

Sumas Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

APRIL 2015



Annual Spring Events!

33rd Annual Spring Clean Up!

Saturday April 4th, 2015

9:00am -12:00 pm

Drop Off Behind Sumas City Hall Building

Bring Your bulky items, appliances, furniture, scrap metal and branches.

Easter Egg Hunt!

Saturday April 4th, 2015

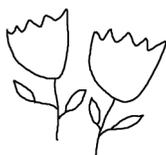
11:00am in the Sumas City Park

The age groups include :

0-3 years

4-7 years

8-12 years



FYI: Residential Electric Rates are Increasing....

Starting April 1st, 2015 the residential electric rates are going up from .063cents per kilowatt to .0693 cents per kilowatts.

The Sumas Police Department now has a Twitter Account!

Follow @SumasPolice to receive news and information from the Sumas Police Department as well as from the City of Sumas!

Reminder:
The Chipper runs every 3rd Friday and Saturday of each month.

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SPECIAL SERVICES PROVIDED AT CITY HALL

• **Fingerprinting**

By appointment only. Please call Chief Haugen to make your appointment .

• **Passports**

By appointment only Monday-Friday 9:00am-4:30pm

• **Concealed Pistol License (CPL)**

For residents within the City limits of Sumas.

For appointments, costs, and other information, regarding these services, please call Sumas City Hall at 360-988-5711



Sumas Public Library

451 W 2nd St. , Sumas, WA 98295

360-305-3600

Monday: 10-5 PM, Wednesday: 10-7 PM, Saturday:
10-5 PM

4/1/2015 Darius and Tabitha May Kinsey: A Photographic Legacy @ 7:00 pm.

Tour the breathtaking photographs of Darius and Tabitha May Kinsey with narration by Everson photographer Gary Meader. Program held at the Sumas Senior Center

4/11/2015 Sumas Book Club @ 10:00 am

The group will be discussing Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand.

4/13/2015 Friends of Sumas Library (FOSL) Meeting @ 7:00 pm

Come see what FOSL is working on! Help plan events, volunteer to help at an event, or just stop by to make friends and see what is happening! Talk to Sumas library staff if you would like to get monthly updates but are not able to attend meetings.

4/25/2015 Play and Learn Story Time (Ages Birth-5)

4/29/2015 CATS! @ 3:15 pm (Ages K-5)

Cat stories and cat crafts!

5/2/2015 Whatcom in the 1840's @ 2:00 pm

What was Whatcom like during the 1840s? Come find out! Through slides and period dress, learn about the culture and history of Native Peoples before Euro-American settlement. Also presented are world and national historical events of this time to help put the period in context. Part of the Sumas Library local history series this spring.

5/9/2015 Sumas Book Club 10:00 am

The group will be discussing The Maltese Falcon by Dashiell Hammett

5/30/2015 Sumas Play and Learn Story Time (Ages Birth-5)

Sumas Community/Senior Center

461 Second St., PO Box 184

360-988-2714

Mon & Fri Schedule Open: 10:30-1:30pm, Lunch @ Noon

Wed: Open @ 5:30, Potluck @ 6pm, Program @ 7pm

April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Pool 8:30-10am: Mondays Only		1 Darius & Tabitha Kinsey: A photographic Legacy	2	3 Good Friday	4
5	6	7	8 Bingo (Potluck @ 6pm)	9	10	11
12	13 "Thomas" Trivia	14	15 Tax Day Reminisce	16	17	18
19	20 "Talking with your Dr." Whatcom Co. Aging & Disability Program	21	22 Claudette Sterk (Potluck @ 6pm)	23	24 Board Meeting @ 1pm	25
26	27 April Birthdays & Bingo	28	29 TBA (Potluck @ 6pm)	30		

May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Pool 8:30-10am: Mondays Only				1	2
3	4	5	6 Becky's Bash: Team Challenges!	7	8 Mother's Day Fun!	9
10	11 Mother's Day Fun 2!	12	13 Bingo (Potluck @ 6pm)	14	15 Board Meeting @ 1pm	16
17	18 May Birthdays & Bingo	19	20 Tent: McNelly's (Potluck @ 6pm)	21	22 Honoring our Vets	23
24	25 Closed: Memorial Day	26	27 TBA (Potluck @ 6pm)	28	29	30

Council Minutes

MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2015

The Sumas City Council met in regular session on the evening of January 26, 2015, with all councilmen present. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved for filing.

Chief Haugen talked to councilmen about setting up a Twitter account for the City to use to communicate more easily with city residents about things that might affect them. It is free to set up a Twitter account and it is just for short messages with a limited amount of characters per tweet. Everyone was in agreement for Chris to proceed with setting up an account for the City.

Geri Lewis asked for passage of an ordinance for setting up a change fund for city cash drawers since we do not have a bank in town anymore. Mike Quinn made a motion to approve Ordinance #1653. Gary Debont seconded the motion and it carried. Geri pointed out paperwork with the agenda regarding filing week for the two councilmen that are up for re-election this year. Geri also reported that the City saved almost \$25,000 on the 2nd half 2014 sewer bill, because of the Canadian Exchange Rate. Finally, Geri informed the council that all positions on the Planning Commission need to be re-filled and Rich Postma's spot needs a new appointment. Geri will contact the latest members to see if they will continue to serve.

Rod briefly talked about rail cars and railroad management staging of rail cars.

The new bills were presented to the Finance Committee for approval. Claims Vouchers #35725 through #35774 in the amount of \$91,342.10 and Payroll Vouchers #20585 and the Direct Deposit Run in the amount of \$19,100.00 were approved after a motion by Mike Quinn and a second by Gary Debont.

Rollin Harper made the council aware that a Comp Plan Update is due by June 30, 2016.

The council went into Executive Session for ½ hour regarding possible litigation issues.

Council reconvened at 8:00 p.m. and Bruce Bosch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Todd Daniels seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2015

The Sumas City Council met on the evening of February 9, 2015, with all councilmen present. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved for filing.

Chief Haugen offered his services to any councilmen that may have forgotten how to get remote access to their email accounts and also to reset passwords that may have been forgotten.

Geri Lewis presented a resolution approving an amended interlocal agreement for continued participation in the Whatcom County Council of Governments. Mike Quinn made a motion to approve Resolution #749. Gary Debont seconded the motion and the resolution was approved by all. Geri also let councilmen know about the SCRC sponsored 5k walk/run that will be held on June 27th, 2015, which also happens to be Sumas Community Days. This is an excellent fundraiser for the Sumas Clothesline and the Sumas Community Food Bank.

Rod Fadden briefly addressed the council on the continued problems of people trying to access the NEXUS lane when there is a lineup, and the fact that the WSDOT will not address this probably for a couple more months. Supt. Fadden also informed council members that Rollin and he had written a letter to Meadowdale Water regarding water rights. This will be sent to Jim Wright for review. Rod finally reported that they will begin chipping in February instead of waiting for March.

The Mayor referenced the newly appointed Planning Commission members and they are as follows:

Don Peterson and Stephen Lee, whose terms will expire December 31, 2015; Stephen Jordan and Mark Passe, whose terms will expire December 31, 2016; and Josh Clawson, whose term will expire December 31, 2017. The Council Representative is still Bruce Bosch.

The new bills were presented to the Finance Committee for approval and payment. Claims Vouchers #35780, #35789 through #35836 in the amount of \$276,354.59 and Payroll Vouchers #20586 through #20595 plus the Direct Deposit Run in the amount of \$121,645.98 were approved after a motion by Mike Quinn and a second by Gary Debont that carried.

Mike Quinn made a motion to place the January 2015 Treasurer's Report on file. Gary Debont seconded the motion and it carried.

Mike Quinn made a motion to approve the Manual Checks for January 2015. Gary Debont seconded the motion which carried.

The council went into Executive Session for 5 minutes regarding Personnel.

Council reconvened at 7:20 p.m. and Todd Daniels made a motion to adjourn. Bruce Bosch seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2015

The Sumas City Council met in regular session on the evening of February 23, 2015, with all councilmen present. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved for filing.

Chief Haugen deferred to City Attorney, Jim Wright, to go over the new Jail Facility Use Agreement for which the County is seeking approval. Since he just received a copy on Friday, he wanted to be able to look it over more closely before taking any action. This will come back on March 9, 2015.

The new bills were presented to the Finance Committee for approval. Claims Vouchers # 35840 through #35866 in the amount of \$14,908.30 and Payroll Vouchers #20596 and the Direct Deposit Run in the amount of \$19,100.00 were approved after a motion by Mike Quinn and a second by Gary Debont that carried.

The council went into Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. for approximately 10 minutes about legal matters.

At 7:35 p.m. the council reconvened the regular session.

Supt. Fadden informed councilmen about a 4000 sq. ft. machine shop that is in the planning stages for 285 Garfield St. Rod also informed councilmen that we really have very few building lots left in the City so we need to be thinking about future expansion.

Gary Debont informed the council that the Lion's Club and the Senior Citizens will be holding a pancake breakfast on March 7, 2014, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. There will also be a baked goods sale to raise some money.

Mike Quinn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bruce Bosch seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2015

The Sumas City Council met on the evening of March 9, 2015, with all councilmen present. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved for filing.

Peter Becker, from Time Value Investments, was present to address the council about investing in government bonds using his company as a broker and US Bank as the holder of the bonds. He handed out individual packets to councilmen and explained briefly the materials enclosed. Peter said TVI does business with 180 (est) cities, counties, and special districts in Washington State. He explained how the city could be making much more interest on cash reserves than what we are currently making in our sweep account. The Mayor said the Finance Committee should meet on this before investing.

There were no committee meetings.

Geri Lewis presented a list of citations that are over 10 years old and are no longer collectible. The total write-off is \$96,614.71. Mike Quinn made a motion to allow the write-off of the list of citations that are over 10 years old. Gary Debont seconded the motion and it carried.

The Mayor reminded councilmen that the annual spring cleanup day is April 4, 2015, this year.

Jim Wright prepared a memo on the proposed increased sales tax plan (Proposed Jail Facility Use Agreement) that would enable cities and the county to begin making payments for debt obligation bonds to finance jail construction. He went on to explain that the first 3 years of payments would be different than the following years which would be a fixed amount until 2043. This would need to go to a vote of the people and pass with at least 60% approval. The ordinance regarding door to door sales persons will be brought back as Chief Haugen has some input on this issue.

The Open Government Officials Mandatory Training is rescheduled to March 23, 2015.

The new bills were presented to the Finance Committee for approval. Claims Vouchers #35875 through #35928 in the amount of \$176,249.27 and Payroll Vouchers #20597 through #20605 plus the Direct Deposit Run in the amount of \$115,892.71 were approved after a motion by Mike Quinn and a second by Gary Debont that carried. The Manual Checks for February 2015, in the amount of \$6,471.82 were approved after a motion by Mike Quinn and a second by Gary Debont which carried. The February 2015 Treasurer's Report was approved to be filed after a motion by Mike Quinn and a second by Gary Debont which was approved by all councilmen.

Bruce Bosch made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Todd Daniels seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Sumas City Hall

433 Cherry Street
P.O. Box 9
Sumas, WA 98295

Phone Number: 360-988-5711
Fax: 360-988-8855

We are on the Web!
www.cityofsumas.com

You can now pay your utility bill and citations online. You must include your account number or citation number with your payment to use the online payment option.

**Note there is a \$2 fee to use a credit card to make your payments*

The newsletter is meant to increase awareness and communication of events and news to the citizens of the City of Sumas. If you have any comments /suggestions or if you would like the newsletter sent directly to your email address, please send an email to mbost@cityofsumas.com

Did You Know....

“The ailment known as “spring fever” is, according to medical experts, more than just a mood. In fact, a person’s body makeup often changes during spring because of variations in diet and levels of physical activity. “

*<http://www.thelaketoday.com/news/2014/mar/26/fun-facts-about-spring/>



“Each year the president conducts an Easter Egg Roll on the White House lawn. The tradition was started by President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1878 and has been kept up by every president since then.”

*<http://www.thelaketoday.com/news/2014/mar/26/fun-facts-about-spring/>