

**CITY OF BLAINE**  
Council Chambers/Zoom

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Monday, November 14, 2022**

**6:00 PM**

**Mary Lou Steward – Mayor**  
**Richard May – Mayor Pro Tem**

This City Council meeting will be conducted in-person and virtually. Councilmembers and the public will be in attendance in the City Council Chambers. Those wishing to listen or watch the meeting live will be able to call one of the numbers below, or click the link to watch the live stream. Other than the audience participation portion or a public hearing, 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 the link below:**

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**Meeting ID:** 632 636 5553

**Participant ID:** #

**Passcode:** 427636

**Find your local number:** **<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6326365553?pwd=MnhJQIFiU2hxWC9TcU9sN1J0N3VUUT09>**

**A. STUDY SESSION: 4:30 PM – Public Works Department and Capital Budget**

**B. CALL TO ORDER: 6:04 PM**

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

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS: Garth Baldwin, Eric Davidson, Kerena Higgins, Mike Hill, Rhyan Lopez, Richard May, and Mary Lou Steward.

***MOTION WAS MADE RHYAN LOPEZ TO EXCUSE GARTH BALDWIN, SECONDED BY KERENA HIGGINS, AND APPROVED 5-0.***

***MOTION WAS MADE RHYAN LOPEZ TO EXCUSE MIKE HILL, SECONDED BY KERENA HIGGINS, AND APPROVED 5-0.***

### C. PUBLIC HEARING

*\*\*Please Note\*\* Persons speaking on any issue will be allowed five (5) minutes. Additional, non-repetitive testimony will be allowed after all testimonies have been heard. Testimony can also be sent to [CityCouncil@cityofblaine.com](mailto:CityCouncil@cityofblaine.com).*

1. 2023 Budget. (Heverling)

The public hearing was opened at 6:08 PM.

Testimony:

1. Janet Pickard, regarding 2023 funding for the Blaine Senior Center.

*The public hearing was continued to the November 28, 2022, City Council meeting*

**D. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION** - Sign-up/Comment Sheet is located in the Council Chambers before the meeting. Members of the audience will have three minutes to speak. If you plan on commenting remotely via Zoom, instructions on how to comment are included at the bottom of the agenda. Audience members speaking remotely will be asked to participate first. After the remote audience participation is over, in-person speakers will be asked to speak.

1. Jennifer Plombon, regarding Resolution 1903-22, designating the Bellingham Herald as the official newspaper for the City of Blaine for the 2023 calendar year.
2. Debbie Farmer, regarding the Blaine Library.

### E. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. Email dated October 26, 2022, from Laura Friend, regarding political signage.
2. Email dated November 2, 2022, from Michael Hurta, regarding mobile home parks.
3. Email dated November 7, 2022, from Ani Ashford, regarding East Harbor Hills Re-Zone.
4. Email dated November 7, 2022, from Mark Douglas, regarding ongoing problems that need police response.

### F. 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: \$1,104,828.25
2. Wire Register:
3. Approval of Payroll: \$705,865.57
4. Approval of October 24, 2022 City Council Minutes.
5. Approval of October 25, 2022, Special City Council Minutes.
6. Request to approve the amendment in the existing contract with Braaksma Engineering.  
(McSpadden)
7. Amendments to contract employee's employment agreements. (Wilbrecht)
8. Bid Award for the equipment purchase and installation for Hypochlorite Generation System.  
(McSpadden)
9. Resolution 1904-22, Setting the schedule for Regular Blaine City Council Meetings for 2023.  
(Crawford)
10. Resolution 1903-22, Designating the Bellingham Herald as the official newspaper for the City of Blaine for the 2023 calendar year. (Crawford)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY RHYAN LOPEZ TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY KERENA HIGGINS, AND APPROVED 5-0.**

## G. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

1. Discussion and Approval of the 2023 Legislative Agenda. *(Wilbrecht)*

**MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD MAY TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1905-22, ADOPTING THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA, AND SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 5-0.**

2. Ordinance 22-2989, Approving the 2023 Revenue and Property Tax Levy. *(Heverling)*

**MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD MAY TO WAIVE THE SECOND READING AND APPROVE ORDINANCE 22-2989, APPROVING THE 2023 REVENUE AND PROPERTY TAX LEVY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY KERENA HIGGINS AND APPROVED 5-0.**

3. A Request to City Council to Authorize the City Manager to Sign the Contract between KPG Psomas, Inc. and the City of Blaine for the Planning, Design, and Engineering of the Downtown Revitalization. *(McSpadden/Wilbrecht)*

*This item was postponed to a future City Council meeting.*

## H. COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

1. Richard May reported that the Whatcom Council of Governments will be meeting soon.
2. Eric Davidson reported that the Blaine Tourism Advisory Committee (BTAC) is discussing grants at the next meeting.
3. Rhyan Lopez reported on the Drayton Harbor Shellfish Protection Committee's discussion on an upcoming dog poop campaign, possibly opening up a section of the harbor up to recreational harvesting.

## I. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. City Manager – David Wilbrecht reported on his prior experience as a Parks and Recreation supervisor and how it relates to work planning and scheduling.

## J. CALENDARS

*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, November 14

4:30pm – Study Session: 2023 PW Budget

6:00pm – City Council Meeting: Public Hearing on 2023 Budget

*Contact information for staff and Councilmembers can be found on the City's website.*

## K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. *None*

## L. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS

1. Eric Davidson inquired if the City Council would like to see what kind of programs and activities the Senior Center provides prior to increasing the budget.

## M. ADJOURNED: 7:38 PM

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Mary Lou Steward, Mayor

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Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

*Council minutes for November 14, 2022, were approved at the November 28, 2022, Council meeting.*

**Information on how to view or listen to this City Council Meeting live is below.**

**Meeting Details**

For information on how to join a Zoom meeting via web browser, please read our advice here:

[How to Use Zoom Meeting](#)

**Follow the instructions below to join the meeting by desktop computer, laptop, tablet or smartphone:**

1. Click the link to join the meeting:

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*Follow the instructions below if you want to give testimony during audience participation or public hearing. Please note that only testimony on the public hearing topic will be placed into the record.*

2. When the Chair opens the Audience Participation or Public Hearing, please “raise your hand” (via the “raise hand” option in Zoom) and you will be placed in a queue. When it is your time to speak, the Zoom moderator will call on you and provide you five minutes to make your comments (if you're not planning on providing public comment, no action is required once you join the meeting).

For information on how to use the **Raise Hand** function in Zoom, please read our advice here:

[Zoom Tips on Raising Your Hand](#)

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DRAFT