

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
Finance and Administrative Services Committee

March 27, 2007

Committee Chair Sam Crawford called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, Washington.

Present:

L. Ward Nelson
Dan McShane

Absent:

None

Also Present:

Barbara Brenner

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

1. ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2007 WHATCOM COUNTY BUDGET, THIRD REQUEST, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,223,888 (AB2007-154)

Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, explained the requests.

Crawford asked about the \$20,000 requested by the Council Office for legal services. He would like more information on when the Council voted on the interlocal agreement regarding the lawsuit.

Nelson stated have an executive session discussion as a full Council in Committee of the Whole.

Crawford moved to recommend approval of the substitute version submitted yesterday to the full Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL "CONSENT AGENDA" ITEM

1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID #06-119 TO THE LOWEST BIDDER, BLYTHE PLUMBING & HEATING, INC. FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE AIR COOLED CHILLER AT THE COURTHOUSE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$99,446.16 (AB2007-161)

McShane moved to recommend approval to the full Council.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO AWARD BID #07-18 TO THE LOWEST BIDDER, WHATCOM BUILDERS, INC. FOR ANNUAL HOT MIX ASPHALT PRELEVEL PROJECTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$507,975.30 (AB2007-162)

Nelson moved to recommend approval to the full Council.

1
2 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 3
4 **3. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
5 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND LAKE WHATCOM**
6 **CENTER TO SUPPORT THE ADMINISTRATIVE COST OF PROVIDING 40**
7 **SPONSOR BASED SHELTER PLUS CARE RENTAL UNITS FOR INDIVIDUALS**
8 **WITH MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,960 (AB2007-163)**
9

10 **Crawford moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

11
12 Nelson asked the difference in daily bed costs between this contract the next
13 contract.

14
15 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated Gary Williams, Health Department, can
16 provide that information later today.

17
18 **Motion carried unanimously.**

19
20 *(Clerk's Note: Discussion of this item continued below, before Consent Agenda item*

21 8.)

- 22
23 **4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
24 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND WHATCOM**
25 **COUNSELING & PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC TO PROVIDE ONGOING MENTAL**
26 **HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, INCLUDING JAIL CASE MANAGEMENT**
27 **PROGRAM, ADMINISTRATION OF A HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM,**
28 **GLADSTONE HOUSE, AND PEER COUNSELOR OUTREACH PROJECT, IN THE**
29 **AMOUNT OF \$121,778 (AB2007-164)**
30

31 **McShane moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

32
33 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 34
35 **5. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
36 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND WHATCOM**
37 **COUNSELING & PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC TO PROVIDE ONGOING MENTAL**
38 **HEALTH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, INCLUDING ELDER-GATEKEEPER**
39 **SERVICES AND AN ACTIVITY CENTER AT THE RAINBOW CENTER, IN THE**
40 **AMOUNT OF \$118,809 (AB2007-165)**
41

42 **Nelson moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

43
44 **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 45
46 **6. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
47 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND CATHOLIC**
48 **COMMUNITY SERVICES OF WESTERN WASHINGTON NORTHWEST TO**
49 **PROVIDE CASE MANAGEMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO FAMILIES**
50 **THAT ARE NOT ADDRESSED THROUGH EXISTING SYSTEMS, IN THE AMOUNT**
51 **OF \$30,900 (AB2007-166)**
52

53 **Crawford moved** to recommend approval to the full Council.

1
2 ***Motion carried unanimously.***
3

- 4 **7. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A**
5 **CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND SUN**
6 **COMMUNITY SERVICES TO PROVIDE SUPERVISED RESIDENTIAL BEDS FOR**
7 **MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS, REFERRED BY THE JAIL DIVERSION PROJECT,**
8 **IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,000 (AB2007-167)**
9

10 ***McShane moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

11
12 ***Motion carried unanimously.***
13

14 Nelson referenced Consent Agenda items three and four and asked the difference in
15 bed costs between the two contracts.
16

17 Gary Williams, Health Department, stated Lake Whatcom owns the housing, so their
18 administrative responsibility is less. Whatcom Counseling goes out and finds market rate
19 housing and secures it for the purpose. There is more responsibility to do that. Lake
20 Whatcom owns apartments in the community.
21

- 22 **8. RESOLUTION AMENDING CRP NO. 999022 FOR PHASE II – CABLE STREET**
23 **RECONSTRUCTION AND REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO**
24 **APPROVE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO COLACURCIO BROTHERS, INC. AS LOW**
25 **BIDDER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,235,560.50 (AB2007-168)**
26

27 Crawford asked if this has anything to do with Wall Street.
28

29 Joe Rutan, Public Works Department, stated this request is for the second phase of
30 the project started last year. Part of this construction includes Wall Street.
31

32 Crawford asked if this incorporates the Council's recommendation to go with swales,
33 not vaults, for Wall Street. Rutan stated it does.
34

35 ***McShane moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.
36

37 Crawford stated he is in favor of the motion, even though he is in favor of the vault
38 system over the swales.
39

40 Brenner stated the Public Works staff feels that there is equal benefit with either
41 system. The County does many projects, and must work with the people, without doing
42 things the people are opposed to. She is in favor of the vaults, not the swales. She asked
43 if the Council can bifurcate this item from the entire request.
44

45 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the project had three components. Wall
46 Street was one of the three components. The third portion may be negotiated to change
47 from swales to vaults.
48

49 Kirk Christensen, Public Works Department, stated that if the majority of the Council
50 is considering changing to the vault, they would move forward with the project and then do
51 a change order with the contractor to do the vault instead of the swales.
52

1 Brenner stated she was told that this would be the appropriate time to make the
2 change.

3
4 Fleetwood stated he is the swing vote. A change to vaults is not an issue.

5
6 Nelson stated that it's an issue of working with the citizens. Only do swales if they
7 have evidence that the swales work much better. The County has been urging the public
8 for the last ten years to help the County protect Lake Whatcom. He's worried the public will
9 decide not to comply if the Council doesn't work with the public. The Council doesn't want
10 to listen to the public on this issue.

11
12 McShane stated the community raised a concern about their basements flooding.
13 The County compromised already by lining the swale so there will not be infiltration. He
14 looked at the street. Another concern is with safety. He has some faith that the Public
15 Works Department would not do a project that creates an unsafe situation. Christensen
16 stated they have designed a one-foot shoulder on the swale side and a shoulder on the
17 other side of the street. It's a safe situation for cars to get by each other. Warner Webb
18 doesn't have any concerns about fire trucks navigating the road.

19
20 McShane stated the citizens' perceptions of what is safe can be different from the
21 engineers' designs. He asked if there are any other things that can be done to address
22 safety concerns, such as signage or parking on the shoulder that would block traffic.
23 Christensen stated they potentially could put no parking signs along the swale side, if
24 people park there.

25
26 Nelson asked which system would have a greater impact on the community when
27 maintenance is done. Christensen stated they are similar. The vaults may have less impact
28 because there is no mowing. They don't know the life expectancy of the swales. They will
29 test how well the soils absorb the phosphorus. It depends on how often, if ever, they will
30 have to put in new soils.

31
32 Nelson asked the guarantee of the liner not being penetrated. Christensen stated it
33 has a long life expectancy, at least 50 years.

34
35 Nelson stated there is no guarantee on the effectiveness of the liners. They are very
36 fragile.

37
38 Fleetwood stated this has been a difficult decision. Experts have gravitated to the
39 swale system over the vault system.

40
41 Don Shepherd, 4518 Wall Street, handed out information (*on file*). It's not okay to
42 narrow the street because it's not asphalt. They are narrowing the road and putting a ditch
43 in the middle of Grant Street. The residents of Wall Street ask the Council to not do this.

44
45 Kent Nelson, 4511 Wall Street, stated the residents have tried to voice their
46 concerns to the Council. The design doesn't work. A fire truck could not go down Wall
47 Street under the revised amendment that the Council chose not to follow from the County
48 staff. The citizens can accept the staff's recommendation, but the Council didn't accept it.
49 The solution is the staff's recommendation.

50
51 They have water runoff problems. They are stewards for the lake. If they are to
52 continue being stewards, the Council must care about the concerns of the residents, or else

1 the residents will organize against the Council if it has to. Do not go against the citizen's
2 request.

3
4 Crawford stated he doesn't support the swale. The majority of the Council have
5 approved the swale. However, he will support this contract because the work needs to get
6 done. For the Council to reconsider, someone who voted against the vault must make a
7 motion to reconsider.

8
9 Nelson asked if they can remove the Wall Street work altogether. Christensen stated
10 he believes they can move forward with the other two parts of the contract, which are the
11 water line and the Cable Street reconstruction.

12
13 Bruce Roll, Public Works Department, stated legal counsel says to amend the
14 contract at a later date.

15
16 Brenner stated it's better to amend this contract, and be done with it.

17
18 Weimer stated he heard from the experts that there is a slight benefit to the swales.
19 He will not change his vote to the vault system.

20
21 Nelson stated he would make a motion at the evening meeting to remove the Wall
22 Street portion of the contract.

23
24 ***Motion carried 2-1 with Nelson opposed.***

25
26 **9. RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING ONE-WAY**
27 **DETOURS RELATED TO THE CABLE STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**
28 **(AB2007-169)**

29
30 Kirk Christensen, Public Works Department, stated the County Code requires a public
31 hearing to do a one-way detour during construction. Such a detour is the safest and most
32 efficient. It will exist for three to four months.

33
34 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

35
36 Nelson asked about the corner at Coronado Street. It has poor visibility.
37 Christensen stated there will be a flagger present during busy times. The fire department
38 has approved it.

39
40 *(Clerk's Note: End of tape one, side A.)*

41
42 ***Motion carried unanimously.***

43
44 **10. RESOLUTION TO SET HEARING TO DECLARE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2158**
45 **SOUTH NUGENT ROAD, LUMMI ISLAND, AS SURPLUS (AB2007-153)**

46
47 ***Crawford moved*** to recommend approval to the full Council.

48
49 Colleen Berg, Lummi Island Community Land Trust, stated she asks that this public
50 hearing be rescheduled after her presentation to the Public Works Committee.

51
52 McShane asked if the general fund would have to reimburse the road fund if the
53 County decides to keep the house.

1
2 Dewey Desler, Deputy Administrator, stated the road fund would have to be
3 reimbursed some way, unless the house were used for a road fund purpose.
4

5 Crawford stated he is in favor of the motion. The public hearing is properly set.
6

7 Weimer stated all the councilmembers should attend the Public Works and Safety
8 Committee meeting to clear up the confusion on this issue.
9

10 ***Motion carried unanimously.***
11

12
13 **OTHER BUSINESS**
14

15 McShane stated a Planning Commissioner suggested that the Council consider health
16 benefits for Planning Commission members. Even though he may not be in favor of it, the
17 request warrants some sort of response. He asked if the committee is interested in having
18 a broader discussion about advisory committees. The Planning Commission work and time
19 is much greater than it used to be. He's concerned about attracting good people if the work
20 becomes too burdensome.
21

22 Nelson stated it was one commissioner who made the request. If it is a concern of
23 all commissioners, the commission should make the request in writing. Also, if the Council
24 does consider it, it must consider all boards and commissions. It would have to be a County
25 Charter amendment that goes to the public for a vote. It would have a fiscal impact to the
26 County.
27

28 McShane stated he agrees that there is no formal request from the entire
29 commission.
30

31 Crawford stated the policy is clear that this is a non-compensated commission.
32 Councilmembers can contact this individual on their own. No formal proposal has come
33 forward, and no councilmembers propose a change. He would not be in favor of a change.
34
35

36 **ADJOURN**
37

38 The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.
39

40 
41 _____
42 Jill Nixon, Minutes Transcription
43

44
45 ATTEST

46
47
48
49
50
51 
Dan Brown-Davis, Council Clerk

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


