

Whatcom County Council

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



Minutes - Draft Minutes

**Tuesday, February 10, 2026
6 PM**

Hybrid Meeting - Council Chambers

**HYBRID MEETING (PARTICIPATE IN-PERSON, SEE REMOTE JOIN
INSTRUCTIONS AT www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil, OR CALL
360.778.5010); AGENDA REVISION 2.9.2026**

COUNCILMEMBERS

Elizabeth Boyle
Barry Buchanan
Ben Elenbaas
Kaylee Galloway
Jessica Rienstra
Jon Scanlon
Mark Stremmler

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Kaylee Galloway called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in a hybrid meeting.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Elizabeth Boyle, Barry Buchanan, Ben Elenbaas, Kaylee Galloway, Jessica Rienstra, Jon Scanlon, and Mark Stremler

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

There was no report.

MINUTES CONSENT

Scanlon moved to accept the minutes consent items. The motion was seconded by Boyle (see votes on individual items below).

1. [MIN2026-007](#) Special Committee of the Whole for January 13, 2026

Scanlon moved and Boyle seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

2. [MIN2026-009](#) Committee of the Whole for January 13, 2026

Scanlon moved and Boyle seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [MIN2026-010](#) Regular County Council for January 13, 2026

Scanlon moved and Boyle seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [MIN2026-011](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for January 27, 2026

Scanlon moved and Boyle seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

5. [MIN2026-012](#) Committee of the Whole for January 27, 2026

Scanlon moved and Boyle seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

6. [MIN2026-013](#) Regular County Council for January 27, 2026

Scanlon moved and Boyle seconded that the Minutes Consent be APPROVED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. [AB2026-118](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Section 5.40.010 to change the permit threshold for outdoor musical entertainment, amusements, and assemblies

Galloway opened the Public Hearing and hearing no one, closed the Public Hearing.

Boyle moved and Buchanan seconded that the Ordinance be ADOPTED.

Councilmembers discussed the motion and how it came to Council.

Boyle's motion that the Ordinance be ADOPTED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremmer

Nay: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2026-003

OPEN SESSION

The following people spoke:

- Adam Bellingar
- Matt Berry

- Cory Shaw
- Stephanie Anderson
- David Foreman
- Cynthia Sue Ripke Kutzagoitz
- Nathan Stuart
- Denice Bruce
- Jonathan Haas
- Peter Condyles
- Coleman Hoyt
- David Parsons
- Craig Zimmerman
- Scott Campbell
- Lane Stremler
- Keith Korthuis
- Derek Hergenhein
- Paul Marsh
- Lyle Sorenson
- Hannah Ordos
- Natalie Chavez
- Brian Gass
- Stacey Dailey
- Selena Knoblauch
- Perry Eskridge

Hearing no one else, Galloway closed the Open Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and ***moved*** to approve Consent Agenda item numbers 1-5, 7, 9, and 10 (with item number 11 having been withdrawn and items 6, 8, 12, and 13 to be voted on separately). Councilmembers voted on those items (see votes on individual items below).

1. [AB2026-060](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management to utilize State Homeland Security Grant Program funding to sustain and enhance Division of Emergency Management programs, in the amount of \$47,479

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion

carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

2. [AB2026-068](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the Port of Bellingham for Fairhaven Marine Industrial Park Infrastructure Improvements, in the amount of \$3,000,000

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [AB2026-069](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham for the What-Comm Communications Center in support of reimbursement for 911 capital equipment expenses in the amount of \$94,107

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [AB2026-092](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Bellingham to affirm and jointly agree to the terms of financial support for the Whatcom Racial Equity Commission in 2026, including a financial commitment by the County in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 and a financial commitment by the City in an amount not to exceed \$100,000

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

5. [AB2026-116](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Transportation to obligate federal Ferry Boat Program funds for the Lummi Island Ferry operating costs, in the amount of \$1,920,916 for a total amended contract amount of \$3,596,616

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

6. [AB2026-117](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health services in the amount of \$166,766, for a total amended agreement amount of \$11,128,322

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

7. [AB2026-122](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization to recognize and allocate revenue to Whatcom County for its participation in the North Sound Integrated Care Network, in the amount of \$725,761.41

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

8. [AB2026-123](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Land Trust to provide pass-through grant funding from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for the purchase of Phase 1 of the Stewart Mountain Community Forest, in the amount of \$665,402

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

9. [AB2026-127](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Washington Initiative for Supported Employment to provide developmental disabilities-related training and technical assistance services in the amount of \$20,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$59,500

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

10. [AB2026-133](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and King Architecture, PLLC for additional design and electrical engineering services for the Van Zandt Community Hall renovation, in the amount of \$13,540 for a total amended contract amount of \$132,394

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Contract be AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

11. [AB2026-137](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Collective Bargaining Agreement between Whatcom County and Professional and Technical Employees, Local 17 for the period January 1, 2026 - December 31, 2028

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and stated this agenda item was WITHDRAWN.

12. [AB2026-142](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a purchase agreement between Whatcom County and Western Washington University for the purchase of property located at 333 32nd Street, Bellingham WA (Tax Parcel No. 370306340528), in the amount of \$8,056,584

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

13. [AB2026-147](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Western Washington University (WWU) for WWU's use of the facility located at 333 32nd Street, Bellingham WA for two years, revenue amount of \$174,878

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

CONSENT AGENDA CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

6. [AB2026-117](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to provide funding for various public health services in the amount of \$166,766, for a total amended agreement amount of \$11,128,322

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and ***moved*** that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED.

Stremler stated he could not support the needle exchange program.

Elenbaas stated if there were other systems in place to deal with addiction

differently he would probably vote no on this, but they do not have those systems or laws.

Rienstra stated this is an act of reducing harm and it is one way on a spectrum where they can engage with people who are not actively engaging in healthcare and meet them where they are.

Scanlon's motion that the Interlocal be AUTHORIZED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 1 - Stremler

8. [AB2026-123](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and Whatcom Land Trust to provide pass-through grant funding from the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for the purchase of Phase 1 of the Stewart Mountain Community Forest, in the amount of \$665,402
- Scanlon** reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and **moved** that the Contract be AUTHORIZED.

Elenbaas and Stremler discussed the motion and why they would vote no.

Stremler stated the two organizations that are providing grants for portions of this, also provide money for flooding issues, and he believes the money would be better used for those issues.

Galloway stated this funding would not be eligible for flood purposes.

Stremler stated maybe they can seek out funding from them for other purposes.

Scanlon's motion that the Contract be AUTHORIZED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

12. [AB2026-142](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a purchase agreement between Whatcom County and Western Washington University for the purchase of property located at 333 32nd Street, Bellingham WA (Tax Parcel No. 370306340528), in the amount of \$8,056,584
- Scanlon** reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and **moved** that the Contract be AUTHORIZED.

Councilmembers discussed the motion.

Scanlon's motion that the Contract be AUTHORIZED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremmler

13. [AB2026-147](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a lease agreement between Whatcom County and Western Washington University (WWU) for WWU's use of the facility located at 333 32nd Street, Bellingham WA for two years, revenue amount of \$174,878

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and **moved** that the Agreement be AUTHORIZED.

Councilmembers discussed the motion.

Rob Ney, Administrative Services Department Facilities, answered why they would buy the building and not just rent it. He spoke about the cost of the County's rent and stated the purchase price was reduced by the first year of rent. The second year will come to the Council as revenue.

Scanlon's motion that the Agreement be AUTHORIZED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremmler

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2026-094](#) Ordinance closing the Northwest Annex Redevelopment Fund

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and **moved** that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. He stated the first three agenda items under this section allow them to actually execute the agreement to purchase the new building for the Planning Department.

Scanlon's motion that the Ordinance be ADOPTED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Boyle, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremmler

Temp Absent: 1 - Buchanan

Enactment No: ORD 2026-004

2. [AB2026-098](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Hovander Park Building Improvements Project, request no. 4

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Boyle, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Temp Absent: 1 - Buchanan

Enactment No: ORD 2026-005

3. [AB2026-104](#) Ordinance establishing the 32nd Street Property Acquisition Fund and establishing an initial budget for the 32nd Street Property Acquisition Fund

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the SUBSTITUTE Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

Enactment No: ORD 2026-006

4. [AB2026-100](#) Ordinance establishing the Glacier Restroom Improvements Fund and establishing an initial budget for the Glacier Restroom Improvements Fund

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Enactment No: ORD 2026-007

5. [AB2026-102](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the New Public Health, Safety and Justice Facility, request no. 10

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and ***moved*** that the Ordinance be ADOPTED.

Elenbaas stated he voted against this earlier because he has not seen what the final plan is going to be and he is concerned about continuing to spend money without knowing exactly what he is spending it on.

Scanlon's motion that the Ordinance be ADOPTED carried by the following

vote:

Aye: 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 1 - Elenbaas

Enactment No: ORD 2026-008

6. [AB2026-110](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 3, in the amount of \$7,123,065

Scanlon reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and moved that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 5 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, and Scanlon

Nay: 2 - Elenbaas, and Stremler

Enactment No: ORD 2026-009

(From Council Public Works and Health Committee)

7. [AB2026-129](#) Resolution requesting Washington State officials and Whatcom County's Congressional delegation work to secure the release of approved Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds for Whatcom County homeowners

Boyle reported for the Public Works and Health Committee and ***moved*** that the SUBSTITUTE Resolution be APPROVED.

Cathy Halka, Clerk of the Council, spoke about the difference between the resolution and the substitute and stated the difference is non-substantive. They did not note in committee that they were recommending the substitute, but since the difference is non-substantive, they can just note it for the record.

Boyle's motion that the SUBSTITUTE Resolution be APPROVED carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Enactment No: RES 2026-006

(From Council Committee of the Whole)

8. [AB2026-132](#) Request for motion to designate one Council representative to participate on the Emergency Medical Services 2029-2034 Levy Committee

Galloway reported for Committee of the Whole and ***moved*** to appoint Elenbaas as the lead representative and Galloway as the alternate.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

This agenda item was DISCUSSED AND MOTION(S) APPROVED.

Motion approved 7-0 to appoint Elenbaas as the lead representative and Galloway as the alternate.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS

1. [AB2026-125](#) Appointment to vacancies on the Planning Commission, Applicant(s): Lindsey Elenbaas

Elenbaas stated he is going to recuse himself from this discussion and leave the room, not because of any actual conflict, but because there might be perception of a conflict.

Scanlon moved and Boyle seconded to accept late applications.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, Stremler, and Boyle

Nay: 0

Recused (and out of the meeting): 1 - Elenbaas

Galloway spoke about how they would consider the applicants and stated she would entertain a motion to consider all with a vote of two, and then the two highest vote-getters would get the appointment.

Rienstra moved and Scanlon seconded to consider all (with a vote of two).

The following applicants addressed the Council:

- Matthew Berry
- Selena Knoblauch

Councilmembers voted for two applicants and Matthew Berry was appointed with five votes as follows (no other applicant received four affirmative votes):

Elenbaas: (Recused)

Galloway: Berry and Knoblauch

Rienstra: Berry and Knoblauch

Scanlon: Bains and Berry

Stremler: Elenbaas and Bains

Boyle: Berry and Knoblauch

Buchanan: Elenbaas and Berry

Councilmembers (with Elenbaas recused) voted again for one applicant from the remaining applicants as follows:

Gurdeep Bains: Scanlon

Lindsey Elenbaas: Stremler and Buchanan

Selena Knoblauch: Galloway, Rienstra, and Boyle

Galloway stated a second applicant was not appointed because no one got four affirmative votes, so they can reopen the application process and consider appointment of the second vacancy at their next meeting.

Cathy Halka, Clerk of the Council, stated it is up to the Council if they would like to vote again or if they would like to open the application process up again.

No councilmember stated that they wanted to change their vote, so Galloway stated they would move forward with the appointment of Matthew Berry and reopen the application process for the Planning Commission for applicants who either live in District one or District five. They can reconsider the applicants they have before them and also welcome others to apply as well.

Elenbaas returned to the meeting.

Berry was APPOINTED and the application process was held open.

Motion approved 6-0 (with Elenbaas recusing himself) to accept late applications.

Appointed Matthew Berry to one position with five votes (Elenbaas recused) and HELD THE APPLICATION PROCESS OPEN.

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS

1. [AB2026-131](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Sean Hopps to the Whatcom County Food System Committee

Buchanan moved and Boyle seconded that the Executive Appointment be CONFIRMED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Boyle, Buchanan, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 1 - Elenbaas

2. [AB2026-136](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's appointment of Paul Cline to the Whatcom County Marine Resources Committee

Boyle moved and Buchanan seconded that the Executive Appointment be CONFIRMED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [AB2026-140](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointment of Liz Baxter to the Whatcom County Emergency Medical Services Oversight Board

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Executive Appointment be CONFIRMED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION

There were no agenda items added by revision.

INTRODUCTION ITEMS

Scanlon moved to introduce items two through eight (with Introduction item number 1 being voted on separately). The motion was seconded by Rienstra (see votes on individual items below).

1. [AB2026-040](#) Ordinance establishing Whatcom County Code Section 2.02.195 Performance Audits

THIS ITEM WAS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY BELOW

2. [AB2026-114](#) Ordinance establishing the project budget for the Strawberry Point/Lake Whatcom Boulevard stormwater improvements, request no. 1

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

3. [AB2026-115](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, business/industry position, applicant(s): Troy Lautenbach

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Council Appointment Requiring Introduction be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

4. [AB2026-124](#) Receipt of Public Works memo regarding the proposed tasks and preliminary schedule for the Whatcom County Climate Action Plan Update which is required every 5 years by Ordinance No. 2017-080

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Receipt of Document(s) be RECEIVED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

5. [AB2026-128](#) Appointment to a vacancy on the Business and Commerce Advisory Committee, representing higher education, applicant(s): Patricia Newbold

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Council Appointment Requiring Introduction be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

6. [AB2026-134](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the Courthouse Building Envelope Fund, request no. 7

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

7. [AB2026-143](#) Ordinance establishing the Ferndale Senior Activity Center Improvements Fund and establishing an initial budget for the Ferndale Senior Activity Center Improvements Fund

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

8. [AB2026-145](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 4, in the amount of \$1,804,963

Scanlon moved and Rienstra seconded that the Ordinance be INTRODUCED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

INTRODUCTION ITEMS CONSIDERED SEPARATELY

1. [AB2026-040](#) Ordinance establishing Whatcom County Code Section 2.02.195 Performance Audits

Galloway stated there was a substitute that was amended in Committee of the Whole today so “Substitute Ordinance Amended in Committee 2.10.2026” (on file) is what they are considering.

Scanlon moved to hold this item in Committee and schedule that next discussion for our February 24th Committee of The Whole meeting.

The motion was seconded by Elenbaas.

Galloway asked if it should just be a committee discussion or if they want it to be scheduled for introduction that evening.

Scanlon stated he thinks they should be able to get it done (and have it scheduled for introduction).

Elenbaas stated he is not in any hurry but thinks they are close anyway.

Scanlon's motion that the Ordinance be HELD IN COMMITTEE carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler

Nay: 0

Motion approved to hold this item in committee and schedule that next discussion for the February 24th Committee of the Whole meeting. It was not introduced.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES

Councilmembers gave committee reports and updates on recent activities and upcoming events.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Cathy Halka, Council Clerk

Kaylee Galloway, Council Chair

Meeting Minutes prepared by Kristi Felbinger