

City of Selah
Council Minutes

December 11, 2007

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

A. Call to Order Mayor Pro Tem Schmid called the meeting to order at 3:59pm.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Brian Harris, Keith Larson, Denise Nichols, Paul Overby, Allen Schmid, Herb Schmidt, Scott Smeback

Members Excused:

Staff Present: Frank Sweet, City Supervisor; Bob Noe, City Attorney; Jerry Davis, Fire Chief; Rick Gutierrez, Police Chief; Stacy Dwarshuis, Police Lieutenant; Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Dennis Davison, Community Planner; Jeff Hagler, Parks & Recreation Director; Dale Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Councilman Overby led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Doug Perkins, Selah Church of the Nazarene, led the group in prayer.

The Mayor Pro Tem noted it's nice to see a good crowd here today, and announced there were no Agenda changes.

D. Agenda Changes

E. Public Appearances

F. Getting To Know Our Businesses

G. Communications

1. Oral

2. Written

a. Charter Communications Programming Additions December 20, 2007

City Supervisor Frank Sweet called Council Members' attention to a letter from Charter regarding program changes.

b. Letter from John Cooper, Yakima Valley Visitors & Convention Bureau

Mayor Pro Tem Schmid read the letter from John Cooper CEO V&C. He thanked those who donated and who attended the Visitors & Convention Bureau's 18th annual Holiday Reception and Silent Auction.

Selah Princess Hannah Younie & Jerry Henry presented the City and the Mayor with framed pictures from Community Days 2007.

Mayor Pro Tem Schmid accepted on the Mayor's behalf and thanked Jerry and Gerry Henry for all of their hard work on the floats and with Community Days royalty through the years. He wished them many more years of service to the community.

H. Proclamations/Announcements

I. Consent Agenda

- * 1. Approval of Minutes: Council Meeting November 27, 2007
- * 2. Approval of Claims & Payroll: Payroll Checks Nos. 62330 – 62413 for a total of \$154,212.77, Claim Checks Nos. 50810 - 50810 for a total of \$1997.00 and Claim Checks Nos. 50811 – 50906 for a total of \$ 217,761.69.
- * 3. M-1 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Contract with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) for Technical Assistance for 2008
- * 4. M-2 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Renewal of the Agreement for Animal Control Services between the City of Selah and the Humane Society of Central Washington for the 2008 Calendar Year
- * 5. M-3 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Legal Advertising Contract with the *Yakima Herald Republic* for Publication of City Ordinances, Legal Notices and other Legal Advertising for the 2008 Calendar Year
- * 6. M-4 Resolution Adopting the Legal Advertising Proposal of Yakima Valley Newspapers, LLC, dba *Selah Independent* for Publication of City Ordinances, Legal Notices and other Legal Advertising for the 2008 Calendar Year
- * 7. ~~Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign an Agreement for Professional Municipal Consulting Engineering Services with Huibregtse Louman Associates, Inc. for Calendar Years 2008, 2009 and 2010~~ – removed from Consent Agenda **See below
- * 8. M-7 Resolution Revising Rates for Water Utility Services
- * 9. M-8 Resolution Revising Rates for Sewer Utility Services
- * 10. M-9 Resolution Revising Rates for the Collection of Solid Waste

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

Councilman Overby moved and Councilman Schmidt seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Schmid read the Consent Agenda.

Councilman-Elect John Tierney asked that Item M-6 be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion. He expressed concern about rate increases provided for in the contract.

Councilman Overby amended his motion by removing item M-6 from the Consent Agenda. Councilman Schmidt amended his second. By voice vote, motion carried.

Councilman Overby moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended. Councilman Larson seconded. By voice vote, the Consent Agenda was unanimously adopted.

J. Public Hearings

K. New Business

Mayor Jones assumed the chair, and moved to consideration of item L-1.

L. Old Business

1. Corporate Membership Selah Fitness Express

Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Hagler said that at the last meeting it was proposed to look at a corporate membership with Selah Fitness Express, and department heads were asked to poll their staff for interest in participation. He stated Public Works had 3 employees interested, but there were none from other departments.

Councilman Smeback moved to deny participation in a corporate membership at Selah Fitness. Councilman Schmid seconded. Roll was called: Roll was called: Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Schmidt – abstain; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Harris – yes. Motion carried with one abstention.

M. Resolutions

- * 1. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Contract with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) for Technical Assistance for 2008
- * 2. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Renewal of the Agreement for Animal Control Services between the City of Selah and the Humane Society of Central Washington for the 2008 Calendar Year
- * 3. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign a Legal Advertising Contract with the *Yakima Herald Republic* for Publication of City Ordinances, Legal Notices and other Legal Advertising for the 2008 Calendar Year
- * 4. Resolution Adopting the Legal Advertising Proposal of Yakima Valley Newspapers, LLC, dba *Selah Independent* for Publication of City Ordinances, Legal Notices and other Legal Advertising for the 2008 Calendar Year
- 5. Resolution Approving Payment to Mountain States Construction Company for Work Performed through November 30, 2007

Engineer Ted Pooler addressed the Council on item M-5. He called Council Members' attention to the fact that this payment is much smaller than previous ones because they are winding down on the project.

Most of the work this last month has been electrical, and now all of the hanging wires have been cleaned up. He reported as of today, pumps can be run, blowers are operational, the polymer system and the utility water system are now operational; however, the centrifuge hasn't been started yet. He noted that was scheduled for this week, but electrical work took longer than anticipated.

Mr. Pooler said the next available date for start-up of the centrifuge is January 7, so that and the sludge dryer will start that same week. He predicted there will be a few glitches in the process, but that is to be expected with such complex equipment. All of the remaining work at the main WWT Plant is the electrical upgrade. He noted the Treatment Plant is designed with a certain redundancy to allow continued processing of effluent, but electricians can only deal with one piece of equipment at a time, so the upgrade will move slowly.

Councilman Schmidt related item 4-5 to item 44.

Mr. Pooler said that item reflects the decision to put in additional junction boxes and conduits. He recommended approval of the Resolution.

Councilman Schmidt moved approval of the Resolution Approving Payment to Mountain States Construction Company for Work Performed through November 30, 2007. Councilwoman Nichols seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Harris – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign an Agreement for Professional Municipal Consulting Engineering Services with Huibregtse Louman Associates, Inc. for Calendar Years 2008, 2009 and 2010

City Supervisor Frank Sweet addressed Resolution M-6 stating that an increase of 4% for HLA is not out of line from staff perspective as we've looked at other firms, particularly looking at the service Huibregtse Louman has given the City through the years.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if the City has to bid this out.

The City Supervisor responded that this service does not require bids.

Councilman-Elect John Tierney stated the Council has been working on budget and cutting back, and as he looks at projections for second and third year of the contract, the increases are between 4 and 5%. He said those increases are inconsistent with cost of living increases around the state.

Councilman Overby asked how negotiable those rates are.

The City Supervisor suggested these rates are favorable to the City. He said we can shop around, but we've had a relationship with HLA over twenty years. We have gone out for bids previously and HLA always ends up in the middle for cost and has given quality work to the City. He suggested there are downsides to looking for the cheapest way to go. We are dealing with a quality firm that has consistently gone above and beyond.

Councilman Schmid said HLA has been available to the City of Selah whenever we need them. The amount of time they spend down at the Wastewater Treatment facility is one of the reasons we have a

state-of-the-art facility, one of the finest in the state. They have worked with Public Works on Crusher Canyon. Huibregtse, Louman is a good asset to the City.

Councilman Schmid moved approval of the Resolution Authorizing the Mayor To Sign an Agreement for Professional Municipal Consulting Engineering Services with Huibregtse Louman Associates, Inc. for Calendar Years 2008, 2009 and 2010. Councilwoman Nichols seconded.

Councilman Harris asked Mr. Pooler if the three-year contract ensures HLA's time for the City.

Ted Pooler stated the City still has control over all of these contract costs. The professional service rates are set, but the City decides what projects it wants to do. He stressed the Council has absolute control over the costs. He gave an example of annual Department of Ecology reports, noting HLA already has those reports, so they can accomplish that task much faster than someone new would be able to.

Councilman Schmidt stated he has seen no problem with Huibregtse, Louman in the years of working with them, but noted it is healthy to have this discussion.

Roll was called: Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Harris – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Jones stated when he first worked on the Council, the City had a firm from Puyallup. He stated HLA is a part of our community.

- * 7 Resolution Revising Rates for Water Utility Services
- * 8. Resolution Revising Rates for Sewer Utility Services
- * 9. Resolution Revising Rates for the Collection of Solid Waste
- 10. Resolution Adopting the Planning Commission's recommendation of Continuance on Selah Urban growth Area Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2006-1 (South Selah Residents) until all Litigation Is Finalized

Community Planner Dennis Davison addressed item M-10, stating the Planning Commission supports the continuance of the proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan until such time as the litigation is finalized.

City Attorney Bob Noe stated the litigation is not over the zoning amendment. He outlined the nature of the litigation: 1. whether the SEPA Responsible Official considered everything that should have been considered and 2. a land use petition act appeal triggered by the issuance of building permits. He said the zoning is not at issue, so he doesn't know what effect the litigation might have on that decision. Councilman Overby disclosed that he signed one of the petitions in question when he first moved to Selah.

Councilman Larson asked if it would be appropriate for the Council to remand this back to the Planning Commission for a decision.

Bob Noe responded the Council could do that.

Councilman Overby stated that last year he went along with this, but now he believes the issue deserves a fair hearing by the Planning Commission.

Community Planner Davison reminded the Council that in 2006 Planning Commission did have a Public Hearing and at the end, it was continued. So, if the Council remands this, the Planning Commission could continue the Public Hearing and take further testimony.

Councilman Schmid asked if the Council would be remanding it back for a decision on the Urban Growth Land Use designation.

The City Attorney responded yes, but noted it also asks for a rezone. He said what the Planning Commission has been doing is putting it off because of the pending litigation.

Councilman Schmid said his concern is that the Planning Commission understands what kind of determination they should make.

The City Supervisor said he would have the City Attorney do the same kind of Study Session with the Planning Commission as he did for the Council today.

Bob Noe responded if that is the Council's decision, he would work with Dennis Davison to prepare a written remand to clarify what the Council wants the Planning Commission to do.

Councilman Larson said it is his understanding that only a property-owner can request rezone. Frank Sweet said this resolution is only for the Comp Plan amendment.

Bob Noe said the application is for a reclassification plus a rezone. He noted the Planning Commission may already have decided the rezone was not something they could consider.

Councilman Larson moved To Approve a Resolution Remanding the Selah Urban Growth Area Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2006-1 (South Selah Residents) Matter to the Planning Commission with Direction To Conduct a Hearing and To Make a Recommendation on Approval or Denial to the Council after Conducting the Hearing. Councilman Schmidt seconded.

Councilman Schmid noted this is with the understanding that the City Attorney and Community Planner will collaborate on the remand and directions.

Roll was called: Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Harris – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Resolution Adopting the Planning Commission's Recommendation of Denial of Selah Urban Growth Area Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2007-1 (Garner Construction)

Community Planner Dennis Davison addressed Resolution M-11 regarding the Planning Commission's recommendation for property belonging to Garner Construction, at 412 South 5th Avenue. He noted staff recommended approval of multi-family residential rezone requested, and the Planning Commission received extensive public testimony before recommending denial.

The City Supervisor reminded the group that this is a closed hearing at which no new testimony can be offered.

Mr. Davison noted there are people here who can repeat what was presented at the Planning Commission level.

Jim Garner, 81 Maple way, withdrew his proposal to build more than 14 units on his property at 412 South 5th Avenue.

Councilman Schmid moved to approve the Resolution Adopting the Planning Commission's Recommendation of Denial of Selah Urban Growth Area Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2007-1 (Garner Construction). Councilman Larson seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Larson – yes; Council Member Harris – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

12. Resolution Adopting the Planning Commission's Recommendation of Approval of Selah Urban Growth Area Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2007-2 (Matson Fruit)

Dennis Davison addressed resolution M-12, noting Matson Fruit requested Comp Plan amendment rezone that was considered by the Planning Commission on November 20 and continued to December 4, 2007. He noted the Planning Commission extended the hearing to take additional testimony from owners of property in the area. He called Council Members' attention to maps illustrating the property proposed for redesignation of over 8 acres as Industrial and zoned Industrial, noting the remaining property would remain designated as B-2 Commercial and zoned General Business. He noted the Planning Commission asked for a more comprehensive rendition of the proposed use of the property, and Matson responded with a map illustrating two large buildings with gray area indicating parking for employees or customers. The map projects an office building on South Park drive which would become Matson's corporate office. He noted access to the site would be primarily through South Park Drive connecting to Railroad Avenue and with some accessibility from Larson Way for semi trucks. Helms Hardware projected 10 ½ trucks per month would go to and from their facility. Matson Fruit projected 88 trucks per month. The Planning Commission considered testimony from proponents, reviewed the site plans and recommends the proposed Comp Plan change and the zoning map change be approved. He noted there were four Planning Commission members present at the meeting and the recommendation was unanimous.

Councilman Larson stated he has served on the Development Committee and is a direct competitor of Matson Fruit, so in the appearance of fairness, recused himself from discussion.

Councilman Overby said Matson Fruit was agreeable to making their property amenable to the commercial area. He asked if the City will get something more comprehensive by way of design layout, asking if these plans are set in stone.

Dennis Davison stated if the property is redesignated and rezoned, they are not held to this plan.

Bob Noe stated a concomitant agreement could hold them to a specific design.

Frank Sweet noted the Council is dealing with two issues 1. designation and 2. rezone.

Councilman Harris was excused.

Dennis Davison said the Council could approve the Comp Plan change and send it back to determine a development agreement, deny the change or approve it as the Planning Commission recommended.

Councilman Schmidt stated his concern that an industrial designation would not lap over on contiguous property, that the commercial designation of surrounding property would not be compromised.

Councilman Schmid said he understands what is trying to be done on this property, but he is concerned with the City's position on the issue of Comp Plan changes and rezones with them. He said wants to look again at Mr. Noe's recommendations relative to the Comp Plan. He urged the Council to be careful to be sure that a major change has taken place out there to cause them to make a change. He noted Mr. Harland joined with the City in wanting to zone that property Commercial and, prior to that, this property was zoned Industrial. The City has developed that entire area as a commercial area. He said he is not sure the area exemplifies any change that would move this land back to Industrial now that everything around it is building as a commercial area.

Councilman Smeback said he mirrors Councilman Schmid's comments, and noted the Council went through a lot of planning to purchase that area and to build it into a commercial area. He said it makes it hard because it's proposed by one of our favorite families in the community. He said he doesn't see the change that would necessitate it.

Councilwoman Nichols said she agrees.

Councilman Schmid said he doesn't want to see the City go through another situation with the potential of a lawsuit because of changing designation.

At 5:11pm, Mayor Jones declared a 10-minute recess.

At 5:17pm, he called members of the Council and audience back in and reconvened the meeting.

Mike Shinn, 405 East Lincoln Avenue, Yakima, representing Matson Fruit, noted the applicant has offered to preserve the features depicted on the map, by putting the office on Southpark Drive and trying to retain the value of the commercial area. He said some people's vision of what is commercial and what is industrial is different. He suggested parking lots, office buildings and a warehouse are consistent with commercial uses. He stated he met with the Development Committee to discuss what could be done to preserve the commercial nature of the area. He said there would be no boundary between what would be the Matson property and the commercial area. He noted area commercial property owners of Helms Hardware, Weber Properties (Taco Bell) and Les Schwab do not object to the change. He stated they have satisfied all requirements compatibility analysis, uses, land use designations, consistency analysis and their application shows that compatibility. He closed by saying Matson Fruit needs this property to grow, noting Otis Harlan came to Matson to find out their interest. He stated their contract is contingent of the land use approval, and they are perfectly willing to enter into a development agreement with the City. He stated they have four lots they are willing to sell to others for commercial use and have interest in the larger parcel 4.35 acres by Central Washington Athletic or Fitness.

Councilman Schmidt noted he didn't hear Mr. Shinn address the issue of traffic.

Mr. Shinn said they have no desire to use South Park Drive for truck traffic. He said they currently use Bartlett and intend to use Larson Drive to get out to Wenas Drive as quickly as possible.

Jim Garner, 81 Mapleway, Selah, addressed the Council noting he thinks this is a commercial area and to zone it Industrial would be wrong. He said the City made it Commercial for a purpose. He said he and his brother bought into that commercial area and will do what they plan to do in the area. He stated he thinks the industrial plan would overwhelm the commercial area. He concluded by saying he feels the same as he testified in Planning Commission Public Hearing.

Rod Matson, 1504 Reservoir Loop, Selah, said it is extremely important to the future of his company, which needs to expand, and this piece of property is the key component to their continued success in Selah. He said they have to have more land and hoped this proposal would be a way to satisfy requirements and work for everyone.

Councilwoman Nichols asked if they can go ahead if it remains commercial.

Bob Noe responded that statements were made that those structures could be built in commercial zone as depicted on the drawing.

Dennis Davison said parking lots and office buildings are compatible, but he doesn't know if a processing plant would be allowed.

Scott Smeback said this is tough; we've spent a lot of time looking for business to move into this area. It is made harder because this is such a good family. He noted this area is the result of years of hard work to develop space for retail. He moved to deny the Planning Commission's recommendation. Councilwoman Nichols seconded. Roll was called. Motion carried with Mr. Overby voting no

Councilman Smeback moved approval of the Resolution Rejecting the Planning Commission's Recommendation of Approval of Selah Urban Growth Area Comprehensive Plan Amendment 2007-2 (Matson Fruit) and Denying the Same. Councilwoman Nichols seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Overby – no; Council Member Nichols – yes. Motion passed 4 yes, 1 no.

Mayor Jones directed staff to draft appropriate documents and Findings of Fact.

Councilman Larson return to the meeting.

N. Ordinances

- ~~1. Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 420 Zoning Map Amendment No. 2007-2 (Matson Fruit Otis Vineyards LLC) – Not considered because of the denial of Resolution M-12.~~

Clerk/Treasurer Dale Novobielski noted corrections to Resolutions M-7, M-8 and M-8, the Water, Sewer and Garbage rates. He noted the "ais" for both water and sewer rates were correct, but the resolutions were from last year, and both the "ais" and resolution for solid waste were last year's. He promised to investigate what happened. He reviewed the impact of rate increases.

Councilwoman Nichols moved to reconsider resolutions 7, 8, and 9. Councilman Schmidt seconded. Roll was called. Motion to reconsider carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Nichols moved to adopt resolutions 7, 8, and 9 as corrected. Councilman Schmidt seconded. Roll was called. Motion carried unanimously

2. Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the City of Selah, Washington for the Year Ending December 31, 2008

Dale Novobielski presented the 2008 budget Ordinance N-1. He noted the total requested appropriations are \$3,927,276 and the projection is to end the year with \$151,031 in the General Fund.

Mayor Jones noted the Council worked long and hard on this budget and they had to cut some important things out.

Councilman Larson stated the Finance Committee met to trim the budget. He noted the Skateboard Park is one of those items taken out of the budget for now. He emphasized it was not cut because of lack of importance. He stated his hope that the skateboard association can come up with some funds toward the building of that park.

Finance Committee Member Scott Smeback said we'd like to do many things, but this year we need a \$50,000 mower.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet said circumstances change, and predicted the council may see some of these things again before the year is out.

Mayor Jones said the City can't afford his favorite, a badly needed facelift for City Hall.

Councilman Schmid said he realizes lots of work went into this budget, and he complimented the Finance Committee for balancing it. He noted it's important that people understand that we're not just blowing the skateboard park off. He said he also feels there are going to be some major things going on at Carlon Park this year. He stressed that we need to continue to improve that facility.

Councilman Schmid moved approval of the Ordinance Adopting the Budget for the City of Selah, Washington for the Year Ending December 31, 2008. Councilman Smeback seconded. Roll was called: Council Member Smeback – yes; Council Member Schmid – yes; Council Member Schmidt – yes; Council Member Overby – yes; Council Member Nichols – yes; Council Member Larson – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilwoman Nichols was excused.

O. Communications

1. Oral

P. Reports/Announcements

1. Mayor
2. Council Members
3. Boards
4. Departmental

- a. Planning Commission Minutes of January 16, 2007 – Approved
- b. Planning Commission Minutes of November 20, 2007 – Approved
- c. Planning Commission Minutes of December 4, 2007 – Unapproved

Mayor Jones said this will be the last meeting of the year because the Council does not want to show up on Christmas Day. He proposed closing City offices the afternoon of December 24 so employees can be with their families.

Councilman Schmidt moved and Councilman Larson seconded. By voice vote, motion was approved unanimously.

The Mayor handed out 2008 Council Committee Assignments. He praised out-going Council Members Scott Smeback and Allen Schmid, saying he has worked with them since the Planning Commission days. He noted many things have improved in the City are attributable to the Council. He said he appreciates all of the work these Council Members did, as well as their ability to agree to disagree and still remain friends. He explained that he was late today because he attended an EMS meeting with the County Commissioners and had his say. He noted the EMS levy should be kept intact because that money is for training and equipment.

Public Works Director Joe Henne thanked the Council for their action regarding Christmas Eve. He pointed out that the falling snow outside reflected the 20% likelihood of snow, with no deicer down.

Community Planner Dennis Davison thanked Allen Schmid for all years on Planning Commission and Council.

Dale Novobielski apologized for not having mentioned the Fire Department in his report on the budget.

Police Lieutenant Stacy Dwarshuis wished everyone Happy Holidays and thanked Scott Smeback & Allen Schmid.

Parks & Rec Director Jeff Hagler thanked Allen for all of the work he has done in the parks.

John Tierney thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to participate in the budget considerations. He gave his congratulations to Allen and Scott for a great job. He said he's looking forward to working with the Council.

Chief Davis thanked the Council for their work. He particularly thanked Allen Schmid for furthering relations between the Council and the Fire District.

City Supervisor Frank Sweet thanked the Council for early closure on Christmas Eve and thanked them for doing the right thing for the City. He said he is disappointed no Coke truck went by today. He thanked Allen Schmid & Scott Smeback for their years of hard work on the Council.

Councilman Scott Smeback said the Coke truck was cited in Kennewick for having too many lights. Using the example of previous Council Members Bob Ward, Ron Deatherage, Doug Howie, he noted that when you serve on the Council, you learn from everybody you work with and hope you take the community in the right direction. He said the Council painted the vision of a girls' fastpitch field, and

now Selah landed the 2a Girls' State Fastpitch Tourney to be held Memorial Day weekend 2008. He said you may not see everything accomplished during your term.

Mayor Jones said you have to give things up to serve on the Council, noting Councilman Smeback has sacrificed time with his family and their activities during his years of service to the City.

Councilman Keith Larson said he hates to sound like an echo, but thanked Allen Schmid & Scott Smeback, stating the City is a lot better because of their efforts. He wished everyone Merry Christmas.

Councilman Herb Schmidt wished a Merry Christmas to all Council Members. He wished the Mayor a great vacation. He stated his appreciation for working with Scott Smeback and the things which Allen Schmid has provided for the City.

Administrative Assistant Julie Gray read a statement from Councilman Harris thanking the outgoing Council Members for all of their hard work.

Councilman Paul Overby echoed the sentiments expressed, thanking staff, the Mayor and Julie. He noted he has learned a lot from Scott and Allen. He said Councilman Schmid told him a lot of things he did not agree with at first, but said he is getting to a point in his life where he's learned to give Allen the benefit of the doubt, because he is right on some of those things. He said he is looking forward to next year working with incoming Council Members.

Councilman Allen Schmid said it's kind of sad to end a 23-year career working for the City of Selah, 15 years on Planning Commission and eight on the Council. He praised the Department Heads and staff, saying, "We are so fortunate in this community to have the people we have working for us our City . . . and how they have the City at heart when they go out to do something. . . . They like making the City the best by what they are, and I don't think that we can ever forget that and how they've served us and the people in the City." He went on to speak about the Council and where the City of Selah is going now. "It's a vision of the future of the City of Selah. It's a vision that several people a few years ago talked about, thought about, the Mayor beat the table a few times and said, 'this is the way we're going to go.'" He continued, "There is not another person in this community that has the City of Selah as big in his heart as the Mayor does." He asked the Council to remember where this community was twelve years ago when Mayor Jones took office and all of the changes made through those twelve years. He continued, "It's the vision, and we cannot lose that vision as we go forward. We need to look not at today or tomorrow, but we need to look down the road at where we're going, ten, fifteen years down the road." He urged the Council to avoid "tying themselves in" and described the City as one of the most progressive communities in the state. He challenged each member of the Council to get on board with that vision, to stay there, to not go backwards. He urged them to never forget our Fire, Police or Public Works. He said, "I can't say enough for what is happening in Parks and Jeff Hagler." He predicted challenges for Parks as more tournaments and special activities come to Selah. He concluded, "I can't say enough. I love this City."

He then addressed specific comments to Council Member Herb Schmidt regarding activities which disrupt the unity of the Council in promoting the City.

He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mayor Jones praised Jerry and Gerry Henry and thanked them for all they do for the community. He noted the hard decision the Council made today, and thanked God he didn't have to be the tie-breaker.

He said it's a great City and a great Council. He said he will leave December 31st and return by the first of February.

Q. Executive Session

R. Adjournment

Council Member Scott Smeback moved, and Councilman Allen Schmid seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Robert L. Jones, Mayor

Paul Overby, Council Member

Keith Larson, Council Member

Denise Nichols, Council Member

Brian Harris, Council Member

Herb Schmidt, Council Member

Scott Smeback, Council Member

Allen Schmid, Council Member

ATTEST:

Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer