

Anacortes City Council Minutes - June 5, 2023

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of June 5, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, and Amanda Hubik were present.

Councilmembers Jeremy Carter and Bruce McDougall participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Councilmember Ryan Walters was absent. Ms. Moulton moved, seconded by Ms. Cleland-McGrath to excuse Mr. Walters. His absence was approved by voice vote.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session

Mayor Miller announced at 6:01 that the City Council and the City Attorney would convene in Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110 (i) for approximately 15 minutes to discuss litigation.

Potential Litigation or Litigation per RCW 42.30.110(i)(15minutes)

Mayor Miller resumed the Council meeting after the executive session at 6:18.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller expressed thanks to Public Works for the successful June 1st Open House, as well as to the Port of Anacortes for a good Waterfront Festival over the prior weekend. He also shared that Skagit County would be implementing a burn ban starting Friday June 9th.

Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee

Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee meeting held the previous week. She explained that Allen Muia and Stephanie Joy from New Earth recovery visited the committee and talked about the supportive housing they started for inmates who had started drug treatment in the County Jail, who when released if they didn't have someplace to go would sometimes lead to a step back in their recovery. New Earth can bridge that gap for those who were willing to commit to the requirements to stay there to continue their recovery.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Public Works Committee meeting held at 5:00 prior to the Council meeting. The topics discussed included cleanup of the Old Water treatment plant demolition, of which the contractors are in the process of getting the necessary permits but are expected to complete the demolition by Christmas this year. She also discussed some parking issues in town that have come to their attention, as well as the upcoming road resurfacing scheduled for the coming year.

Personnel Committee

Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the Personnel Committee meeting held earlier in the day, where the committee discussed an update of the City's personnel policy; she also shared statistics related to the hiring activity during the year.

Public Comment

Mayor Miller invited the public to comment on any item not on the agenda. Markay Neumann from Anacortes expressed thanks for the T avenue cleanup earlier in the year, but expressed concern that several RV's were starting to show up in other areas of town.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Carter, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Minutes of May 16, 2023
- b. Minutes of May 22, 2023
- c. Approval of claims in the amount of \$637,636.64

The Following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 106389 through 106441, total \$481,673.65

Check numbers: 106442 through 106456, total \$136,424.58

Wire transfer numbers: 324914 through 325382, total \$19,538.41

d. Street Fair Application: Free Movie Night on Kingsway

e. Street Fair Application: Anacortes Arts Festival

Other Business

Western Washington University Student Presentation: Recommended Comprehensive Plan Draft Amendments

Planning Director John Coleman invited students from WWU to present the findings of their review of the City's Comp Plan from the perspective of climate change, and their potential recommendations to address those issues. There were 3 students accompanied by their professor, that presented a PowerPoint outlining the potential impacts of climate change, and provided recommendations that the City could consider mitigating several of those noted issues. Mayor Miller expressed his thanks for the good work the students presented. Likewise, Mr. Young and Ms. Moulton also acknowledged the good work and thanked them for the suggestions.

Alternative Response Team

Community Paramedic Steve Monrad, as well as other members of the community that make up the alternative response team, presented a PowerPoint that illustrated the work being done, and the impact being made, with the City's Community Paramedic program. He shared many statistics related to the types of responses, and the types of patients they have been responding to. He then introduced Ashley Wick with the Anacortes Family Center, and Jennifer Paddick who is a certified substance abuse counselor who also works with the Alternative Response Team, who explained their roles, and shared examples of the successes Team has been seeing.

Contract Award: 2023 Asphalt Pre-level Chip Seal Preparation Project #23-140-TRN-002

Public Works Director Henry Hash presented to council the contract for street preparation for the upcoming chip seal program that will resurface several miles of city street in the coming year, including the Fidalgo Bay Road. He explained there were 3 bids, with the low bid coming in under engineering estimate. Mr. Young moved, seconded by Ms. Hubik, to approve the contract.

Vote: Ayes - Young, Cleland-McGrath, Moulton, McDougall, Hubik, Carter. Nays - None. Result: Passed.

Settlement Agreement: Growth Management Hearings Board Case No. 22-2-0004

City Attorney Darcy Swetnam presented to Council a settlement agreement to resolve an appeal to the Growth Management Hearings Board of Ordinance 4025 filed by an Anacortes citizen. Staff recommended the approval of the settlement agreement. The mayor had already signed the settlement agreement, so staff were seeking ratification of the mayor's signature on the agreement. Ms. Hubik moved, seconded by Mr. Young, to ratify the mayor's signature.

Vote: Ayes - Moulton, Hubik, Carter, Young. Nays - Cleland-McGrath. Result: Passed. It is noted that

Mr. McDougall abstained as he had to drop off the meeting before the vote was held, resulting in a 4-1 vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 7:30 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of June 5, 2023, was adjourned.