

Anacortes City Council Minutes - September 25, 2023

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of September 25, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, Bruce McDougall, and Amanda Hubik were present. Councilmembers Christine Cleland-McGrath and Carolyn Moulton participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller shared an update on the recent publication of the fall and winter edition of the A-Town magazine and a recap of the recent Oyster Run event. He then announced that next week is National Week Without Driving and that the Anacortes Senior Activity Center 50th anniversary open house will be held on September 30th from 1-4pm.

Planning Committee

Mr. Walters reported from the Planning Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included the Week Without Driving, Whatcom Housing Week at whatcomhousingalliance.org, the need for housing, short-term rentals, and the MJB development.

North Star Housing Work Group

Mr. Walters reported from the North Star Housing Work Group meeting held earlier in the afternoon. The topics discussed included improving coordination and alignment, identification of funding sources, revising city development codes to better facilitate housing, identifying city-owned properties that could be used for housing development, and a coming meeting of the North Star Project on November 29th.

Economic Development Committee

Mr. Young reported from the Economic Development Committee meeting held the previous week. The topics discussed included how Anacortes can recognize its economic strengths, opportunities, and how to identify and leverage resident expertise in realizing those opportunities. The committee also discussed childcare availability.

MJB Development

Mayor Miller provided an update on the MJB development, including that the substantial shoreline and long plat permit applications have been deemed complete and that notices would soon be published soliciting public comment. He also mentioned that he had met with MJB representatives the previous Friday and that information would be shared with the Council and public when appropriate.

Follow-on Event Center

Mr. Young commented that the city must come together to find alternatives to replace the Transit Shed as a downtown event center, and he continues to meet with Port officials to discuss the issue.

Public Comment

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

Public comment was given as follows:

Pat Gardner of Anacortes expressed support for the Q Avenue crosswalks and recommended that they be lighted, optimism regarding the replacement of the Transit Shed, and hope that there will be more information

forthcoming related to the MJB development.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Moulton removed Item 5.c., Contract Award: O Avenue Sidewalk Infrastructure Improvement Project #23-266-TRN-001, from the Consent Agenda.

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

a. Minutes of September 18, 2023

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$951,644.25

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 107397 through 107443, total \$519,780.04

Check numbers: 107444 through 107460, total \$328,957.10

Wire transfer numbers: 331457 through 331870, total \$102,907.11

d. Contract Modification: 2023 Waterline Replacements #23-039-WTR-001

Contract Award: O Avenue Sidewalk Infrastructure Improvement Project #23-266-TRN-001

Ms. Moulton discussed the O Avenue sidewalk infrastructure improvement project #23-266-TRN-001, detailing the location of the project from 14th Street south to 17th Street. Public Works Director, Andrew Rheame, added that there will be an additional project in the coming years that will provide similar improvements to the south of the project area along O Avenue.

CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to approve O Avenue Sidewalk Infrastructure Improvement Project #23-266-TRN-001. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Hearings

Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) 2023-2028 Amendment - Q Avenue Crossings

Mayor Miller opened the public hearing on the proposed amendment to the 2023-2028 Capital Facilities Plan for the Q Avenue Crossings project. Finance Director, Steve Hoglund, presented the CFP amendment referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting. He added that no public comments were received regarding the proposed amendment.

Mayor Miller invited the public to comment on the agenda item. No one present wished to address the Council on the agenda item.

Mayor Miller closed the public hearing.

Other Business

Ordinance 4060: 2023 - 2028 CFP Amendment

Finance Director, Steve Hoglund, introduced Ordinance 4060 that would authorize the proposed amendment to the 2023 - 2028 CFP, including \$53,000 for design in 2024 and \$450,000 in 2025 for construction of the Q Avenue Crossings project.

Discussion topics included:

- State grant funding sources for the project and the OpenGov portal information on other CFP projects.

ANTHONY YOUNG moved, seconded by BRUCE MCDOUGALL, to approve Ordinance 4060 amending the 2023-2028 Capital Facilities Plan. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH,

RYAN WALTERS, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, CAROLYN MOULTON, JEREMY CARTER, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Ordinance 4059: 3rd Quarter Budget Amendment

Finance Director, Steve Hoglund, introduced Ordinance 4059, that would authorize the third quarter budget amendment for fiscal year 2023. He detailed added items including the Ship Harbor walkway study, the lead and copper sampling plan, the 32nd Street and M Avenue project, the City Hall water leak repair and information technology equipment replacement, voter registration costs, and the SoftResources contract for the Enterprise Resource Planning system replacement process.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by ANTHONY YOUNG, to approve Ordinance 4059 amending the 2023 budget. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, RYAN WALTERS, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, CAROLYN MOULTON, JEREMY CARTER, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

3rd Quarter Finance Update

Finance Director, Steve Hoglund, presented the third quarter Finance Department update, referring to a spreadsheet presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Public utility rates, grant funding for the R Avenue improvement project, the spending of real estate excise tax revenues and the number of units in the multi-family permit that was issued.

Parks and Recreation Update

Parks and Recreation Director, Jonn Lunsford, presented a departmental update, referring to a presentation that was added to the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Depot Plaza temporary events tent, discussions with event hosts, seasonal or temporary deployment of the tent, cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce, looking beyond the partial or known list of special events, policy of how the space will be managed, tent capacity, ancillary facilities including restrooms, tables and chairs, creatively holding events without a central event venue.
- Recreation Conservation Office grant funding for the Heart Lake area.
- Possible trail development through Western Washington University property at Shannon Point.
- Cranberry Lake improvements not included in the CFP.

Mayor Miller invited the public to comment on the agenda item.

Pat Gardner of Anacortes expressed support for a downtown venue, pointing out a large building across the street from the Rockfish Grill that could serve as a possible alternative downtown site.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 7:40 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of September 25, 2023 was adjourned.