

**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, June 22, 2020**

**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 was conducted entirely through teleconference. Councilmembers separately called into the meeting and the public was able to listen live as the meeting happened. All City Council meeting recordings are on the City's website.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER 6:11PM**

Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Onyon.

ROLL CALL

COUNCILMEMBERS: Garth Baldwin, Eric Davidson, Charlie Hawkins (absent), Richard May, Bonnie Onyon, Alicia Rule, and Mary Lou Steward.

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALICIA RULE TO EXCUSE CHARLIE HAWKINS FROM THE MEETING, SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON, APPROVED 6-0.**

**B. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Email dated June 9, 2020, from Michael Jones, regarding Emergency Order EO20-08 Plaza Use Waiver.
2. Email dated June 15, 2020, from Peter Bethell, regarding policing in Blaine.
3. Email dated June 17, 2020, from Barry Buchanan, regarding Whatcom County Council Resolution 2020-022, inviting other local jurisdictions to collaborate to improve efficiency for the benefit of our taxpayers.

**C. 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: \$130,740.26
2. Advance Pay: \$587.00
3. Approval of June 8, 2020, City Council Minutes
4. Resolution 1818-20, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Blaine Chamber of Commerce to provide annual management services to the Blaine Welcome Center and Visitor Information Center. (Pratschner)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC DAVIDSON TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY ALICIA RULE, FAILED 0-6.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY GARTH BALDWIN TO MOVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM 4 REGARDING RESOLUTION 1818-20 AND MAKE IT COUNCIL ACTION ITEM 1, SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY GARTH BALDWIN TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED, SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

**D. PUBLIC HEARING**

Public Hearing opened at 6:21PM.

1. Presentation on the 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). (Whitewolf)
2. Written Public Testimony:
  - a. Email dated Tuesday, June 16, 2020 from Trevor Hoskins, regarding the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan.
  - b. Letter dated Friday, June 19, 2020 from Beachcomber Villas Condominium Association regarding the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

Public testimony ended at 6:39PM. Public Hearing was continued to Monday, June 29 at 6:00PM.

**E. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Resolution 1818-20, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with the Blaine Chamber of Commerce to provide annual management services to the Blaine Welcome Center and Visitor Information Center. (Pratschner)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC DAVIDSON TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1818-20, SECONDED BY GARTH BALDWIN, APPROVED 6-0.**

2. Resolution 1820-20, Designating June 19, 2020, as “Juneteenth Independence Day” in recognition of June 19, 1865, the date on which slavery legally came to an end in the United States. (Onyon)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ALICIA RULE TO STRIKE “2020” FROM THE RESOLUTION AND ADOPT, SECONDED BY GARTH BALDWIN, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

3. Resolution 1821-20, Confirming Emergency Order EO20-08, Emergency Order Waiving the Use of Public Plaza Restrictions (Jones)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY MARY LOU STEWARD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION WITH TERMINATION DATE AMENDED TO OCTOBER 1, 2020, SECONDED BY ALICIA RULE, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

4. Ordinance 20-2947 to approve the East Maple Ridge Planned Unit Development and Preliminary Plat. (Pratschner)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC DAVIDSON TO WAIVE SECOND READING OF THE ORDINANCE AND APPROVE, SECONDED BY RICHARD MAY, AND APPROVED 5-1 (BALDWIN RECUSING).**

5. Entering into a listing agreement with Ron Freeman for the sale of 665 Peace Portal Drive. (Jones)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY GARTH BALDWIN TO APPROVE ENTERING INTO A LISTING AGREEMENT WITH RON FREEMAN FOR THE SALE OF 665 PEACE PORTAL DRIVE, SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

6. Central Business District Property Sale Incentive Policy. (Jones)

**MOTION WAS MADE BY GARTH BALDWIN TO APPROVE THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT PROPERTY SALE INCENTIVE POLICY, SECONDED BY RICHARD MAY, AND APPROVED 6-0.**

## **F. COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS**

1. Public Works Advisory Committee – Richard May reported on the Public Works Advisory Committee’s efforts to reconfigure some staff roles in the Public Works Department, as well as the possibility of adding fiber optic or broadband Internet capability in the City to meet increasing demands presented by the pandemic, especially in regards to access to education.

## **G. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

1. City Manager
  - a. Michael Jones reported on continuing cooperation with Whatcom County and other local jurisdictions on the dispersal of CARES Act funding, including additional support for childcare facilities, and a business assistance grant program.
  - b. Update on Peace Arch Provincial Park Closure: Michael Jones provided an update on the closure of Peace Arch Provincial Park due to concerns about high usage volumes.
  - c. Whatcom County Resolution 2020-022 Invitation to Collaborate: County Council offer to organize a joint City-County Council meeting to discuss possible ways to cooperate in providing services at a regional level. Council decided to designate Richard May and Eric Davidson to attend these discussions.
  - d. Michael Jones updated Council on the challenges presented by the possibility of the Open Public Meetings Act being reinstated while Whatcom County remains in Phase Two of reopening, which does not allow government offices to reopen.
2. Public Works
  - a. Comcast Franchise Report – Bob Hammond reported on his intention to develop a discussion paper on the Comcast franchise for future discussion and review with Council.

## **H. 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.*

Thursday, June 11

6:00pm – Planning Commission Meeting

Public Hearing – To Accept Public Testimony on the East Maple Ridge PUD and Preliminary Plat Application. The public hearing will occur via Zoom, and the information is available on the City’s website.

Monday, June 22

6:00pm – Regular City Council Meeting

Public Hearing – Six Year Transportation Improvement Program

Thursday, June 25

6:00pm – Planning Commission Meeting

Public Hearing – to Accept Public Testimony on the Grandis Pond PUD Modification; Boundary Line Adjustment; and Preliminary Plat Application

Monday, July 13

6:00pm – Regular City Council Meeting

Monday, July 27

6:00pm – Regular City Council Meeting

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

**I. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**J. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS**

**K. ADJOURNED 8:38PM**

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Bonnie Onyon, Mayor

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Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

*Council minutes for June 22, 2020 were approved at the July 13, 2020, Council meeting.*

DRAFT