

**CITY OF BLAINE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, October 28, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

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

**A. STUDY SESSION: 4:00 PM – 2020 General Fund Budget**

**B. CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 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, Lt. Ryan King, Community Development Services Director Stacie Pratschner, Public Works Director Ravyn Whitewolf, and City Clerk/Assistant to the City Manager Samuel Crawford.

**C. PRESENTATION – Blaine Library Project – Executive Director of the Whatcom County Library System Christine Perkins.**

**D. PRESENTATION – Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs – Vice President Briahna Murray**

**E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Sign-up/Comment Sheet located in Council Chambers before Meeting

1. Jennifer Plombon, 5416 Goldfinch Way, in favor of Resolution 1781-19.
2. Jim Zell, 270 Clark Street, regarding his work on the preservation of Blaine's history via newspapers.
3. David Leu, 8668 Great Horn Owl, regarding possible inaccurate information on the City's website.

**F. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

1. North Whatcom Fire Update (NWFR) – Chief Rostov reported on a pumpkin patch event and the NWFR is working with ESCI on a strategic plan for service delivery.

**G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no written communications.

**H. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Voucher Memo:  
Approval of Bills: \$984,634.74
2. Approval of October 14, 2019, City Council Minutes
3. Contract Amendment for City Clerk

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO APPROVE THE  
CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON, AND APPROVED 7-0.**

**I. PUBLIC HEARING**

1. 2020 Revenue and Property Tax Levy – presented by Jeffrey Lazenby

Opened: 6:53 PM

*No testimony was given.*

Closed: 6:54 PM

2. Resolution 1781-19, Opposing Initiative Measure No. 976, an initiative seeking to repeal authority to impose certain vehicle taxes, change vehicle valuation laws, and limit motor vehicle license fees to \$30.00 – presented by Michael Jones

Opened: 6:57 PM

Testimony:

1. Jennifer Plombon, regarding her opposition to I-976. She also inquired about how the public will be informed about Resolution 1781-19.

Closed: 6:58 PM

**J. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Resolution 1781-19, Opposing Initiative Measure No. 976, an initiative seeking to repeal authority to impose certain vehicle taxes, change vehicle valuation laws, and limit motor vehicle license fees to \$30.00. (Jones)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC DAVIDSON TO APPROVE 1781-19,  
OPPOSING INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 976, AN INITIATIVE  
SEEKING TO REPEAL AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE CERTAIN VEHICLE  
TAXES, CHANGE VEHICLE VALUATION LAWS, AND LIMIT  
MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE FEES TO \$30.00. THE MOTION WAS  
SECONDED BY MARY LOU STEWARD, AND APPROVED 6-1  
(DAVIDSON).**

2. 2020 Legislative Agenda. (Jones)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY STEVE LAWRENSON TO APPROVE  
RESOLUTION 1782-19, ADOPTING THE CITY OF BLAINE'S 2020  
LEGISLATIVE AGENDA. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ERIC  
DAVIDSON, AND APPROVED 7-0.**

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

1. Drayton Harbor Shellfish Advisory Committee – Charlie Hawkins reported that the next meeting is on Wednesday.
2. Port of Bellingham Marine Advisory Committee – Charlie Hawkins reported on the road and the new web house.

3. Small Cities Partnership – Michael Jones reported on the October 15<sup>th</sup> Small Cities meeting. There was discussion on a jail proposal and the potential funding for it. The County Wayfinding project was also discussed.

**L. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

1. City Manager – Michael Jones reported on the North Sound Transportation Alliance (NSTA) meeting. He gained some valuable contacts, and the bulk of the meeting was about passenger rail service. Michael also reported on the newly acquired 665 Peace Portal Drive property.
2. Community Development Services – Stacie Pratschner reported on the open positions in the Community Development Services Department. Stacie also reported that the first Technical Review Committee (TRC) meeting for the Grandis Pond project occurred, and Public Works did a good job clearing out the area in front of the new bakery on Peace Portal Drive. Lastly, Stacie reported on the Bridges Plat development project.
3. Public Works – Ravyn Whitewolf reported on the Hughes Avenue lighting, there are some staff changes going on in Public Works, and there is some scheduled power line work on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lead and asbestos abatement occurred at the Fern Street house and there have been a couple issues at the Lighthouse Point Water Reclamation Facility that have been resolved. Radar speed signs were installed on D Street and Mitchell Street. Ravyn and Mayor Onyon went to the IMTC meeting which primarily discussed busses.

**M. 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.

Monday, November 11  
City Offices Closed – Veterans Day

Tuesday, November 12  
4pm – Study Session – 2020 Enterprise Funds Budget (Utilities)  
6pm – Regular City Council meeting  
Public Hearing: 2020 Budget  
Public Hearing: Gateway Local Improvement District Formation

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

**N. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS**

1. Mary Lou Steward on behalf of ACS, thanked Michael Jones, Chief Tanksley, Lt. King, and Public Works for installing an antenna on a pole next to City Hall. This will enhance ACS's ability to communicate during an emergency.

- O.** Council convened in executive session at 7:37 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 7:57 PM with no action taken.

- P. ADJOURNED: 7:57 PM**

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Bonnie Onyon, Mayor

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Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

Council minutes for October 28, 2019, were approved at the November 12, 2019, Council meeting.

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