

**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, September 24, 2019

11 AM

Council Chambers

COUNCILMEMBERS

Tyler Byrd
Carol Frazey
Satpal Sidhu

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Call To Order

Committee Chair Satpal Sidhu called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Tyler Byrd, Carol Frazey and Satpal Sidhu

Absent: None

Also present: Barbara Brenner, Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, and Todd Donovan.

County Executive's Report

Jack Louws, County Executive, reported on the upcoming groundbreaking ceremony for the new Crisis Stabilization Facility on September 30, 2019.

Special Presentation

1. AB2019-346 Presentation by State Senator Bob Hasegawa regarding the benefits of public banking

Senator Bob Hasegawa submitted and gave a presentation (on file) on a publicly owned bank and how it can be the best use public tax dollars. He answered questions from Councilmembers regarding debt ceiling, fractional reserve lending used by credit unions, risk exposure being more in-house, whether the bank would be available to individuals in the public or limited only to municipalities, what the requirements would be to open an account, the main mission of the current proposal being focused on infrastructure, how the County or other entities might be involved and what value it would be to them, the example of North Dakota's public banking success and how they have benefitted from it, how to bring the community on board with the idea of public banking, managing lending practices, and protection from political influences or monopolization of resources.

Senator Bob Hasegawa PRESENTED.

Committee Discussion

1. AB2019-476 Discussion with members of the Point Roberts Independent Business Council regarding economic development concerns at Point Roberts

Tom O'Brien, member of the Point Roberts Independent Business Council, presented information on the economic health of Point Roberts. He highlighted three main economic concerns: The Point Roberts Subarea Plan; Whatcom County Code 20.72, Point Roberts Special District; and the Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee. He requested that the Council accept the zoning application, waive the associated fees, and repeal Whatcom County Code 20.72; amend Ordinance 2010-008 to reflect that the Community Advisory Committee should be an elected

body; and acknowledge the need for a Point Roberts Subarea Plan.

O'Brian and the following people answered questions:

Tyler Schroeder, Executive's Office

Brian Calder, President of the Point Roberts Independent Business Council

Jack Louws, County Executive

They and Councilmembers discussed the docketing process and required fees, two competing proposals coming from Point Roberts for Code changes (one from the Point Roberts Independent Business Council and one from the Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee), hearing more from the Planning and Development Services Department before making a decision, holding a "quasi-election" in Point Roberts, disbanding the Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee, getting more information and hearing again from the Independent Business Council, and reviewing other codes pertinent Point Roberts.

This agenda item was DISCUSSED.

Committee Discussion and Recommendation to Council

1. AB2019-451 Ordinance amending the project budget for the Birch Bay Drive and Pedestrian Facility Project Fund, Request No. 5

Frazezy moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Frazey and Sidhu

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. AB2019-460 Ordinance amending the project budget for the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Expansion project, in the amount of \$172,000

Jack Louws, County Executive, and Councilmembers discussed the community benefits of adopting the ordinance.

Frazezy moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Frazey and Sidhu

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

3. AB2019-464 Ordinance amending the project budget for the Triage Center Expansion Fund,

request no. 3

Frazey moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Frazey and Sidhu

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

4. AB2019-465 Ordinance amending the 2019 Whatcom County budget, request no. 12, in the amount of \$2,759,531

Wendy Jones, Whatcom County Jail Chief Corrections Deputy, answered questions about the cost of the medication assistance treatment program and the rising cost of medications.

Frazey moved that the Ordinance be RECOMMENDED FOR ADOPTION.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 2 - Frazey and Sidhu

Nay: 1 - Byrd

Absent: 0

5. AB2019-446 Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham so that the City may install, maintain, and repair communications equipment for the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office

Byrd moved that the Interlocal be RECOMMENDED FOR

AUTHORIZATION. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Frazey and Sidhu

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

Council "Consent Agenda" Items

1. AB2019-471 Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and the Opportunity Council for the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center Phase II Construction project, in the amount of \$172,000

Frazey moved that the Contract be RECOMMENDED FOR

AUTHORIZATION BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Frazey and Sidhu

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

2. AB2019-474 Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and SAZAN Group for design and construction services for Plantation Indoor Range HVAC and Roof Replacement, in the amount of \$53,650

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

Aye: 2 - Byrd and Sidhu

Nay: 1 - Frazey

Absent: 0

3. AB2019-477 Request approval for the County Executive to award Bid #19-59 for the purchase of one 27' full cabin patrol boat to low bidder, Inventech Marine Solutions, in an amount not to exceed \$373,499.26

The following people answered questions about procedures for receiving private donations.

Doug Chadwick, Whatcom County Undersheriff

Jack Louws, County Executive

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

Aye: 3 - Byrd, Frazey and Sidhu

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

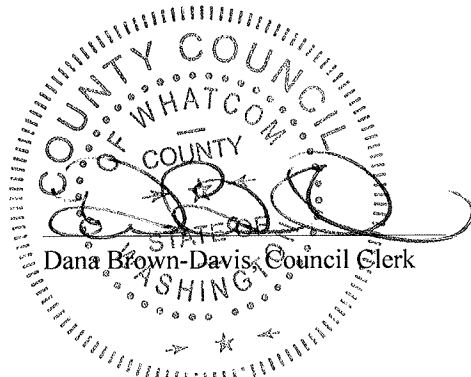
Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

ATTEST:



Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Kristi Felbinger
Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Satpal Sidhu
Satpal Sidhu, Committee Chair

SIGNED COPY ON FILE