

Anacortes City Council Minutes - May 3, 2021

Call to Order

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of May 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Matt Miller all participated in the meeting in absentia via video conference.

Executive Session: Potential Litigation or Litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) (15 minutes)

Mayor Gere announced that City Council and the City Attorney would convene in Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110 (i) for approximately 15 minutes to discuss potential litigation or litigation. The mayor advised that no final action would be taken in the Executive Session. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Matt Miller attended the executive session.

At 6:20 p.m. the mayor called the meeting back into regular session.

Announcements and Committee Reports

COVID-19 Update: Mayor Gere shared current case statistics and vaccination progress for Anacortes, Skagit County, Washington State, and the nation. She noted increasing case counts and hospitalizations across the state including in Skagit County.

Finance Committee: Mr. Walters reported from the committee meeting held the previous week. The topics discussed included planning for a virtual City Council budget retreat on May 27, 2021. He asked councilmembers to email their priorities and budget topics to Finance Director Steve Hoglund by May 10. No councilmember objected.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee: Mr. Miller reported from the Committee meeting held the previous week. The topics discussed included funding additional parklets for Commercial Avenue restaurants. Mr. Miller said the LTAC had supported the request.

Public Works Committee: Ms. Moulton reported from the Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included the upcoming presentation to Council on wastewater solids handling options and subsequent decisions and funding options, wastewater treatment plant incinerator needs, the new raw water clearwell at the water treatment plant, school zone flashing beacons, Sharpes Corner roundabout revisions planned by WSDOT, the interdepartmental effort to beautify the R Avenue corridor, and the bidding process for the CSO project.

Public Comment

No one present wished to address the Council on any topic not already on the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Walters, to approve the following Consent Agenda items. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Minutes of April 26, 2021
- b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$122,614.68

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 100002 through 100032, total \$56,578.68

Check numbers: 99992 through 100001, total \$27,420.48

Wire transfer numbers: 280646 through 283688, total \$44,676.95

- c. Resolution 3030: Waiving the State Competitive Bidding Requirements for the Purchase of Fairbanks Nijhuis (aka Fairbanks Morse) Pumps, Parts, and Service
- d. Resolution 3031: Waiving the State Competitive Bidding Requirements for the Purchase of Foxboro Instrumentation

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Continued Public Hearing: Ordinance 3087: Vacating right-of-way of a portion of 11th Street adjacent to blocks 242 and 243, "Map of the City of Anacortes" together with the West 10 feet of B Avenue adjacent to Lot 1 of block 243

City Attorney Darcy Swetnam recapped this agenda item as presented and discussed by City Council at its April 19, 2021 regular meeting. She noted that the public hearing on this item remained open from April 19.

Mayor Gere invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item.

Sean Noronha opposed the proposed vacation and warned against setting bad precedent by granting this vacation in exchange for a trail easement. He urged Council to work with the neighborhood to mitigate future impacts.

Rebecca Ivey urged Council to vote against the vacation which Ms. Ivey said violated city code. She suggested that this was a bad deal that would set unfortunate precedent for future easements and vacations.

No other members of the public wished to address Council.

Mr. McDougall inquired about the code section referred to by Ms. Ivey. Ms. Swetnam explained that AMC Chapter 12.50 had been updated since negotiations had begun for the proposed vacation several years prior. She explained the relevant provisions of that chapter.

The majority of councilmembers expressed a desire to vacate the requested portions of 11th Street (Segments 2 and 3) but not the requested portions of B Avenue (Segments 4 and 5). Ms. Swetnam indicated that staff would need to revise the ordinance and bring it back to Council for action at the next meeting. Mayor Gere directed staff to do so.

At approximately 7:04 p.m. Mayor Gere closed the public hearing on Ordinance 3087.

Continued Public Hearing: Critical Area Regulations Draft 3

Planning Director Don Measamer introduced Senior Planner Tess Cooper to lead the continued discussion of this item by City Council, following the opening of the public hearing at the regular City Council meeting of April 19, 2021.

Ms. Cooper noted that the public comment period for this agenda item had closed on April 23, 2021. She advised that staff had subsequently compiled all comments received and prepared responses to those. Ms. Cooper displayed that comment document and reviewed it line by line. Ms. Cooper's slide presentation was added to the packet materials for the meeting.

Mayor Gere invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item.

Kyle Loring commented on several of the language changes proposed in his submitted comment letter.

Tom Glade commented on the characterization of the Ship Harbor wetland, the term passive recreation and the ACFL.

Brian Wetcher commented on evolving maps and inventories over time and the value of including those to establish a baseline against which to measure no net loss.

Mayor Gere left the public hearing open to the May 10, 2021 regular City Council meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 9:03 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of May 3, 2021 was adjourned.