

Minutes of February 11, 2019

The Sumas City Council met on February 11, 2019 with all councilman present. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes of the January 28, 2019 meeting were approved for filing with no changes.

Mayor Christensen opened the public hearing for the Sumas Municipal Code adding new definitions and a new section prohibiting all business involving marijuana. Ruben Hernandez, Utilities Superintendent, spoke with regards to this, this will take the temporary moratorium on marijuana business that is in place now and making it a permanent ordinance. Attorney Wright advised that the committee and staff reviewed the draft and have approved it for the final version. Mayor called for public comment, no comments. Gary DeBont moved to close the public hearing, Bruce Bosch seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Attorney Wright will bring back a final ordinance for the council to consider for adoption at the next council meeting.

Mayor Christensen opened the public hearing on the Short-Term Rental Requirements, Ruben Hernandez, Utilities Superintendent advised this was for short term rentals like Bed and Breakfast, Air BnB's for less than 30 consecutive days. The Planning Commission was involved in drafting this ordinance. Mayor Christensen asked if there was any public comment, Helen Solomon spoke to the council and was inquiring if there was going to be a public hearing and a written comment period. She was advised this was the public hearing and the comment period was open till now. Bruce Bosch moved to close the public hearing, Gary DeBont seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Attorney Wright advised Rollin Harper, City Planner will be bringing back a final ordinance for the council to consider for adoption at the next council meeting

Mayor Christensen opened the public hearing on the Landscaping Regulations to Chapter 20.57 code. Ruben Hernandez advised this would address the astatic of any multifamily development being built, this draft was also developed by the planning commission and is their recommendation as well. Mayor Christensen asked for any public comments; Meg Krieg spoke and is thankful for the landscaping requirements being added to the municipal code. She would like to suggest maybe more street trees added to the landscaping requirements. Ms. Krieg also suggested considering that developers with four or more houses be required have some landscaping plan. Meg Krieg wants to also encourage the council to use the planning commission. Gary DeBont moved to close the public hearing, Bruce Bosch seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Attorney Wright will be bringing back a final ordinance for the council to consider for adoption at the next council meeting

Josh Clawson wanted to know if the planning commission had looked at the landscaping requirements, Bruce Bosch advised that the planning commission created this landscaping draft, and there was reasoning on the placement of tree requirements. It is up to the city staff to decide on how or what kind of trees are placed.

Michelle Quinn presented for Shelley Schultz, Finance Director, Resolution 779 establishing the Banking Authority that will allow setting up an account with signers and the merchant account. Gary DeBont moved to adopt Resolution 779, Rich Postma seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Mayor Christensen spoke about the letter Ms. Wiederspohn presented to the council regarding her father the request is for planting a tree in Memory of Dave Adams in the city park. Ruben Hernandez said the area pinpointed for this is by the city park on Third Street. Everyone was in approval of the request.

Michelle Quinn presented for Shelley Schultz, Finance Director, Ordinance 1741 updating the mileage rate to .58 cents set by Washington State. Bruce Bosch moved to pass Ordinance 1741 Gary DeBont seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Ruben Hernandez, Utilities Superintendent, updated the council on the upcoming weather forecasted for Sumas, calling for 6-8 inches of snow and winds for a 24-hour cycle then warming up.

Ruben Hernandez, Utilities Superintendent, advised that the new pump for lift station 4 has been installed and everything went into place perfectly. Ruben requested permission to purchase a second unit due to that all the lift station pumps were all purchased and installed at the same time. He would like to order one more pump and put the new one in a lift station. The old pump will then be removed and rebuilt for a spare. The quote for the new pump will be \$5,245.87 and the funds will come out of the sewer department. Gary DeBont moved that the purchase of the pump be approved, Todd Daniels seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Ruben Hernandez, Utilities Superintendent, spoke about the funding received last year to redo Sumas Avenue the funding received was from FEMA and covers only the road repair itself. The city's plan was to redo sidewalks, gutters, street lights, and underground utilities at the same time. Ruben is looking at getting a TBI Grant to cover the rest of the road repairs and updates needed. In order to apply for the TBI Grant a survey needs to be completed of all of Sumas Avenue which will cost \$26,000.00. The FEMA grant will cover half of the survey cost which is \$13,000.00, from the bridge to Garfield Street. Ruben is requesting a another \$13,000 to complete the survey from the bridge to Front Street which will come out of the street fund. Gary DeBont moves to approve the additional \$13,000.00 to complete the whole survey, Todd Daniels seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

Kyle Christensen, Mayor, presented to the council the possibility to lease the property from the fire district to put in a soccer field. The cost to the city would be less than \$8000.00 to level it off. Kyle would like approach the fire commissioners to see if they would be interested in leasing the property.

Mayor Christenson spoke about old business regarding the Invocation Ordinance the city had received a letter in favor of it and the Mayor was also handed another letter before the meeting in support. No other discussion currently.

Mayor Christensen provided updated information on the Event Center grant application, the updated grant proposal was submitted for \$1,985,000.00.

Mayor Christensen advised that the Community Survey is completed and will be sent out in the March 2019 newsletter and a on line survey was created.

The Community Survey will help with getting people's ideas on what they would like to see happen, moving the ballfields, creating parking for the event center would be about \$65,000.00 after moving the old ball fields to the other side.

Mayor Christensen also had received some request from the public; some suggestions were to revitalize the downtown corridor, upgrading city park with a water spray park with some Sumas Historical landmarks in the park. The grant for \$290,000.00 would help with downtown projects.

Josh Clawson and Rich Postma from the parks committee met on the idea to create a dog park in Howard Bowen Park they are in favor of the area and it is not a huge expense to make a fenced area. Josh and Rich want to make sure there is double entry into the dog park and benches.

The bills were presented to the Finance Committee for approval and payment. Claims Voucher #40277 thru #40321 in the amount of \$235,753.46 and payroll vouchers #21056-21063 and the direct deposit in the amount of \$127,077.73. All bills were approved after a motion from Bruce Bosch, seconded by Gary DeBont, all were in favor the motion carried.

Bruce Bosch motioned to approve the manual checks in the amount of \$8231.19, Gary DeBont seconded the motion

Bruce Bosch presented the Sumas Municipal Courts list of citations that are ten years or older in the amount of \$60,675.95. Motion to approve the write off \$60,675.95, all were in favor the motion carried.

Executive Session was called with City Attorney Wright

The meeting came back into session and Josh Clawson motioned to adjourn the meeting Todd Daniels seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk