

Anacortes City Council Minutes - August 15, 2022

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of August 15, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Carolyn Moulton and Bruce McDougall were present.

Councilmembers Anthony Young and Amanda Hubik participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Councilmembers Ryan Walters and Christine Cleland-McGrath were absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. McDougall moved, seconded by Mr. Carter, to excuse the absence of Mr. Walters. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Ms. Moulton moved, seconded by Mr. Young, to excuse the absence of Ms. Cleland-McGrath. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller shared Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) pavement repair update for Commercial Avenue to occur from 10pm - 4am nightly beginning Monday August 15th through Wednesday August 17th. He reminded the public that Commercial Avenue from the roundabout south of 35th Street to 12th Street is part of State Highway 20 and maintained by WSDOT. He welcomed WSDOT repair efforts and reiterated that the City continues to advocate with WSDOT and federal partners for a full overlay of the aforementioned stretch of highway.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Public Works Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included the Commercial Avenue at 12th Street roundabout project options, a pending modification to the contract for source testing at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the ongoing Water System Plan update.

Economic Development Committee

Mr. Young reported from the Economic Development Committee meeting held the previous Tuesday. The topics discussed included the mission of the Economic Development Committee, assisting the businesses and economy of Anacortes, Dakota Creek possibly bidding on an upcoming project, incentivizing businesses to locate in Anacortes, and staffing challenges for local businesses. He concluded by mentioning that John Sternlicht, Chief Executive Officer of the Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County, would attend the next committee meeting on September 6th.

Volunteer Appreciation: Martin Harris

Administrative Services Director, Emily Schuh, introduced Martin Harris, and provided a summary of his volunteer service to the City at the Anacortes Senior Activity Center from 2019 through the COVID-19 pandemic and his efforts to help local seniors stay connected virtually throughout the quarantine period. Mr. Harris continues to serve as volunteer coordinator, leading a team that helps seniors understand how to better utilize modern technology, has taught six classes with over 300 participants on how to cut the cord, makes technology consultation house calls for homebound residents, and serves as the curriculum director for the Anacortes Senior College. Mayor Miller thanked Mr. Harris for his service and recognized him as a volunteer extraordinaire in helping fellow seniors cut the cord.

Mr. Harris thanked the City for undertaking the Access Anacortes Fiber Internet project and underscored its importance to the senior community for improved access to communication and healthcare.

Public Comment

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

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

Consent Agenda

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

a. Minutes of August 8, 2022

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$1,196,061.53

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 103962 through 104006, total \$302,208.68

Check numbers: 104007 through 104030, total \$874,280.41

Wire transfer numbers: 308383 through 308725, total \$19,572.44

Other Business

Access Anacortes Fiber Internet Update

Administrative Services Director, Emily Schuh, provided the third quarter update on Access Anacortes Fiber Internet. Ms. Schuh's slides were added to the packet materials for the meeting. Ms. Schuh reported on customers in service and pending orders for service, noting the strong ongoing demand for Access Anacortes Fiber Internet. Ms. Schuh then addressed cash flow and the status of network expansion in different areas of the city and funding sources for each. She then mentioned the partnership with Martin Harris and the Anacortes Senior Activity Center, citing their assistance in helping seniors to cut the cord.

Mr. McDougall congratulated the team on planning and dealing with supply chain challenges for the expansion projects, and remarked that the current subscription ratio of gigabit to 100 megabit customers is exceeding business plan expectations.

Ordinance 4029: Hours and Closures for Parks and the Anacortes Community Forest Lands

Jonn Lunsford, Parks and Recreation Director, introduced the second reading of Ordinance 4029: Hours and Closures for Parks and the Anacortes Community Forest Lands (ACFL). It codifies a uniform set of opening hours (5am-10pm daily) and provides explicit authority to the Parks Director to close a section of a park or the ACFL and makes it a violation to be in those areas after hours or under a closure order. The legislation also provides a means of requesting after-hours access for special purposes. Mr. Lunsford mentioned that no public comments were received and that the closure hours provide the native ACFL inhabitants a respite from human activity.

CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to approve Ordinance 4029 setting hours for the Parks and Anacortes Community Forest Lands. Vote: Ayes - JEREMY CARTER, ANTHONY YOUNG, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 6:30 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of August 15, 2022 was adjourned.