

CITY OF SULTAN COUNCIL MEETING – February 10, 2022

Mayor Wiita was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Beeler called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. The meeting was a hybrid with attendees both in person at City Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom Internet Conference Service. Mayor Wiita called roll and the following were in attendance:

Councilmembers: Morgan, Aldrich, Dearborn, Hund, Neigel, and Sivewright. It was noted that CM Neigel joined a short time after rollcall.

Staff: City Administrator Ibershof, Community Development Director Galuska, and City Clerk Pevey.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA (Requires a motion)

None noted

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

County Councilmember Sam Low: State Democrats released a transportation package this week and he expressed his disappointment as he felt it didn't adequately address the needs in the east county. He further addressed the reasons to include 23 transportation projects submitted but only seven listed and addressed in the package with minimal funding. Gave the example that the US2 Trestle project estimated to cost \$1.8 Billion and only \$210 Million authorized in the package.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Sivewright: Thanks CM Low for the update and it's unfortunate there is limited funding for US2, but encouraged all to keep pushing and trying with the resources available.

Neigel: Proud endorser of Sam Low and hard pressed to find someone who has served the county better. He confirmed his appointment to the Snohomish County Board of Health and shared information learned at the recent meeting. Still attending the Sultan Prevention Coalition meeting monthly and provided an update. Disappointed in the recent levy failure for the Sultan Schools.

Hund: Thanked CM Low for the update; congratulated CM Neigel for Board of Health appointment; and expressed disappointment in the transportation package information.

MAYOR

Mayor Pro Tem Beeler reminded those in attendance of the council retreat set for Saturday, February 19th that includes a tour of city facilities. Expressed his disappointment in the transportation package and expressed his interest in much needed US2 and SR522 improvements. Also discussed an issue with how transportation project funding is decided and expressed the need to urge legislators for change in this process. Thanked staff for all their hardwork to keep the city looking good and running smoothly.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Administrator Ibershof stated the Alliance Board retreat was held Tuesday night and the board is hard at work on event planning for 2022. Staff has been meeting with consultants regarding US2 improvements and is starting the outreach process to various agencies to confirm the plan and will then reach out for community input. Thanked council for their input at the recent council workshop regarding transportation impact fees. Staff is working diligently with the input received to work on a plan. Community Awards Banquet is to be held tomorrow evening. Thanked councilmembers and others who assisted staff in preparing a mental health grant with Snohomish County to hire a mental health crises counselor with Sultan and other agencies. New IT service provider Fusiontek rolled out this week and an assessment is being completed over the next few weeks.

STAFF REPORTS

None noted

CONSENT AGENDA

On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Sivewright, the following consent agenda items were approved with motion passing 6-0.

- 1) Voucher Approval for the February 4, 2022, accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$74,100.50, payroll #1, payroll benefits and payroll taxes in the amount of \$111,566.28, all to be drawn and paid on the proper accounts.

ACTION ITEMS

AB22-20_Planning Board Appointment – Keyes

Community Development Director Galuska explained a boardmember had resigned, which created the vacancy. Neigel expressed his confidence in the staff selection.

On a motion by Councilmember Sivewright, seconded by Councilmember Dearborn, council confirmed Mayor Wiita's appointment of Emily Keyes to the Sultan Planning Board. Motion passed 6-0.

AB22-21_Housing Action Plan Professional Services Agreement (Blueline Group)

Community Development Director Galuska stated the city accepted a grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce and the city received \$55,000 to complete the Housing Action Plan project. A request for qualifications was published and extended thru the holidays. The city received one response from Blueline. Galuska stated the city is working with Blueline on a separate project and has had a good working relationship. Galuska confirmed the agreement had been reviewed by both Blueline and the city attorney before presentation to the council. On a motion by Councilmember Sivewright, seconded by Councilmember Morgan, council authorized the Mayor to sign a Professional Services Agreement with Blueline. Motion passed 6-0.

AB22-22_BPA Agreement


Community Development Director Galuska explained the recent Cobble Hill subdivision was approved north of 124th just west of the Sky Ridge Estates project and the southern portion of both of those projects includes an area with BPA easement for powerlines. The agreement doesn't place any obligation or duties on the city. The development is using it for open space and the HOA is responsible for maintenance. Ownership of the land must be turned over to the city as part of the agreement. Questions and discussion amongst council about liability as a property owner and maintenance of retention ponds and other issues in the open space area. Galuska confirmed BPA is responsible for the power lines and the HOA is responsible for everything else. On a motion by Councilmember Sivewright, seconded by Councilmember Dearborn, council authorized the Mayor to sign an agreement with Cobble Hill LLC and Bonneville Power Administration. Motion passed 6-0.

AB18-15_Council Chambers Audio System Upgrades (Heilman Consulting)

Administrator Ibershof confirmed that upgrades are needed to change out all audio equipment from analog to digital and additional microphones to accommodate the needs of the system. Since the system was custom designed by Heilman Consulting in 2018, Ibershof requested to utilize sole source vendor for this project. CM Sivewright questioned if it would help place council meetings online. Administrator Ibershof stated no, but it will clean up the audio issues occurring in the room, and that staff is working on a plan to get the council meeting video up on the website for public viewing. On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Hund, council authorizes city staff to sole source purchase the audio equipment for the council chambers from Heilman Consulting for an amount not to exceed \$11,000. Motion passed 6-0.


ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Aldrich the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m. The zoom meeting connection was disconnected shortly thereafter.



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Russell Wiita, Mayor

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Tami J. Pevey, City Clerk