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WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
Special Committee of the Whole

June 18, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Rud Browne called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Present: Barbara Brenner, Rud Browne, Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Carol Frazey, and Satpal Sidhu.

Absent: None.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1. AB2019-293 DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURE FOR LAKE WHATCOM STORMWATER UTILITY

Gary Stoyka, Public Works Department, gave a staff report on a rate credit proposal

The following staff answered questions:

- Gary Stoyka, Public Works Department
- Cathy Craver, Public Works Department
- Mike McFarlane, Parks Department Director

Councilmembers and staff discussed rate credits and incentives, the number of equivalent service units (ESUs) that are in the watershed, calculations for measuring phosphorus reduction, phosphorus loading due to park use, not using the rate to recoup infrastructure costs, the utility focus on residential and commercial uses and addressing other sources of phosphorous pollution in other legislation, static sources of phosphorous pollution beyond the impacts of a property development, the administrative burden of a complicated utility fee, using flood fund to pay for general impacts,

Donovan moved to include this rate credit proposal as proposed by staff.

The motion was seconded.

Byrd moved to amend the rate credit proposal to collect a percentage of the fee that would equal the percentage of phosphorous loading above forested condition. If the homeowner/developer achieves a zero phosphorous loading above forested condition, no utility or development fee would be collected.

The motion to amend the rate credit failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Brenner and Byrd (2)

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1 **Nays:** Browne, Buchanan, Donovan, Frazey, and Sidhu (5)
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3 The motion to include the rate credit as proposed carried by the following vote:

4 **Ayes:** Browne, Buchanan, Byrd, Donovan, Frazey, and Sidhu (6)

5 **Nays:** Brenner (1)
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8 **OTHER BUSINESS**
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10 There was no other business.
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13 **ADJOURN**
14

15 The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.
16

17 The Council approved these minutes on _____, 2019.
18

19 ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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24 _____
25 Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Rud Browne, Council Chair

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29 _____
30 Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription