

Whatcom County Council

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



Meeting Agenda

**Tuesday, June 9, 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)**

COUNCILMEMBERS

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

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Cathy Halka, AICP, CMC

COUNTY COUNCIL

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

FLAG SALUTE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council meetings are held in a hybrid format with in-person and remote participation available. For instructions on remote participation, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil.

If you require special assistance to participate, please contact the Council Office at 360-778-5010 at least 96 hours in advance. Assistive listening devices are available in Council Chambers, and live captions are available through Zoom for those participating remotely.

Per RCW 42.17A.555, the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited.

The County is accepting applications to fill vacancies on advisory groups for a range of local issues. For more information, visit www.whatcomcounty.us/1585 or contact the Council Office at 360-778-5010.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

MINUTES CONSENT

1. [MIN2026-047](#) Committee of the Whole Executive Session for May 26, 2026
2. [MIN2026-048](#) Committee of the Whole for May 26, 2026
3. [MIN2026-049](#) Regular County Council for May 26, 2026
4. [MIN2026-050](#) Special Committee of the Whole for May 19, 2026

OPEN SESSION

Council offers in-person and remote participation in Open Session. If you are attending the meeting in person, Open Session sign-up sheets will be available in Council Chambers. To participate remotely, please visit www.whatcomcounty.us/joinvirtualcouncil and register for a Zoom link by 4 p.m. the day of the meeting. Open Session is an opportunity to address Council on issues not scheduled for a public hearing. Speakers are given three minutes to speak and are asked to state their name for the record. Those participating on-site in Council Chambers will speak first, followed by those who registered to speak remotely. Per RCW 42.17A.555, the use of public facilities to support or oppose candidates or ballot issues is prohibited.

Per RCW 42.36.060, councilmembers are prohibited from engaging in ex parte communications in matters where the Council determines the legal rights, duties, or privileges of specific parties in a hearing or other contested case proceeding. Council serves in a quasi-judicial role as a decision-maker on major project permits, which cannot be discussed by members of the public at Council meetings. Examples of major project permits that cannot be discussed at Council meetings include LSS2024-00001 R and R Acres Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, LSS2022-00001 Red Mountain Long Subdivision and Development Agreement, and MPP2024-00002 ALA Energy, Ferndale Terminal Existing and Planned Improvements.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items may be considered in a single motion. Councilmembers have received background material on all items, and committee review has taken place as indicated. Any member of the public, administrative staff, or Council may ask that an item be considered separately.

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2026-421](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to cover tuberculosis medications for patients who are underinsured or uninsured, in the amount of \$0
2. [AB2026-423](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Nel/Son Distributing, DBA Nelson Reisner, to provide for the purchase of fuel to be used in Whatcom County fleet vehicles, in the amount of \$850,000
3. [AB2026-424](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Cowden Brother's Trucking, LLC for the disposal of waste produced by Maintenance and Operations vector trucks and street sweepers, in the amount of \$288,000
4. [AB2026-425](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and Birch Bay Water & Sewer District for water main relocation as part of the Drayton Harbor Road Landslide Repair Project, in the amount of \$75,000

5. [AB2026-428](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement between Whatcom County and the City of Lynden for the Hannegan Levee Rehabilitation Project (NSK-03-26), in the amount of \$64,280 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
6. [AB2026-429](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a cooperation agreement between Whatcom County and the United States Army Corps of Engineers for repairs to the Hannegan Levee along the left bank of the Nooksack River (Project No. NSK-03-26), in the amount of \$64,280 (Council acting as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors)
7. [AB2026-433](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Health Care Authority for the Medication for Opioid/Alcohol Use Disorders (MOUD/MAUD) program grant, in the amount of \$200,000
8. [AB2026-435](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and Washington State Department of Health to increase funding for the 2025-2027 Consolidated Contract, specifically the Maternal & Child Health Block Grant, in the amount of \$47,392 for a total amended agreement amount of \$11,334,197
9. [AB2026-436](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Clean Earth Environmental Solutions, Inc. to authorize a three-year extension of services, ensuring the uninterrupted transportation and disposal of moderate-risk waste from Whatcom County's Disposal of Toxics Facility, in the amount of \$367,500 annually, and for a total amended contract amount of \$1,452,500
10. [AB2026-437](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Kulshan Supported Employment to extend the contract for one year, providing supported employment and community inclusion services to eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in the amount of \$1,889,779 for a total amended contract amount of \$3,478,552
11. [AB2026-439](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Max Higbee Center to extend the contract for one year, allowing the continuation of supported employment and community inclusion services for eligible individuals with developmental disabilities, in the amount of \$69,603 for a total amended contract amount of \$113,483
12. [AB2026-440](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an interlocal agreement amendment between Whatcom County and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, for extra duty overtime patrols, in the amount of \$35,000

13. [AB2026-441](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract amendment between Whatcom County and Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) to extend the contract for six months, allowing the continuation of funding for personnel and other costs necessary to operate and maintain three safe shelters in Whatcom County, including a 21-bed house for women with children and two other houses for single women, in the amount of \$65,526 for a total amended contract amount of \$353,448
14. [AB2026-445](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to award Bid #26-30 and enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Everett Ship Repair for the Drydock Repair and Maintenance of the Whatcom Chief Ferry in the amount of \$1,061,069.56
15. [AB2026-446](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into an agreement between Whatcom County and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services for reimbursement of a percentage of Superior Court Commissioner time when working civil court cases involving Child Support Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, not to exceed an amount set each year by award letter from the Department of Social and Health Services
16. [AB2026-452](#) Request authorization for the County Executive to enter into a contract between Whatcom County and Pacific Power Group to perform generator preventative maintenance, in the amount of \$80,235

OTHER ITEMS

(From Council Finance and Administrative Services Committee)

1. [AB2026-408](#) Request authorization for the Whatcom County Council to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Whatcom County Executive for the adoption of Whatcom County Administrative and Personnel Policies for the Council Office
2. [AB2026-416](#) Request for motion to approve the updated 2026-2027 Criminal Justice Treatment Account Plan
3. [AB2026-448](#) Resolution requesting authorization to make an application and enter into a grant agreement with the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office for funding through the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Act Program for renovation of the Lagoon Bridge and other bike and pedestrian accessibility improvements at Silver Lake Park

CONFIRMATION OF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY GROUPS

Per Whatcom County Code 2.03.070(B), the council must confirm or reject executive appointments within 30 days of submission to the council. County code deems the appointee confirmed if council does not take action within this time.

1. [AB2026-414](#) Request confirmation of the County Executive's reappointments of Jana Finkbonner and Jodi Sipes to the Northwest Senior Services Advisory Board

ITEMS ADDED BY REVISION**INTRODUCTION ITEMS**

Council action will not be taken. The council may accept these items for introduction (no action) in a single motion. Changes, in terms of committee assignment for example, may be made at this time.

1. [AB2026-403](#) Ordinance imposing an interim moratorium on the acceptance or processing of applications and permits for the establishment of new or expansion of existing civil detention facilities
2. [AB2026-413](#) Receipt of Whatcom Clean Water Program annual report
3. [AB2026-431](#) Ordinance amending Whatcom County Code Chapter 5.20, Fireworks, to strengthen fireworks regulations by limiting the days fireworks are allowed and prohibiting fireworks during burn bans
4. [AB2026-442](#) Ordinance amending the project budget for the 2015 Girard Street Building Improvement Fund, request no. 1
5. [AB2026-450](#) Ordinance amending the 2026 Whatcom County Budget, request no. 9, in the amount of \$7,941,775

COMMITTEE REPORTS, OTHER ITEMS, AND COUNCILMEMBER UPDATES**ADJOURN**