



## Sumas City Council Meeting

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

Monday, August 26, 2024, at 7:00 PM

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### 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. August 12, 2024, Draft Minutes

Councilmember Koehler made a motion to approve August 12, 2024, Minutes, Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

3. **Old Business**

- a. Conditional Use Permit Application, 221 Front Street

Carson Cortez, City Planner, explained the updated report of decision addressing the three separately owned units and the governing documents. Habitat for Humanity will need to provide a draft of the governing documents before the building permit will be issued. Prior to the issuance of the occupancy certificate the proposed governing documents will be submitted for review by the city staff and council members for approval. Once all the governing documents are finalized, they are to be filed and recorded with the appropriate agencies. After all requirements are met the occupancy certificate for the structure will be issued. Councilmember Jesse Clawson wanted to know if the Habitat for Humanity will be on the governing documents to make sure they are followed, this is still being figured out on how the actual governing documents will look.

Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit for 221 Front Street and adopt the Report of Decision with the conditions of approval, Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

#### 4. New Business

- a. Service Agreement with Braaksma Engineering, INC - Bob Mitchell Avenue Feeder Project

Sunny Aulakh, Public Works Director explained this contract is for the purpose of engineering the overhead feeder for Bob Mitchell Avenue. This is to enhance the reliability and capacity of the city's electrical power system in the industrial area. Councilmember Jesse Clawson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Braaksma Engineering, Inc Service Agreement and it shall not exceed \$35,000.00, Councilmember Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

- b. Service Agreement with Cowling & Co. LLC, dba/Widener & Associates

Sunny Aulakh, Public Works Director stated the purpose of the service agreement is for continued professional consulting service to assist with FEMA emergency repair projects related to the flood damage for the FEMA Public Assistance for DR-4635 Projects. Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the Service Agreement with Cowling & Co. LLC dba/Widener & Associates shall not exceed \$102,881.28, Councilmember Jesse Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

- c. Ordinance No. 1815 - Adding Section 12.08.055 to the Sumas Municipal Code Establishing Energy Assistance Programs

Mollie Bost, Finance Director explained that the Washington State Clean Energy Transformation Act requires utilities to make energy assistance programs and funding available to low-income households. The city is required to establish a portfolio of energy assistance programs and recognize the need for energy assistance. The added section to the municipal code will be chapter 12.08.055. This will offer an electric base fee waiver, senior electric discount program and an electric bill donation program. Mollie cautioned that this may increase our rates to cover the discounted rates for our residents, we will not know until the program is up and how many residents will apply and qualify. Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1815 Adding Section 12.08.055 to the Sumas Municipal Code establishing Energy Assistance Programs for Low-Income Households, Councilmember Koehler seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

#### 5. Staff Reports

City Clerk

Michelle Quinn stated the Whatcom Demo Derby Club is requesting to have a beer garden on Saturday, September 07, 2024, from 04:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Councilmember Josh Clawson made a motion to allow the beer garden for the Demo Debry Club, Saturday September 07, 2024, Councilmember Postma seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

**6. Voucher Approvals**

The bills were presented for approval and payment. Check numbers 43559 through 43584 for \$49,274.19; EFTs in the amount \$114,074.59. Councilmember Postma made a motion to pay the bills, Councilmember Josh Clawson seconded; all were in favor the motion carried.

**7. 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

DRAFT