

Whatcom County Council (Special)

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



Minutes - Draft Minutes

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

9:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting

2023-2024 WHATCOM COUNTY BUDGET REVIEW WORK SESSION

COUNCILMEMBERS

Barry Buchanan

Tyler Byrd

Todd Donovan

Ben Elenbaas

Carol Frazey

Kaylee Galloway

Kathy Kershner

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Dana Brown-Davis, C.M.C.

Call To Order

Barry Buchanan, Council Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. in a hybrid meeting.

Clerk's note: Council Chair Todd Donovan chaired the meeting from this point on.

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, Ben Elenbaas, Carol Frazey, Kaylee Galloway, and Kathy Kershner

Absent: None

Announcements

Discussion

[AB2022-634](#) Discussion of the County Executive's recommended 2023-2024 Biennium Budget

The following people briefed the Councilmembers on the respective department budgets and answered questions:

Auditor

Approximate Video Timestamp: 00:01:23

- Diana Bradrick, County Auditor
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Treasurer

Approximate Video Timestamp: 00:28:34

- Steve Oliver, County Treasurer
- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services
- Brad Bennett, Administrative Services Department Finance

WSU Extension

Approximate Video Timestamp: 00:46:35

- Shawna Besse, WSU Extension Director
- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services

Planning and Development Services

Approximate Video Timestamp: 00:53:02

- Mark Personius, Planning and Development Services Department

Director

- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services
- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive

Council

Approximate Video Timestamp: 01:33:03

- Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

Break

Public Defender

Approximate Video Timestamp: 01:39:44

- Stark Follis, Public Defender
- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services

Assessor

Approximate Video Timestamp: 02:00:03

- Rebecca Xczar, County Assessor
- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services

District Court/District Court Probation

Approximate Video Timestamp: 02:10:00

- Bruce Van Glubt, District Court Administrator

Health Department

Approximate Video Timestamp: 02:23:28

- Erika Lautenbach, Health Department Director
- Kathleen Roy, Health Department
- Malora Christensen, Health Department
- Ann Beck, Health Department
- Cindy Hollinsworth, Health Department
- Sue Sullivan, Health Department
- Greg Thompson, Co-Health Officer
- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services

Councilmembers discussed the requests presented.

Approximate Video Timestamp: 03:14:53

The following people answered questions:

- Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
- Tyler Schroeder, Director of Administrative Services
- Brad Bennett, Administrative Services Department Finance

They answered whether they are confident that the County financial system can absorb the impacts of a record number and dollar amount of Additional Service Requests (ASRs), why Public Works Department is not represented on the “General Fund Summary” page of the “Proposed Budget Volume 1,” whether these ASR requests are essentially building in what the Council would maybe see next cycle as budget supplemental requests for inflationary things (like postage, paper, fuel, and reclassification of staff for retention), whether there are any pending labor negotiations that have not been built in to the numbers they have here, how they figure the fund minimum balance threshold, what percent of the previous year’s revenue the fund balance would be in 2024, what funds banked capacity can be used for, and what sources of revenue they can look to when they are looking to fund ASRs that are not currently budgeted.

This agenda item was PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED.

Items Added by Revision

There were no agenda items added by revision.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

ATTEST:

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WA

Dana Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

Todd Donovan, Council Chair

Kristi Felbinger, Minutes Transcription