

Anacortes City Council Minutes - February 27, 2023

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of February 27, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, and Bruce McDougall were present. Councilmember Amanda Hubik participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Councilmember Jeremy Carter was absent. Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. McDougall to excuse the absence of Mr. Carter. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller shared an update on the Tommy Thompson Trail trestle repair project, reporting that it reopened as of last week and extended thanks to contractors Culbertson Marine, Transpac Marinas, and Strandberg Construction for stepping up to undertake the project on short notice, as well as to principal donors including the Miller Charitable Trust, Anacortes Kiwanis Club, Samish Indian Nation, Marathon Refining, HollyFrontier Sinclair Refining, Skagit County Commissioners, and the Anacortes Rotary Club. Additionally, Mayor Miller thanked the Parks Foundation for organizing volunteers and fundraising efforts, and Parks and Recreation Director, Jonn Lunsford, for getting the trestle open before spring. He then thanked the Library for the successful Fantasy Day event on Saturday, and concluded by announcing a winter weather advisory.

Planning Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Planning Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included a draft lease with the Habitat for Humanity for the proposed development on West 5th Street, the draft cinema lease, draft code language for parklet administration and management, and a grant from the Department of Transportation that will fund the environmental impact statement for the Guemes Channel Trail.

Museum Committee

Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the Museum Committee meeting held on February 23, 2023. The topics discussed included the virtual exhibit smartphone tour, interpretive signs for Lodging Tax Advisory Committee projects including commemorating Bill Mitchell's former residence that is now Fiddlehead Montessori School, the W.T. Preston 40th Anniversary as a National Historic Landmark in Anacortes reopening on weekends in April and May, and announced that the Maritime Heritage Center is open Thursday through Sunday during the winter, and work with local elementary, middle school, high school and senior center students.

Arts Commission Appointments

Mayor Miller thanked Terry McDonald (10 years), Betsy Humphries (11 years) and Laura Hamilton (9 years) for serving as Arts Commissioners. Mayor Miller presented the proposed appointments of Bob Hogan (3-year term), Mark Gardner (3-year term), Dona Reed (3-year term), and Hyojeong "Clara" Jeong (1-year student term) to the Arts Commission.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Young, to approve the appointments of Bob Hogan (3-year term), Mark Gardner (3-year term), Dona Reed (3-year term), and Hyojeong "Clara" Jeong (1-year student term) to the Arts Commission. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

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. McDougall, to approve the following Consent Agenda items. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

a. Minutes of February 21, 2023

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$139,980.34

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 105625 through 105651, total \$74,286.20

Check numbers: 105652 through 105661, total \$50,478.42

Wire transfer numbers: 319493 through 319680, total \$15,215.72

c. Contract Modification: On-Call Professional Services at the WWTP #22-057-SEW-001

Public Hearings

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan Final

Planning, Community and Economic Development Director, Don Measamer, opened the second public hearing for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2023-2027 consolidated final plan and one-year action plan. He outlined the estimated allocations, including 85% for a re-roof project for the Anacortes Housing Authority and 15% for public services through the Anacortes Family Center. Mr. Measamer concluded by announcing that the city had not received public comments late and staff recommended plan approval for submission to the Department for Housing and Urban Development, adding that the city had received late notice that the total allocation for 2023 would be \$104,537 and would be confirmed by official letter within the next two weeks.

Mayor Miller invited the public to comment on the agenda item. No one present wished to address the Council on the agenda item. At 6:11pm, Mayor Miller closed the public hearing.

As a sitting Housing Authority Commissioner, Ms. Hubik recused herself from voting on the plan. CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by RYAN WALTERS, to accept the CDBG 2023-2027 Consolidated Plan as presented and approve submission to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL. Nays - None. Abstentions: AMANDA HUBIK. Result: Passed

Other Business

Property Taxes and How They Work in Washington State - Skagit County Assessor Danny Hagen

Finance Director, Steve Hoglund, introduced Skagit County Assessor, Danny Hagen, who gave a presentation on the administration of property taxes in Skagit County and Washington State, referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting. Mr. Hagen answered questions from Councilmembers and members of the public.

Contract Award: Fidalgo Island Water Service Area Expansion: Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Integration #21-197-WTR-002

Public Works Director, Henry Hash, presented the contract award for Fidalgo Island Water Service Area Expansion: Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Integration #21-197-WTR-002. He outlined the contract, underscoring that this was a one-time contract to ensure that the two water systems work together and would result in lower water rates and approximately \$300,000 of new revenue for the city. Mayor Miller reminded the public that there was a recent agreement between the City of Anacortes and Skagit Public Utility District for acquisition of the new service area. Mr. Young asked if the purpose of the contract is to be able to manage the system more effectively? Mr. Hash responded affirmatively and added that it would add nearly 700 new water and fiber customers. Mr. Walters emphasized that it would be potential fiber customers, as a decision had not yet been made on fiber network expansion outside of the city limits.

ANTHONY YOUNG moved, seconded by CAROLYN MOULTON, to authorize the mayor to sign contract #21-197-WTR-002 with Quality Controls Corporation in the amount of \$112,107.78 to perform the Fidalgo Island Water Service Area Expansion SCADA Integration. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Resolution 3111: 2023 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Appointments

Planning, Community and Economic Development Director, Don Measamer, introduced Resolution 3111: Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Appointments for 2023, which was consistent with Ordinance 4019 and Anacortes Municipal Code Section 2.48.020.C. He added that Travis Sherman, the current general manager of the Majestic Inn and Spa, submitted a talent bank application to replace Alia Rossi, the previous general manager of the Majestic Inn and Spa, and that all other serving members had agreed to serve an additional year on the committee. Mr. Young, the committee chair, remarked that the committee works very hard to frugally bring visitors to Anacortes and, if community members have ideas on how to do things better, to come forward before the committee.

BRUCE MCDOUGALL moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to approve Resolution 3111: 2023 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee appointments as presented. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 7:18 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of February 27, 2023 was adjourned.