



Whatcom County

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
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Agenda Bill Master Report

File Number: AB2026-476

File ID:	AB2026-476	Version:	1	Status:	Approved
File Created:	06/09/2026	Entered by:	CHalka@co.whatcom.wa.us		
Department:	Council Office	File Type:	Resolution		
Assigned to:	Council			Final Action:	06/09/2026
Agenda Date:	06/09/2026			Enactment #:	RES 2026-024
Related Files:					

Primary Contact Email: chalka@co.whatcom.wa.us

TITLE FOR AGENDA ITEM:

Resolution honoring the life, service, and legacy of Kevin Hester

SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:

See attached

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE FILE

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
06/09/2026	Council	APPROVED Aye: 7 Boyle, Buchanan, Elenbaas, Galloway, Rienstra, Scanlon, and Stremler Nay: 0	

Attachments: Proposed Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-024

HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE, AND LEGACY OF KEVIN HESTER

WHEREAS, Kevin Hester dedicated his life to public service and the betterment of Whatcom County and its communities; and

WHEREAS, Hester served the people of Whatcom County for more than thirty years as a member of the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office, earning a reputation for professionalism, integrity, and unwavering commitment to public safety; and

WHEREAS, through decades of distinguished service, Hester rose through the ranks to serve as Chief Civil Deputy, providing leadership and mentorship to countless law enforcement professionals and public servants; and

WHEREAS, Hester played a key leadership role in the Whatcom Gang and Drug Task Force, helping to build and maintain one of Washington's most respected multi-jurisdictional law enforcement partnerships; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Hester demonstrated steady judgment, humility, and a servant's heart, earning the trust and respect of colleagues, elected officials, and community members across Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement from the Sheriff's Office in 2021, Hester continued his commitment to public service by serving as Mayor of the City of Nooksack, where he worked to strengthen his community and improve the quality of life for its residents; and

WHEREAS, Hester's leadership reflected the values of duty, accountability, and service above self, and his contributions left a lasting impact on public safety, local government, and the communities he served; and

WHEREAS, Hester will be remembered not only for the offices he held, but also for his character, kindness, mentorship, and dedication to helping others; and

WHEREAS, Kevin Hester's passing is a profound loss to his family, friends, former colleagues, the City of Nooksack, the law enforcement community, and the people of Whatcom County; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Council wishes to honor Hester's life of service and express gratitude for the legacy he leaves behind.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Whatcom County Council hereby honors the life, service, and legacy of Kevin Hester and recognizes his extraordinary contributions to the people of Whatcom County; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council extends its deepest sympathies and condolences to the Hester family and all who mourn his passing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kevin Hester's dedication to public service, commitment to community, and example of leadership shall be remembered with gratitude and respect by the residents of Whatcom County for generations to come; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the Whatcom County Council that a copy of this resolution be presented to Kevin Hester's family as a lasting expression of Whatcom County's appreciation and remembrance.

APPROVED this 9th day of June, 2026

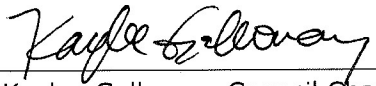
ATTEST:


Cathy Halka, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Kimberly Thulin by email (6/10/2026-ks)
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Kaylee Galloway, Council Chair