



The city conducted this public meeting using a hybrid model, in-person and on the Zoom platform.

Staff present: Wilson, Ruth, Windish, Kosa, Moericke, Palmer, Beagle and Converse

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SUMNER CITY COUNCIL WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR HAYDEN AT 6:00PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

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

COUNCILMEMBER KENNA WAS ABSENT FROM TONIGHT'S MEETING. MOVED BY BITETTO SECONDED BY BOWMAN TO EXCUSE HIM.

PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

PROCLAMATION

Animal Care and Control Officers Week

Police Chief Moericke thanked Council and introduced Police Support Services Manager Lauren Wallin to the Council and the audience. Ms. Wallin then read the proclamation into the record and introduced two members of METRO Animal Control, Officers Kacy Albin and Catherine Baldwin.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Forestry Commission Reappointment - Marty Child
2. Forestry Commission Reappointment - Jenn Crawford
3. Forestry Commission Reappointment - Ashli Austin
4. Forestry Commission Reappointment - Scott Haines
5. Forestry Commission Reappointment - Theresa Haase
6. Forestry Commission Reappointment - LaTeefah Johnson
7. Planning Commission Reappointment - Kelly Locke
8. Planning Commission Reappointment - Mark Isaacs
9. Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Reappointment - Dean Burke
10. Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Reappointment - Carmelo Lopez
11. Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Reappointment - Meilee Anderson

12. Design Commission Reappointment - Kristen Martinson
13. Design Commission Reappointment - Scott Fletcher
14. City Hall Access Control Contract Amendment
15. White River Restoration Project - Legal Services Contract Amendment (Van Ness)
16. White River Restoration Project - Construction Contract Award Phase II
17. 2025 Utility Rate Study - Consultant Contract Award
18. Resolution No. 1718 - Partial Right of Way Vacation - 142nd Ave East
19. Approval of the minutes from the March 17, 2025, regular council meeting and the March 24, 2025 study session.

PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARING

There was none scheduled.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Unfinished Business

2. Public Comment

Randall Adams, 15013 63rd Street Court East. Spoke about the Ryan House

Jerry Yoder, 910 Traffic Avenue. Asked for a bench from Heritage Park.

Nick Biermann, 5802 Parker Road East. Spoke about the Ryan House.

Melissa Fox, 16983 8th Ave East, Spanaway. Spoke about the Ryan House.

Tina Burnett, 228 Sumner Avenue. Spoke about staff and Council.

3. New Business

a. Ordinance No. 2923 - Amending Sumner Municipal Code Chapter 2.112 Contract Authorization.

MOVED BY COLE SECONDED BY CLERGET TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2923 –
AMENDING SUMNER MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 2.112 CONTRACT
AUTHORIZATION.

City Administrator Jason Wilson addressed the Council.

Randall Adams, 15013 63rd Street Court East had a comment, which was addressed by Mr. Wilson as not pertaining to the Ordinance before the Council. Mr. Adams commented on an item on the Consent Agenda.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE – 6-0.

b. **Ordinance No. 2924 - Sumner Municipal Code 12.28 Street Obstruction Permits**

MOVED BY CLERGET SECONDED BY REINKE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2924 – APPROVING SUMNER MUNICIPAL CODE 12.28 STREET OBSTRUCTION PERMITS.

Development Services Doug Beagle spoke to the item.

Councilmember Elfers asked a clarifying question.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE – 6-0.

4. **Reports**

a. **Council**

Councilmember Bitetto thanked all the people who signed up to serve on the commissions. The weather for the Grand Floral Parade celebrating the Daffodil Festival was excellent! She had never seen the sidewalks so crowded. Grand Marshall Roger Knutson and Honorary Grand Marshall Marilee Hill-Anderson both represented Sumner.

Deputy Mayor Bowman had nothing to report tonight.

Councilmember Clerget thanked everyone who has signed up for the commissions. He ended his comments by saying he had a good day at the parade.

Councilmember Cole had no report.

Councilmember Elfers reported on Council's meeting with our representatives from the 25th & 31st legislative districts in Olympia. He attended the Pierce County Regional Council meeting on March 20, 2025. It was a small city round table discussion which focused on collaboration on some of the states' mandates.

Councilmember Reinke echoed some on the comments from his colleagues regarding the Parade. He has been participating in it since 1983. The weather cooperated. He attended a memorial on Sunday for a long-time Sumner resident.

b. **City Administrator**

City Administrator Jason Wilson shared the following:

Upcoming Policy Issues:

- April 14, 2025 – Study Session -- **Cancelled**
- April 21, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting
 - Arbor Day Proclamation
 - Commission appointments for Lodging Tax, Parks & Forestry and Planning Commission
 - Resolution adopting the Commute Trip Reduction Plan
 - Ordinance amending the City's Commute Trip Reduction Code

Policy Follow-Up:

- Last week the City received its Bond Rating from S&P. I'm pleased to announce that the City received a AA rating which is a great rating and will provide us with a favorable interest rate when we sell the bonds later this week.

Miscellaneous:

- April 15th 5-7pm: Spring Open House.

c. Mayor

Mayor Hayden had a great time at the Parade, it was a beautiful day. She invited everyone to Knutson Farms for their South Sound Tulip Festival which will go through the middle of April. This is a new way for the farm to be supported. There are more details on the City's website. Last, she reminded the public about the City's Open House on Tuesday, April 15 from 5-7pm.

5. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session this evening.

6. Adjournment

With no additional business before the council, Mayor Hayden adjourned the meeting at 6:43pm. Councilmembers concurred.

ATTEST:

Michelle Converse, CMC, City Clerk

Kathy Hayden, Mayor

Randall Adams
15013 63rd St Ct E, Sumner WA 98390

Comments for 3-3-2025 Council Meeting:

With the city moving stealthily again to demolish the Ryan House, the sign put up today bluntly states your intentions. A couple of questions come to mind:

- 1) The City Attorney states that the 2nd Deed is invalid, the Ryan heirs, in responding to a request from the city, agreed to sign a 2nd deed that allowed the city to have museum OR a park on the parcel. Yet now, after 46+ years, the new legal representative of the city states that the city errored in requesting the new deed, so the 2nd deed is invalid. Additionally, the Communications Director has in taped sessions represented all the efforts that the city had to go thorough to contact the heirs, a process described akin to “Hearding a bunch of cats”, further proof that it was indeed the city who sought the changes noted in the 2nd deed. Further proof is the Attorney representing the city, Gordon A. Scraggin, deed sign an Excise Affidavit in December 1996, and had it recorded. So, if the city is saying they never recorded the 2nd deed, that verifies that even if the 2nd deed is valid, it was not enforceable for 17 years and for that time the city was out of compliance with the original deed = it reverts back to the Ryan heirs. Certainly, if the Original Deed is what applies to the property, the city has been out of compliance with it for over 45 years and it should revert back to the Ryan heirs.
- 2) Prove why you believe that you are still the owner yet have not maintained a library there since 1978. Your claim of ownership is invalid per the requirements of the Original Deed and the property therefore reverts to the Ryan family heirs!
- 3) WJE has stated that your representations on Sumner Connect are not accurate nor do they state accurately what The Ryan House’s current condition is.
- 4) Are you going to attempt to “develop & evaluate revisions to your demolition to mitigate the adverse impact of your actions” as stated in the letter from DAHP to you on 1-29-25
- 5) Why does the council allow the city to continually seek litigation because of their actions? You already have been shown that the city’s legal opinions are not always correct, so why invite more?

- 6) Personally, I think the city is acting like a bully because you have taxpayer funds at your disposal, far more than individual citizens certainly have. Big named families in the area are reluctant to help save the Ryan House, even though they want to, in fear of getting on the wrong side of city. This is sad that your relationship is not open with the movers & shakers in our community & indeed keep a thumb down on them.
- 7) The deed states “When the present building is ready to be torn down, the heirs reserve the right to enter and remove any part of the old house that is desired.”.. The city in their SEPA representations is that the city is taking charge of what is to be saved and will let the heirs look at it at a later time....They Ryans have the right to remove ANY PART of the Ryan House, period!!