



Sumas City Council Meeting

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

Monday, March 24, 2025, at 7:00 PM

Minutes

PRESENT

Mayor Bruce Bosch

Council Member Jesse Clawson

Council Member Josh Clawson

Council Member Richard Postma

Council Member Jessica Koehler

ABSENT

Council Member Todd Daniels

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

- a. March 10, 2025, Draft Minutes

Councilmember Postma made a motion to approve March 10, 2025, Minutes, Councilmember Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

3. New Business

- a. Memo and Draft Resolution No. 847- Non-Binding Multi-Jurisdictional Resolution regarding Population, Housing and Employment.

A Draft Additional Guidance Resolution for Review

Rollin Harper, Sehome Planning & Development Services explained resolution 847 is a non-binding multi-jurisdictional resolution that was passed by the Whatcom County Council. This non-binding resolution is Whatcom County Council accepting the proposed population, employment, and housing projections for all small cities. Rollin stated there still will be opportunities to change these projections later if needed and at this time they accepted the preliminary numbers as listed in Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to adopt Resolution 847 Non-Binding Multi-Jurisdictional Regarding Population, Housing and Employment, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

Rollin also went over the additional guidance draft resolution which describes the county council's concerns with Whatcom County Planning and Development Services and their planning procedures. There are a couple of concerns. They do not want cities to expand into areas that are at risk of flooding, which is Sumas. City of Sumas is hoping to expand to the west out of the floodplain area. Rollin stated we are still at risk of the county council not approving our request to expand to the west. Councilmember Jesse Clawson inquired about the UGA growth that was proposed and if it was moving south also. Rollin stated that Sumas has proposed moving south and west to expand our UGA growth.

b. Resolution No. 846 Adopting the City's Cash Receipting Policy and Procedures

Mollie Bost, Finance Director, stated this is a new policy that outlines our policies and procedures and internal control. Mollie had a discussion with the auditors about the daily deposits and transporting them to the bank every day. If council approves, we do not have to transport deposits every day, but at a minimum of once a week.

Councilmember Koehler made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 846 Adopting Cash Receipting and Procedures Policy, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

c. Agreement with Sumas Rural Water Association

Mollie Bost, Finance Director, explained this is a contract with Sumas Rural Water Association regarding a meter at 9525 Easterbrook Road. This meter is located within the city limits and the water goes through a master meter by a connection with the SRWA System and the City meter. The city is agreeing to credit Sumas Rural Water Association the usage volume passing through the master meter; it will be subtracted from SRWA's bill each month. The City in turn bills the residents directly at 9525 Easterbrook Road for the usage. Councilmember Koehler inquired if there will be any reimbursement to be made to Sumas Rural, Mollie stated we will be starting as of right now with no reimbursement for the past billing.

Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Agreement with Sumas Rural Water Association, Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

d. Wilson Engineering Contract for Engineering Services for Continuous Disinfection Treatment

Sunny Aulakh, Public Work Director stated this agreement with Wilson Engineering for professional engineering service to prepare, draft and submit an engineering design and construction for a continuous disinfection treatment for our water system. Sunny explained this agreement is to meet the compliance agreement entered with the Washington State Department of Health. The cost of the engineering of this system documentation is \$83,152.00, Sunny said there may be additional cost for water quality testing. This system needs to be designed only and submitted to the Department of Health by May 15, 2025. As long as there are no bad water samples, we will not have to actually contracted design the project.

Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Wilson Engineering Contract for Engineering Services for Continuous Disinfection Treatment, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

4. Staff Reports

Public Works Director

Sunny Aulakh updated the council that the water storage tanks will need to be cleaned which we do every five years as preventative maintenance. After the tanks are cleaned, we will do routine chlorinating for the water. Sunny has received two quotes for the project, one \$5,300.00, and the other one for \$8,300.00. Also, the new truck that was approved in the 2025 budget arrived. The cost was \$63,547.33, Sunny will get quotes for the service body of the truck and bring back to council for approval.

City Clerk

1. Sumas Municipal Court Request to Write Off Citations

Michelle Quinn stated the Sumas Municipal Court is requesting a write-off of ten-year citations that are no longer collection. There are forty-five cases for a total of \$26,669.48. Councilmember Jesse Clawson made a motion for the Sumas Municipal Court to write off \$26,669.48 Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor all the motion carried.

Mayor

Mayor Bosch updated the council about the flood meeting he and Councilmembers Josh and Jesse Clawson attended with the county and other agencies for a discussion the flood issues.

Councilmember Jesse Clawson stated this made him aware of the different ideas that were discussed between the agencies on different perspectives on addressing the flooding issues. Jesse realized how complex this issue is and appreciates Mayor Bosch, Sunny and Daniel and the Fire Chief DeBruin on all the hardwork they have presented.

Councilmember Josh Clawson would really like to see some results faster but realizes there are a lot of layers to this issue and all the agencies involved are making it harder to get results. Mayor Bosch feels that some of the agencies are hopefully realizing there are more corrective actions that could help Sumas.

5. Voucher Approvals

The bills were presented for approval and payment. Check numbers 44081 through 44113 for \$116,187.36 and EFTs for \$150,375.24. Councilmember Postma made a motion to pay the bills, Councilmember Koehler seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

6. Adjournment

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

_____, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____, City Clerk