



Sumas City Council Meeting

Sumas City Hall, 433 Cherry Street, Sumas, WA 98295

Monday, May 22, 2023, at 7:00 PM

Minutes

PRESENT

Mayor Bruce Bosch

Council Member Jesse Clawson

Council Member Josh Clawson

Council Member Richard Postma

Council Member Todd Daniels

Council Member Bob Bromley

1. **Opening Meeting - Pledge of Allegiance**
2. **Review/Correct and/or Approve Minutes**

- a. May 08, 2023, Draft Minutes

Councilmember Daniels made a motion to approve May 08, 2023, Minutes, Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

3. **Public Hearing**

- a. Conditional Use Permit Application
1107 Lawson Street

Rollin Harper City Planner said this is a continuance of the public hearing for the conditional use permit application for 1107 Lawson Street the applicant is Mark Koelsch. More items have been added to the agenda packet, Mr. Koelsch has submitted a redesign for a proposed tri-plex and gave a landscape plan. There was one more added comment received concerning the revised design, all the comments received concern the size of the project and not harmonious with the neighborhood.

Mark Koelsch, Hannegan Road, Bellingham stated he has addressed the concerns the neighbors had about the windows, he has adjusted the windows to a smaller size facing the neighbors. The living space will now be on the first floor and the bedrooms will be on the second floor. Councilmember Jesse Clawson asked why the units are facing east and not north to south and another concern he had is the traffic congestion. Mr. Koelsch responded that the units are set that way to fit the lot coverage allowing for the parking to be thirty feet from the road. A buffer will be between the house and the new units.

Jordan Johnson, Morton Street, does not believe this project is harmonious for the neighborhood; plus, all the extra cars with parking issues already being a problem in the area would cause more traffic congestion.

Rollin Harper said Mr. Koelsch has adjusted the side yard facing Morton Street, setting it further away from the road. He has added parking spaces to address the parking issues. Rollin states Mr. Koelsch has addressed the city and neighbors' concerns.

Councilmember Daniels made a motion to close the public hearing Councilmember Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Councilmember Jesse Clawson is concerned about fitting the tri-plex in the small lot area and causing more traffic congestion. Councilmember Bromley made a motion to approve the conditional use permit for 1107 Lawson Street. The other council members decided to deliberate in closed session before a final decision.

4. Old Business

a. Change of Zone or Classification Application Committee Update

The public works Committee met with the applicants' representative Jason Heutink, Rollin Harper was also present for the meeting. There were different ideas presented at the meeting for the property plus discussion on the rezone to mini warehouse. Councilmember Daniels and Councilmember Bromley discussed their update from the meeting and whether this should be docketed or not at this time after discussing the rezone request. The committee recommended to docket this request and start the process of moving forward. Jason Heutink explained that there may be other solutions for this property but at this time he would like to see this docketed to start the process of the rezone application. Councilmember Daniels made a motion to docket the Site-Specific Rezone for the Whatcom County Fire District property, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded, all were in favor the motion carried.

5. New Business

a. Resolution No. 830 Establishing Signing Authority at Financial Institutions

Jennifer Bell Finance Director states this resolution is setting up the signing authority at US Bank and Peoples Bank, updating the signature cards. Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 830 Establishing Signing Authority at Financial Institutions Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

6. Staff Reports

Chief of Police

Chief DeBruin stated Officer Huyber has welcomed a new baby girl and everything else is going well.

Public Works Director

Sunny Aulakh updated that the community center and library roof has been completed. The crew is getting ready for the fishing derby coming up June 3, 2023. Sunny has been working with the chamber of commerce; setting up the vendors and parade route for the upcoming community days.

Finance Director

1. Memo-City Hall Staffing Changes

Jennifer Bell spoke about the memo regarding the step increases for Mollie Bost and Arielle Bons. Jennifer is asking for council approval to move Mollie to the finance director position and Arielle to step three effective June 1, 2023.

Councilmember Jesse Clawson made a motion to affirm Mollie Bost to the finance director position beginning at step one of the salary step schedule effective June 1, 2023, Councilmember Daniels seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Councilmember Jesse Clawson made a motion to affirm Arielle Bons to step three of the salary step schedule effective June 1, 2023, Councilmember Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

7. Voucher Approvals

The bills were presented for approval and payment. Check numbers 23428 through 42450 in the amount of \$120,409.25; EFTs in the amount \$98,593.29 and April payroll in the amount \$204,642.70. Councilmember Postma made a motion to pay the bills, Councilmember Daniels seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

8. Quasi-Judicial Closed Session regarding 1107 Lawson Street, Conditional Use Permit until 8:05 pm.

Back on the Record - No action was taken.

9. Adjournment

Councilmember Jesse Clawson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilmember Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.


_____, Mayor

ATTEST:


_____, City Clerk