

**Whatcom County
Council Planning and Development Committee**

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



Committee Minutes - Final

VIRTUAL MEETING - MAY BEGIN EARLY; ENDS NO LATER
THAN 3 P.M.

Tuesday, October 27, 2020

2:10 PM

Virtual Meeting

COUNCILMEMBERS

Rud Browne
Tyler Byrd
Ben Elenbaas

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Rud Browne, Tyler Byrd and Ben Elenbaas

Absent: None

Also present: Barry Buchanan, Todd Donovan, Carol Frazey, and Kathy Kershner

Committee Discussion

1. [AB2020-446](#) Discussion regarding an ordinance adopting amendments to WCC 20.72, Point Roberts Special District

The following people discussed the item with Councilmembers:

- Cliff Strong, Planning and Development Services
- Tom O'Brien, Point Roberts Independent Business Council (IBC)
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
- Steven Faulk, Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee (PRCAC) Chair

Strong briefed the Councilmembers and answered questions about the process moving forward, whether it has already gone to the Planning Commission, whether competing opinions have been considered, whether this ordinance is for the purpose of helping to facilitate business in Point Roberts, what the additional new or expanded uses would be, and a discussion that took place about allowing horse racing facilities.

O'Brien stated they requested a comprehensive review and answered whether the Ordinance going through the Planning Commission would be considered a review, and whether his group supports the proposed changes.

Satpal Sidhu, County Executive, clarified that the IBC wanted to eliminate 20.72 but it did not sit well with the PRCAC. He described the history of the item from before he was the Executive and shared his opinion for going forward.

Councilmembers continued to discuss with staff the differing opinions on the Ordinance and whether there is a way to leverage unused gardening and road maintenance funds to hire a consultant and do a review.

Faulk briefed the Councilmembers and stated that this is not the big picture

change that most people in Point Roberts would like to see but this is a set of changes that the community came up with.

Councilmembers and staff discussed whether EDI funding could be used to fund a study, potential improvements of the airport and sewer, and whether there is a way to approve an expansion of the terms of use of the gardening and road maintenance funds.

Byrd moved that the Ordinance be recommended for adoption. The motion was seconded by Browne.

Councilmembers and the speakers discussed the population of Point Roberts and having one advisory group to the Council.

Elenbaas pointed out that this is just a discussion and that the motion should be a motion to recommend that the Ordinance be introduced under AB2020-445.

Byrd withdrew his motion and **moved** that the Ordinance be recommended for Introduction (as scheduled) tonight.

Councilmembers continued to discuss with the speakers.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 3 - Browne, Byrd, and Elenbaas

Nay: 0

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

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Ben Elenbaas-via email 11/3/2020

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Ben Elenbaas, Committee Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription

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