# Whatcom County Council Surface Water Work Session

April 16, 2019

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Council Vice-Chair Todd Donovan called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. in the Civic Center Garden Level Conference Room, 322 Commercial Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Barbara Brenner, Barry Buchanan, Tyler Byrd, Todd Donovan, and

Carol Frazey.

**Absent:** Rud Browne and Satpal Sidhu

#### WATERSHED PLANNING UPDATE

Gary Stoyka, Public Works Department, gave a staff report on:

- The Watershed Management Board schedule, five-year work plan, and ideas to make the Board more functional, which may include outreach, an annual report, simplifying the structure, and having a coordinator/manager.
- The Department of Ecology pre-proposal ruling for the 6091 legislation to start rule-making, a summary of the proposal, an upcoming meeting schedule to discuss the pre-proposal ruling, and the deadline for the final rule.
- Planning Unit meeting schedule, next steps, five-year work plan, and amending the 2005 watershed management plan.

The following people spoke:

- Heather Good, Public Works Department
- Dan Eisses, Planning Unit Member
- Carol Perry

# PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC WORKS NATURAL RESOURCES 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Gary Stoyka, Public Works Department, gave a presentation and answered questions.

Councilmembers and staff discussed eradicating invasive species, grant funding for the Pollution Identification and Control (PIC) Program, upgrades to shellfish beds, Lake Whatcom Management Plan easement requirements, salmon recovery efforts in flood projects, the culvert replacement program, and salmon levels in streams.

# OVERVIEW OF FUNDING STUDY AND INTRODUCTION OF LAKE WHATCOM STORMWATER UTILITY RATE RECOMMENDATION

Gary Stoyka, Public Works Department, submitted and read from a presentation and handouts (on file) and answered questions. More information from the consultant will be provided at the next Surface Water Work Session meeting.

Councilmembers and staff discussed the rate appeal process, the need for rate credits, not adding to the cost of building a new home, how private driveways and roads are calculated, annual rate adjustments, and how projects by homeowners' associations may be factored into the rate calculation.

Larry Brown, Sudden Valley Community Association, spoke about the advisory committee discussions.

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL WHATCOM COUNTY WASHINGTON

Rud Browne, Council Chair

# **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

The Council approved these minutes on May 21, 2019.

ATTEST

Dana Brown Davis Council Clerk

Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription