



CITY OF SEQUIM News



January 2016

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	Tuesdays, January 5 & 19 6:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board Community Conf. Room	1st Monday 6:30 p.m.
Lodging Tax Advisory Comm. Community Conf. Room	Quarterly—Next Meeting March 18—1:30 p.m.
Arts Advisory Commission Community Conf. Room	3rd Monday 8:30 a.m.

Water Saving Tip of the Month

In the Bathroom — CHECK FOR TOILET LEAKS.

Once a year, check for toilet leaks. Remove the toilet tank cover and drip 10 drops of food coloring into the tank. After 15 minutes, check for color in the toilet bowl. If you see any color, your toilet has a leak and should be repaired immediately. Again, remember to check your flapper periodically to make sure it's a tight fit.



Guy Cole Convention Center Rehabilitation

The Guy Cole Convention Center will be undergoing rehabilitation starting in January 2016. Therefore, it will not be available for rental to the public. It is anticipated the rehabilitation will be completed by September 2016.

Other City facilities available for rental include the covered picnic area at Carrie Blake Park, the Transit Center for meetings and classes; the James Center for the Performing Arts and the Interpretive Center at the Water Reuse Site north of Carrie Blake Park; the Council Chambers, Community Room and outdoor plaza at the Civic Center; and Centennial Place on the corner of Washington Street and Sequim Avenue. Visit the City's website, www.sequimwa.gov, to obtain the Application for Facility Rental.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 4, 2016 5:00 P.M.

SEQUIM CIVIC CENTER

152 W. CEDAR STREET

Visit www.sequimwa.gov for the agenda.



City Offices will be closed on Friday, January 1 for New Year's Day and on Monday, January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

No Coffee with the Mayor in January

Coffee with the Mayor is expected to resume in February. Please stay tuned for the location and schedule.

Notice of Utility Rate Changes for Commercial Sewer Customers

The Sequim City Council has adopted 2016 Utility Rate Structure changes which will affect *commercial* sewer customers beginning January 1, 2016. These changes are an effort to more equitably balance the cost of the utilities with those customers who utilize most of the service and resource.

Beginning January 1, 2016, commercial sewer customer base rates will be based on the size of the water meter associated with the property, instead of the current minimal base rate which is roughly equivalent to a Single Family Residence base rate. The following table illustrates the change in base rates for 2016.

Utility Rates (base charge plus consumption @ .06335/cf over 600cf)

Meter Size	2015 Base Charge	2016 Base Charge
5/8 to 3/4"	\$ 62.32	\$ 63.88
1"	\$ 62.32	\$ 82.41
1 1/2"	\$ 62.32	\$ 148.52
2"	\$ 62.32	\$ 228.05
3"	\$ 62.32	\$ 424.16

The significant increase for the larger size meters reflects the additional capacity for sewer flow and expense to the utility, which have been absorbed by smaller users in the past.

Another change is the elimination of the per unit charge for customers with multiple units on one meter. These accounts will now only be charged one base rate determined by the meter size which may result in a significant decrease in expense.

Please call the Public Works Department at 683-4908 if you have questions regarding any impact to your sewer utility bill.



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Road Clearance for Winter Storms

Winter has arrived and that means the possibility of winter storms. Citizens are reminded that during heavy snows, the City crew concentrates on clearing the main arterials first. Washington Street, Sequim Avenue, 5th Avenue, 3rd Avenue, overpasses and school routes (when schools are in session) are the top priorities.



In the event of a snow storm, the City asks the community to help by clearing snow from the sidewalks that adjoin their homes and businesses.

Help the City Prevent Flooding

Winter storms can also bring heavy rains. The City requests that all citizens that are able, assist in keeping drains and catch basins free of debris and leaves. During the stormy winter months, City crews can get spread thin. Your assistance in keeping the street clean is vital to our ability to respond to extreme precipitation and to prevent flooding.

We appreciate your help!



Toilet Paper Only Please!

The Public Works Department is asking all residents to help keep the wastewater system clear and functioning properly by flushing only body waste and toilet paper down the toilet.

Popular bathroom wipes or pre-moistened towelettes, often advertised as flushable, are creating clogs and back-ups in sewer systems around the nation. The wipes will flush down the toilet, but they don't break down through the system. This can result in clogged pipes and pumps, which can be expensive to replace.

Other items that should **not** be flushed include paper towels, baby wipes, feminine hygiene products, household wipes, cosmetic pads, dental floss, condoms, and medical materials.

Three Dimensional Art Exhibit at Civic Center

Join us Friday, January 8 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. for the opening of the Three Dimensional Art Exhibit at the Civic Center, 152 W. Cedar Street. The exhibit is presented by the City Arts Advisory Commission and includes 19 pieces in a wide variety of mediums.

Reporting Excessive Jet Noise

Please contact the Navy directly by email at comments.NASWI@navy.mil or call (360) 257-6665 to address concerns, complaints, or questions regarding noise from Navy jets over the Sequim area.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Meet Volunteer Al Miller

Al was looking for someplace where he could interact with people in a relaxed atmosphere. When he heard about the need for help in the lobby of the new Civic Center to direct people to their needed services he thought, **"Yeah, I can do that!"**



Volunteer Concierge Al Miller.

"I enjoy helping the folks that come into the Civic Center to meet with City employees, as well as those that pop in to see the building and enjoy the art in the lobby," Al said. "I have met a lot of nice people in recent months!"

Al has volunteered in a number of different capacities since he retired 10 years ago. He sees his job as a concierge as a way to make visiting the Civic Center as smooth as possible by taking the mystery out of where to find things (including the restrooms) and to help lighten the day of those he meets. He views his volunteer efforts as beneficial to the City and its residents, but also to himself.

"Selfish as it may be, there is a sense of satisfaction reaching out to one's neighbor to be of help," Al said.

Be a Concierge for the City

Do you like to meet new people and stay current with City events? You would make a great concierge!

The City of Sequim is seeking volunteers to serve as concierge in the Sequim Civic Center. Volunteers will greet visitors to the facility and help direct them to the department that can best serve them. The volunteer concierge also assists in providing tourism-related information about Sequim and the surrounding Dungeness Valley to visitors and may provide some assistance to City departments. For a full job description, visit www.sequimwa.gov.

To learn more about how you can volunteer with the City and make a difference in the community, contact City Clerk Karen Kuznek-Reese at (360) 681-3428 or kkuznek@sequimwa.gov.

Public Works to Begin Grease Trap Inspection Program

Beginning in January, the City of Sequim Public Works Department will begin the annual grease trap inspection program on any business or organization within the city limits that has a commercial grade kitchen. Please visit www.sequimwa.gov for more information or call 683-4908 with questions.