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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
**Special Committee of the Whole**

March 12, 2019

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council Chair Rud Browne called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Barbara Brenner, Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, Todd Donovan, and Carol Frazey.

**Absent:** Tyler Byrd and Satpal Sidhu.

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

**1. AB2019-148 RESOLUTION DOCKETING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION AMENDMENTS**

The following Planning and Development Services Department staff reported, read through a presentation, and answered questions:

- Mark Personius, Director
- Matt Aamot
- Joshua Fleischmann

Staff and councilmembers discussed the membership of the Surface Mining Advisory Committee, docket fees, alternatives to docketing, pipeline buffers to surface mining operations, past docket items that have been removed, wind energy regulations, subarea plans, different types of open space that provides beneficial resources, 5G wireless infrastructure, Bellingham's urban growth area (UGA) development standards, code enforcement, and the rural forestry designation in the Nooksack Falls exclave.

The following people spoke:

- Lesa Starkenburg-Kroontje, Concrete Nor'west Representative, spoke about the application on Breckenridge Road and the mineral resource lands (MRL) planning process.
- James Essig, Granite Construction Company, stated he agrees with the comments from Ms. Starkenburg-Kroontje and described the application from the Granite Construction Company.
- Rollin Harper, Cities of Everson and Lynden representative, spoke about the Granite Construction Company application and Concrete Nor'west application.
- Dan Cox, Concrete Nor'west, spoke about his background as a long-term planner in other counties and the process in Whatcom County.

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1 Councilmembers spoke about liquefaction and putting a concrete structure over a  
2 pipeline, and designating property that is good for mineral resource extraction.  
3

- 4 • Carol Perry spoke about a docket item regarding accessory dwelling units  
5 (ADUs).
- 6 • Clair Bertuleit, AVT Consulting, spoke on the Nooksack Falls property.  
7

8 **Donovan moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.  
9

10 The motion was seconded.  
11

12 Councilmembers and staff discussed review of the surface mining docket items by  
13 the Surface Mining Advisory Committee.  
14

15 **Donovan moved** to amend to remove docket item PLN2019-00003, the rezone of  
16 mineral resource lands to forestry.  
17

18 The motion was seconded.  
19

20 The motion to amend carried by the following vote:

21 **Ayes:** Brenner, Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, and Frazey (5)

22 **Nays:** None (0)

23 **Absent:** Byrd and Sidhu (2)  
24

25 Councilmembers and staff discussed the limitations of mineral extractions in a rural  
26 forestry zone and Surface Mining Advisory Committee review of the applications for mineral  
27 resource land (MRL) designation.  
28

29 **Donovan moved** to amend to remove item PLN2019-00001 regarding the  
30 application from the Granite Construction Company.  
31

32 The motion was seconded.  
33

34 The motion to amend carried by the following vote:

35 **Ayes:** Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, and Frazey (4)

36 **Nays:** Brenner (1)

37 **Absent:** Byrd and Sidhu (1)  
38

39 Councilmembers and staff discussed factors that are reviewed through the  
40 Comprehensive Plan process versus the mining permit process.  
41

42 Starkenburg-Kroontje spoke about the permitting process.  
43

44 The motion to recommend approval as amended carried by the following vote:

45 **Ayes:** Brenner, Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, and Frazey (5)

46 **Nays:** None (0)

47 **Absent:** Byrd and Sidhu (1)  
48

49 *(Clerk's Note: The Committee continued discussion of this item at the end of the*  
50 *meeting.)*

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**OTHER BUSINESS**

Buchanan referenced a proposal from the Health Department to create a subcommittee of the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee and stated he will bring it forward at the evening meeting.

**COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

**1. AB2019-148 RESOLUTION DOCKETING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATION AMENDMENTS**

*(Clerk's Note: Discussion continued from earlier in the meeting.)*

Councilmembers discussed the possibility of mining gravel bars.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

The Council approved these minutes on \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rud Browne, Council Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription