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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
Public Works and Health Committee

April 23, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Barbara Brenner called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Present: Barbara Brenner, Barry Buchanan, and Carol Frazey
Absent: None
Also Present: Rud Browne, Tyler Byrd, and Satpal Sidhu

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

1. AB2019-244 PRESENTATION FROM COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT COMPANY STEEL PINE

Brian Fearon, Steel Pine, spoke about his company and how he would like to help fund community needs through a public/private partnership.

Councilmembers and Mr. Fearon discussed options for such public/private partnerships.

Karen Frakes, Prosecutor's Office, answered questions.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. AB2019-210 ORDINANCE AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE TITLE 3, CREATING A LOCAL EMPLOYEE AND APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

The following people spoke and answered questions:

- Tawny Sayers, Northwest Laborers, submitted a handout (*on file*) of the Workforce Training Results 2019.
- Trevor Smith
- Robert Lee, Building Industry Association of Whatcom County
- Chris Johnson
- Pete (*inaudible*), Mt. Vernon United Brotherhood of Carpenters
- Stacy Martin, Local 292 Business Manager
- Adam Lamb

Councilmembers and speakers spoke about the economic impacts of training someone at an open shop outside of an apprenticeship program; whether the County requires prevailing wage for all employees; journey level certification through an accredited program; different levels of experience and certification; how to entice younger people into the construction trades; how to make room in apprenticeship programs for everyone who wants to join; the quality of training in apprentice programs versus at open shops;

1 marketing the trades as a viable alternative to college; continuity of employment in the
2 construction industry for apprentices; whether contractors would continue to bid on public
3 projects; and the capacity in the community for apprentice positions.

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5 **Brenner moved** to hold in committee.

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7 The motion carried by the following vote:

8 **Ayes:** Brenner, Buchanan, and Frazey (3)

9 **Nays:** None (0)

10
11 Jack Louws, County Executive, reported on problems with the ordinance as written.

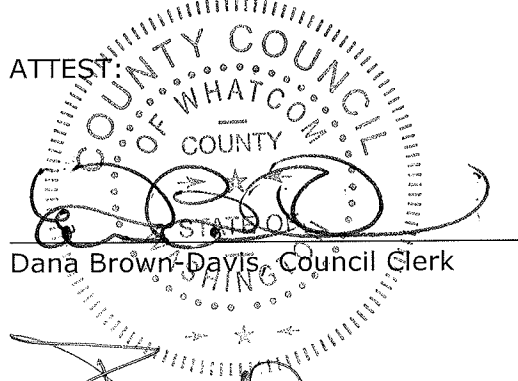
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13
14 **OTHER BUSINESS**

15
16 There was no other business.

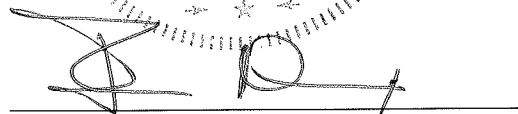
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19 **ADJOURN**

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21 The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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24 ATTEST:



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30 Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

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Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Barbara Brenner, Committee Chair