

**CITY OF BLAINE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, October 14, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

**Bonnie Onyon - Mayor  
Steve Lawrenson – Mayor Pro Tem**

**A. STUDY SESSION: 5:02 PM – 2020 Proposed Revenue Estimates – presented by Jeffrey Lazenby**

**COUNCILMEMBERS:** Jaime Arnett, Eric Davidson, Charlie Hawkins, Steve Lawrenson, Bonnie Onyon, Alicia Rule, and Mary Lou Steward.

**STAFF:** City Manager Michael Jones, Finance Director Jeffrey Lazenby, Chief of Police Donnell ‘Tank’ Tanksley, Community Development Services Director Stacie Pratschner, Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf, City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Samuel Crawford, and City Attorney Jon Sitkin.

**B. CALL TO ORDER: 6:01 PM**

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

**COUNCILMEMBERS:** Jaime Arnett, Eric Davidson, Charlie Hawkins, Steve Lawrenson, Bonnie Onyon, Alicia Rule, and Mary Lou Steward.

**STAFF:** City Manager Michael Jones, Finance Director Jeffrey Lazenby, Chief of Police Donnell ‘Tank’ Tanksley, Community Development Services Director Stacie Pratschner, Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf, and City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Samuel Crawford.

**C. PRESENTATION - GOVERNOR'S SMART COMMUNITIES AWARD – Presented by Valerie Smith from the Washington State Department of Commerce**

**D. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

1. Richard May, regarding safety at the marina in Blaine.

**E. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

1. North Whatcom Fire Update – Chief Herschel Rostov reported on the NWFR October 2019 handout.

**F. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Email dated September 24, 2019, from the Lummi Nation, regarding the Salish Sea and Orcas event on September 27<sup>th</sup>.
2. Email dated September 27, 2019, from the Lummi Nation, regarding the press release for the Salish Sea and Orcas event.

3. Letter dated September 27, 2019, from Joel Douglas, regarding the Palisades project Clark and Peace Portal.
4. Email dated October 10, 2019, from Stacie Pratschner, regarding the hiring of Alex Wenger to the new Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator position.
5. Email dated October 11, 2019, from Dennis Olason, regarding endorsement by elected officials.

**G. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Voucher Memo:  
Approval of Bills: \$864,876.69, Wire Register: \$311,561.81
2. Approval of Payroll: \$628,823.75
3. Approval of September 23, 2019, City Council Minutes
4. Contract Amendment for Construction Administration for H Street Sidewalk Project

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALICIA RULE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS, AND APPROVED 7-0.**

**H. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Resolution 1779-19, to declare the City's intent regarding Substitute House Bill 1406 (Jones)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE LAWRENSEN TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1779-19, TO DECLARE THE CITY'S INTENT REGARDING SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1406, SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS, AND APPROVED 7-0.**

2. Ordinance 19-2935, Amending specific sections of Title 13 to update those sections, provide clarity and consistency, clarify existing practices and eliminate discrepancies. (Whitewolf and Lazenby)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO WAIVE THE SECOND READING AND APPROVE ORDINANCE 19-2935, AMENDING SPECIFIC SECTIONS OF TITLE 13 TO UPDATE THOSE SECTIONS, PROVIDE CLARITY AND CONSISTENCY, CLARIFY EXISTING PRACTICES AND ELIMINATE DISCREPANCIES. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON, AND APPROVED 7-0.**

3. Ordinance 19-2929, Adopting the 2019 Tourism Development and Marketing Plan. (Pratschner)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE LAWRENSEN TO WAIVE THE SECOND READING AND APPROVE ORDINANCE 19-2929, ADOPTING THE 2019 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING PLAN, SECONDED BY ALICIA RULE, AND APPROVED 7-0.**

4. Resolution 1778-19, Declaring its intention to order the construction of storm water improvements in the Gateway Manufacturing District and to create a local improvement district to assess a portion of the costs of such storm water improvements against the properties specially benefitted thereby; setting a hearing on the creation of such district; and providing for notice of such hearing. (Sitkin)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1778-19, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ORDER THE CONSTRUCTION OF STORM WATER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE GATEWAY MANUFACTURING DISTRICT AND TO CREATE A LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT TO ASSESS A PORTION OF THE COSTS OF SUCH STORM WATER IMPROVEMENTS AGAINST THE PROPERTIES SPECIALLY BENEFITTED THEREBY; SETTING A HEARING ON THE CREATION OF SUCH DISTRICT; AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF SUCH HEARING. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS AND APPROVED 7-0.**

5. Contract Amendment with KBA for construction management services on the Hughes Avenue Project. (Whitewolf)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC DAVIDSON TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE SUPPLEMENT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,484 TO THE CONSULTING THE FIRM KBA, SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS, AND APPROVED 7-0.**

**I. COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS**

1. Port of Bellingham Marine Advisory Committee – Charlie Hawkins reported there is a meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. WTA Board – Eric Davidson reported on a possible increase to bus fares as well as a possible increase in services to Blaine due to the new medical clinic.

**J. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

1. City Manager – Michael Jones reported on Initiative 976, the 2020 Legislative Agenda, the City Council Chambers design change, Marine Drive road closure, and the current status of the No Shooting Zone in Drayton Harbor.
2. Public Works – Ravyn Whitewolf reported on the Gateway Stormwater project, the IMTC meeting, and sewer has been installed for the East Blaine Infrastructure project. Ravyn also reported on radar speed signs on D St. and Mitchell, at-grade crossing at Bell Road and Peace Portal is the number one priority for Whatcom Council of Governments Regional Transportation priority list, and Public Works is currently doing their annual pipe flushing. Ravyn also announced the retirements of Chrissy Ness, Leo Baldwin, and Gus Gorze, as well as the recent hiring's and recruitment effort to replace these positions.
3. Community Development Services – Stacie Pratschner reported on the hiring of Alex Wenger to fill the Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator position, the Community Development Services Department received a site plan for a 25,000sq ft. manufacturing facility, and the City is recruiting to fill the now vacant Community Planner II position.
4. Police Department – Chief Tank reported on the "Fair and Impartial" training that will occur on December 11<sup>th</sup>, Chief Tank invited City Council and City staff to police car ride-alongs, there will be an update given on the types and numbers of traffic tickets in Blaine, and Officer Cooper is being sent to the International Police Mountain Bike training.

**K. CALENDARS**

Unless noted, all meetings are held at City Hall, 435 Martin Street, Suite 4000, and are open to the public. Agendas can be found on the City's website.

Thursday, October 24  
6pm – Planning Commission

Monday, October 28  
4pm – Study Session – BTAC Grants and 2020 Budget  
6pm – Regular City Council meeting

Monday, November 11  
City Offices Closed – Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 12  
8am – Blaine Tourism Advisory Committee (BTAC)

Tuesday, November 12  
6pm – Regular City Council meeting

Thursday, November 14  
9am – Park and Cemetery Board

Thursday, November 14  
2pm – Public Works Advisory Committee  
Location: PW 1200 Yew Ave.

Thursday, November 14  
6pm – Planning Commission

**L. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS**

1. Charlie Hawkins inquired about Councilmembers endorsing candidates for elected office. He expressed his disagreements with the position of Mayor endorsing candidates.

**M.** Council convened in executive session at 7:39 PM, for 20 minutes, to review the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), with no action to be taken.

Council reconvened in the regular meeting at 7:59 PM with no action taken.

**N. ADJOURNED: 7:59 PM**

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Bonnie Onyon, Mayor

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Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

Council minutes for October 14, 2019, were approved at the October 28, 2019, Council meeting.