



SEQUIM NEWS

OCTOBER 2010

Meeting Dates & Locations

City Council Regular Meeting - Transit Center	2 nd & 4 th Monday 6:00 p.m.
City Council Study Session - Transit Center (when required)	2 nd & 4 th Monday 5:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Transit Center	1 st & 3 rd Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
Park Advisory Board PW - 615 North 5 th Ave.	2 nd Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Design Review Board PW - 615 North 5 th Ave.	2 nd Wednesday 5:00 p.m.
Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) - Transit Center Conf. Room	TBA
Centennial Committee Transit Center Conf. Room	3 rd Wednesday 1:00 p.m.
Sequim Speaks - Transit Center Conf. Room	4 th Tuesday 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Public Hearings

November 8: 1) 2011 Revenues 2) Property Tax 3) Fee Ordinance 4) 2010 Budget Amendments

November 22: 1) Final Hearing on 2011 Budget

Welcome New Employees

Bill Dickinson, Chief of Police, 9/7/10

Kathie Anne Sukert, Administrative Assistant II, 9/8/10

Barbara Hanna, Communications and Marketing Manager, 9/13/10

Automatic Payments for Your Utility Bill

If you are interested in signing up for auto-pay, visit Sequim City Hall at 152 W. Cedar Street. Please bring with you 1) a voided check from your checking account 2) your bank name and address 3) the bank's routing/transit number 4) your account number 5) your phone number.

Spend 5 minutes now and save time in the future.

Sequim Public Safety Fair October 16, 2010

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Guy Cole Convention Center at Carrie Blake Park

The Sequim Police Department will host the Fifth Annual Public Safety Fair featuring approximately 30 local, state and federal agencies. The fair will provide valuable information on crime prevention, disaster preparedness, public health, personal safety, children and senior resource information. Representatives from "Washington's Most Wanted" will be at the fair along with tours of police, fire and emergency vehicles.

The City of Sequim Thanks Volunteers and Sponsors of National Day of Service

On Saturday, September 11 approximately 132 people volunteered over 413 hours to paint fire hydrants, install fencing slats at the Police Department, paint the skateboard park and pick up litter. Thank you also to the many businesses that contributed to making the day a success. Thanks to Costco, Home Depot, Wal-Mart, FritoLay, Crumb Grabbers Bakery, Rainbow Girls, Rodda Paint and Clallam Co-op. The next volunteer event is set for Earth Day April 22, 2011.

It's Time to Winterize Your Outdoor Water Connections

Unhook any attached hoses from outdoor taps and drain any remaining water from the hose. Cover the taps with a styrofoam connector to help prevent freezing. If you have pipes that are not underground, disconnect them from the water source if possible. If disconnecting them is not possible, put insulation on or over the exposed piping.

Going Out-of-Town for a Couple of Months?

If you live in the City of Sequim and are on City water, consider having your water shut off at the meter. There is a one-time charge of \$48.79 (through Dec. 2010.) You will be billed a stand-by fee of \$20.95 for water and \$20.95 for sewer per month (through Dec. 2010.)

You will need to come into City Hall and sign paperwork to have your water turned off.

When you are ready to return, call Sequim City Hall at 360-683-4139 at least two (2) business days prior to your arrival to have your water turned on.

Ballot Box Now Located at City Hall

The general election is Tuesday, November 2, 2010. Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters for the County-wide election on October 13, 2010. A new ADA accessible ballot box has been installed in the parking lot on the west side of City Hall at 152 W. Cedar Street. It will be unlocked and available to receive your completed ballot beginning October 13. It will be locked when the election closes at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 2, 2010.

City Undertakes Long Range Financial Plan

The City of Sequim is in the process of developing a long-range financial plan designed to help the City maintain financial stability through the inevitable economic cycles. The plan projects City revenues and expenditures for the next six years. This allows the City Manager and City Council to take a longer view of economic cycles, rather than focusing on one budget year at a time. By looking long term the City can make adjustments now that will carry through over the next six years. This plan gives the City the tools to make better budget decisions to ensure long term financial stability.

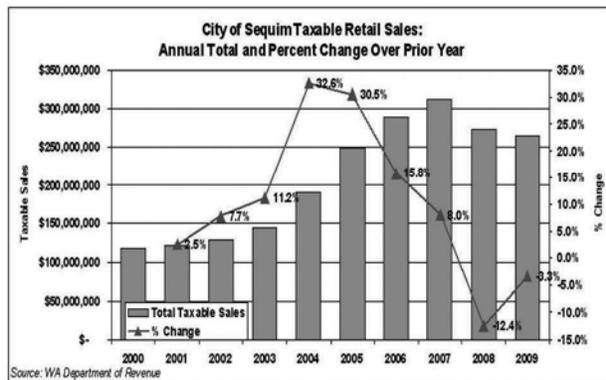
For the past three years the recession has created a situation where the City has budgeted to spend more than revenue. Based on the current financial projections cash reserves started out strong at \$2 million at the end of 2009, but will be depleted by 2014 if the City does nothing to reduce expenses or increase revenues to eliminate the projected deficits.

Now working in the first year of the long range financial plan, City Manager Steve Burkett intends to submit a 2011 balanced budget to the City Council. This will require reducing expenses and may include reducing some services and proposing tax increases. This prudent measure is the first step to ensure the City is financially stable into the long term future.

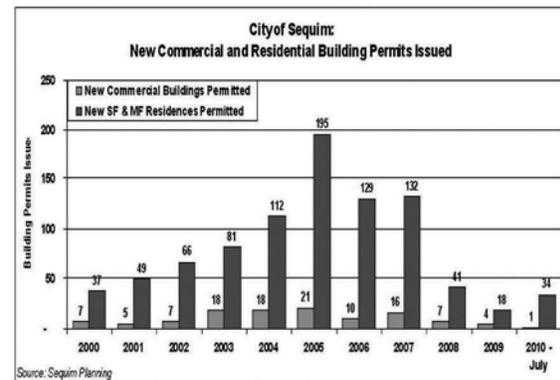
The current recession has reduced the City's operating revenue by 7% since 2007. Unfortunately, we cannot count on a recovery of our revenues to past levels for several years, so we must decrease our projected expenses in the 2011 budget. This lower expenditure base will allow us to plan for balanced budgets throughout the six-year plan.

The two charts below reflect the decrease in revenue from taxable retail sales and the decrease in building permits and construction revenue.

Sequim Taxable Retail Sales Through 2009



City of Sequim Building Permits 2000 - 2010 YTD



Budget Calendar

- October** – City Staff works with City Council on Proposed Budget
- November 8** – 2011 Proposed Budget Presentation
- November 15** – Budget Study Session (if necessary)
- November 22** – City Council scheduled to adopt 2011 Proposed Budget

Residents will have an opportunity to make comments regarding the proposed 2011 budget at City Council meetings October 11 and 25th and after the three scheduled meetings in November. The November meetings will be focused City Council reviews of the proposed budget and final adoption on November 22, 2010.