



Snohomish County Council

Public Hearings

Meeting Minutes

Megan Dunn, Council Chair
Jared Mead, Council Vice-Chair
Councilmembers: Sam Low, Nate Nehring, Strom Peterson

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

10:30 AM

Jackson Board Room
& Remote Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

Council Chair Dunn called the public hearing to order at 10:47 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and stated that all five members were present.

ACTION ITEMS

PRESENT:

Council Chair Dunn
Council Vice-Chair Mead
Councilmember Low
Councilmember Nehring
Councilmember Peterson (*remote*)
Nicole Gorle, Council Staff
Elena Lao, Asst. Clerk of the Council

1. Ordinance 22-067, establishing initial terms of employment of county employees formerly employed by the Snohomish Health District; Amending SCC Chapters 3A.06 and 3.68 SCC

[2022-1171](#)

Council Chair Dunn opened the hearing and the clerk read the ordinance title into the record.

Nicole Gorle, Senior Legislative Analyst, provided an overview of the scope of the proposed ordinance necessary to effectuate the integration of the Health District in the County. She also noted that the 2023 Budget includes funds to

cover the cost of salaries and benefits of the Health District employees transferring to the County.

Council Chair Dunn opened the hearing for public testimony. There being no persons present wishing to testify, she closed the testimony portion of the hearing calling for a motion or discussion of the Council.

ACTION: Council Vice-Chair Mead made a motion to approve Ordinance 22-067. Councilmember Low seconded the motion. The clerk called the roll and the motion to approve Ordinance 22-067 carried unanimously.

Agenda items #2 and #3 were considered together:

PRESENT:

Council Chair Dunn
Council Vice-Chair Mead
Councilmember Low
Councilmember Nehring
Councilmember Peterson (*remote*)
Ryan Countryman, Council Staff
Elena Lao, Asst. Clerk of the Council

2. Ordinance 22-066, relating to the 2022 Budget; making a supplemental appropriation in Grant Control Fund 130 to provide expenditure authority for presidential disaster declaration # FEMA-4481-DR-WA COVID-19

[2022-1176](#)

Council Chair Dunn opened the hearing and the clerk read the ordinance title into the record.

Ryan Countryman, Senior Legislative Analyst, provided a staff report on the proposed supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$1,560,000 to accept funds from the FEMA Public Assistance Program to reimburse the County for Covid antigen test kit purchases. He further explained that the accompanying Motion 22-487 authorizes the County Executive to sign documents to receive the federal grant.

Council Chair Dunn opened the hearing for public testimony. There being no persons present wishing to testify, she closed the testimony portion of the hearing calling for a motion or discussion of the Council.

ACTION: Council Vice-Chair Mead made a motion to approve Ordinance 22-066. Councilmember Low seconded the motion. The clerk called the roll and the motion to approve Ordinance 22-066 carried unanimously.

3. Motion 22-487, authorizing the Snohomish County Executive to sign an agreement with Washington State Military Department and FEMA for reimbursement of Covid-19 Antigen Test Kit purchase [2022-1186](#)

[See notes under Ordinance 22-066.]

ACTION: Council Vice-Chair Mead made a motion to approve Motion 22-487. Councilmember Nehring seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Agenda items #4 and #5 were considered together:

PRESENT:

Council Chair Dunn
Council Vice-Chair Mead
Councilmember Low
Councilmember Nehring
Councilmember Peterson (*remote*)
Heidi Beazizo, Council Interim Chief of Staff
Kelly Snyder, Public Works Director
David Schonhard, Solid Waste Director
Elena Lao, Asst. Clerk of the Council

**See names listed below of individuals providing public testimony..*

4. Amended Ordinance 22-068, relating to solid waste disposal; amending chapters 7.35 and 7.41 SCC [2022-1202](#)

Council Chair Dunn opened the hearing and the clerk read the ordinance title into the record.

Heidi Beazizo, Council Interim Chief of Staff and Senior Legislative Analyst, provided an overview of the proposed ordinance clarifying the requirements for solid waste disposal and updating restrictions relating to acceptable waste at solid waste facilities. She also explained proposed Amendments 1 and 2.

Councilmember Low provided additional information relating to the proposed amendments.

Councilmember Nehring also spoke on the proposed Amendment 2.

Discussion followed as Kelly Snyder, Public Works Director, and David Schonhard, Solid Waste Director, responded to questions relating to concerns on solid waste handling and hazard pay negotiations with the unions.

Council Chair Dunn opened the hearing for public testimony.

The following individuals provided testimony:

1. Brent Kirk, City Manager and Public Works Director, City of Granite Falls, testified in support of proposed Amendment 2 and urged the need for the County to work with smaller jurisdictions to address concerns relating to waste disposal.
2. Kurtis Page, County Solid Waste employee, testified on the biohazard risks and concerns for employees working at waste disposal facilities.
3. Jeff Clarke, Mukilteo Waste and Wastewater District Board of Commissioners, testified with concerns relating to the proposed ordinance and the need to work with wastewater treatment facilities' representatives.
4. Wendy Weiker, Republic Services, testified in support of proposed Amendment 2 to allow additional time to resolve necessary details for compliance.
5. Skip Knutsen, Public Works Services Manager, City of Marysville, testified with concerns relating to the proposed ordinance and recommended that the County maintain existing interlocal agreements with jurisdictions.

There being no other persons present wishing to testify, Council Chair closed the testimony portion of the hearing calling for a motion or discussion of the Council.

Further discussion ensued as Ms. Snyder and Mr. Schonhard provided additional information relating to protective equipment (PPE) and training for Solid Waste staff. They also indicated that they will continue to work with the different jurisdictions and solid waste haulers to address concerns.

Councilmembers also provided comments and concerns, and the need to address concerns by the different jurisdictions in handling solid waste disposal.

ACTION: Council Vice-Chair Mead made a motion to approve Ordinance 22-068. Councilmember Low seconded the motion.

Councilmember Low made a motion to approve proposed Amendment 2. Councilmember Nehring seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The clerk called the roll on the motion to approve Ordinance 22-068, as amended, and it carried unanimously.

5. Motion 22-494, approving Snohomish County Public Works Solid Waste Division Service Fee Schedule [2022-1204](#)

[See notes under Ordinance 22-068.]

ACTION: Council Vice-Chair Mead made a motion to approve Motion 22-494. Councilmember Nehring seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Council Chair Dunn adjourned the Council for the day at 11:24 a.m.