

City of Sumas  
Council Meeting  
Minutes of September 27, 2021

The Sumas City Council met on September 27, 2021 with all councilmembers present. The minutes of September 13, 2021 meeting were presented and approved.

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

The public hearing for Pacific Edge Builders LLC, Conditional Use Permit was re- opened; this is located on the 500 block on Second Street. Rollin Harper advised the councilmembers that eight written comments have been received all in opposition of the proposed project, one other written comment was received today from Bruce Bosch in opposition also. The Building and Ordinance Committee reviewed the project and recommended the project be approved with a maximum of two attached dwelling units per existing lot; the committee was not in favor of the six plex proposed.

Steven Brock, Arthurs Way, would like the council to consider what the surrounding residence are wanting; which is single family residences. Councilmembers discussed the proposed project if the separate dwellings fit into the area, parking issues and flooding. Councilmember Bosch and Postma believe only single-family residences should be allowed one on each parcel. Councilmember Jesse Clawson was in favor of allowing the multi-family dwelling; stating it would fit in area; this also will help with more affordable housing. Bruce Bosch motioned to close the public hearing Rich Postma seconded, all were in favor the motioned carried.

Bruce Bosch made a motion to deny Pacific Edge Builders LLC, Conditional Use Permit, Rich Postma seconded, four in favor and one against.

Mayor Christensen opened the sealed bid for the property located on Garfield Street for lease of the property. Only one sealed bid was received from Brandon and Nicole Bennett for \$100.00 a year. Rich Postma made a motion to accept the bid from Brandon and Nicole Bennett for \$100.00 a year, Bruce Bosch seconded all were in favor the motion carried.

Rollin Harper, City Planner went over the memorandum about the Floodplain Regulations and the proposed amendments. Rollin advised the public hearing for the Floodplain Regulations Amendments is set for October 11, 2021, this is to introduce the proposed amendments and answer any questions. The amendments will allow Sumas to be up to date with the National Flood Insurance Program, for the city to retain its current discounted rate on flood insurance premiums. FEMA addresses a new policy regarding accessory structure build under the base flood elevations; small structures could be permitted without a variance, structures larger than 400 square feet would require a variance with council approval. The proposed amendments would discourage the use of slab-on-grade construction within residential construction. Reducing the amount of fill placed in the floodplain and help reduce impacts from the flooding. Jesse Clawson inquired if this is for only FEMA insurance policy or all private insurance companies too, no one was sure if it applied to private insurance.

Jennifer Bell, Finance Director presented the MCT Contract to provide Testing & Inspections for the Event Center, this is an outside company that provides special inspections. Jesse Clawson motioned for Mayor Christensen to sign the MCT Contract, Deborah Morgan seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Jennifer Bell also presented the annual contract with the Opportunity Council Vendor Agreement; they help with payment assistance for utility bills. Josh Clawson made a motion for Mayor Christensen to sign the Home Heating Energy Vendor Agreement, Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried. Josh Clawson made a motion for Mayor Christensen to also sign the Water and Wastewater Vendor Agreement, Bruce Bosch seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Jennifer Bell, Finance Director presented Resolution 811, a proposal Approving Uses for American Rescue Plant Act Funds for \$60,000.00 for our local businesses. Jesse Clawson made a motion to adopt Resolution 811, Approving Uses for American Rescue Plan Act, Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Jennifer Bell went over a grant opportunity from WA State Department of Commerce this grant is sponsoring a Border Business Relief Program. Businesses can apply directly with Washington State the grant can be up to \$50,000.00.

Mayor Christensen will be bringing the WA State Department of Commerce Grant information to the Sumas Chamber meeting, so the news can get out to our local businesses.

The bills were presented for approval and payment. Check Numbers #21717 thru #21739 in the amount of \$28,428.29; EFT's for \$109,67.63. Rich Postma made a motion to pay the bills, Bruce Bosch seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Mayor

ATTEST:   
\_\_\_\_\_, City Clerk