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Regular Meeting of the City Council
October 8, 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 Burns 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. Check Register - Regular
2. Minutes - Joint City Council and Planning Commission Meeting - September 24, 2025

f. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation

1. Skagit County Assessor Danny Hagen

Skagit County Assessor Danny Hagen presented a PowerPoint regarding updates on property taxes and value changes.

2. North Star - STAR Center

A PowerPoint presentation about North Star, Star Center, was given by Monica Negrila.

g. City Administrator Report

City Administrator Charlie Bush had nothing to report.

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h. Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Councilmember Loy had nothing to report.

Councilmember Kesti said she will give her report when the Community Center ordinance is addressed in unfinished business.

Councilmember Diamond asked if the city would have a free-fall clean-up service available to residents.

Councilmember Diamond thanked the city for placing the traffic light on N. Reed St and said the community and nearby residents are extremely pleased.

Councilmember Diamond shared information about an in-person swish basketball sign-up on October 19, 2025, at the Sedro-Woolley High School Gym 4-6pm for 3rd to 8th grade students.

Councilmember Henderson spoke about a car accident that occurred on Jameson St, asking for solutions to traffic safety.

Councilmember Henderson also had residents ask about cutting in driveways, so they could have off-street parking. The off-street parking request will have to be discussed later.

Councilmember Henderson chaired two committee meetings earlier this week, one being the Finance and Information Technology Committee, that had recommendations to increase the Information Technology budget by $15,000 for 2026 for a massive and much-needed camera update. The second meeting was for the RFP for the brick and mortar funds to be brought to the October 22 2025 City Council meeting for approval.

Councilmember Cocke thanked Assistant Engineer Kyle Anderson for the tour of the new maintenance and vehicle storage building.

Councilmember Cocke attended the ribbon cutting of the Song Sparrow Bridge at Northern State.

Councilmember Cocke shared that residents were pleased regarding the new roundabout but now have concerns about traffic flowing through Carter St.

Councilmember Burns was happy to see the progress of the John Liner Rd roundabout and that it was open.

Councilmember Burns spoke about Jameson St and Railroad Ave being used as a racetrack and has safety concerns and suggested rumble strips or speed bumps as a solution.

Councilmember Burns mentioned parking issues and vehicles being left at campgrounds that he reported to Police Chief McIlraith.

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Councilmember Lavacca chaired the Public Works Committee Meeting and shared information in regard to the city selling part of the Riverfront Park, one of the fields the city does not use, to build capital and increase revenue and then shared that the Streets and Maintenance Supervisor, Nathan Salseina, is working on this suggested project to bring to council.

Councilmember Lavacca brought up the grant program mentioned in a previous meeting and said the John Liner roundabout was difficult to access and has reports of school buses having trouble entering.

Councilmember Lavacca suggested the city present Trail Builders with an award for their hard work.

Mayor Julia Johnson wanted to recognize Streets and Maintenance Supervisor, Nathan Salseina, and his crew along with the Police and Evidence Records Department Staff for the artwork on the evidence warehouse building.

Mayor Julia Johnson shared information about the presentation on 1590 funds that is scheduled for October 22, 2025, at the City Council Meeting to discuss affordable housing questions the council may have.

Mayor Julia Johnson mentioned the pedestrian footbridge called "Will's Bridge" located on the North Side of Thompson Rd and she said it was lovely.

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.

Chester Allhouse, Scott Wright, Audrea Woll, Lin Tucker and Dennis O'Neil made public comments.

l. Unfinished Business

1. Ordinance 2104-25 - 2025 Budget Amendment No. 3 - 2nd Read

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Burns to approve Ordinance 2104-25 amending the 2025 budget. Motion carried (7-0).

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2. Ordinance 2105 - Community Center - 2nd Read

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken had a discussion with Council about potential changes and to gather suggestions and ideas for the Community Center Municipal Code.

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken to revise draft Ordinance 2105-25 with multiple changes requested by council and bring it back for third read on October 22, 2025.

m. New Business

1. Ordinance 2107-25 - Business License Endorsement for Rental Properties - 1st Read

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to approve Ordinance 2107-25 amending Chapter 5.04 "Business Licenses" to address rental property ownership. Motion carried (6-1). Councilmember Loy opposed.

2. Agreement 2025-218-IA – Skagit Conservation District - Donation of Trees and Shrubs to Beautify Olmsted Park

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Cocke to authorize Mayor Julia Johnson to execute Agreement Number 2025-218-IA, an interlocal agreement with Skagit Conservation District for $0. Motion carried (7-0).

3. Resolution 1168-25 - Master Fee Schedule Update - 1st Read

Finance Director Kelly Kohnken presented first read updates to the Master Fee Schedule, Resolution 1168-25.

No action was taken.

n. Information Only Items

1. September Building Report
2. Public Works Director Signing Authority Record

o. Executive Session

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

p. Adjournment

ATTEST:
DocuSigned by:
Kelly Kohnken
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Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk

APPROVED:
DocuSigned by:
Julia Johnson
EBB2DA0D1582408...
Julia Johnson, Mayor