



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
City Hall – 1104 Maple Street
November 18, 2024 6:00pm

Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Windish, Palmer, McCurdy, Steffens, Raymond, Walker, Kosa, and Converse

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 6pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation by Augustine Ansu

Roll Call: Bitetto, Bowman, Clerget, Cole, Elfers and Reinke

Mayor Hayden was absent.

OATH OF OFFICE

Deputy Mayor Cole invited Matt Kenna to the podium where she administered the Councilmember Oath of Office. Mr. Kenna was appointed to the seat after Councilmember Curt Brown resigned. Mr. Kenna will be serving out the remainder of Brown's term until December 2025.

Councilmember Kenna took his seat on the Dias.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY BITETTO, SECONDED BY BOWMAN TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF:

1. Operations Facility Temporary Construction Easement – Cabrera
2. South Tank Retrofit – Construction Contract Award
3. Resolution No. 1704 – Pierce Conservation District Interlocal Agreement
4. Resolution No. 1703 – Parklet Policy and Program
5. 2025 Legislative Agenda

PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Ordinance No. 2905 – 2025/2026 Biennial Budget

Deputy Mayor Cole opened the Public Hearing at 6:07pm and called on Chief Financial Officer Kassandra Raymond to speak to the item.

Randall Adams, 15013 63rd St Ct E; Sumner spoke.

With no other comments from the public, Deputy Mayor Cole closed the Public Hearing at 6:13pm.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Unfinished Business

Nothing tonight.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jan Brenn, Redmond, Washington – returning of donated items.

Nick Bierman, Park Road, Sumner, Washington – returning of donated items.

Jerry Yoder, Lake Tapps, Washington – electric car chargers / donated items.

Randall Adams, 63rd Street Court East, Sumner, Washington – spoke about items in the packet.

3. New Business

a. Ordinance No. 2889 – Battery Energy Storage Systems Code Amendment

MOVED BY REINKE, SECONDED BY BITETTO TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2889 – BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS CODE AMENDMENT.

Associate Planner Chrissanda Walker presented the item.

Ms. Walker did point out there was a Scribner's Error made in the Ordinance in the weekly packet. This has since been corrected.

DEPUTY MAYOR COLE ASKED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.

The following addressed the council on this matter -

Nick Biermann, 5802 Parker Road East, Sumner.

Randall Adams, 15013 63rd Street Court East, Sumner.

Christine Nhan, Local Government Affairs and Public Policy Manager For Puget Sound Energy (comments attached).

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

b. Ordinance No. 2900 – Multifamily Residential Infill Code Amendment

MOVED BY ELFERS, SECONDED BY CLERGET TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2900 – MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL INFILL CODE AMENDMENT.

Economic & Community Development Director Ryan Windish addressed the Council.

DEPUTY MAYOR COLE ASKED FOR COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC.

Tina Burnett, 228 Sumner Avenue, Sumner.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL ENSUED.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

c. **Ordinance No. 2901 – Permit Review & Timelines Zoning Code Text Amendment**

MOVED BY BOWMAN, SECONDED BY ELFERS TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2901 – Permit Review & Timelines Zoning Code Text Amendment.

Economic & Community Development Director Ryan Windish addressed the Council.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

d. **Ordinance No. 2912 – Amending Sumner Municipal Code 13.08 Utility Billing and 13.20 Sewer Rates**

MOVED BY BITETTO, SECONDED BY REINKE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2901 – AMENDING SUMNER MUNICIPAL CODE 13.08 UTILITY BILLING AND 13.20 SEWER RATES.

Administrative Services Director Jeff Steffens spoke to the item.

DEPUTY MAYOR COLE ASKED FOR COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC.

Tina Burnett, 228 Sumner Avenue, Sumner.

Randall Adams, 15013 63rd Street Court East, Sumner.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

e. **Ordinance No. 2911 – Establishing the 2025 Utility Rates**

MOVED BY REINKE, SECONDED BY BOWMAN TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2911 – ESTABLISHING THE 2025 UTILITY RATES.

Administrative Services Director Jeff Steffens spoke to the item.

DEPUTY MAYOR COLE ASKED FOR COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

f. **Ordinance No. 2902 – Group Homes Code Amendment**

MOVED BY CLERGET, SECONDED BY KENNA TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2902 – GROUP HOMES CODE AMENDMENT

Associate Planner Chrissanda Walker spoke to the item.

DEPUTY MAYOR COLE ASKED FOR COMMENT FROM THE PUBLIC.

Randall Adams, 15013 63rd Street Court East, Sumner.

Councilmember Bowman commented on the topic.

City Administrator Jason Wilson clarified the intent of the ordinance.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

g. **Ordinance No. 2913 – Significant Industrial User and Industrial Discharge Sewer Fees**

MOVED BY BOWMAN, SECONDED BY CLERGET TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2913 – SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRIAL USER AND INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGE SEWER FEES.

Public works Director Michael Kosa addressed the Council.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

h. **Ordinance No. 2914 – Hydrant Use and Deletion of Surcharge Area**

MOVED BY BITETTO, SECONDED BY ELFERS TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2914 – HYDRANT USE AND DELETION OF SURCHARGE AREA.

Public Works Director Michael Kosa addressed the Council.

Council discussion ensued.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

4. **Reports**

a. Council

Councilmember Bitetto it's nice to have a full council, welcome Councilmember Kenna. She continued by commenting on the new covered court at Rainier View Park and how much use it is already getting from the community. She was pleased the School District's Bond passed in the last election, it shows her that the citizens make education a priority.

Councilmember Bowman also welcomed Councilmember Kenna. She also sees people using the covered court. The Councilmember also commented on the School Districts Bond passing and she heard from students how excited they were that their school was finally getting fixed up. She ended her comments by thanking staff for their commitment to not only educate Council but also to make this community better place.

Councilmember Clerget thanked staff for the pre-work they do in order to prepare for the meetings and he ended by welcoming Councilmember Kenna.

Councilmember Elfers congratulated Mr. Kenna. He offered condolences to the family of Curt Brown. Mr. Elfers ended his comments by wishing everyone a happy holiday.

Councilmember Kenna he has a care and interest in community and plans on continuing championing the causes of the underserved. His family enjoyed Alice and Wonderland presented by Sumner High School.

Councilmember Reinke, welcomed Councilmember Kenna. He also thanked staff for their hard work especially end of year items. The Budget and the Comprehensive Plans are both immense tasks. Congratulations to the Spartans as they continue their path to the State Championship. Mr. Reinke ended his comments by wishing everyone a good holiday.

b. City Administrator

Upcoming Policy Issues:

- November 25th – Meeting Cancelled
- December 2nd – Regular Council Meeting
 - Public Hearing for the 25/26 Budget
 - Public Hearing for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update
 - Public Hearing Final Budget Amendment
 - Amended Ordinance - Traffic Impact Fees

Miscellaneous:

- November 30th: Small Business Saturday, 10am – 6pm and Bridge Lighting with food trucks and vendors at the Old Cannery from 12-6, bridge lighting at 5pm.
- Curt Brown passing.

c. Mayor

Deputy Mayor Cole also welcomed Councilmember Kenna.

5. Executive Session

There was none tonight.

6. Adjournment

With no additional business before the Council, Deputy Mayor Cole reminded Council and the public of the Special Study Session which will begin in approximately five-minutes. She adjourned the regular meeting at 7:43pm. Councilmembers concurred.

ATTEST:

Signed by:

Patricia Cole

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Pat Cole, Deputy Mayor

DocuSigned by:

Michelle Converse

Michelle Converse, CMC City Clerk



Puget Sound Energy
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Bellevue, WA 98009-9734
PSE.com

November 18, 2024

Sumner City Council
1104 Maple Street
Sumner, WA 98390
Michellec@sumnerwa.gov

RE: Ordinance No. 2899 – Battery Energy Storage Systems Code Amendment

Dear Members of the City Council:

On behalf of Puget Sound Energy (PSE), I would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposed Ordinance No. 2899 relating to Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS).

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is Washington State's largest utility, serving about 1.2 million electric customers and 900,000 natural gas customers across our service territory. For over 150 years, our focus has been consistent on providing safe, reliable, and affordable energy services to the region. PSE is undergoing the most significant transformation in our history as we strive to meet Washington State's clean energy laws. Passed in 2019, the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) commits Washington to phasing out coal by 2025, a carbon-neutral electricity supply by 2030, and 100 percent clean electricity by 2045. CETA includes specific requirements for utilities to meet these goals including ensuring that all customers equitably benefit from the transition to clean energy. Beyond CETA, PSE has set an aspirational goal to be a Beyond Net Zero Carbon utility by 2045. It is our goal to collaborate with customers and industries to identify programs, products, and new technologies that continue to meet their reliability needs while cost-effectively reducing carbon emissions.

In addition to adding new clean energy resources, our region is growing and policy changes at the local, state, and federal levels are driving an increased demand for electricity. As a result, our electric grid is often near capacity, putting people at risk from outages and disruptions. When energy demand surges, BESS can help provide reliable, cost-effective, and immediate power to help avoid outages and rolling blackouts. PSE sees batteries as essential utility infrastructure for our energy future to maintain grid reliability, accommodate increased demand for electricity, and improve the efficiency of intermittent resources like wind and solar.

PSE's efforts include both utility scale and smaller, residential or community-sited batteries. Overall, PSE projects a need for nearly 1,500 megawatts of energy storage by 2030.

BESS are not one-size-fits-all. Across our service area, there are unique geographic and weather challenges, different energy needs, and varying infrastructure. We have an obligation to identify potential impacts that local plans and development regulations may have on our ability to maintain, operate, and plan for the area's electric energy system.

We appreciate the collaborative, solutions-minded approach that the City has taken thus far and understand the City's urgency to establish some clarity around BESS deployment in Sumner. With that said, we believe that the ordinance (as drafted) could be improved in a number of areas. Those suggestions are briefly summarized below and we look forward to working with the City in 2025 to address these.

PSE requests consideration of the following proposals:

- Clarifying the definition of types of BESS uses.
 - We feel that the definitions could be improved and better apply to real-world applications by doing so.
- Allow for BESS as permitted use in M-1, M-2, and MICO Zones.
 - PSE strives to build relationships with municipalities when applying for permits.
 - We recommend utilizing a pre-application review process.
 - This process may also eliminate conditions found in the conditional use permitting process.
- Performance standards for BESS should be consistent with requirements found for other uses in the same zone.
 - Requiring large trees next to electrical infrastructure may cause safety concerns.
 - Trees can provide additional screening and reduce noise as a buffer.
 - However, we recommend rephrasing the 6ft tree requirement to include "vegetative buffers".
 - "Vegetative buffers" provide flexibility and allows vegetation and/or trees to be planted that can safely coexist with electrical infrastructure.
 - Regarding odor, noise, and vibrations as a condition for BESS, existing code addresses odor (18.18.060.I), noise (18.18.060.A), and vibrations (18.18.060.K).
 - Adding additional language may be duplicative in this process
 - The language regarding the "requirement that an applicant evaluate the overall distribution of other BESS facilities and assess undue burden", also seems duplicative as impacts are identified and mitigated under the conditional use process.
 - BESS is still in its infancy and comparing current BESS to newer systems may be difficult as systems in the state are currently in development.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide brief comments. We look forward to continued conversations in 2025 surrounding the deployment of BESS infrastructure. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (253) 229-0953 or christine.nhan@pse.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christine Nhan', with a stylized, flowing script.

Christine Nhan
Local Government Affairs and Public Policy Manager
Puget Sound Energy

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City of Sumner
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