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1           **PROPERTIES WITHIN THE LAKE WHATCOM AND LAKE SAMISH WATERSHEDS**  
2           **(AB2007-196)**  
3

4           Weimer opened the public hearing and the following people spoke:  
5

6           Steven Harper, 121 Bear Creek Lane, Bellingham, stated he is in favor of the  
7 ordinance. He is a member of the Concerned Neighbors of Lake Samish and the Lake  
8 Samish Watershed Management Advisory Board. Phosphorus, mainly from residential  
9 fertilizer, is a key element that affects growth of algae and eutrophic conditions in lakes.  
10 Lake Samish is a drinking water source for the residents surrounding the lake. It is also an  
11 important recreational lake. They are starting to see toxic algae blooms in the lake.  
12 Oxygen is disappearing in the bottom part of the lake, which means more phosphorus is  
13 released.  
14

15           Jim Malin, 244 Summerland Road, Bellingham, stated he supports the ordinance.  
16 Don't put any more chemicals in the water.  
17

18           Joan Ellsworth, 156 Shallow Shore Road, Lake Samish Association President, stated  
19 her Board of Directors voted to support the ordinance. They must develop strategies for  
20 controlling external phosphorus loading.  
21

22           Mark Herrenkohl, 321 Summerland Road, Bellingham, stated he supports the  
23 ordinance. He thanks the Council, specifically Councilmember Caskey-Schreiber. He is a  
24 member of the Concerned Neighbors of Lake Samish and of the Lake Samish Water  
25 Advisory Group. They supported and worked on monitoring Lake Samish water quality over  
26 the last couple of years, in coordination with Dr. Robin Matthews. The high levels of  
27 phosphorus in Lake Samish is responsible for eutrophication and decreased oxygen. In  
28 some places, 120 feet of water is dead, largely due to phosphorus. There have been  
29 increases in algae blooms in the last few years. This is one small step to deal with external  
30 loading of phosphorus into the lake. Other external loading is from all the clearing and  
31 development that has occurred around Lake Samish. He will continue to fight against major  
32 development around Lake Samish and continue to protect the water quality in this  
33 watershed.  
34

35           McShane asked if they have monitored sediment from Barns Creek or off drainages  
36 due to recent logging road construction. Herrenkohl, stated they've done inflow water  
37 sampling, but not sediment sampling. They've discussed sediment sampling for the inflows  
38 and also in the lake itself, because of mercury levels.  
39

40           Fleetwood asked if there has been substantial recent developments. Herrenkohl  
41 stated there has not. The rezone was a great help. They continue to fight the Sleepy  
42 Hollow project of more than 45 homes.  
43

44           Dennis Jones, 1486 Sudden Valley, stated there is a plan with action plans for Lake  
45 Whatcom. He asked why they are not doing the actions in the plan. Get the money for it  
46 and do it. Consider the watershed as a whole.  
47

48           Dave Pros, 1466 Roy Road, Bellingham, stated he thanks the Council for the  
49 downzone a few years ago. He thanks the County Executive for not vetoing the downzone.

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1 He supports this ordinance. Don't expand the Lake Padden and Lake Samish areas into the  
2 urban growth area in the future. Correcting the problems are more costly.  
3

4 Hearing no one else, Weimer closed the public hearing.  
5

6 **Caskey-Schreiber moved** to adopt the ordinance. She brought this forward on  
7 behalf of the community. She doesn't intend it to be the only solution. Officially, she has  
8 never applied fertilizer on her lawn. Her husband does that, but he buys phosphorus-free  
9 fertilizer. Those in marine areas should get nitrogen-free fertilizer, because phosphorus is  
10 not their problem.  
11

12 Crawford stated he supports the ordinance. A ban is more effective over a broader  
13 area. The State finds that phosphorus is in lakes, rivers, and wetlands. It may be  
14 beneficial to do a ban throughout Whatcom County. However, there may be a downside.  
15 Phosphorus improves root strength in the turf. Poor turf grass health can result in  
16 increased soil erosion and nutrient runoff into the surface water. Look at it as a more global  
17 issue. Solicit the opinions of those who are expert in lawn care and that sort of thing to talk  
18 about the erosion issue.  
19

20 Caskey-Schreiber stated they should consider a broader area. However, do that at  
21 another time. Don't put this off tonight. If they apply something countywide, different  
22 jurisdictions will need education.  
23

24 Brenner stated plants other than lawn turf do well with low amounts of phosphorus.  
25 They should support the types of plants that do better in that kind of an environment.  
26

27 Caskey-Schreiber stated the ordinance provides an exemption from the ban on a  
28 newly established lawn or turf in the first growing season.  
29

30 McShane stated this ban will help. Tree clearing could be another source of  
31 problems for the lake.  
32

33 ***Motion to adopt the ordinance carried unanimously.***  
34  
35

### 36 **CONSENT AGENDA** 37

38 **Crawford** reported for the Finance and Administrative Services Committee and  
39 **moved** to approve Consent Agenda items one through five and seven through 12. The  
40 administration withdrew item six.  
41

42 Weimer withdrew item twelve.  
43

44 ***Motion to approve Consent Agenda items one through five and seven***  
45 ***through eleven carried unanimously.***  
46

- 47 **1. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A HIDTA**  
48 **AWARD COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN WHATCOM COUNTY AND THE**  
49 **EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG**  
50 **CONTROL POLICY TO SUPPORT THE NORTHWEST HIDTA BORDER TASK**