

Regular Meeting of the City Council
May 28, 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, and Allan Henderson. Councilmember Nick Lavacca was absent.

d. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda with the addition of an Executive Session made by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Councilmember Diamond. 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 to approve the consent agenda made by Councilmember Cocke and seconded by Councilmember Henderson. Motion carried (6-0).

1. Minutes - City Council Study Session Meeting - May 7, 2025
2. Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - May 14, 2025
3. Check Register - Regular
4. Police Department Surplus Vehicles - Resolution 1162-25
5. Legal Action - Unlawful Detainer
6. Interlocal Agreement Amendment - Cities of Burlington, Mount Vernon, Anacortes, and Sedro-Woolley - Shared Indigent Defense Services

f. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation

1. Swearing In New Police Officer Zihumara Baxin-Segura

Mayor Julia Johnson swore in new Police Officer Zihumara Baxin-Segura.

2. Swearing In New Police Officer Hilton Hostler

Mayor Julia Johnson swore in new Police Officer Hilton Hostler.

3. Executive Director of Family Promise of Skagit Valley Audrea Woll

Executive Director of Family Promise of Skagit Valley Audrea Woll shared a presentation with the City Council.

g. City Administrator Report

City Administrator Charlie Bush had nothing to report.

h. Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Councilmember Loy spoke about last week's meeting for the skateboard challenge and informed the council of the food vendors.

Councilmember Kesti wanted to thank Ron Brown from the American Legion and all the volunteers for placing flags on all of our veterans' headstones for Memorial Day, and also shared that the Sedro-Wooley Museum will be hosting For the Love of Northern State on June 6th and 7th, 2025.

Councilmember Diamond encouraged everyone to attend the Memorial Day Service, and attended the Finance and Information Technology Committee Meeting, and mentioned Sedro-Woolley Soccer sign-ups close on May 31, 2025.

Councilmember Diamond also shared concerns about speeding on HWY 9 through Township, Ferry, and State Streets.

Councilmember Henderson spoke about the Finance and Information Technology Committee Meeting, concerning the 1% property tax, the 2025 budget amendment, business licenses, and unlicensed vendors and shared public comments regarding sidewalks and then followed up with Bill Bullock regarding 4th St and Warner St intersection concerns.

Councilmember Cocke shared concerns about speeding on HWY 9 and thanked the Public Works Department for the work being done at Olmsted Park.

Councilmember Burns thanked the American Legion, volunteers and Parks Department for all the effort put in for the Memorial Day Service, mentioned Mayor Julia Johnson's speech, then spoke about possibly putting in a 3-way stop temporarily in Ferry and Township for the 4th of July, and then mentioned requests for gravel paths on Railroad Ave.

Councilmember Lavacca was absent.

Mayor Julia Johnson reminded the Council that on June 6th, 2025 there would be a Special

Joint Meeting at the Swinomish Casino at 8am, and also thanked the American Legion.

Mayor Julia Johnson visited Country Meadows then mentioned Northern State Cemetery for a funding proposal for the State Memorial Plaque.

i. Proclamation(s)

j. Public Hearing(s)

1. 2026-2031 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Burns to approve a hearing on June 11, 2025, regarding the 2026-2031 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program. Motion carried (6-0).

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.

Elizabeth Friedl, Judy Lemley and Lynn Kelmes made public comment.

l. Unfinished Business

1. 2025 Budget Amendment No. 1 - Ordinance 2098-25 - 2nd Read

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken, Mayor Julia Johnson and City Administrator Charlie Bush spoke with the Council regarding the 2025 Budget Amendment No. 1, Ordinance 2098-25.

Motion made by Councilmember Diamond and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to remove the \$15,000 Finance Office from the 2025 Budget Amendment No. 1, Ordinance 2098-25. Motion carried (6-0).

Motion made by Councilmember Diamond and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to remove the 1.0 full-time IT position and bring it back for discussion to the 2026 budget. Motion carried (6-0).

Motion made by Councilmember Kesti to remove HR changes from the 2025 Budget Amendment No. 1, no second. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to approve the 2025 Budget Amendment No. 1, Ordinance 2098-25 with HR Manager. Motion failed (3-3). Councilmembers Kesti, Henderson and Loy opposed.

Motion made by Councilmember Cocke to approve the 2025 Budget Amendment No. 1 with HR Analyst, no second. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilmember Diamond and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to approve the 2025 Budget Amendment No. 1, Ordinance 2098-25 removing the full-time HR Manager, full-time Information Technology Analyst, and the \$15,000 Finance Work Station. Motion carried (4-2). Councilmember Cocke and Councilmember Burns opposed.

2. Amendments to Title 17 SWMC Off-Street Parking and Loading - Ordinance 2096-25 - 2nd Read

Assistant Planner Ashton Sandoval Oaks spoke about the Amendments to the Title 17 SWMC off-street parking and loading, Ordinance 2096-25.

No action taken.

3. Professional Services Agreement - North County Public Defense - For Indigent Defense Services

City Administrator Charlie Bush spoke about the Professional Services Agreement regarding North County Public Defense for Indigent Services.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to execute a Professional Services Agreement contract with North County Public Defense. Motion carried (6-0).

m. New Business

1. Amendments to Chapter 2.90 and Title 17 SWMC to Add Regulations for Cottage Clusters - Ordinance 2099-25 - 1st Read

Planner Nicole McGowan spoke about Amendments to Chapter 2.90 and Title 17 SWMC to add regulations for cottage clusters, Ordinance 2099-25.

No action taken.

2. Comprehensive Plan DRAFT - Chapter 4 - Transportation Element

Public Works Director Bill Bullock shared a slide presentation regarding the Comprehensive Plan Draft, Chapter 4, Transportation Element.

No action taken.

3. Amended Scope and Budget for Comprehensive Plan

The Community Development Director shared the amended scope and budget for the Comprehensive Plan.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to amend the Comprehensive Plan Update and Climate Element contract with Facet with a revised scope of work for an additional \$30,000. Motion carried (6-0).

4. Award Authorization - 2025 Pavement and Pedestrian Improvements Project

Public Works Director Bill Bullock seeks award authorization for the 2025 Pavement and Pedestrian Improvements Project.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to award the 2025 Pavement and Pedestrian Improvements Project, Contract 2025-PW-02, to Excavation West Inc of Sedro-Woolley, WA for the amount of \$1,067,101.82 including sales tax. Motion carried (6-0).

5. Award Authorization - Township Street (SR 9) and John Liner Rd/McGarigle Rd Intersection Improvements

Public Works Director Bill Bullock seeks award authorization for Township Street (SR9) and John Liner Rd, McGargile Rd Intersection Improvements.

Motion made by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to award the SR9, John Liner, McGargile Roundabout Project, Contract 2025-PW-18 to SRV Construction Inc of Anacortes, WA in the amount of \$2,329,741.50 including sales tax. Motion carried (6-0).

n. Information Only Items

1. Summary of Planning Commission Feedback on the Draft Introduction and Housing Element for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan

o. Executive Session

At 9:37pm Mayor Julia Johnson announced that the City Council along with City Attorney Nikki Thompson would be in Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel current or potential litigation RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for 10 minutes.

At 9:46 Mayor Julia Johnson and the City Council returned.

No action was taken.

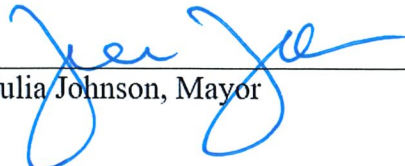
p. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 P.M.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:


Kelly Kohnen, City Clerk


Julia Johnson, Mayor