

**CITY OF BLAINE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, July 8, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

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

- A. STUDY SESSION: 5:01 PM** – Council Retreat Follow-Up Regarding Housing –  
Presented by Michael Jones

**5:28 PM** – Council Retreat Follow-Up Regarding Green Practices –  
Presented by Michael Jones

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

**STAFF:** City Manager Michael Jones, Community Development Services Director Stacie Pratschner, Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf, and City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Samuel Crawford.

- B. CALL TO ORDER: 6:03 PM**

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO EXCUSE CHARLIE HAWKINS, SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON, AND APPROVED 6 – 0.**

**STAFF:** City Manager Michael Jones, Finance Director Jeffrey Lazenby, Community Development Services Director Stacie Pratschner, Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf, and City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Samuel Crawford.

- C. OATH OF OFFICE FOR A NEW POLICE OFFICER - BRYAN BEAULIEU** – Mayor Onyon swore-in police officer Bryan Beaulieu.

- D. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**  
*There was zero audience participation.*

- E. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

1. North Whatcom Fire Update – Chief Herschel Rostov reported on the July, 2019, edition of *The Responder*.

**F. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Email dated June 27, 2019, from Debbie Harger, regarding a Bellingham Whatcom Tourism link that promotes Blaine's summer events.
2. Email dated June 30, 2019, from William Ruckelshaus, regarding a Road Map to Washington's Future Project final report.
3. Email dated July 1, 2019, from Jeffrey Lazenby, regarding Interim Financing for Gateway Stormwater Pond Project.

**G. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Voucher Memo:  
Approval of Bills: \$255,858.43, Wire Register: \$279,722.32
2. Approval of Payroll: \$607,714.47
3. Approval of May 23, 2019, City Council Retreat Minutes
4. Approval of June 24, 2019, City Council Minutes
5. Approval of July 2, 2019, Special City Council Minutes
6. Resolution 1763-19, Providing for a loan to the Stormwater Capital fund 425.438 from the Water Capital Fund 410.413 in order to provide for interim construction funding for the Gateway Regional Stormwater Detention Pond Project.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY JAIME ARNETT TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY ALICIA RULE, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

**H. PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Continued Public Hearing – Multi-Family Property Tax Exemption – presented by Stacie Pratschner.

The public hearing was opened for testimony at 6:24 PM.

*No testimony taken.*

The public hearing was closed to testimony at 6:24 PM.

2. Considering the declaration of the property at 344 H Street (Lots 20-23, Block 32 of Plat of City of Blaine) land, building and contents to be surplus property. 344 H Street is the former City Hall building/property for the City of Blaine, WA – presented by Michael Jones.

The public hearing was opened for testimony at 6:29 PM.

*No testimony taken.*

The public hearing was closed to testimony at 6:30 PM.

**I. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Ordinance 19-2927, designating a residential targeted area and adopting Chapter 5.52 of the Blaine Municipal Code for the purpose of creating a multifamily tax exemption as authorized by the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 84.14 – presented by Stacie Pratschner.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE LAWRENSEN TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 19-2927, DESIGNATING A RESIDENTIAL TARGETED AREA AND ADOPTING CHAPTER 5.52 OF THE BLAINE MUNICIPAL CODE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A MULTIFAMILY TAX EXEMPTION AS AUTHORIZED BY THE REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON (RCW) 84.14. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY JAIME ARNETT.**

Councilmember Davidson expressed his concern over not having an identified number of units.

Councilmember Rule expressed her concern over not having an affordable housing mandate.

**THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 4-2 (Alicia Rule and Eric Davidson).**

2. Resolution 1761-19, declaring 344 H Street (Lots 20-23, Block 32 of Plat of City of Blaine) land, building and contents to be surplus property – presented by Michael Jones.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC DAVIDSON TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1761-19, DECLARING 344 H STREET (LOTS 20-23, BLOCK 32 OF PLAT OF CITY OF BLAINE) LAND, BUILDING AND CONTENTS TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY, SECONDED BY STEVE LAWRENSEN, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

3. Bid Award to construct Gateway Regional Storm Project – presented by Ravyn Whitewolf

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALICIA RULE TO ACCEPT THE BID AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A UNIT PRICE CONTRACT WITH STREMLER GRAVEL INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,164,665 INCLUDING SALES TAX, SECONDED BY JAIME ARNETT, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

4. Resolution 1765-19, to seek designation of all unincorporated portions of Drayton Harbor Aquatic Area, Tidelands and Shoreline as a no shooting zone pursuant to Whatcom County Code 9.32 – presented by Michael Jones

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1765-19, TO SEEK DESIGNATION OF ALL UNINCORPORATED PORTIONS OF DRAYTON HARBOR AQUATIC AREA, TIDELANDS AND SHORELINE AS A NO SHOOTING ZONE PURSUANT TO WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 9.32, SECONDED BY ALICIA RULE, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

5. Considering a collective bargaining agreement with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Matt Herzog Lodge 24 – presented by Michael Jones

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO APPROVE THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH FOP LODGE 24, SECONDED BY STEVE LAWRENSON, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

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

1. Blaine Tourism Advisory Committee – Steve Lawrenson reported that there will be a tourism meeting tomorrow and at 8am.
2. Library Committee – Mary Lou Steward reported that there was a book sale over July 4<sup>th</sup>.
3. Senior Center Liaison – Mary Lou Steward reported on the successful pancake breakfast.

**K. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

1. City Manager – Michael Jones reported on the East Blaine Infrastructure Groundbreaking Ceremony that will happen on July 15<sup>th</sup>. He also reported on the City’s work with CGI Communications and how these videos will advertise the City.
2. Public Works – Ravyn Whitewolf reported on the Public Works Advisory Committee, the H Street sidewalk project, and detours around the City. There will be an All Aboard Washington meeting next week, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration went well. Ravyn also gave an update on the well field and the Hughes Avenue wayfinding signs project. Lastly, she will be out of the office for several weeks starting in August.
3. Community Development Services – Stacie Pratschner reported on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, the Planning Commission’s public hearing on the Shoreline Master Management Program occurred, and building permit numbers are up compared to last year. Stacie also gave an update on the East Maple Ridge project and there will be a meeting put on by representatives of East Maple Ridge project.

**L. 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.

Tuesday, July 9  
8am – Blaine Tourism Advisory Committee

Thursday, July 11  
9am – Park and Cemetery Board

Thursday, July 11  
2pm – Public Works Advisory Committee  
Location: PW 1200 Yew Ave.

Thursday, July 11  
7pm – Planning Commission – CANCELLED

Monday, July 22  
6pm – Regular City Council meeting

Thursday, July 25  
7pm – Planning Commission

**M. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mayor Onyon presented a Proclamation for the 2019 Paddle to Lummi Tribal Canoe Journey.

**N. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** – *approximately 6:30 PM* - to discuss collective bargaining pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) and performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

Council convened in executive session at 7:02 PM, for 20 minutes, extended five minutes, to discuss collective bargaining pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) and performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), with action to be taken.

Council reconvened in the regular meeting at 7:27 PM, with action taken under Council Action Item #5.

**O. ADJOURNED: 7:29 PM**

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Bonnie Onyon, Mayor

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Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

Council minutes for July 8, 2019, were approved at the July 22, 2019, Council meeting.