

**CITY OF SEQUIM  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEQUIM CIVIC CENTER  
152 WEST CEDAR STREET  
SEQUIM, WA  
JANUARY 11, 2016**

## **STUDY SESSION**

### **1. Dungeness Off-Channel Reservoir**

David Garlington reported there is a lot of water that comes from the county and enters irrigation ditches. Stormwater is channeled through the city. The city could benefit from this project by putting some of that stormwater into the reservoir during periods of storms. In the summer it would be used to meter the irrigation users and used for infiltration. There are many other groups/entities who are interested in participating in this project. There is funding for preliminary design and estimate. A state agency will most likely be the owner of the reservoir.

Ann Soule provided information on the various trouble spots. Any time there is building on Burnt Hill, it exacerbates the problem. This project will not solve all of the city's stormwater problems.

This may augment the recreational opportunities on DNR land as well.

### **2. Review Council Rules, Roles and Responsibilities**

Leonard-Ray suggested broad wording for public comments.

Pratt suggested if someone needs more than 3 minutes they should contact the City Clerk or Mayor prior to the meeting.

T. Miller indicated the 3 touch rule is general guidance but the council is not bound by it.

Bush will have some suggested changes concerning the Finance Committee. This may need more formal action.

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **ROLL CALL**

Present: Bob Lake, Pam Leonard-Ray, John Miller, Wendall Lorenzen, Candace Pratt, Dennis Smith, Ted Miller

**MOTION to excuse Genaveve Starr who is sick made by T. Miller; second by Pratt. Carried Unanimously.**

**CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Mayor Smith indicated the school bond resolution may change on the agenda depending on availability of representation from the school district.

**INTRODUCTIONS & CORRESPONDENCE**

**CEREMONIAL**

**REPORTS**

**Committee, Board and Liaison**

**Presiding Officer**

Mayor Smith stated he attended the Planning Commission meeting. They had an interesting discussion about the Tribe's aquaculture program at John Wayne Marina.

**City Manager**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jim Stoffer distributed bond facts on behalf of the Sequim School District. He and Bev Horan are here from the school board. This proposal is the same as in November except that costs have gone up by \$5 million. Excellent schools benefit the entire community.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Approve/Acknowledge
  - a. City Council Meeting Minutes - December 14, 2015
  - b. City Council Meeting Minutes - January 4, 2016
  - c. Claim Voucher Recap Dated 1/11/16 Total Payments \$544,204.10
  - d. Third Quarter Reports
    - i. Healthy Families
    - ii. Peninsula Behavioral Health
    - iii. Serenity House
  - e. Fourth Quarter Report
    - i. Peninsula Behavioral Health
    - ii. Parenting Matters
    - iii. Serenity House

Pratt would like to amend comments by Ted Miller in the December 14 minutes to show that city voters approved the bond.

There was discussion concerning the lateness and difficulty in receiving reports from the human service agencies.

**MOTION to approve the consent agenda made by Pratt; second by Lake. Carried Unanimously.**

TBD BUSINESS

4. Approve Invoice from City of Sequim

Bush indicated these are standard expenses for the TBD.

**MOTION by T. Miller; second by Leonard-Ray to approve. Carried Unanimously.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Approve Council Committee Assignments

Pratt indicated she had expressed an interest in the RC&D but it meets on a day she is not able to attend. It was agreed T. Miller would take RC&D and Pratt will take LTAC and GMA Regional committee.

**MOTION to accept as amended Pratt; second by T. Miller. Carried Unanimously.**

6. Proposed Ordinance Amending SMC 13.12 Regarding Meter Disconnection

This is brought forward based on discussions concerning the Greathouse Motel. Council did not want to set a precedent by approving the agreement with the Greathouse owners.

**MOTION to direct staff to set this proposed code change for a public hearing for January 25, 2016 made by Pratt; second by Leonard-Ray. Carried Unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

7. Resolution in Support of the Sequim School District Bond

Mayor Smith asked if there were any one who wished to speak to this issue.

Brandino Gibson, Citizens for Sequim Schools, stated that schools are the most important infrastructure for the community. Helen Haller is very outdated and has problems that can't be fixed by renovating. There are extensive issues. Changes need

to be made that can only be done with approval of this bond. He is asking for council's support.

Emma Eekhoff stated she has been working through social media to bring attention to the school's needs. In Sequim, as younger kids, we are the minority.

Megan O'Mera has deep roots in Sequim. The conditions are despicable. The staff and teachers are the best. We need the infrastructure to make the kids feel safe and learn. The district kitchen services every single kid. It is disgusting. She doesn't believe it is healthy.

Gary Neal, school superintendent, provided information concerning education and job statistics in 1950 compared to 2000-2010 as well as information on the school facilities. There is a lack of technology and infrastructure to provide our students the ability to deal with modern life demands.

Brian Lewis indicated they interviewed those who voted no previously. Voters asked it be broken up into smaller packages. The bond reached 57.5 % approval early 2015; 59.6% in November. It was short of approval by 54 votes. This is the same package from November 2015 except there is a price increase of \$5 million due to increased construction costs which will continue to increase for the next 5 years. Lewis provided information that is available on the school's website. Residents can enter their home value and it will calculate how much you will pay in taxes. He explained why the bond is needed. We need to improve safety, security, health and efficiency; provide adequate space for students; enhance learning environments and upgrade technology. This is for a total of \$54 million. They have also applied for a grant. They have been told they need 9 additional K-3 classrooms. He explained the many security issues at the schools. It is anticipated the elementary enrollment will grow by 144 students by 2023 based on births in the area. This does not include growth to the area. Overall student population will also increase.

In 2013 the local tax rate was \$2.30. If the bond is approved, it will total \$2.16 per thousand. Compared to statewide school district the average is \$4.36. He explained that the median house value is \$246,675. That is \$.38 per day; \$11.56 per month. Cellphone/data plan \$2.63 day \$80 per month. They propose a new elementary school within the UGA that is 10 acres bound on 2 sides by roads. They still need to find the property. There will not be a need to add bus routes. They may look at changing start times.

J. Miller indicated there is concern in the community about redistricting. Lewis indicated that may be necessary regardless because of the lack of space for the attendance. Lewis indicated 5 years of construction to complete all the projects.

**MOTION to approve Resolution R2016-01 in support of the Sequim School District's Proposed Facilities Construction and Replacements Plans and Bond made by T. Miller; second by Leonard-Ray.**

T. Miller indicated that City of Sequim residents supported the bond in the last election.

Lorenzen added that he experiences the school conditions every day. When he was at Haller it was crowded with bad conditions. He now tutors there and it is terrible to see what students live in. He is in band and choir and provided his personal experiences with the schools.

**Vote on the motion. Carried Unanimously.**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS (Please limit comments to 3 minutes each)**

Cindy Hueth, Executive Director Habitat for Humanity, introduced Colleen Robinson and Trish Davis. She thanked council for approving the request for neighborhood revitalization. They will be doing more surveys this weekend.

Beverly Horan, president of school board, thanked council for their support. This is a historical time for all of us. Her biggest complaint has been that the large entities have not worked together. She thanked the council for taking a step to work together with all entities.

Doug Hastings, President of Sequim Picklers, updated on their activities.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - Pending/Potential Litigation**

Mayor Smith announced a 10 minute executive session at 6:50 p.m. to discuss pending/potential litigation. No action is anticipated.

At 7:00 pm it was announced that executive session would last an additional 5 minutes; at 7:05 it was announced that executive session would last an additional 5 minutes. The meeting reconvened at 7:13.

**NEXT MEETING DATE** January 25, 2016 (6:00 p.m.) and February 8, 2016 (6:00 p.m.)  
(These times are subject to change.)

**ADJOURNMENT** Adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Kuznek-Reese, MMC  
City Clerk



Dennis Smith  
Mayor

Minutes approved at a regular Council meeting held on January 25, 2016.