

## **RESOLUTION NO. 1525-09**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON, AMENDING RESOLUTION 1413-05, TO ADD FUNDING REQUEST CRITERIA, FURTHER CLARIFY THE DUTIES OF THE BTAC COMMITTEE, AND ADD NEW STATE LAW REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council believes it is important to provide specific criteria for funding requests in order to allocate hotel motel tax revenue that is consistent with state law and the Blaine Tourism Marketing & Development Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to provide the BTAC Committee clear direction of their duties and objectives; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council wishes to add the state law (RCW 67.28.1816) reporting requirements for the annual Jurisdiction Lodging Tax Report for the use of hotel motel tax revenue.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Blaine, Washington as follows:

Resolution 1413-05 shall be amended to contain the following language:

1. There is hereby created a Blaine Tourism Advisory Committee, herein after referred to as BTAC.
2. The BTAC shall consist of seven voting members and two non-voting members, appointed as follows:
  - A. Two members recommended by the Blaine Chamber of Commerce and approved by the City Council;
  - B. Two members from the lodging industry appointed by the City Council;
  - C. Two Blaine citizens at large appointed by the City Council;
  - D. One member of the City Council or the City Manager, who shall be appointed by the Council and serve as Chairperson of BTAC;
  - E. A non-voting member appointed by the Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce;
  - F. A non-voting member appointed by the Whatcom County Visitor and Convention Bureau.
3. Exclusive of the member of the City Council or the City Manager, a voting member shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. The initial terms shall be as follows: two members shall serve four-year terms, two members shall serve three-year terms, two members shall serve two-year terms and one member shall serve a one-year term.

Initially, voting members shall be appointed to terms such that no more than two terms shall expire in any given year. Thereafter, the terms shall be set at four years. The non-voting members shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority.

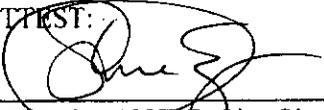
4. The BTAC shall meet at least quarterly at such time and place as set forth by the members. All meetings shall be held in compliance with the Open Public Meeting Law.
5. BTAC shall serve as an advisory committee to the Blaine City Council and have the following duties:
  - A. To develop and update the City Tourism Plan and to recommend changes to the City Council;
  - B. To recommend to the City Council programs and projects that will further the development of the City's tourism and recreation economy;
  - C. To interface with the public and the business community in seeking input on matters relevant to tourism development;
  - D. To evaluate funding requests for an annual grant program derived from the hotel/motel fund, and to make recommendations to City Council for the funding of programs and events that are consistent with the requirements of RCW 67.28 grant funding criteria as well as supporting the goals of the Blaine Tourism Marketing and Development Plan.
  - E. Annually during development of the City Budget, BTAC will submit to the City Manager recommendations for the hotel/motel fund to be considered by the City Council.
6. Hotel/motel tax funds shall be used to promote the growth and development of the Tourism and recreation economy in the City of Blaine pursuant to and consistent with State law. The criteria to be used in evaluating requests for funding shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - A. Programs shall enhance tourism as defined in RCW 67.28 and support the tourism-related goals in the Blaine Tourism Marketing & Development Plan;
  - B. Programs shall meet all requirements as provided by RCW 67.28 and as hereinafter amended;
  - C. Program avoids a duplication of services or overlap;
  - D. Programs demonstrate proof of fund raising efforts intended to minimize continued reliance on hotel/motel funding;
  - E. Programs shall be efficiently and effectively managed;
  - F. Programs shall use conventional accounting methods and be able to provide a means for the City to track the use of funds obtained from the grant program;
  - G. Programs must submit a completed grant application with all supporting documentation as required by BTAC.

7. All contracts to agencies providing tourism related services to the City shall be administered by the City Manager through the City's Finance Department. Any agency or organization requesting and receiving hotel/motel tax funds from the City shall meet the contracting requirements set forth by the City.
  
8. Economic Development Report Requirements (until June 30, 2013) the City must submit an annual economic impact report to the Department of Community, and Economic Development for any lodging tax revenues expended for the purposes stated in this section. This economic impact report, at a minimum, must include: (1) the total revenue received under this chapter for each year; (2) the list of festivals, special events, or nonprofit 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organizations that received funds under this chapter; (3) the amount of revenue expended on each festival, special event, or tourism-related facility owned by a nonprofit 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organization; (4) the estimated number of tourists, persons traveling over 50 miles to the destination, persons remaining at the destination overnight, and lodging stays generated per festival, special event, or tourism-related facility owned by a nonprofit 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organization; (5) an estimated increase in sales and use tax revenues attributable to the special event, festival, or tourism-related facility owned by a nonprofit 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organization; and (6) any other measurements the City finds that demonstrate the impact of the increased tourism attributable to the festival, special event, or tourism-related facility owned by a nonprofit 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organization.

**ADOPTED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON**  
on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2009, and approved by the Mayor on the same day.

**CITY OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON**

  
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BONNIE ONYON, Mayor

ATTEST:  
  
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SHERI SANCHEZ, City Clerk