



CITY OF SEQUIM

News

October 2015



Meeting Dates & Locations

The meetings are held at the Civic Center located at 152 W. Cedar Street.

City Council Regular Meeting Council Chambers	2nd & 4th Monday 6:00 p.m.
City Council Study Session Council Chambers (when required)	2nd & 4th Monday 5:00 p.m.
Planning Commission Council Chambers	Tuesday, October 6 & 20 6:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board Council Chambers	1st Monday 6:30 p.m.
Lodging Tax Advisory Comm. Community Conf. Room	Quarterly—Next Meeting December 14 10:00 a.m.
Arts Advisory Commission Community Conf. Room	3rd Monday 8:30 a.m.

Upcoming Public Hearings

- Oct 12**—1) Comprehensive Plan Adoption
- Oct 26**—1) Comprehensive Plan Adoption continued

2016 Budget Calendar

Budget presentations are scheduled on the meeting dates listed below. All meetings are at the Civic Center, 152 West Cedar Street. Visit www.sequimwa.gov for meeting updates.

October 12 & 26—Department Presentations

November 9—Public Hearing on Property Tax, Revenues, Fees and Utility Rates

November 23—City Council Adopts 2016 Budget & Property Tax Levy, Revenues, Fees and Utility Rates.

City Council Reviews 2016 Proposed Budget

City Manager Charlie Bush presented the proposed 2016 budget to the City Council at the September 28, 2015 meeting.

The budget is the proposed financial plan for the upcoming calendar year and is focused on the maintenance of current service levels within the constraints of City resources. The proposed budget reflects balanced revenues and expenses in the General Fund and the normalizing of resources, operations, and related expenses with the completion of the Civic Center.

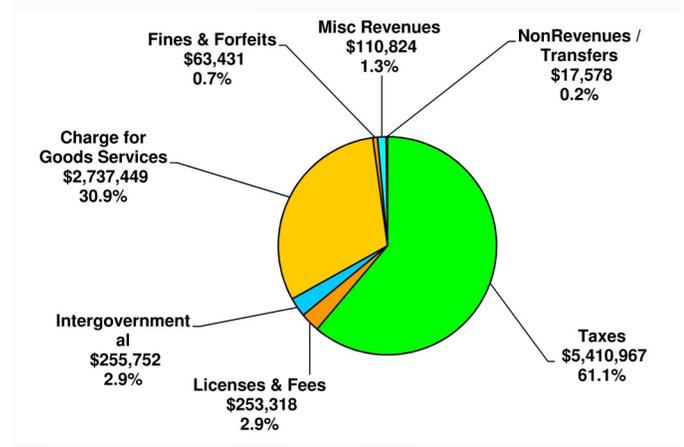
Debt service on the bonds financing the Civic Center continue for the second year, but without the burden of rent. 2016 will also see the pay-off of the Keeler Park debt. Improvement in economic activity is also conservatively reflected in the budget. These additional resources will be utilized to improve support for street operations, equipment and replacement reserves, and to fund debt services and centralized General Fund services to a greater degree.

Water Utility rates have been adjusted up 3% and Sewer Utility rates have been adjusted up 2.5% to meet the increase in revenue of 4% recommended in the 2013 rate study. For a household using 1,000 cubic feet of water per month, their sewer bill will increase \$1.72 per month and their water bill will increase by \$1.12 per month for a total of \$2.84. The study indicates the annual adjustment is important to maintain the financial health of the utility operations as well as to meet the current and future debt levels and to maintain target reserves. The proposed budget includes the continuation of the low income discount policy which reduces utility bills for those who qualify. The budget also proposes the 1% property tax increase allowed by law.

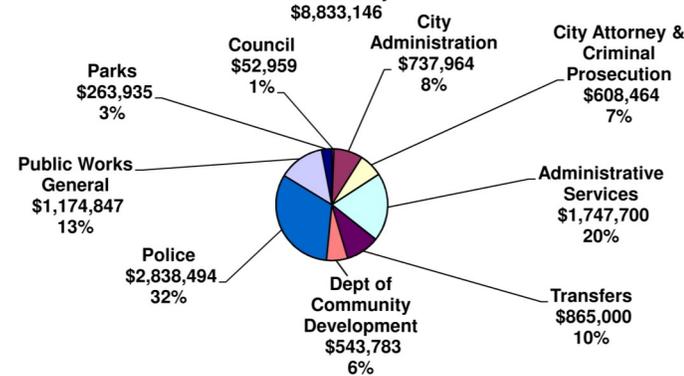
Opposite are charts that display where the City's General Fund revenue comes from and how the monies are distributed through City departments.

The City Council will continue to review the budget through November and citizens are encouraged to attend those sessions. To review the proposed budget online, visit www.sequimwa.gov.

General Fund Revenues
Total Revenues \$ 8,849,319



Total General Fund by Function



Water Saving Tip of the Month

In the Bathroom—TURN OFF WATER WHILE SHAVING, BRUSHING TEETH, ETC.

Don't let the water run when you brush your teeth, wash your face or hands, or shave. This can save 3 to 7 gallons of water per minute.



Concerned About Noise From Navy Jet Planes?

Due to complaints heard at Sequim City Council Meetings, members of the Council and City staff visited the Naval Air Station (NAS) Whidbey Island to discuss the best way for citizens to express their concerns.

The Navy has set-up a hotline and email address for concerns, complaints, and questions regarding jet noise. Call 360-257-6664 or email NASWI@navy.mil. The Navy will investigate reports and respond to concerns.

Find out more about an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) being prepared to evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with additional aircraft being added to NAS Whidbey Island at www.whidbeyeis.com.

The Navy holds an open house each summer at the NAS for those who would like to learn more about the station and program operations.

Coffee with the Mayor in October

Sequim residents can meet informally with Sequim Mayor Candace Pratt on Thursdays, October 1 & 15 at 8:30 a.m. at the Fifth Avenue, 500 W. Hendrickson.



Mayor Pratt will be at a different published location each month to meet with anyone who wants to chat, ask questions, express a concern, or make a comment about the City or the community. Please contact Candace Pratt at (360) 582-0114 or cpratt@sequimwa.gov with questions.

Listen to City Council and Planning Commission Meetings Live!

Can't make it to an important meeting? Visit the City website www.sequimwa.gov to listen to a live audio stream of City Council and Planning Commission meetings. The audio recordings are stored on the website and can be listened to at any time. Contact City Clerk Karen Kuznek-Reese at 681-3428 or kkuznek@sequimwa.gov with questions.

Reduced Fall Hours at the Interpretive Center at the Water Reuse Park, 500 N. Blake Ave. are in effect. The center will be open Thursdays from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Stop by for coffee, a cookie, and a chat with Water Resource Manager Ann Soule.

Call for Entries—3-D Artists

The City Arts Advisory Commission is seeking entries for a new exhibit in the Civic Center lobby featuring works of three-dimensional sculpture. Deadline for submission is November 1, 2015. The juried exhibit will run January 1—March 31, 2016. For complete information on entry submission and the exhibit visit www.sequimwa.gov or contact City Clerk Karen Kuznek-Reese at 681-3428 or kkuznek@sequimwa.gov

Sequim 120 Planning Process Takes its Final Step...



Over the past four years, more than 700 Sequim area citizens shaped a new proposed *Comprehensive Plan* to guide city growth and development. The next step is a City Council public hearing and adoption. You can read the proposed *2015-2035 Sequim Comprehensive Plan* by pasting this link (<http://wa-sequim.civicplus.com/index.aspx?NID=565>) to your browser or finding the link on the City's web site home page (look for the city map in the right-side column). The *Comprehensive Plan* is the basis for all city regulations that control the amount and character of development and for all major spending on roads, parks, and other city facilities. The proposed *Plan* document is easy to read, very informative and covers almost everything that matters in Sequim's future, from improving economic diversity to expanding lifestyle choices for all generations.

Your comments on these directions are invited at the Council hearing beginning October 12, 6PM, in the Council Chambers.

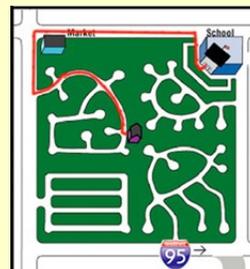
Highlights of the Proposed Plan Include:



Create friendly, single-family neighborhoods with a variety of housing designed for people...



...instead of a place to store cars.



Avoid isolated subdivisions and better connect them with a traditional street grid for walking, bicycling, and driving.