

MINUTES REGULAR SOAP LAKE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 19, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kovach called the regular council meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: Mayor Kovach, Agliano, Arnold, Bratton, Sanderson, Still and Tweedy.

City Staff Members Present: Police Chief Cox, Fire Chief Sheppard, City Attorney Norton, City Planner Piercy, and Administrative Assistant Siebert.

AGENDA ITEMS

- **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. Regular Council Meeting Minutes – May 05, 2021
 - B. Claim EFTs & Claims #20963-20983 in the amount of \$62,411.90
 - C. Payroll EFTs & Claims #26088-26090 in the amount of \$52,697.59
- **PUBLIC HEARING** – Renaming Part of Canna St N in Honor of Marina Romary
- **MAYOR’S MESSAGE**
- **REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES**
- **PUBLIC COMMENT**
- **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Marina Romary Street Naming
 - B. Tourism Committee – Funding Distribution to Applicants
 - 1. Masquers Theatre
- **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Grant for Substance Abuse and Community coalition
 - B. Water and Wastewater Capacity
 - C. Appoint Policy Committee Chair
 - D. City Sponsorship of Upcoming Hydro Races
 - E. Washington State Fireworks Retail Sales Permit Application – J&M, LLC
 - F. Special Event Permit – Run to the Desert
- **REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS**
- **NEXT ORDINANCE #1317; NEXT RESOLUTION #960**
- **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Consideration of Sale of Real Estate, RCW 42.30.110(1)(b)
- **COMMENTS**
- **ADJOURNMENT**

M/Bratton, S/Arnold; to excuse Councilmember Rushton from this council meeting. **Motion** carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

M/Sanderson, S/Tweedy; to accept the consent agenda as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING – Renaming Part of Canna St N in Honor of Marina Romary

Start: 5:35 pm

No in person comments.

No comments from on-line attendees.

Close: 5:36 pm

MAYOR’S MESSAGE Deadline is soon for filing for Councilmember positions.

Governor approved COVID-19 restrictions to be lifted on June 30.

Mayor met with State Representative Goehner to discuss the state funding that the City received for City Hall. They also discussed needs of community.

There will be a public hearing for the next council meeting to discuss the transportation improvement plan and allow public comment on prioritizing street improvements and repairs.

REPORTS OF STANDING/SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Written comment received from Jeff McGraff – concerning the West Beach entry, what keeps chemicals from entering the lake. The overall street design may not be good for the West Beach area.

Written comment received from Jim Jenson – his property neighbors City property on Rd. A and there has been solid waste dumping on this City parcel and he would like it to stop. Also, if the property is for sale, he is unaware of public notice in the newspaper.

Alison Gooding, 110 Elder St N – Shared a letter written by 8 yr. old resident concerning the public bathrooms at the beach. She would like the City Council to tour the public bathrooms to see firsthand condition. She also encouraged the City Council to use tourism funding for public bathroom maintenance.

Tom Johnson, 21742 Rd A NE – Is concerned about City property next to his property that has waste dumped on it and possible sale of property for an ORV park. He is not happy about the potential devaluation of his property and noise from an ORV park.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Marina Romary Street Naming – **M/Sanderson, S/Agliano;** to rename part of Canna St N from Main St to the park as Marina’s Drive. **Motion carried unanimously.** Notice of street name change will be sent to appropriate state and local agencies as required.

B. Tourism Committee – Funding Distribution to Applicants

1. Masquers Theatre

This item was tabled to be brought back at next council meeting. Committee did not receive applications for review.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Grant for Substance Abuse and Community Coalition – Mayor read letter from Sunshine Pray. A grant was applied for, and if received, they will be notified in June. The grant would provide for two positions, one at the school and one as a community liaison. Focus is on providing resources for behavioral health care support with issues such as marijuana use and alcohol abuse. The community liaison position would need office space at the City. Since City Hall is not an option right now, space at RISE Academy could be provided.
- B. Water and Wastewater Capacity – Nancy Wetch gave a presentation on future capacity for the City to provide water and wastewater services to residence and business customers. She discussed the 2013 Wastewater Plan and 2019 Water System Plan. Using information in these plans and current data from 2015-2019, she was able to provide projections on service capacity of the City for the developing areas. The City has not reached permitted capacity for either system. She did recommend that the Council update the wastewater plan if a large housing development were to be approved. Also, the treatment plant could use upgrades at an approximate cost of \$4-5 million. Councilmember Bratton asked if the proposed RV park presented any problems with supply of water and water treatment. Ms. Wetch responded that the current RV park proposal would not be a burden on the City's current system.
- C. Appoint Policy Committee Chair – City received and reviewed two applications. **M/Agliano, S/Tweedy**; to appoint Megan Gould as Policy Committee Chair and Eli Enokizono as Policy Committee Secretary. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- D. City Sponsorship of Upcoming Hydro Races – **M/Agliano, S/Still**; to sponsor the Soap Lake Hydroplane Regatta with a limit of \$2000.00 for use of operating expenses to be defined by line item description contingent on funds available from general fund. **Motion carried.** Council Member Tweedy voted Nay. The Regatta will be held the weekend of September 11-12. The later event date is an effort to avoid summertime swimmers. Mr. Hanson explained the safety requirements and fuel usage of the hydroplanes.
- E. Washington State Fireworks Retail Sales Permit Application – J&M, LLC – After discussion of previous requests from City Council to not allow fireworks sales in the City, the City Council would like to amend the current City Municipal Code. **M/Tweedy, S/Agliano**; approve to modify the current Soap Lake Municipal Code to disallow fireworks sales within the City. **Motion carried.** Councilmembers Sanderson and Arnold voted Nay. City Attorney Norton explained that the effective date for the ordinance would be one year out, but that does give Fire Chief Sheppard qualifying action to prohibit sales immediately as he is following the wishes of City Council. **M/Agliano, S/Tweedy**; to deny the presented Washington State Fireworks Retail Sales Permit Application from J&M, LLC. **Motion carried.** Councilmembers Sanderson and Arnold voted Nay.
- F. Special Event Permit – Run to the Desert – **M/Sanderson, S/Arnold**; to approve the Special Event Permit for Run to the Desert on August 27-29 contingent on

applicant applying for and being granted a noise variance to use park until 11:00 PM, a park use variance to use park beyond 10:00 PM for vendors staying overnight and permission to close 1st Ave. NE for food vendor trucks. **Motion carried unanimously.** Ms. Carson gave a presentation on success of last years event and how this year's event is looking to be even better. To address the noise issue, she will face the band toward the park to help prevent echoing effect over the lake. She has received positive feedback from many local businesses, and many will be participating in the event. Councilmembers did ask that she reminds the City about a week before the event to shut the sprinkler system off.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

Chief Cox – New officer will start with SLPD on June 3rd, Officer Peek. She is post academy and will be able to start on FTO right away.

Because of fireworks being an issue, he asked that Council consider whether to allow fireworks on the beach area. This will be put on next agenda, since changes can take a year before they come into effect.

Fire Chief Sheppard – Fire district has been busy with outside/structure fires and EMS calls. Area of Grant St. has been established as landing zone for future helicopter service in the area. Due to long waits for AMR ambulance service, Fire Chief Sheppard has applied (again) for license to transport. He is hopeful that this can be obtained by late summer/early fall.

City Planner Piercy – gave out handout showing permit activity for Jan. – April, 2021, showing types of permits, location, and value. He will provide this report throughout the year and will also give comparisons from previous years.

There will be a Closed Record Hearing for City Council Meeting on June 2nd for Council to review the conditional use permit application for the rock crushing. His recommendation for Council will be for them to deny the permit.

Next Ordinance #1317; Next Resolution #960

Executive Session – Consideration of Sale of Real Estate, RCW 42.30.10(1)(b)
This session was cancelled.

COMMENTS

Council Member Tweedy commented on how nice it is to see people attending meeting in person. Council Member Arnold would like to discuss opening City Hall and accepting cash payments. This will be put on next agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

M/Tweedy, S/Agliano; move to adjourn at 7:50 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Alex Kovach, Mayor

Jody Siebert, Administrative Assistant