



CITY OF SEQUIM News



January 2023

Meeting Dates

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| City Council Regular Meeting | 2nd & 4th Monday 6:00 p.m. |
| City Council Work Session (When necessary) | 2nd & 4th Monday 5:00 p.m. |
| Planning Commission | 1st & 3rd Tuesday 6:00 p.m. |
| Parks, Arbor, and Recreation Board | 3rd Monday 4:00 p.m. |
| Lodging Tax Advisory Comm. | Quarterly—Next Meeting March 6—9:00 a.m. |
| Arts Advisory Commission | 4th Monday 3:00 p.m. |

City offices will be closed on **Monday, January 2** in observance of New Year's Day and on **Monday, January 16** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



Welcome New Employees!

Jake van der Waal, Maintenance Worker— 12/1
Emma Jane Garcia, Parks & Facilities Specialist 12/30

The City of Sequim is currently holding hybrid meetings for the City Council and other Boards and Commissions, but the public is still encouraged to participate through Zoom. Visit <https://sequimwa.gov>, scroll down to the Calendar of Events and click on the meeting. Open the agenda and click the link or call the phone number to join the meeting.

Utility Discounts Available for Low Income Residents

Utility rate reductions are available for qualifying low income residents. You may qualify if your income does not exceed 150% of the federal poverty guidelines. If you qualify for the Clallam County PUD discount, you qualify for the City's discount. The exact amount of your discount is determined upon receipt of all of the applications for the 2023 program. Qualifying applicants will see the discounted rates on their February 1 utility bill.

Applications for the 2023 discount are due **January 15, 2023** and are available at the Sequim Civic Center, DSHS, Sequim Community Aid, St. Vincent de Paul, Serenity House, United Way, and the Shipley Center. Applications can also be downloaded from our website at <https://sequimwa.gov>. Please feel welcome to call the Finance office at the Civic Center at (360) 683-4139 with your questions.

Utility Rate Increase

In 2020, the City commissioned an extensive study of utility rates that recommended a 4% annual increase to water rates and a 2% increase to sewer rates through 2030, to cover the costs of on-going operations, master plans, the Capital Improvement Plan, and debt service. Since the completion of the 2020 study, the Council elected to suspend any rate increases for water and sewer services during the COVID-19 public health emergency. City staff have updated the 2020 utility model and recommended a 3-year plan of 3% per year increases for each utility. This recommendation is firmly based in quantitative data. The City Council approved this plan as part of the 2023 budget approval process. Utility customers will see the change in their February bill.

The City Council also approved the continuation of the low-income discount as part of the 2023 budget. Please see details in the related article.

Weatherization Assistance Available

There are rebate and weatherization assistance programs available to increase energy efficiency and lower overall heating bills while staying warm this winter.

- Clallam County PUD rebates for insulation, windows, heat pumps, etc. <https://clallampud.net/residential-programs/>.
- OlyCap low-income weatherization assistance is available to owners and renters. <https://olycap.org/weatherization/>.

“Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier.”
- Mother Teresa



Contractor Bidding Opportunities

The City of Sequim often looks for contractors to provide services for the City or to work on projects. Please check out the “Bids” page on our website <https://www.sequimwa.gov/bids.aspx>. We encourage women and minority-owned enterprises and veteran-owned businesses to respond to these opportunities.

Sign Up for E-Notifications

It is now easier than ever to keep up with what is happening with the City of Sequim. Sign up for E-notifications directly through email or text. Visit <https://sequimwa.gov> and click on Notify Me.

Follow us on Facebook at City of Sequim Government and on Twitter at City of Sequim@City of Sequim.

First Friday Open Music Jam on Friday, January 6



Join the City Arts Advisory Commission for an Open Music Jam at the Sequim Civic Center on Friday, January 6 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Bring your acoustic instrument and/or your voice and join

us for an informal gathering of people who like to make music. Chairs provided.

In the Gallery...

“Let’s Explore Color”

January 6 through March 29.

Join the City Arts Advisory Commission and meet the artists at an Open House Friday, January 6 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.



“Dahlias in the Garden” by Jean Wyatt

Gallery Hours: Monday—Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Congratulations to Public Works Crew Members for Professional Licenses

John Christenson has received his Water Distribution License from the Washington State Department of Health. The license requires a minimum of 16 years education, a minimum of 12 months operating experience in a water treatment plant, and a minimum of 36 months of additional water-related experience. This is the highest water distribution license offered by the state. Additionally John holds his Water Treatment Plant Operator level III and IV licenses.



John Christenson

Michael Latimer has received the Wastewater Collections Specialist II License from the Washington Wastewater Collections Personnel Association (WWCPA). This license requires 12 years of education, three years of full-time experience in wastewater collections, and passing the Wastewater Collections Specialist II exam.



Michael Latimer

Congratulations John and Michael!

Sustainability Tip

Donate Unwanted Items

Are you doing a new year purge of unwanted items? Don’t toss items in the garbage—donate items that are still in good condition. For more information, please visit this local guide from the WSU Clallam County Extension’s Waste Prevention Program at <http://bit.ly/3Fx1Ulr>. Let’s resolve to increase reuse and limit landfilling in 2023!



Save the Dates—March 3 & 4

4th Annual Sequim Sunshine Festival

You won’t want to miss the 2023 Sequim Sunshine Festival. The festival will bring back crowd favorites and include new experiences.

Registration is now open for the Sun Fun Color Run sponsored by Peninsula Behavioral Health <https://runsignup.com/Race/WA/Sequim/SunFunColorRun>. Sign up now for the best price.

The Illuminated Drone Show by Firefly Drone Shows and sponsored by Sound Community Bank will return, the Interactive Light Experience sponsored by Clallam County PUD is expanded, the Sunshine Market is back, there will be community art projects, live music, food, and more! Learn more about the festival at <https://www.visitsunnysequim.com/263/Sequim-Sunshine-Festival>.

