



Ferndale City Council
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION
 Department Prepared By: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

AGENDA BILL #19-02-006

TITLE:

Ordinance
 Resolution
 Motion
 Info Only
 Discussion

Date Council Action Requested: February 19, 2019

Prepared by: Susan Duncan, City Clerk

Reviewed By:

Date: 02/13/2019

SUBJECT:

North Whatcom Poverty Task Force Formation

Committee: P&LU PW&U F&A	
Mayor	X
City Administrator	X
City Clerk's Office	X
Community Development Dept	
Public Works Department	
City Attorney's Office	
Finance Department	X
Police Department	X
Board/Commission	
Hearings Examiner	

ACTION REQUESTED:

VOTE NEEDED TO PASS:

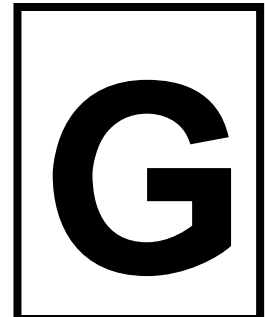
SUMMARY: Please see staff report.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS/ISSUES: Finance & Administration Committee members unanimously forwarded this item to the full Council for further discussion.

RECOMMENDATIONS: Approval of AB #19-02-006

ATTACHMENTS:

- Staff Report
- Ordinance



ORDINANCE NO.

**AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CREATION OF A NORTH WHATCOM
POVERTY TASK FORCE**

WHEREAS, the City of Ferndale is being impacted by the growing effects of income inequality, food insecurity, homelessness and rising housing prices; and

WHEREAS, most local efforts to fight poverty and homelessness are focused on Bellingham; and

WHEREAS, North Whatcom County has some unique challenges and opportunities when it comes to tackling poverty; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ferndale is most likely to receive the impacts of increased poverty in North Whatcom County and therefore an ideal candidate for taking the lead on this issue; and

WHEREAS, there has not been a significant effort within the City of Ferndale to plan for the impacts of people experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, tackling the issues of poverty requires a holistic approach involving social services, the business community, health care access and more;

**NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FERNDALE DO
ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1: The City shall add Chapter 2.35 detailed below to Chapter 2 of the Ferndale Municipal Code to create the North Whatcom Poverty Task Force.

**Chapter 2.35
NORTH WHATCOM POVERTY TASK FORCE**

Sections:

2.35.010 **Members – Appointment.**

2.35.020 **Membership – Terms, Residency.**

2.35.030 Members – Removal, resignation and vacancies.

2.35.040 Authority, powers and duties.

2.35.050 Rules and meetings.

2.35.010 Members – Appointment.

The North Whatcom Poverty Task Force (“Task Force” hereafter) shall consist of seven members appointed by the Mayor subject to confirmation by the City Council. (Ord. 1917 § 1, 2015)

2.35.020 Membership – Terms, Residency.

A. The Task Force shall be comprised of seven members. All members must reside or work outside of Bellingham for at least two years. The members shall serve until December 2020, when the Task Force will be disbanded.

B. Additional Requirements for Task Force members.

1. Position No. 1. Required to be a representative from the Ferndale City Council.
2. Position No. 2. Required to have work experience with social services in North Whatcom County.
3. Position No. 3. Required to have work experience with health care services in North Whatcom County.
4. Position No. 4. Required to have experience with the North Whatcom business community
5. Position No. 5. Required to be a representative from Lynden, Blaine, Sumas, Everson or Nooksack.
6. Position No. 6. Required to be a service user or family member of a service user.
7. Position No. 7. Required to be a service user or family member of a service user..

The City of Ferndale will provide a staff member to attend the meetings in a nonvoting capacity.

2.35.030 Members – Removal, resignation and vacancies.

Members may be removed by the Mayor with approval of the City Council upon a finding of circumstances preventing or interfering with their attendance at meetings or full performance of their Task Force functions. The Task Force may make an official recommendation to the Mayor, upon finding of cause, that a member of Task Force should be removed. If the Mayor agrees with the recommendation, the Mayor must still bring a Task Force-recommended removal to the City Council for approval. Members

may resign to serve on other boards or for other good reason by providing 30 days' advance written notice to the Mayor. Vacancies shall be filled for unexpired terms in the same manner as appointments are made. (Ord. 1917 § 1, 2015)

2.35.040 Authority, powers and duties.

A. The Task Force shall be an advisory board to the City Council and shall have and exercise those powers and that authority prescribed in this chapter or in subsequent ordinances or resolutions of the City Council.

B. All authorizations for expenditures, incurring of any costs or indebtedness or employment of any person by the Task Force shall be made by the City Council.

C. The Task Force will conduct a needs assessment of North County relating to issues of poverty and homelessness. This preliminary report will be completed by ~~Dec. 31st, 2019.~~ September 30, 2019. The Task Force will then develop a set of recommendations to be presented to the Ferndale City Council before Dec. 31st, 2020.

2.35.050 Rules and meetings.

The Task Force may establish rules for transaction of its business – including but not limited to appointing officers and setting meeting times. The City Council can change these rules of operation by a majority vote. The meetings and other sessions of each Task Force shall be open to the public in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 42.30 RCW. At meetings of the Task Force, a majority of the members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The vote of the majority of the members present at an official public meeting of the Task Force may constitute a decision or recommendation of the Board.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Ferndale City Council this 19th day of February, 2019

ATTEST:

Jon Mutchler, MAYOR

Susan Duncan, CMC, CITY CLERK