

Anacortes City Council Minutes - October 25, 2021

Call to Order

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of October 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Matt Miller participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Councilmember Christine Cleland-McGrath attended the meeting in Council Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CLOSED SESSION

Collective Bargaining topics per RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) (45 minutes)

Mayor Gere announced that City Council would convene in Closed Session per RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) for approximately 45 minutes regarding planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress. The mayor advised that the regular meeting would then reconvene with no action having been taken. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Matt Miller attended the executive session remotely.

Announcements and Committee Reports

COVID-19 Update: Mayor Gere shared current case statistics and vaccination progress for Anacortes, Skagit County and Washington State.

Planning Committee: Ms. Moulton reported from the Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included upcoming Planning Commission consideration of the R4 Bonus Height work plan and self-storage in the Commercial zone, flood plain management code updates, and grant applications currently pending.

Personnel Committee: Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the Committee meeting held the previous week. The topics discussed included introduction of the new HR Manager, the classification comp study, labor relations updates, COVID vaccination mandates in Washington State, long term care insurance legislation, and alternative work schedule management.

Public Comment

Mayor Gere invited the public to comment on any item not on the agenda.

Jessica Owens, 2211 33rd Street, expressed her alarm about wolves that had escaped from Predators of the Heart wildlife sanctuary into the Anacortes Community Forestlands on October 19. Ms. Owens alleged that Predators of the Heart violates several RCW sections and recounted previous legal action between Skagit County and Predators of the Heart. She urged the City of Anacortes to work with the County to investigate the business practices of Predators of the Heart in relation to public health and safety.

Mayor Gere responded that the city had officially requested action from Skagit County for the safety of citizens and enforcement of the laws.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Minutes of October 18, 2021
- b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$1,095,737.47
 - The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
 - EFT numbers: 101526 through 101577, total \$902,590.02
 - Check numbers: 101578 through 101594, total \$205,450.94
 - Wire transfer numbers: 292319 through 292618, total \$110,841.70
- c. Interlocal Agreement #21-249-LIB-001 with Skagit County for 2021 Library Materials Funding

OTHER BUSINESS

Review of 2022 Budget - Public Works Department

Finance Director Steve Hoglund initiated Council's review of the 2022 proposed budget. Mr. Hoglund reviewed the packet materials for this agenda item, focusing on the Public Works department. Mr. Hoglund and Public Works Director Fred Buckenmeyer responded to councilmember questions about specific line items. Mayor Gere noted that the rest of the draft budget would be reviewed at the next regular City Council meeting on November 1.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 7:55 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of October 25, 2021 was adjourned.