



Regular Meeting of the City Council
September 10, 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, Sarah Diamond, Allan Henderson, and Nick Lavacca. Councilmember Burns was absent.

d. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Cocke and seconded by Councilmember Lavacca to approve the agenda. 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 Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to approve items 1, 2, 3, and 5 on the consent agenda and move item 4 to new business for further discussion. Motion carried (6-0).

1. Check Register - Regular
2. Minutes - City Council Study Session and Planning Commission - August 19, 2025
3. Contract 2025-213-CN - Washington State Administrative Office of the Courts - Language Access and Interpreter Reimbursement Program (LAIRP)
4. 2025-214-CN - Children of the Valley - 1590 Service Contract
5. Resolution 1167-25 - Surplus Fire Equipment

f. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation

1. North Star George Kosovich and Director of Strategic Initiatives Monica Negrila - Opioid Settlement Funding

North Star George Kosovich and Director of Strategic Initiatives Monica Negrila presented a PowerPoint regarding the Opioid Settlement Funding.

Motion made by Councilmember Cocke to approve the \$104,075 for the purpose of this presentation and the proposed allocation of opioid settlement funds for the three identified priority investments of North Star. No second to the motion was made.

Mayor Julia Johnson announced we would bring back the North Star project for further discussion. There was no opposition from council regarding this matter.

Director of Strategic Initiatives Monica Negrila reminded the council of the next two upcoming joint meetings scheduled for September 30th and November 6th, 2025, and the STAR Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony would be on December 16th, 2025.

g. City Administrator Report

1. Public Works Project Updates

Public Works Director Bill Bullock shared a PowerPoint and gave updates along with the status of Public Works projects that include street improvements, new paint striping and the monetary contract status of these projects.

h. Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Councilmember Loy shared information regarding the Public Safety Meeting he attended this evening and thanked Fire Chief Frank Wagner for providing reports and information regarding ambulance billing and mentioned there was discussion regarding the Community Center as well.

Councilmember Kesti shared her devastation of the political activist Charlie Kirk and his senseless assassination.

Councilmember Kesti announced tomorrow will be September 11th and may we never forget the innocent people that lost their lives and the sacrifice and bravery shown on that day.

Councilmember Diamond shared complaints from the community and businesses regarding street closures, detours, and whether the city has the infrastructure to support additional housing, since we already have traffic issues.

Councilmember Diamond spoke of concerns regarding the e-bikes and scooters weaving in and out of traffic on Reed, Metcalf, Ferry and State Streets, and noted it is extremely dangerous.

Councilmember Henderson watched a commissioners' meeting workshop and shared the budget downfall for senior services and wants to ensure that senior services are not interrupted.

Councilmember Cocke attended the Family Promise Gala and mentioned the attendance

was great, and he also attended the Housing Forum in Mount Vernon, regarding homelessness and lack of affordable housing.

Councilmember Cocke reminded the city to watch out for children in the streets, now that school is back in session.

Councilmember Burns was absent.

Councilmember Lavacca spoke about the political activist Charlie Kirk assassination that happened today, September 10, 2025, and made positive comments regarding the project on Reed St and was delighted to hear we were on budget for completion.

Mayor Julia Johnson thanked Planner Nicole McGowan for participating in and sharing her innovative ideas at the Housing Forum.

Mayor Julia Johnson spoke about National Preparedness Month and mentioned the Songs Sparrow Bridge Ribbon cutting is on the 19th of September.

Mayor Julie Johnson announced the Innovation Resource Center ribbon cutting scheduled for October 11, 2025.

i. Proclamation(s)

j. Public Hearing(s)

1. Ordinance 2104-25 - 2025 Budget Amendment No. 3 - 1st Read

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken shared a summary of changes to Ordinance 2104-25, 2025 Budget Amendment No. 3, and stated that most significant changes are due to capital projects and associated funding.

A public hearing was held.

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.

Lin Tucker and Audrea Woll made public comment.

l. Unfinished Business

1. Ordinance 2103-25 - Special Events - 1st Read

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken shared the proposed changes made to the Sedro-Woolley Municipal Code Chapter 12.44 related to Special Events.

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to approve ordinance 2103-25, an Ordinance amending Chapter 12.44: Special Events. Motion carried (6-0).

2. Ordinance 2102-25 - CHIP Grant Reimbursement for Eligible Fees - 2nd Read

City Administrator Charlie Bush shared additional information regarding (CHIP) Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program grant reimbursement for eligible fees, Ordinance 2102-25.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to move Ordinance 2102-25, CHIP Grant Reimbursement for eligible fees to a future workshop for discussion. Motion failed (2-4). Opposed Councilmember Loy, Councilmember Kesti, Councilmember Lavacca and Councilmember Cocke.

Motion made by Councilmember Loy and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to approve Ordinance 2102-25, reimbursing affordable housing developers with state CHIP grant revenues for applicable utility permitting fees and connection charges. The motion failed (3-3). Councilmember Henderson, Councilmember Diamond and Councilmember Kesti opposed.

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to bring back for reconsideration Ordinance 2102-25, CHIP Grant Reimbursement for eligible fees. Motion failed (3-3). Councilmember Loy, Councilmember Kesti, and Councilmember Cocke opposed.

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Kesti to move forward with the rest of the agenda, after Mayor Julia Johnson announced it was 36 minutes past the time the council usually adjourns. Motion carried (6-0).

Item number 4 was pulled from approval on the consent agenda for more discussion.

m. New Business

1. 2025-215-CN - Axon Enterprise - Bodycam

Motion made by Councilmember Cocke and seconded by Councilmember Lavacca to authorize Police Chief Dan McIlraith to execute and sign agreement 2025-215-CN, a 60-month bodycam contract with Axon Enterprise for \$232,429.65. Motion carried (6-0).

2. 2025-216-CN - Axon Enterprise - Taser Updated

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to authorize Police Chief Dan McIlraith to execute and sign agreement 2025-216 CN,

updating the contract with additional tasers for the remaining three years with Axon Enterprise for an additional cost of \$16,963.75. Motion carried (6-0).

3. Ordinance 2105 - Community Center - 1st Read

Motion made by Councilmember Loy and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to bring option 2, the alcohol-permitted version of the Ordinance 2105-25, back to council for a second read. Motion carried (5-1). Councilmember Cocke opposed.

4. Moved from Consent: 2025-214-CN - Children of the Valley - 1590 Service Contract

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson or her designee to execute agreement 2025-214-CN, a professional services contract involving House Bill 1590 service funding, with the Children of the Valley for \$40,000.00. Motion carried (6-0).

n. Information Only Items

1. National Preparedness Month

o. Executive Session

p. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:33pm.

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Kelly Kohnken

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Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:

Julia Johnson

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Julia Johnson, Mayor