,000 from House Bill 1590.

Contract Manager Erik Larsen of Helping Hands Food Bank did not present.

3. Skagit Valley YMCA Director of Philanthropy and Advancement Tom Pierce and CEO Dean Snider

Skagit Valley YMCA Director of Philanthropy and Advancement Tom Pierce and CEO Dean Snider gave a presentation and shared a proposal with the Council and requested funding in the amount of \$100,000 from House Bill 1590.

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Kesti to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to enter into a professional services agreement (for the operational portion of House Bill 1590 housing and related services funding), with the following agencies: Family Promise, Helping Hands Food Bank and Skagit Valley YMCA for an amount of \$244,800. Motion carried (7-0).

g. City Administrator Report

City Administrator Charlie Bush had nothing to report.

h. Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Councilmember Loy had nothing to report.

Councilmember Kesti shared information regarding the Halloween kiddie parade event on October 31st, 2024 at 4:30pm.

Councilmember Diamond requested the status of (LTAC) Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

Councilmember Henderson had nothing to report.

Councilmember Cocke made a comment regarding the entrances into town from Concrete and said the trees and foliage are beautiful.

Councilmember Cocke, Councilmember Burns and Councilmember Lavacca thanked Finance Director Kelly Kohnken for the one-on-one meetings to discuss the Budget and said it was highly informative.

Councilmember Burns requested a follow-up from City Attorney Nikki Thompson regarding the letter from the State on 1590 House Bill funding.

Councilmember Lavacca shared concern regarding the canceled Strategic Planning Committee meeting. City Administrator Charlie Bush reported that Councilmember Loy was the chair of that committee and that City Administrator Charlie Bush and Councilmember Loy discussed it before the cancellation.

Mayor Julia Johnson spoke about Monday, October 28, 2024, being First Responder Day, and then shared the 3rd annual event "You Have Been Served", regarding the community court as an amazing opportunity for our citizens.

Mayor Julia Johnson met with Tulip Festival Nicole Roozen and her assistant Jillian, the Program Manager, and shared that Sedro-Woolley is not recognized as part of the Tulip Festival activities, and shared with the Council she would like to see Sedro-Woolley included in the Tulip Festival festivities.

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.

k. Public Hearing(s)

1. Moratorium - Energy Storage - Ordinance 2081-24

Community Development Director Thomas Glover presented information regarding the Moratorium, Energy Storage, Ordinance 2081-24.

A public hearing was held.

No action was taken.

2. 2025-2026 Biennial Budget - Ordinance 2082-24 - 3rd Public Hearing

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken shared information regarding the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget, Ordinance 2082-24.

A public hearing was held.

Motion made by Councilmember Kesti and seconded Councilmember Henderson to cut out \$10,000 funding for the Arts Commission from the budget. Motion carried (5-2). Councilmember Cocke and Councilmember Burns opposed.

3. 2025 Property Tax Levy - Ordinance 2080-24 - 2nd Read

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken shared 2025 property tax levy biennial budget summary with cash, investments and homeowner impact, which included a detailed explanation of banked capacity.

A public hearing was held.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to deny approval of Ordinance 2080-24 regarding the Sedro-Woolley's portion of the 1% property tax increase. Motion carried (7-0).

l. Unfinished Business

1. COPS Grant Award

Police Chief Dan McIlraith shared a background and summary regarding the COPS grant award and included funding options and a timeline.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Burns to authorize Chief McIlraith to accept the COPS Hiring Program grant in the amount of \$125,000. Motion carried (7-0).

m. New Business

1. Appointment to Salary Commission - Germaine Kornegay and Linda Crother

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Kesti to deny the appointment of Germaine Kornegay and Linda Crothers to the Salary Commission between March 31, 2026, and March 31, 2027. Motion carried (5-2). Councilmember Burns and Councilmember Cocke opposed.

The motion to deny appointment to the Salary Commission was voted down, and a motion was made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Kesti. Motion carried (5-2). Councilmember Burns and Councilmember Cocke opposed.

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Kesti to bring forward an ordinance to repeal and amend Chapter 2.41.005 to the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code regarding the Salary Commission. Motion carried (5-2). Councilmember Burns and Councilmember Cocke opposed.

n. Information Only Items

1. Monthly Permitting Report
2. Thank You - Housing Forum
3. Finance and Information Technology Committee Meeting Minutes - September 25, 2024

o. Executive Session

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

42.30.110(1)(i)).

At 9:44pm, Mayor Julia Johnson announced the City Council along with City Attorney Nikki Thompson and City Administrator Charlie Bush would be in executive session for 5 minutes to return at 9:50.

At 9:50pm, Mayor Julia Johnson returned and announced no decision had been made.

p. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

q. Closed Session

1. To Discuss A Collective Bargaining Agreement

A closed session was held.

ATTEST:



Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk

APPROVED:



Julia Johnson, Mayor