

**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, February 25, 2020

11 AM

Council Chambers

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Tyler Byrd
Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Committee Chair Tyler Byrd called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Rud Browne, Tyler Byrd and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Also present: Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, and Todd Donovan

County Executive's Report

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, reported on the following items:

- A recent visit to Point Roberts and the Mayor's Office of the City of Delta to discuss sewer water treatment
- Two meetings with the Point Roberts community regarding community cohesiveness
- An upcoming meeting with the partners of Green Apple
- Improving transparency of contracts and budget supplemental sheets
- Work on the Economic Development Investment (EDI) Application and reviewing how funds are distributed

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office, stated there is an upcoming EDI board meeting on March 9th at which they will be considering the Lynden proposal and discuss policy updates. Councilmembers can give their input on those items before that meeting. He answered whether Lynden will be coming forward with a revised proposal that was previously rejected and whether it could be submitted to both councilmembers and to the Whatcom County Business and Commerce Advisory Committee.

Councilmembers and Sidhu discussed budget transparency and information that Byrd stated he would like to see on budget supplemental documents coming to Council including the current fund balance, the impact of the new request on other projects, and what the end fund balance would be. For contracts on an existing project, they discussed having the documents show what was budgeted and the cumulative impact it would have. Quarterly budget reports can be viewed online.

Special Presentation

1. [AB2020-062](#) Presentation from CJ Seitz, Director of the Small Business Development Center

regarding 2019 accomplishments and the 2020 Strategic Plan

CJ Seitz, Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Director, submitted and read from a presentation (on file) and answered questions about why they work with only a small number of start-up businesses, what could be done to increase that number, the data behind the metric of the 17-1 return on investment (for every dollar of funding the SBDC receives, their clients are generating over \$17 for new investments in the community), working with the small Cities, why they do not factor in sales growth rates, what they are doing to provide economic resiliency training in the event of a recession, and how their organization is funded, and how much of that comes from the County.

This agenda item was PRESENTED.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. [AB2020-076](#) Ordinance amending the 2020 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 5, in the amount of \$792,558

Browne moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Browne and Kershner

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

2. [AB2020-089](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots and Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific

Kershner moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR AUTHORIZATION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd and Kershner

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Tyler Byrd, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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