



Regular Meeting of the City Council
April 23, 2025 - 6:00 PM Hybrid Meeting

a. Call to Order

Mayor Julia Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Cocke 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 Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried (7-0).

1. Minutes - City Council Study Session - April 2, 2025
2. Check Register - Regular
3. Out of State Travel - I.T. Director Eulises "Woody" Tovar Cano
4. Community Development Grant Amendment - El Patron
5. Dismissal of Defendant Dakota Drug from the Opioid MDL Litigation

f. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation

1. North Star Director of Initiatives Monica Negrila

North Star Director of Initiatives Monica Negrila shared a presentation and a slide show with the City Council followed by a North Star overview of accomplishments and opportunities for collaboration.

2. First Steps and Friendship House - Jonathan Kline

Executive Director of the Friendship House, Johnathan Kline, shared a presentation with the City Council about the First Step Center.

3. Community Court - Judge Stiles

Sedro-Woolley Community Court Judge Stiles shared a presentation with the City Council.

g. City Administrator Report

1. Human Services Funding Update and Check-In

City Administrator Charlie Bush shared the Human Services Funding update including funding for House Bill 1406 affordable housing, House Bill 1590 housing and related services and an update on the opioid settlement.

Sedro-Woolley City Engineer Peter Lane discussed with the Council submitting grant applications from the Skagit County Economic Development Alliance. The funds would be used as a 20% local match for federal grant reimbursement of 80%, State Route 9 Township McGargile Right of Way requesting \$500,000 from an existing grant of \$250,000. We use these funds to provide a match for a \$3.4 million transportation improvement board project grant we have currently, and for the Jones / John Liner Railroad undercrossing project, we are requesting \$750,000, which we can use as a match for an existing \$2.1 million transportation improvement board grant.

Motion to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to submit a grant application to Skagit County to support the Economic Development Alliance made by Councilmember Cocke and seconded by Councilmember Lavacca. Motion carried (7-0).

City Administrator Charlie Bush shared public infrastructure to support a Work Force Housing Grant opportunity through Skagit County that is due on Friday, April 25, 2025. Request from RJ Group for the Batey Square project not to exceed \$750,000.00.

Motion to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to submit a grant application to Skagit County to support public infrastructure related to the Batey Square project not to exceed \$750,000.00 made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Cocke. Motion carried (5-2). Councilmember Henderson and Councilmember Diamond opposed.

h. Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Councilmember Loy had nothing to report.

Councilmember Kesti spoke about the Skagit Transit bus stops schedule and timing issue.

Councilmember Diamond shared continued complaints of traffic congestion on Cook Rd and Hwy 20, and also concerns about reducing miles traveled, which is part of the comp plan process.

Councilmember Diamond has had continued complaints about Township St and Ferry St regarding people walking their dogs and not picking up after their animals.

Councilmember Diamond spoke about Sunday, May 25, 2025, being the 2nd Annual Bob Hickman Softball Memorial Jamboree at Janicki fields. It will start at 8:45am in the morning. There will be 32 local teams coming in from Skagit and Island Counties, and then on Tuesday, May 27, 2025, the Sedro-Woolley High school baseball team will be hosting a youth night, and she also mentioned that youth soccer registration has started.

Councilmember Henderson attended the April 22nd meeting regarding the comp plan and shared with the council there will be a few more meetings to come, if they want to attend.

Councilmember Burns spoke about bikes being used at the skate park and causing damage to concrete. He suggested that we consider putting a BMX track somewhere on a piece of the city's property to avoid further damage being done by bikes.

Councilmember Cocke shared that Skagit County is accepting recycled glass.

Councilmember Lavacca spoke about some potholes on the streets and getting them repaired and mentioned the new state regulations from the government regarding the climate act.

Councilmember Lavacca mentioned the fruit and orange stand on Township St and State St, wanting to make sure they have a business license and make sure the fruit is safe.

Mayor Julia Johnson spoke about the Tulip Art Exhibition and mentioned May 22nd, 2025. She went to CTS class at high school, and mentioned the governor refusing to sign the 1,2,3% property tax.

- i. Proclamation(s)**
- j. Public Hearing(s)**
- k. 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.

Karl DeJong made a public comment.

Joe Kunzler made a public comment online.

Celeste Frisbee made a public comment.

l. Unfinished Business

m. New Business

1. Proposed Amendments to Chapter 2 of the Comprehensive Plan - Land Use Element

Community Development Director Tom Glover and Senior Planner Donna Keeler from FACET gave a presentation regarding the Land Use Element and to obtain feedback from Council on content.

No action was taken.

2. Development Agreement - Batey Square - 1st Read

Planner Nicole McGowan shared information with City Council to review and discuss supporting the proposed Development Agreement for the Batey Square mixed -use development.

Motion to approve the Development Agreement for Batey Square was made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Henderson. Motion carried (7-0).

n. Information Only Items

1. Stormwater Management Plan

o. Executive Session

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

At 9:38pm Mayor Jullia Johnson announced that the City Council, along with City Attorney Nikki Thompson and City Administrator Charlie Bush, would be in executive session to discuss with legal counsel current or potential litigation (RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)) for ten minutes, to return at 9:48pm.

At 9:50 the Mayor Julia Johnson and the City Council returned.

No action was taken.

p. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:51 P.M.

ATTEST:



Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk

APPROVED:



Julia Johnson, Mayor