

CITY OF BLAINE

Hybrid

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Monday, March 27, 2023

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:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6326365553?pwd=MnhJQlFiU2hxWC9TcU9sN1J0N3VUUT09>

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

- +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

Meeting ID: 632 636 5553

Participant ID: #

Passcode: 427636

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A. CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 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 BY GARTH BALDWIN TO EXCUSE RHYAN LOPEZ, SECONDED BY KERENA HIGGINS, AND APPROVED 6-0.

B. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – Sign-up/Comment Sheet is 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. *Please Note: the audience participation portion of the agenda is for public comments only. City Council and City staff will not be responding to comments made by audience members.*

1. Steven Tojek, regarding street trees on Mitchell Street and Peace Portal.
2. Laura Fairchild, regarding street trees on Michell Street.

3. Pete Nelson, Director of the Blaine Senior Center, regarding the United States flag at the Blaine Senior Center.
4. Jocelyn Harsh, regarding cleaning the streets.

C. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter dated March 13, 2023, from Bruce Ansell, regarding the proposed Blaine Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program.
2. Letter dated March 21, 2023, from Paul Schissler, regarding downtown affordable housing.

D. 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: \$363,232.11
2. Approval of March 13, 2023, City Council Minutes.
3. Appointment of Blaine Chamber of Commerce representative to the Blaine Tourism Advisory Committee (BTAC). (Crawford)

MOTION WAS MADE BY ERIC DAVIDSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, SECONDED BY MIKE HILL, AND APPROVED 6-0.

E. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS

1. G-street Sewer Improvements Recommendation to Award Construction Contract. (McSpadden)

MOTION WAS MADE BY RICHARD MAY TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH STRIDER CONSTRUCTION CO. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,910,120.00 (EXCLUDING TAXES) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF G-STREET SEWER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MIKE HILL AND APPROVED 6-0.

2. Jacobs Engineering Group – Treatment Plant Permit Renewal Support. (McSpadden)

MOTION WAS MADE BY GARTH BALDWIN TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL AND AUTHORIZES THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT CONTRACT WITH JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$74,923.00 (EXCLUDING TAXES). THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY ERIC DAVIDSON AND APPROVED 6-0.

3. Termination of City's Right of First Purchase, as amended – Boblett Properties – 1300 Boblett St. (Harmon/Ruffatto) *Action will occur after the Executive Session.*

MOTION WAS MADE BY MIKE HILL TO APPROVE THE TERMINATION OF THE RFP, AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE SAME AFTER HIS APPROVAL. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY GARTH BALDWIN AND APPROVED 6-0.

F. COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS

1. *None*

G. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

1. Community Development Services Department – Stacie Pratschner – *A report did not occur.*

2. Finance Department – Daniel Heverling reported on the new hours at the Cashier and Utility Billing center.
3. City Manager – Mike Harmon reported on the denial of the funding for the reservoir in the State House budget, and the approval of funding for the Bell Road grade separation in the same budget.

H. 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.

Thursday, March 23

9:00am – Ad Hoc Downtown Advisory Committee Meeting

Friday, March 24

9:00am – City Council Retreat

Monday, March 27

6:00pm – City Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 28

3:30pm – Civil Service Commission Meeting *CANCELLED*

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

I. COUNCIL UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION: *No Executive Session occurred.*

L. ADJOURNED: 6:26 PM

Mary Lou Steward, Mayor

Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

Council minutes for March 27, 2023, were approved at the April 10, 2023, 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.

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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