

**CITY OF BLAINE**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

*This meeting occurred via teleconference.*

*All recordings, minutes, and documents associated with Council meetings can be found on the City's website.*

**Monday, April 26, 2021**

**6:00 PM**

**Bonnie Onyon - Mayor**  
**Mary Lou Steward – Mayor Pro Tem**

Due to Governor Inslee's proclamation in response to COVID-19, this City Council meeting will be conducted entirely through teleconference. Councilmembers will separately call into the meeting and the public will be able to listen live as the meeting happens. All callers will be muted during the meeting. All City Council meeting recordings are on the City's website. Instructions on how to listen live to the City Council meeting are below:

**For members of the public who want to watch the meeting live, click on the link below:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86841709993?pwd=SmpLb2VnSvtqaG9MSHFzTHV3aENHUT09>

**For members of the public who want to listen to the meeting, call one of the numbers below:**

- **One tap mobile**
  - **+12532158782,,86841709993#,,,,\*383146# US (Tacoma)**
  - **+16699006833,,86841709993#,,,,\*383146# US (San Jose)**
- **Dial by your location**
  - **+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**
  - **888 475 4499 US Toll-free**
  - **833 548 0276 US Toll-free**
  - **833 548 0282 US Toll-free**
  - **877 853 5257 US Toll-free**

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86841709993?pwd=SmpLb2VnSvtqaG9MSHFzTHV3aENHUT09>

**Follow the instructions given by Zoom. More information can be found at the bottom of the agenda.**

**Meeting ID: 868 4170 9993**

**Passcode: 383146**

**A. STUDY SESSION: 4:32 PM – Department Work Plans** – Each department reported on their 2021 Work Plan. These plans can be found on the City's website.

**B. CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM**

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance – *Led by Mayor Onyon*

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS: Garth Baldwin, Eric Davidson, Sukhwant Singh Gill, Charlie Hawkins, Richard May, Bonnie Onyon, and Mary Lou Steward.

**C. FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT**

1. North Whatcom Fire Update – Marshal Nielson sent City Council the April 2021 Newsletter. This newsletter is on the City's website.

#### **D. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Email dated April 13, 2021, from Chief Tank, regarding the recent arrest for the Semiahmoo homicide.
2. Email dated April 13, 2021, from Michael Jones, regarding an update on Family Care Network.
3. Letter dated April 15, 2021, from Blossom Management Corporation, regarding a proposal to the City.
4. Email dated April 23, 2021, from Stacie Pratschner, regarding public notice and reschedule of public hearing for the annexation.
5. Email dated April 23, 2021, from Stacie Pratschner, regarding the Whatcom Clean Water Program.

#### **E. PUBLIC HEARING WRITTEN TESTIMONY – Public Hearing was Postponed to May 10<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting.**

1. Email dated April 22, 2021, from Curtis Whitney, regarding 4455 H Street Annexation.
2. Email dated April 22, 2021, from Thomas Frey, regarding H Street Road Annexation.
3. Email dated April 23, 2021, from Thomas Frey, regarding H Street Road Annexation.
4. New. Letter dated April 22, 2021, from Raymond Pelletti, regarding the annexation of the Rooney property.
5. New. Email dated April 23, 2021, from Pamela Sweet and Tara Gilbert, regarding the Rooney Annexation.
6. New. Email dated April 26, 2021, from Tony Fiore, regarding the Rooney Annexation.
7. New. Email dated April 26, 2021, from Deborah Coleman, regarding the Rooney Annexation.

#### **F. CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

1. Lt. Ryan King's Retirement

#### **G. PRESENTATION**

1. LEAD: Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion – presented by Eric Richey, Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney, and Vanessa Martin, Administrative Manager of the Whatcom County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
2. Blaine Senior Center Reopening – Kathy Sitker, Senior Center Director.

#### **H. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Items listed below will be enacted by one motion. If separate discussion is desired on an item, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda at the request of a Councilmember.*

1. Voucher Memo:  
Approval of Bills: \$100,392.91
2. Approval of March 22, 2021, City Council Minutes.
3. Approval of April 12, 2021, Special City Council Minutes.
4. Approval of April 12, 2021, City Council Minutes.
5. Professional Service Agreement – FCS Group 2021 Wastewater Rate Update.
6. Professional Service Agreement – FCS Group 2021 Water Rate Update.

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

#### **I. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Ordinance 21-2956, Overturning the Planning Commission decision and approve the Community Assistance Program Center Conditional Use Permit. (Pratschner)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 21-2956, OVERTURNING THE PLANNING COMMISSION DECISION AND APPROVE THE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CENTER CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT. THE**

**MOTION WAS SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS, AND APPROVED 6-0  
(COUNCILMEMBER DAVIDSON WAS NON-PARTICIPATORY IN THIS VOTE).**

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

1. *No reports were given.*

**K. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

1. City Manager – Michael Jones reported on the ARP Act and the proposed items and programs some of the funding should go towards. This memo is included on the City’s website. Michael also reported on the City’s Federal appropriations requests. The City’s government relations consultants will be giving a report on the final budget in the next few weeks and the City has done well in securing funds for the Bell Road intersection project, the Downtown Revitalization project, and \$500,000 in Aquatic Lands Enhancement program (ALEA) funding which helps the Marine Park shoreline reconstruction project. The Legislature is also reviewing the idea of making Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) funding more flexible in terms of allowing Cities to use REET funding for maintenance projects. The City did not receive funding for the Marine Drive project, and the Legislature did not move forward with a second penny per gallon gas tax. Lastly, Michael reported on the letter received by Blossom Management regarding the proposed Grandis Pond development. Michael has been consulting with Whatcom County and the Port of Bellingham on this topic, and they are looking into various options.
2. Community Development Services – Stacie Pratschner reported on the proposed modifications for City plaza use. The Department is proposing a lease program for these plazas. This will have to be approved by City Council through a code amendment.
3. Police Department – Chief Tanksley reported on the recent vacancies and hiring’s in the Police Department.
4. Public Works Department – Bernie Ziemianek continued his Study Session report on the 2021 Work Plan. The 2021 Work Plan can be found on the City’s website.

**L. CALENDARS**

*Due to COVID-19 and the Governor’s Proclamation, meetings are now only open to the public telephonically. Information on how to listen to the meeting live will be on the City Council agenda which is located on the City’s website homepage under Your Government, City Council, City Council Agenda. Please check the agenda prior to each meeting as the call in number or location may change.*

Monday, May 10  
6:00pm – City Council Meeting

Monday, May 11  
8:00am – Blaine Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 13  
9:00am – Parks and Cemetery Board Meeting  
2:00pm – Public Works Advisory Committee Meeting  
6:00pm – Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, May 24  
6:00pm – City Council Meeting

Thursday, May 27  
6:00pm – Planning Commission Meeting

Monday, May 31  
City Offices Closed – Memorial Day

*All City offices are currently closed to the public. Contact information for staff and Councilmembers can be found on the City's website.*

**M. COUNCIL UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**N. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS**

**O. ADJOURNED: 7:51 PM**

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Bonnie Onyon, Mayor

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Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

*Council minutes for April 26, 2021, were approved at the May 10, 2021, Council meeting.*

*Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Requirement: The meeting location is accessible. If you require a special accommodation during your attendance at any public meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office (360) 332-8311 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting date you will be attending. Thank you.*

DRAFT