

**Whatcom County
Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee**

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE
311 Grand Avenue, Ste #105
Bellingham, WA 98225-4038
(360) 778-5010**



Committee Minutes - Final

**Tuesday, July 13, 2021
11 AM
Virtual Meeting**

**VIRTUAL MEETING - ENDS NO LATER THAN 12:45 P.M. (TO PARTICIPATE,
SEE INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil OR CALL
360.778.5010)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Tyler Byrd
Carol Frazey

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Rud Browne called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. in a virtual meeting.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Rud Browne, Tyler Byrd, and Carol Frazey

Absent: None

Also Present: Barry Buchanan, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, and Kathy Kershner

Announcements

Special Presentation

1. [AB2021-357](#) Report from Information Technology (IT) Division

Perry Rice, Administrative Services Department, gave a presentation (on file) and answered whether the new permit system would be helping the Health Department with just permits or also with navigation for services.

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, thanked Rice and his team for their work through the COVID-19 pandemic and asked him to speak more about ransomware.

Councilmembers thanked Rice for how he worked quickly to purchase needed technology at the beginning of the pandemic while it was still available.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

2. [AB2021-388](#) Report from Washington State University (WSU) Extension

Cheryl Lovato Niles, WSU Extension, presented and answered whether Whatcom Water Week will be virtual or in person this year.

This agenda item was REPORTED.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2021-346](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Silver Lake Park Improvement Fund, request no. 3

Rod Lamb, Parks and Recreation, briefed the Councilmembers.

Frazey moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2021-365](#) Ordinance amending the Whatcom County Budget, request no. 11, in the amount of \$5,728,416

Browne moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The following people answered questions:

- Wendy Jones, Sheriff's Office
- Anne Deacon, Health Department
- Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

They answered questions and Councilmembers discussed the \$435,000 for COVID-19 testing coming from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund (ARPA) funds and who decides where unused funds would go at the end of the year, the request for \$525,000 from the Affordable & Supportive Housing Fund to partially fund Phase 3 of Bellingham Housing Authority's Samish Commons project and whether the ARPA funds would be a better funding source for it, what the new fund would be called for the sales tax increment they are collecting, seeing a plan for the use of ARPA funds so it does not just get whittled away, getting an estimate for using ARPA funds to expand the Courts to relieve the backlog, having a future discussion about where those funds should go, and whether the motion was to recommend approval of the whole ordinance.

Browne's motion that the Ordinance be Recommended for Adoption failed by the following vote:

Aye: 1 - Browne

Nay: 2 - Byrd, and Frazey

Absent: 0

3. [AB2021-375](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code 2.98, Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee, to revise membership

Frazey moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

4. [AB2021-393](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Commerce for resources to assist people who are experiencing homelessness obtain and maintain housing stability, in the amount of \$6,335,182

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

5. [AB2021-397](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and City of Lynden for Economic Development Investment (EDI) loan and grant funding to support the West Front Street Arterial Improvement Project, in the amount of \$2,000,000

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council, answered whether procedurally they can vote on this since they did not approve the budget for the funding of it.

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION.

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, and Brown-Davis discussed with Councilmembers whether the Council would reconsider the related budget ordinance (AB2021-365) and whether it needs to come back as a separate ordinance if just the funding source of an item is changed.

Frazey's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

6. [AB2021-398](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Social and Health Services for the administration of developmental disabilities services, in the amount of \$4,125,535

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

7. [AB2021-401](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a purchase and sale agreement for the acquisition of 5.9 acres of undeveloped property adjoining Squires Lake Park in the amount of \$90,000

Frazey moved that the Agreement be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne, and Frazey

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. [AB2021-383](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Island County for Mini-Chain Services in the amount of \$5,359.00

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. [AB2021-385](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award Bid #21-31 and enter into a subsequent contract between Whatcom County and Foss Maritime for the annual drydocking, repair and maintenance of the Whatcom Chief ferry, in the amount of \$773,839

Frazey moved that the Bid Award be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

3. [AB2021-387](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs for Registered Sex Offender Address and Residency Verification Program, in the amount of \$139,688.00

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

4. [AB2021-391](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Ecology for litter cleanup activities, in the amount of \$71,100

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT.

John Wolpers, Health Department, answered whether this cleanup is also for the highways and whether the cleanup can be coordinated with grass cutting so that it happens before the grass (and trash) is cut.

Frazey's motion that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

5. [AB2021-399](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Snohomish Health District for participation in the North Sound Regional Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program, in the amount of \$27,000

Frazey moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

6. [AB2021-400](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Skagit County for participation in the North Sound Regional Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program, in the amount of \$27,000

Frazezy moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Frazey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Rud Browne-via email 7/23/2021

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Rud Browne, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

SIGNED COPY ON FILE