

Minutes of September 10, 2018

The Sumas City Council met in regular session with all councilmen present. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes of the August 23, 2018 council meeting were approved for filing.

The public hearing on the conditional use application submitted by HD Investments, LLC for the Harrison Avenue was re-opened. A letter was presented to the council from HD Investments stating the decision to withdraw the application. Gary Debont made a motion to close the public hearing. Bruce Bosch seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried.

The public hearing for current Sumas TV cable options was opened. Superintendent Hernandez spoke of declining subscribers, increasing operational costs and per subscriber fee increases. He also estimated upgrade to HD quality would be \$521,506.34.

Jess Jacklin of 205 Lincoln circle approached the council. He was curious to how much market share we had lost. He stated concerns of not having a good financial plan. Encouraged the council to look at something long term and not stick the tax payer with a big bill down the road.

Mary Cook of 1018 Sumas Avenue approached the council. She stated let it go. We can get better quality service for the same amount of money. The city currently provides no service on the weekend and that is good reason to let it go.

Verna Sisco of Second Street approached the council. Her feelings are a duplicate of what Mary Cook stated.

Mayor Christensen thanked everyone for coming and giving their opinions and the city will continue to work on resolving the issues with the future of Sumas TV Cable. Gary Debont made a motion to close the public hearing. Rich Postma seconded the motion, all were in favor and the public hearing was closed.

The public hearing for Ordinance 1728 regarding Cryptocurrency Mining, Server Farm & Data Center Operations was opened at 7:17pm. Attorney Wright spoke of Ordinance 1728 prohibiting Cryptocurrency mining. Superintendent Hernandez stated he was in favor of prohibiting cryptocurrency mining due to the possibility of high electrical use resulting in sending the city into a higher billing tier with the Bonneville Power Administration, in turn raising rates to all consumers within the city limits.

Ken McCoy, of Woodstock Way, Bellingham. Operates a business located at 470 W. Second Street. Mr. McCoy questioned whether Ordinance 1728 was in effect. Attorney Wright advised it was and this public hearing is to give the public an opportunity to express opinion on the matter. Mr. McCoy stated he has a business license from company headquarters. He stated it seems the Washington State Constitution declaration of rights here section Article 1 section 23. He stated he has a contract with his landlord. He asked the city to grandfather him in and put it in writing. He wondered if this was just an attempt to win a court case. He encouraged the council to be mindful in maintaining constitutional rights.

Gary Debont made a motion to close public hearing after there was no further comments. Bruce Bosch seconded the motion, all were in favor and the hearing was closed.

Mayor Christensen sent the options for the Sumas Cable TV to the TV Committee, which is Rich Postma and Todd Daniels, for recommendations at the next meeting.

Chief Debruin reported on Communication and CAD updates. The police department has been piggy backing off the City of Blaine with Force-Com. This is a system the officers use to access information while in their patrol vehicle. We have until September 28, 2018 to implement a replacement program. The department will need to purchase 4 CAD licenses at \$1100 each for a total of \$4,400.00. This is a one-time fee and once paid the license belongs to the City of Sumas. We will be forced to pay an annual fee to What-Comm calculated at a total of 20% of the CAD license which would be \$880.00. Northwest technology set up cost would be \$500 and would charge a \$2.50 per month per license fee to maintain the VPN portal on our behalf. This what all other agencies in the county are using. The Ominix system will be shared with Everson Police Department with a cost of \$600 per year. The cost of Crimestar cloud-based server would cost \$1,779.40 and a \$581.45 monthly maintenance fee paid to Northwest Technology. Bruce Bosch made a motion to authorize the purchase of CAD license with associated costs and Mayor Christensen to sign Interagency Use Agreement for Mobile Data Computer Network Between Sumas Police and What-Comm Communications Center. Gary Debont seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried. Bruce Bosch made a motion approving moving forward with the purchase of the Crimestar cloud-based server and maintenance agreement with Northwest Technologies. Gary Debont seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried. Gary Debont made a motion to move forward with the share of cost with Everson Police Department for the Omminix server. Bruce Bosch seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried.

Chief Debruin reported Officer Pluchakov is moving ahead nicely with his FTO and on to the last shadow phase. He is performing very well and happy to serve the Sumas Community.

Clerk-Treasurer Schultz presented a quote for a new copy machine. The quote is off state bid and she requested council approval to purchase for \$11,768.59, which includes installation and training. Gary Debont made a motion to approve the copy machine purchase. Bruce Bosch seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried.

Clerk-Treasurer Schultz officially requested 2019 budget requests from the department heads.

Superintendent Hernandez reported the need for sewer power surge protective devices on the panels on each lift station. The total cost would be \$13,500 for six lift stations. Gary Debont made a move ahead with purchasing six surge protective devices. Rich Postma seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried. Ruben then reported Sewer Lift Station #5 rebuild was near completion. The Sumas City Crew worked this last Saturday to finish up and give a test run. It's currently running and the vault is set outside the lift station which will keep the panel from eroding.

Ruben reported a permit application had been submitted to Department of Fish and Wildlife to clean up the ditches on Kneuman Road. Looks like that will be approved and will need to start planning the work. Ruben then reported of the need to update pictometry maps the spring of 2019. The cities share of the cost would be \$3,410. Bruce Bosch made a motion to approve 2019 pictometry flight planning expenditure of \$3,410.00. Gary Debont seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried.

Ruben went on to request auto Cad mapping program used for shoreline maps with buffer areas near Johnson Creek. This will allow updates to electrical maps as well as a useful purpose with subdivisions. The cost for a yearly subscription would be \$1575.00. Gary Debont made a motion to purchase the Auto CAD program. Rich Postma seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried.

Ruben advised the playground work party is set for Wednesday from 9am to 3pm. Lunch will be served at 12pm. Ruben announced the City of Sumas has won the 2018 best tasting water in the entire State of Washington. We have the title back and will be competing in the national competition in February 2019.

Mayor Christensen reported of a 9-11 memorial ceremony tomorrow at 10am, located at the Sumas Border crossing. He then reminded everyone of the Bull-A-Rama September 15 at 7:30pm. Two scoops with Mayor Christensen will be at Edaleen Dairy at 6:30pm on September 22. There will also be a community connections meeting at the Sumas Library September 24 at 2pm. Mayor Christensen requested research be done on adding prayer to council meetings possibly with local pastors.

The bills were presented to the finance committee. Bruce Bosch made a motion to approve August 2018 manual checks. Gary Debont seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried. Claims voucher 39858 through 39893 in the amount of \$173,069.87 and payroll voucher 21011 through 21018 plus direct deposit run in the amount of \$122,271.11 were approved with a motion by Bruce Bosch, seconded by Gary Debont, which carried with all in favor.

Bruce Bosch made a motion to adopt the August 2018 Treasurer's Report. Josh Clawson seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried.

Gary Debont made a motion to adopt Ordinance 1730 prohibiting the establishment, location, operation, Licensing, Maintenance or Continuation of Marijuana Producers, Processors, and Retailers as Regulated Pursuant to Washington State Initiative 502; And Re-Establishing a Moratorium Thereon; Providing for Severability; and Establishing an Effective Date. Bruce Bosch seconded the motion, all were in favor and it carried.

Council went into executive session with Attorney Wright present. The meeting continued in regular session.

Josh Clawson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rich Postma seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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Clerk-Treasurer