

Minutes of November 13, 2018

The Sumas City Council met on the evening of Tuesday, November 13, 2018 with all councilman present. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes of the October 22, 2018 meeting were approved for filing with no changes.

Mayor Christenson opened the meeting with the public hearing for the revision to Chapter 20.56 to the Sumas Municipal Code regarding off street parking. Ruben Hernandez, Public Works Director, presented the material regarding the revision. The major revision on the code will affect the multi-family dwellings it will change the code from three parking spaces for two dwelling units that is currently in place to two parking spaces per one dwelling unit. Ruben advised that we are currently in a SEPA comment period that will last till November 26, 2018, so no ordinance is presented to the council. Gary DeBont moved to allow for the public hearing to be closed and Todd Daniel's seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Mayor Christensen asked if there was any objection for the staff to bring back an ordinance for the council to review, no objections.

Mayor Christensen asked if there was any citizen input, there was none.

Mayor Christensen asked that Building and Ordinance Committee Todd Daniels and Rich Postma to meet regarding a more permanent solution to Crypto Currency before the next council meeting.

Chief Daniel DeBruin advised the that cloud server is completed and working well. Chief DeBruin, also advised that he applied for extra Stone Garden Funds for equipment and was approved for an extra \$3400.00 to be used by the end of 2018. The money can only be used for night vision equipment; Daniel will be purchasing 1 set of night vision goggles for the officers.

Ruben Hernandez, Utilities Superintendent, updated the council that the playground is completed.

Ruben also advised of research he has been doing on a mini excavator, to help with storm clean up and creek maintenance. The mini-excavator could also have a flail mower attachment; Ruben would like to remove the request for the Tractor with side arm mower from the old business and change his request to a mini excavator for consideration by the council. The mini excavator would come out of water, sewer and storm sewer funds.

Ruben advised that the City of Sumas sign has been taken down for repairs because the posts had rotted. He is waiting to get the new post and to have the project completed before the Christmas decorations go up.

Ruben updated that the OmniRupter Switch, this a switch that allows us to share power between circuit 16 and circuit 12 if there is an issue on the west side of the tracks. They are about 75% completed with this project.

Michelle Quinn, City Clerk, called for a public hearing for December 10, 2018, regarding the amendment to Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance, Chap 14.30. Bruce Bosch moved to call for the public hearing for December 10, 2018 and Gary Debont seconded, all were in favor motion carried.

Shelley Schultz, Finance Director, called for a public hearing for the 2019 fiscal year preliminary budget for the City of Sumas and public hearing on revenue sources for 2019 budget including consideration of possible increase in property tax revenues for November 26, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Bruce Bosch moved to call for the public hearing for November 26, 2018 and Gary Debont seconded, all were in favor motion carried.

Kyle Christensen, Mayor, advised he and his wife delivered 19 welcome baskets to new community members.

Mayor Christensen also recommended that the city donate \$100.00 for the free community dinner at the Community Center on December 24, 2018.

Mayor Christensen presented his budget message for 2019; he is looking for ways to support local community organizations and local activities making that a priority for the upcoming budget year. Mayor Christensen would like to start repairing the sidewalks and looking into getting lighted crosswalks for the kids. He wants to continue to invest in our parks, we are putting together a survey to get input from our citizens in the community for upgrading projects throughout the city. The budget will allow for upgrades to electrical, water and sewer systems looking at ways to upgrading our utilities when projects come up.

Mayor Christensen called for an executive session regarding legal matters.

Gary DeBont spoke about the Whatcom County Fire Department request to the increase in the upcoming contract in 2021.

Jim Wright, City Attorney would like the Building and Ordinance Committee to meet about the draft Moratorium for Prohibiting Marijuana Business.

Josh Clawson advise the Nooksack Valley School District is going to be replacing the school in the City of Sumas with a new school building.

Bruce Bosch motioned to pay the bills Gary DeBont seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Josh Clawson motioned to adjourn the meeting Todd Daniels seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.