

**CITY OF SEQUIM
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FROM SPECIAL MEETING
GUY COLE EVENT CENTER
202 NORTH BLAKE AVENUE
SEQUIM, WA
JULY 29, 2019**

ROLL CALL

Council members present: Dennis Smith, Ted Miller, William Armacost, Candace Pratt, Bob Lake, Brandon Janisse

Absent: Jennifer States who is out of town

Staff present: Charisse Deschenes, Charlie Bush, Kristina Nelson-Gross, Cheri Crain, Barry Berezowsky, David Garlington, Sue Hagener, William Langevin, Mike Hill, Devin McBride, Anthony Martin, Barbara Hanna, John Southard, Tim Woolett

OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Smith provided opening remarks and read ground rules for the meeting.

Charlie Bush provided an update. Ron Allen indicated the tribe is acquiring an option on land to the west of the land they already purchased. The purpose was to provide street access to River Road. The city has not yet received an application and will follow our normal development process based on the application once it is received.

Barry Berezowsky provided information on the process that will be used for the application if it is an A-1 or A-2 process, which is an administrative decision. A pre application meeting would be necessary with review by several departments and the fire department.

A commercial building over 20K sf triggers the SEPA action. It will turn into a C1 process. Barry explained the DNS, MDNS and DS that are issued following the permitting process.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Smith opened the meeting for public comment at 6:20 p.m.

Wendy Goldberg, 1231 Port Williams Road, this is a drug treatment clinic which is not on the permitted uses. Research shows that MAT facilities are associated with increased homelessness and crime. A drug treatment facility requires a conditional use permit. How would additional development, Phase 2, affect the SEPA process of the Phase 1 and zoning.

Randy Scoglan, 163 Horizon View Drive, would like to know has there been or will there be a study as to the effects of a clinic like this in surrounding neighborhoods? Can we include other meth clinics on reservations? Recently a killing happened on an Indian Reservation and police ended up killing the suspect.

Ed Watson 73 Cobb Circle, many have the same safety concerns. He was cutting his hedge and hit a hornets' nest. He wishes you well. COS is a small town. The first responders rely on volunteers. What is being done to increase the police force, fire department, ambulances, etc? Those all need to be done before we consider a MAT clinic. There's a need for the MAT clinic but where is the need for care and need for safety begin.

Melissa Patrina, 732 5th Place, she explained what happened when she moved here from San Diego. House depreciated, crime increased. I moved here and you are doing the same thing here. Said she thinks you guys screwed up.

Richard Bruff, 281 Dorothy Hunt Lane, Carlsborg, retired law enforcement officer, explained his experience with these types of clinics. When these people are released, and not been healed, they follow the point of least resistance. He is concerned about them not playing well, they will bring cartels and gangs.

Roger Sonnenberg, 31 North Olympic View, had experience of 70K theft from meth user. He is a PT therapist. He has worked with meth people. We cannot save the world and don't have to have them here in the city. It is a profit-making organization doing this project. People deserve to speak out and encouraged others to take a stand.

Sandy Goodwick, 142 Heather Circle, Salish chair of the mental health advisory council with disability rights in Washington. People with disabilities have had to battle against irrational fears. Let's keep moving forward. Where are leaders who could tell us whether this type of facility works. Have you connected with leaders. Has never heard anyone speak of how existing mental health facilities have affected them. Compassion is a relationship between equals. It becomes real when we recognize our shared humanity.

Ellen Levy, 41 Hawthorne Court, was a counselor for many years. So many say not in y town, NIMBY, Studies have shown high rates of opioid use in this area. Swinomish tribe opened a facility. She provided information about others who have received treatment at Swinomish. Skagit County and the community are fully supportive of the treatment center. Our community needs to be supportive. Sequim needs this facility.

Monte Levine, 1536 N. Wycoff Ave., Bremerton, has lived in Clallam County for over 30 years. He has syringe exchange for several years. Many people from this area travel to Kitsap to get their supplies. Clallam County has the highest overdose rate. We need to help people, not toss them away. We cannot compare urban settings to rural settings. What happens in Seattle is not what happens in small towns. We need to look at addiction as a disease. This clinic will make your community safer.

Inga Able, 1276 Atterberry, do not believe a MAT clinic is the right solution for Clallam County right now. All current facilities have no waiting list. NOH Can only open their facility 2 days a week because they don't have enough patients. They all accept Medicaid, Apple. Don't have the need to another facility on the peninsula. More in patient beds here will just get ore people here from out of town. The Hand Up Project drives people from Snohomish to Port Angeles and take them home. Several drop out of the program and end up homeless in Port Angeles.

Jodi Wilke, 730 Dynasty, Port Townsend, she presented a statement for a moratorium on the River Road EOA. Resolution to place a moratorium on submission requests for development for that EOA. Ask that city halt all consideration of this project and place moratorium on further requests for a period of no less than 1 year. She addressed several issues as to why this facility should be denied.

Bob Fowl, 103 17th Court, what happened in Los Angeles. You will bring the very worst of Seattle to this area. You are ringing hundreds of people who will clog the services that are underserved for all of us. The MAT clinic has its advocates. If you allow this to go through, your friends and neighbors will turn cold on you. The City Council is our advocates. Kill this thing now before this thing kills Sequim.

Karen Wilcutt, 111 Dryke Road, is a recovering drug addict. Drug dealers follow drug addicts. Drug addicts follow other drug addicts. There are plenty of other places to spend this grant money. We don't need this huge thing on the peninsula. Seattle gives out 1.7 mil to give this thing and it's not full. This is about profit. Please stop this before it gets started. She invited Red Cedar Hall, August 8 at 6pm.

Joseph Phillip, 325 N 5th Ave, finds it ironic healing campus. The casino destroys many with second hand smoke and gambling addiction. They are building a pot store on 101 which is contradictory to what they are saying. How many have lost?

Maurine Frix, 60 North Ridge Lane. Who or what entity secured the over \$7M? Has there actually been an application made for this MAT facility?

Bill Walsh, 602 Ridgeview Drive, commends and thanks the city council for this forum. Sounds like there might be veiled attempt that if this project isn't approved, they won't bail out the marina. Relying on big pharma for the addiction they created seems like an oxymoron. Oxford House is open in Sequim. If you go in there, and you're dirty for methadone, you're gone. He has seen the destruction that comes with heroin habits. We don't need this in Sequim.

Val Shaw, 310 S. Shaw Lane, their farm is ground zero. It will affect them in multiple ways. They are an open land, if they can't farm, they have to pay \$75K in excess back taxes. Their property value will go down. They did a survey and put their survey markers on their property. Facility manager said they want to be good neighbors. They plowed the ditch, the Shaw family lost \$3K dollars to fix the irrigation issues. She had to clean out when they plugged the ditch. Who is going to pay for the fences for their farm and animals? Heroin addict, homeless, breaking into their barn and have had several visits from the police. How often will the police come up and protect them? I'm sure the tribe will say they will not let people loiter. The farm has been there since 1931. Traffic will increase, animals will not feed. How will we keep the farm going? That will be on them and you.

Henry Howe, 174 Forest Ridge Drive, is very concerned and the tribe's statistics are very dated. The number of prescriptions delivered.

Shelley Taylor, 183 North Windflower, Port Angeles, is concerned about the location of the MAT facility. She provided information about an individual who was a drug addict. The methadone is 10 times worse than the heroin detox.

Julie Franny, lived in Sequim for 20 years. This center is 3 times the center of the different clinics in Seattle. We have more than normal facilities for the elderly. You are introducing into this community a very volatile, addictive personality. It was hard to watch Seattle is Dying. We are following the same criteria as New York, Seattle and Los Angeles. This is insane.

Ann Marie Fernandez, has lived in Sequim for one year, a methadone clinic was started on their main street in CA. They were bathing in our water feature, needles are found in kids' parks. We moved to Sequim to enjoy our retirement and are very concerned about this clinic due to their experience. She has 58-year old sister who has lived on methadone for several years.

Carolyn Koch, 460 Blue Glacier Loop, asked how many have chosen to have diabetes or pancreatitis? It is a choice some people made at some point to take this stuff. She moved to Sequim over a year ago when her son almost killed her while on meth. He got into meth that made him a dangerous monster. Her and his dad tried to get him help. These people are destructive and don't know what they are doing. This will not help these people. There is a 5% success rate. It's all about money.

Kim McBride, 410 Wright Road, is scared. She works for the courts. She finds it disturbing that the tribe is selling drugs and then the tribe wants to help them get off them. There are all kinds of crime associated with these clinics. Many patients drive themselves to the facility for treatment. Sequim is an area with lots of older citizens and nice homes. They are ordered to do drug treatment were often back in court within 2 days to 2 weeks of treatment. Most not arrested for drugs but theft to get more money for drugs.

Tom Fenner, 71 Rolling Hills Way, Sequim, his first wife died 33 years ago of drug and alcohol abuse. Addicts don't understand what they are doing and you can't reason with them. High opioids in Sequim because of all the assisted living facilities and chronic pain. The addicts know these facilities have these drugs. His biggest concern is the senior citizens of Sequim. 44% of the Sequim residents are 65 or older. They can't protect themselves.

Jill Varvel, 371 Autumn Road, is a real estate broker, opposes the MAT clinic because WA State law was changed so same opioid could be sold. Total abstinence. on 2017 HB1427 changed the law so the standard was modified. Main goal of treatment is abstinence. By creating secondary goals, the primary focus of the MAT clinic is diluted. Read the wording in the law. She finds these changes deceptive.

Joshua Vilavos, 263 Simpson Road, a couple people compared diabetes to drug addiction. A childhood friend died at 12 or 13 due to complications to diabetes. He finds it insulting to compare diabetes to drug treatment. This MAT clinic in comparing to treatment of diabetes is not accurate. He used to be a security officer at a hospital and know first hand of drug addicts and mental patients. Several come to the hospital high searching for drugs to calm them down. He

was there 6-8 months and saw several of them 15 times. An addict will do the same thing with this facility until they decide they want the treatment. They will choose this over anything else every time.

Bob Mcgonigal, 462 Greywolf Road, if this goes through this will be an awful place to live. The council is not corrupt. The real villains are the city manager and city planner. They will go to another city and town after this. Who do they work for? Namely the tribe, the hospitals state reps and governor. Mr. Bush was talking about a great symposium where he learned how to handle us. Are we talking about another 20-acre parcel in addition to the current 20 acres parcel?

Liz Bumgarner, Marine Drive, moved here 6 years ago from Washington DC. She grew up in NY city where there were drugs and all kinds of bad things. Sequim doesn't have really a bad problem. However, when she gets on 101 she is more afraid to drive than she was in Washington DC or New York because someone might overdose on something. There is plenty of robbery in this area. You have a right to demand specifics. You may not want these problems here, they are here. You are right to say there ought to be some guarantees of where the people will come from to the clinic. The tribe brought the first medical center here. Talk about money. Talk about Trump and all his money. She didn't want to be heckled out.

Colleen Rayburn, 101 Charles Way, she grew up in a small town, this town started providing these types of services. She pulled into the Safeway parking lot and watched someone shoot up in heroin. The Safeway store became unsafe after dark. The library became a hangout. There wasn't a safe park in the town. Have you considered the consequences? You've got to have people housesit if you go on holiday and leave your home. It's your decision. Please protect us.

Linda Hines, 90 Caysa Place, Sequim, the JKT is the largest employer on the Peninsula and she applauds them. His entire community has helped them become wealthy. The casino profits from smoking, drinking and gambling. The doctors know who they give prescriptions to and should have stopped it. The PDN 7/22 reported Clallam County an PA have had an increase in crimes. 95% are on drugs or using. Numbers were higher in PT. Sequim had the lowest percentage. Many are against this clinic. There are clinics that can take them in now. Think about this.

Jorene Boker, has lived in Sequim 17 years. Is an enrolled Makah member. Her experience with this type of clinic has family member on methadone, etc. he wouldn't do any other life because he couldn't get. He lived his life of crime. If you could just consider or find the answer to where the 50% who will drop out will go. They won't go home, they will stay here.

Cindy Schmidt, 300 N. Sequim Ave, moved here 5 months ago. This is a quiet town. This MAT facility is not the kinds of excitement we are looking for. She works downtown PA and sees the homeless very day. When people are off their meds, they are frightening. These people are reliable about what they do in their daily lives. She doesn't want to be afraid in Sequim. She feels safe here. Her husband still works downtown Seattle. He sees a MAT clinic every day and sees the trash needles, human waste. We don't want that here. We don't want to be afraid or

bothered when we shop at Costco. This is not good for Sequim. Whose pockets have been padded for this bad deal?

Brody Broker, sells real estate in town. This is not a clinic. He has never leased a clinic that is 15,000 feet. The scope exceeds the needs of the community. It's a great time to do critical thinking. He called other providers on a government website and almost everyone listed have openings. Their family member could not heal until he got clean. There is capacity for this treatment already in our community. He believes the whole thing should come under a conditional use. Some council members may be in it for refreshments but believes council is here because you care. Everyone else in this building is here because they care. The JKT also cares about this community. Over the last 2 years the number of these clinics has grown significantly. 1 in 9 people is still clean 9 months after completing one of these programs. The others are now in our community. There's a lot of government dollars that make it almost free to build them. What is the real goal? Do they believe that we need additional capacity in our statewide system? This is not a clinic. Review a regional medical center.

Donna Harrison, 330 Gupster Road, have business in Sequim and have vested interest because are near this facility. She was a deputy sheriff in Oregon on the pipeline for black tar heroin. We had a drug task force. She has experience with the devastation of drugs. We want these people to be helped and cured. Meth and heroin are hard to recover them. She shared the story o David, a former drug addict. Tell everyone no on the MAT clinic. Addicts need to hit rock bottom in order to get clean. A clinic this size will not answer the problem, it will bring it to us.

Rose Marshal, 162 S Barr Road, the developer confirms the property is confirmed for official use. You changed the zoning for them. This is a medically assisted program. JKT will bus 250 patients. They will need transportation because they will come from PA and Forks. This is not a 24-hour clinic. The bussing situation seems crazy.

Peggy Heeley, 325 N 5th Ave., moved here from CA. had 2 business there. MAT came in and told stories of theft that took place. There was a shooting every week. She explained what she went through when she got off tranquilizers. Once they're addicted, they didn't have a choice.

Bob Forde, 100 Ward Lane, alcoholism was rampant in his family. He is 37 years without a drink in October. Before you get in a problem-solving situation you need to know the problem. The problem is a spiritual. There are 216 12 step programs. It is a reliance on a power greater than themselves. The federal government owns aircraft carriers. Put as much energy into getting one of those and float your problem on one of those.

David Roster, 192 Van Dyken Drive, he heard about environmental review. He has not heard anything about social impact and whether it is a good thing for our community. He has an addict cousin. There seems to be a great amount of data about this and whether there is a need in this region. There is an 80% drop out rate and many of them will hang around here. There are underused clinics in Port Angeles. Why would we do this in downtown Sequim? Building a clinic here in unnecessary. This is a for profit clinic, follow the money.

Paula Cook, 110 Cottage Lane, she does not see any county officials included or here. If it goes to the process of the conditional use, should there be an area of mutual understanding of those of us who live in the county. She asked the city to work with the county and its citizens to be included in the impact.

Tom Gooch, 600 E Cedar Street, has lost family members to heroin and meth. The high from heroin or meth is greater than anything on earth and nothing else matters. He is a former security officer at JW Marina and has seen many addicts. He drove 7 people when he drove CTS and listened to stories go to methadone clinic 6 days a week, get lock box, they don't care. It will only get worse. This is a no-win situation. When you bring this clientele here these will all go away. Costco employees have to worry about getting mugged.

Justin Gunn, West Summer Breeze Lane, Sequim moved here 3 years ago. He understands this is being done in phases. Maybe there isn't a problem. Maybe this MAT thing will go on without problems. He's never actually seen a drug addict. How far behind Costco is the plat of land? The closeness seems weird.

Steve Gale, PO Box 1401, appreciates hearing from the public. He heard the process defined. Do you job as a city council and take two courses of action. When this public comment section is over, vote upon whether you should establish a moratorium in the EOA for a period of up to one year and at the same time direct DCD to hold a public hearing on the matter of reconsidering the approved uses for the EOA. Let them decide if they want a very large medical facility to be built on that area. He asked a show of hands who approve the center. He saw four. There were several opposing.

Mary Jane Moore, 1322 Fox Hollow Road, feels like council is in a spot. You have rules and regulations you have to follow. She would like to see if can get a funding, encourage the JKT, to take that money and do some research and see what helps and works to help these addicts. From what she's heard tonight these places aren't helping people.

Grace Bacon, 3382 Happy Valley Road, is an educator. She has not heard one word of what you are looking at and the effect on our youth in our community. Her son came her in the 4th grade. He was the only Hawaiian boy in this town and got along with everyone. When he got into high school, many of his friends were using drugs. She still has the bullet casing who killed himself because of LSD effects. Her older brother got off alcohol at 55; and joined AA. That was the only way he could get off. There are not a lot of programs here to the youth. His son quit school here in 11th grade and went to another state. She would rather see a technical college here, not a MAT clinic.

Herb Leckman, 161 Airport Way, moved here from Seattle. Saw the Seattle progression with all the bad choices. He provided information on how his daughter walked from the train station to the ferry terminal it was like a horror movie. There were no normal people on the streets only addicts and insanity. The police couldn't do anything. Look up Seattle is Dying. This is all about money. The tribe could care less about the citizens of Sequim. All they want is money in their pockets. He's not spending another dime with the tribe.

Frank Ryan, Port Williams Road, we don't need these changes. The people don't want it. It will change everything and ruin the way of life here. If the tribe wants to have that kind of clinic, put it behind the casino.

Jan Everett, live in the County, asked that an application has not been received? Once the application process starts, property owners within 300 feet will be notified. The neighbors and the bus stop are not within 300 feet. The impact is greater than 300 feet. That entire area has seniors who are comprised. Please consider these people and do a demographic study of the housing in the area and do a count on who is most vulnerable.

Rick Nichols, lives in Dungeness, is concerned about family. He coaches Little League. He's afraid the beautiful parks will dissipate. He could be forced out of the area. The drug needles on the side of the road is incredible. Think about the families.

Man didn't share name. He grew up in Tacoma. Everyone said Sequim is a beautiful little farm town. He spent 10 years working the streets of Seattle and doesn't want that here. There's 5 miles of land behind the casino. Why isn't this going there? We won't have parades and festivals and many businesses will leave. Washington Street will become a dead business zone.

Mayor Smith thanked the attendees for dealing with this in a civil manner.

ADJOURNMENT

8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Charisse Deschenes, Acting City Clerk



Dennis Smith, Mayor