

City of Selah
Council Minutes
July 8, 2008

Regular Meeting
Selah Council Chambers
115 West Naches Avenue
Selah, WA 98942

A. Call to Order Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 3:58pm.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Summer Derrey, Keith Larson, Denise Nichols, Paul Overby, Herb Schmidt, John Tierney

Members Excused:

Staff Present: Frank Sweet, City Supervisor; Bob Noe, City Attorney; Stacy Dwarshuis, Police Lieutenant; Gary Hanna, Deputy Fire Chief; Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Dennis Davison, Community Planner, Jeff Hagler, Parks & Recreation Director

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Overby led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Doug Perkins led the group in prayer.

D. Agenda Changes

Mayor Jones noted changes to the Agenda, the addition of Resolution M-3 and an executive session prior to consideration of New Business Item K -1. He explained that the order of the meeting will be adjusted to put the executive session and New Business Item K-1 immediately following Ordinance N-1

E. Public Appearances

1. Community Pride Award

Mayor Jones presented the Community Pride award to Ted Pooler, engineer for Huibregtse Louman, who has worked with the City of Selah for at least thirteen years. He said Mr. Pooler has particularly worked with the Wastewater Treatment Plant, helping to make it state-of-the-art, one out of three in the state that is a de-watering and drying facility. The Mayor praised him as a local boy made good. He also presented him with a Selah medallion.

Mr. Pooler said he will hang them on his office wall with pride.

F. Getting To Know Our Businesses

G. Communications

1. Oral

2. Written

- a. Memo from Allen Schmid Re. Tagging Clean-up June 2008
- b. Memo from Dennis Davison City of Selah 2008 Population Estimate from the Office of Financial Management

Mayor Jones moved on to written communications, noting a memo from Allen Schmid on tagging clean-up. The Mayor said there are over forty tagging removals cited. He further noted the memo from Community Planner Dennis Davison stating the current population of Selah is projected at 7,100 persons.

Mayor Jones moved to the Consent Agenda.

H. Proclamations/Announcements

I. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Nichols moved to add M-1 and M-2 to the Consent Agenda. Councilman Schmidt seconded. By voice vote, support was unanimous.

All items listed with an asterisk (*) were considered as part of the Consent Agenda.

- * 1. Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting June 10, 2008
- * 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll: Payroll Checks Nos. 63682 - 63793 for a total of \$180,371.34, Claims Check No. 52096 – 52096 for a total of \$751.64 and Claims Checks Nos. 52097 – 52209 for a total of \$442,055.64.

Mayor Jones read the Consent Agenda as amended.

Councilman Schmidt moved approval of the Consent Agenda as amended. Councilman Tierney seconded. By voice vote, Consent Agenda was adopted unanimously.

J. Public Hearings

Mayor Jones moved to Resolution M-3.

L. Old Business

M. Resolutions

- * 1. Resolution Approving Payment to Columbia Asphalt & Gravel, Inc. for Work Performed through June 30, 2008
- * 2. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Union Gap and the City of Selah Regarding Building Inspections during Times of Building Inspector Absence

3. Resolution Declaring Selah Fire Department Property as Surplus and Authorizing Its Disposal

Deputy Fire Chief Gary Hanna stated the two pieces of apparatus the Fire Department wants to surplus are a 1979 Ford chassis (that was put together as a pumper in 1980 that has been in a reserve role, kept for new recruits in their county-wide recruit school) and a 2004 Expedition Command car that's been on the road 7 days a week and has pretty much used up its life. He noted the command vehicle was replaced through last year's budget.

Councilman Overby moved and Councilman Larson seconded to approve the Resolution Declaring Selah Fire Department Property as Surplus and Authorizing Its Disposal.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if any other Department could use the Expedition.

Both the City Supervisor and the Deputy Chief responded no.

Mayor Jones asked if the pump on the pumper would pass its pump test.

The Deputy Chief said it might on a cold day.

Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney - yes. Support was unanimous

N. Ordinances

1. Ordinance of the City of Selah Amending Selah Municipal Code Section 6.12.030 Relating to Exceptions to the Prohibition against the Discharge of Firearms within the City To Include Armed Forces Memorial Salutes; Providing for Severability, and Establishing an Effective Date

Councilman Overby suggested amend the ordinance to include "sanctioned" and "not using live ammunition."

Mayor Jones asked Lieutenant Dwarshuis if similar ceremonies are observed by police.

He responded that an annual memorial is held in Yakima.

The Mayor asked if police would need to be included in the ordinance.

The Police Lieutenant and City Supervisor agreed that they would be included under the umbrella of "armed forces."

Councilman Overby moved to amend to include the language he suggested previously.

Mayor Jones noted this came up because last weekend they had a retired soldier.

Lieutenant Dwarshuis clarified that it was a retired Air Force gentleman who passed away and his family wanted to do a memorial. He said the color guard from Fairchild Air Force Base came out to assist with that.

Russell Selvidge, 241 Lookout Point Road, addressed the Council noting that at the time his area was annexed, it was said that until the time that area was broke up (sic) in lots, they would be grandfathered in. He said the specific question came up from a Mr. Bailey, who lives down on the river and said yes, you could still discharge firearms. He said he remembered that Mr. Davison was there. Mr. Selvidge asked if that was still true or not.

Mayor Jones said this is a totally different matter; this is basically referring to the parks.

The City Supervisor said it's already on the books that it is against the law to used firearms in the City. What this does is make exception for sanctioned military activity.

Mr. Selvidge asked if it is against the law for him to discharge a firearm in the City.

Frank Sweet said it is his understanding that it is against the law.

Mr. Selvidge said he was "grandfathered in."

Mr. Sweet said he is unaware of a grandfather clause in regard to firearms.

The City Attorney said grandfather clauses do not apply to gun regulations.

Mr. Selvidge said the City Council at that time grandfathered gun use in until the property was developed.

Community Planner Dennis Davison said the area was annexed into the City in 1999.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if someone is going to respond to this issue with Mr. Selvidge.

The City Supervisor said he and the City Attorney will respond.

Councilman Larson seconded Councilman Overby's motion.

Councilman Overby asked if he should rephrase. **He moved to amend Ordinance N-2 by inserting the word "sanctioned" before the phrase "armed forces" and specifying "non-live ammunition." The amended Ordinance to read as follows: "Ordinance of the City of Selah Amending Selah Municipal Code Section 6.12.030 Relating to Exceptions to the Prohibition against the Discharge of Firearms within the City To Include Sanctioned Armed Forces Memorial Salutes Using Non-live Ammunition; Providing for Severability, and Establishing an Effective Date."**

Mayor Jones called for a voice vote on the amendment. Support was unanimous.

Councilwoman Nichols moved support of the Ordinance as amended. Councilwoman Derrey seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney - yes. Support was unanimous

Mayor Jones declared a brief recess as the Council moved into executive session to consider real estate.

K. New Business

1. Surplus and Property Trade at 344 East Goodlander Road – Kenneth J. & Jami L. Yager

Mayor Jones reconvened the meeting to address New Business Item K-1.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet said this item requests to trade property of approximately 1507 square feet for 566 square feet to help new property owners put in their new business there, an espresso, sandwich, wine-tasting facility on that property. He explained that they need some additional parking. He noted at one point the staff thought that made some sense, but after further discussion staff would recommend denial at this point and take direction from Council to meet with the Yagers and have further discussion on their needs for parking.

Councilwoman Nichols moved to deny the request for property trade for 344 East Goodlander Road requested by the Yagers and direct staff to look at the area that they are interested in acquiring and get an appraisal done on that and bring it back to staff with the appraised price with the intent of selling the property to the Yagers, and also to work with the Yagers on the right of first refusal if at some point that business no longer exists. Councilman Larson seconded.

Councilman Schmidt said in addition to that did we say that we were going to have...not finished.

Councilwoman Nichols explained that staff will bring back information.

Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Derrey – yes; Council Member Tierney - yes. Support was unanimous

Mayor Jones stated staff will bring back report to the next meeting. He moved on to Communications

O. Communications

1. Oral

P. Reports/Announcements

1. Mayor
2. Council Members
3. Boards
4. Departmental
 - a. Transit Report – 2008
 - b. Fire Department Year-end Report 2007

Dennis Davison reported they are prepared to do Public Hearings on Cherry Blossom Ridge on July 21, and follow up a week later by the SSNA appeal of the approval of the short plat and the SEPA appeal on 503 Southern. He further reported that next week the Planning Commission will be looking at proposed amendments to Shorelines Management Regulations. He said he and Mr. Noe have not had the opportunity to look at an ordinance for sign postings for land use proposals.

Public Works Director Joe Henne reported that on July 23 the DOT will have an open house to go over Wenas 823 improvements. It will be held at the Civic Center. He noted at the same time they will have an open house on the East Fremont Avenue improvements as well. He said he will be bringing the Transportation Improvement Program to the Council for adoption at the next Council meeting. He reported that South Park Drive is completed as far as pavement goes; they are finishing utilities now.

Mayor Jones passed along his thanks to Ty Jones, Bruce Forenpohar, Warren Peters and Joe Henne who worked the whole night Sunday when a booster pump at Hospital Hill went out.

Gary Hanna reported the Fire Department is busy as usual this time of year. Chief Davis is out this week attending the Fire Chief Conference in Wenatchee. He noted the new command car is about ready to go into service.

Mayor Jones praised the Department's end of year report.

Councilman John Tierney said he had nothing in particular, but apologized for not getting destination sales tax on the agenda for today's meeting.

Mayor Jones said no one was sure it would happen, much less what the impact will be.

Councilman John Tierney asked if staff could provide projections to the Council.

Mr. Sweet said that would be done.

Councilman Schmidt reported he had an opportunity to meet with new Selah Superintendent Deborah Howard and expressed his hope that others will take the opportunity to meet with her. He said she will benefit the community and the school system.

Councilman Overby passed around ridership information from Yakima Transit in addition to what's in the packet under his report. He said we are one year into the agreement, and the financial report shows we're very much in the black, including Dial-a-Ride which was the unknown going into the contract. He stated spending has held well, although we can anticipate that in December when we renegotiate this, there will be fuel price increases. He noted at that time we could discuss expanding services. He further noted there is an increase in ridership, and it's looking healthy, so come December, we'll have some options.

The City Supervisor stated Yakima Transit did run a shuttle service out to Selah on the 4th of July.

Councilwoman Nichols stated it was her understanding that Yakima Transit would provide shelters.

Councilman Overby confirmed that, but noted the City would have to maintain those shelters, adding that they've also talked about a route going out to Firing Center, and there may be other possibilities such as expanding routes within the City so that residents could use the bus within the City as well as for inter-urban travel. He predicted that Selah could have a \$100,000 "cushion" by December. He noted the wildcard is going to be what the increase will be in fixed route expenses.

Lieutenant Dwarshuis reported they've placed an ad for a lateral entry police officer. The closing date is July 31, and he hopes to have someone on board by September 1. He explained that the Department hired an entry level reserve officer and while he was at the academy, it was discovered that this was

probably not what he and his family need at this time, so he has resigned. He said now we'll look at a lateral entry. He noted a couple of meetings ago, Ms. Riding expressed concern about speeding on Southern. He stated Councilman Tierney has been witness to the increased police activity in the area. He stated they have monitored traffic with both a plain car and a marked car. He added that Public Works Director Joe Henne has some new software he will add to traffic monitors to determine speed more exactly.

Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler reported that the skateboard park is going very well and passed around pictures of the skateboard class where they had fifteen kids aged 8 - 12 participate. He said more moms and families are coming to the park, and now there is evening skating as well. He reported that there will be a huge softball tournament at Carlon Park again this weekend with approximately 32 teams competing. He invited those present to attend that tournament. He called attention to the flyer announcing the exhibition game between the University of Washington and Central Washington University Fastpitch teams who will play an exhibition game Friday, September 19 at 6:00pm and the Huskies will conduct pitching and all-skills clinics the following day. In response to a request from Mr. Sweet, Mr. Hagler also brought the Council up to date on some issues they've been having at the pool, trying to keep chemicals balanced. He noted that while the water was cloudy, at no time was the water unsafe. He said now it is cleared up, but it's an old pool, and we do have some issues. He said the Yakima Parks & Recreation Department Pool Maintenance person was a tremendous help during that process. He said he will likely be bringing that issue to the Council as part of their budget considerations.

Administrative Assistant Julie Gray reported that the Yakima Valley Community Band will play a concert at Wixson Park at 7:00pm on Thursday, July 17.

Mayor Jones reported Veterans Park is waiting for sod, so on Friday, July 25, all of the men, from the City Supervisor on down will be laying sod. He noted it is all prepped and ready. He reported today at 11:00am he signed the papers on the Helms property; building permits have been issued, so we'll likely see activity out there tomorrow. He noted there is already an equipment canister on the hotel property. Mayor Jones asked how the AWC convention was.

Councilman Tierney, Councilman Schmidt and Councilwoman Derrey all had favorable responses.

Mayor Jones declared a 10-minute recess, explaining that applicants will be interviewed in alphabetical order with approximately ten minutes for each person.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if interviews will be done in public and if the applicants will be sitting in on the interviews.

The City Supervisor explained that while the interviews will be done in a public meeting, the candidates who have yet to be interviewed will stay outside. They can stay in after they have had their interview.

The Mayor noted that after all of the applicants have been interviewed, the Council will go into an executive session to discuss qualifications.

City Supervisor Sweet said there will be no decision in the executive Session; the audience will be called back in and the Council will make their decision in open session.

***** Interviews of Applicants for Vacant Council Position:

Mayor Jones asked the following questions of each of the applicants for appointment to the Council Seat made vacant by the resignation of Councilman Brian Harris

1. Tell us a little about your background and why you feel you are the best candidate for the open Council position.
2. What do you believe a Council Member's responsibilities are?
3. Tell us your top five priorities for the City of Selah if you were selected to fill the council position.
4. What challenges do you see facing the City of Selah in the next 3-5 years?
5. If you could change one thing in the City of Selah, what would it be and why?

Each applicant's responses are summarized below.

John Gawlik

characterized himself as a retired government employee with 36 years of experience in municipal and state government. He said his education and his experience are things he would like to share with the team of the Council. He said the responsibility of Council is by no means easy, because you have to rely on information, the facts before you as they relate to what the topic might be, and you also must be aware of the law that gives you the authority to decide and to review - the guiding factor of what makes you produce the best possible result for the citizens of Selah.

He said his top 5 priorities are current projects at hand because current Council Members and previous ones have made the best choices for our community. He said priorities are determined by what you have as resources and how you can best allocate those resources. He said he'd like to add whatever he has to Council committees such as Public Safety and Public Works to make the job easier for the betterment of our citizens. He said we have seen growth, and that has been good. He said he felt has been blessed to have been a part of that as building inspector/code enforcement officer, noting he'd like to see continued growth. He said he'd like to see something dealing with older sections of town, and transportation also has to be addressed. He said the primary challenge is transportation; it's extremely important for any community that's experiencing growth. Growth carries with it the need to get residents from where they live to where they need to go. He praised the hard work of Selah's Police and Fire Departments and the hard work of Public Works, saying he doesn't know of anything at this particular juncture that he would change.

Kevin Jorgensen

said his background could potentially complement the City Council. He said for 24 years he's been manager of business unit that has been successful, growing from 22 people to over 100 people today. He said he recognizes the quality of any decision reflects the level of input. Calling himself an "unabashed capitalist," he said he recognizes the value of business. He said while he is not likely to run for an open position, this opportunity meets his desires to give back to the community. He said he's more the type to get in on the ground floor and understand what is facing the City. He said he'd like to see how we can use high fuel prices to keep business locally. He said he has been reading minutes and sees a lot of effort by individual Council Members to maintain and express integrity.

He said it is the responsibility of each Council Member to review materials presented thoroughly, ask questions, and participate in both the community at-large and in Council Chambers. He expressed his priorities to support business, support police department to keep crime out of Selah, to work to give youth another option He said he'd like to see continued close communication with the school district, and business development as well as support for existing businesses.

He identified challenges as budgets, staggering fuel costs, continuing to keep a handle on crime and being able to support the viability of small business. He said if he could change one thing, it would be to instill in anybody that owns property in Selah a sense of civic pride in their property.

Troy Laurvick

reviewed his background as having been born and raised here with 40 years of his own and a long family history in Selah. As a 1987 graduate of Selah High, he started working for the County in 1996 as a commercial real estate appraiser. In 2000 he and his partner bought property that became River Ridge Golf Course, where he went through permits, SEPA, etc. He said he now supervises 2 people, and he ran for seat on Council last year.

His perceptions of the responsibilities of a Council Member were: 1. taking care of the citizens of Selah, 2. working with individuals on tough decisions that are to be made, and 3. being a community leader and gaining respect of the public.

Mr. Lauvick's priorities were: 1. continued growth 2. finding our identity as a community (Garner's hotel will help our tourist identity) 3. Sports a priority get soccer field to take off 4. keeping the City clean (he praised City staff) 5. keeping Public Relations, communicating with the citizens. He identified the major challenge as keeping up with the growth, noting we're limited on land open for businesses to come in. He said we need to get annexations through and get the public going the same direction. He said he would like to improve communication and to get more businesses here.

Mr. Laurvik asked each Council Member in turn what qualities they would like to see in a person selected to fill this position. Their responses:

Councilwoman Nichols – a visionary leader

Councilwoman Derrey – diversity

Councilman Overby – responsiveness and leadership, strategic vision

Councilman Schmidt – people who respect community

Councilman Larson – integrity

Councilman Tierney – dedication and an inquiring mind

Mayor Jones – ambition and tenacity

Carl North

stressed his communication experience and background, noting a great deal of experience had to do with gathering information, sorting, processing and passing it on as well as a great deal involved communications working in groups, working with budgets and problem-solving processes. He stated his experience with fire and medical service primarily involved teamwork, and medical training is natural arena for assessment and response. As secretary to Fire District he worked with RCW's and worked with budgets. He stated in military service in Viet Nam, he had experience in decision-making under the worst possible conditions. Since retiring, he has worked with church and civic groups, recently working with the Red Cross and Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) radio communications. He said Council Members are responsible for managing the City under the mandate of the laws the various ordinances and laws that govern the City's business. The Council must act in the betterment of the City as a whole, while following the laws and giving the appearance of fairness.

His top 5 priorities are: 1. Good communication Council – citizens, 2. Good communication Council and staff, 3. Maintaining or expanding the tax base to improve quality of life within the City, 4. Making the City a place where people will want to come and live and 5. Have everybody be as fun to work with as Julie.

He said Selah is growing and needs to grow in an organized fashion so that people are comfortable and we don't have a hodge-podge, while providing for industrial and commercial growth. As far as change, he said he's lived here since 1979 because he likes it and it's been a good atmosphere for his kids. He said the City is doing a lot of things, and he can't think of any one thing to change.

Bill Powell

said he loves this community and has worked in the sporting world here most of his life, and finds the kids are exceptional. He said in his military organization effectiveness program experience, usually when everyone works together, things improve. He said he's not afraid of hard work. He said Council Members are responsible to the people, the City, fellow Council Members, the Mayor and City staff.

His top priorities are: 1. sports income from people coming to Selah, 2. land-use issues, 3. operating this community the best we can, 4. communicating with the people we represent, 5. promoting winter activities to bring money to businesses, basketball tournaments, etc.

He said the challenges he sees are to manage growth, bring new businesses in, set aside land for family housing and provide continued police support. He would like to see signage showing support of kids and youth activities. At the same time, he believes the City should take care of elderly.

Allen Schmid

spoke of his work for Pacific Power 28 years, service on the Selah Planning Commission for 15 years and City Council for 8 years during which time he was involved in every City committee except finance. He noted he represented the City on several boards, the V&C, alternate Clean Air. He said he's a good candidate because of his involvement in Carlon Park, the Skatepark, Greater Youth Soccer Board looking at working with the Parks & Rec board for a soccer park, and tagging clean-up saying he does that because he doesn't like tagging. He said a member of the Council has two primary responsibilities 1. budgeting 2. policy.

He stated his top 5 priorities developing for the future are: 1. Transportation, eliminate bottlenecks ways to distribute that traffic start readdressing the issues of other ingress and egress to the City. It's going to cost money and take time. 2. Logical development, he'd like to put together contractors, officials, citizens in an Architectural Development Committee to look at developments (kind of a pre-planning group). The people who do know are involved in the community. Citizens need to feel comfortable that their lifestyle will not be impacted. 3. Economic Development is going very well, particularly the commercial development on North Wenas. 4. Better involvement with business community in the City, and 5. continuing a good working relationship with the school district.

He sees the primary challenges as transportation, predicting we will be dealing with for the next 25 years, and also the challenge of making the citizens of our community feel comfortable with the decisions the Council is making, particularly on land-use issues. He concluded that the change he would like to see is to put him on the Council. He said he is the most qualified person because of involvement and desire. He said 7-8 years ago, the Council set down a vision, and he bought into the vision Mayor Jones had to make this community become a place where youth are welcomed and nourished.

Bill Teaford

said his background is that he worked for the City for 22 years under many mayors and many Council Members. He said it's a good place to be, and he needs to get involved to make changes. He said a Council Member is responsible to implement policies and work in conjunction with the Mayor to carry those out policies out, to work on budgets.

He identified his priorities: 1. keeping the City going in the direction it's going, 2. keeping it a small town, 3. keeping it clean and neat, 4. keeping emergency services in line, and 5. being active in the community. The challenge is money make things more efficient, only make cut backs where they can be made, keep the City above water. He would like to see better communication between citizens of Selah, the Council and Department Heads.

Q. Executive Session

1. Executive Session to discuss applicant qualifications

Mayor Jones called the meeting back to order. He praised all applicants, saying they did an excellent job, and it's great to see the quality of people who are interested in working with City leaders. He said it's a tough decision, and the Council has thrown a lot of ideas around. It's great to see people interested.

Qb 1. Motion Appointing Council Member

Councilman Larson moved to appoint Kevin Jorgensen to serve as a member of the Selah City Council until the next municipal election, which will be November 2009. Councilman Overby seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Derrey – no; Council Member Tierney. yes. Motion carried 5 to 1.

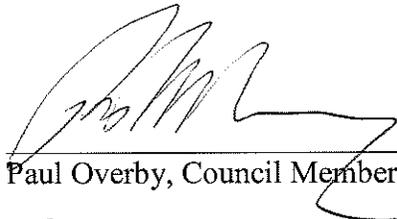
Mayor Jones congratulated appointee Kevin Jorgensen and praised the applicants for their enthusiasm and civic pride.

Councilman Tierney urged applicants to throw their hats in the ring at the next election.

R. Adjournment

Council Member Nichols moved, and Council Member Larson seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34pm.



Paul Overby, Council Member

(excused)

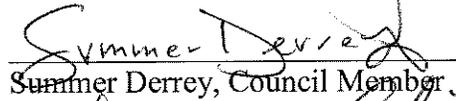
Denise Nichols, Council Member

(excused)

Keith Larson, Council Member



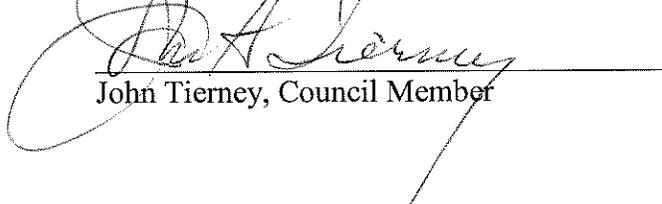
Robert L. Jones, Mayor



Summer Derrey, Council Member



Herb Schmidt, Council Member



John Tierney, Council Member

ATTEST:



Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer