

Anacortes City Council Minutes - October 9, 2023

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of October 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath (arrived @ 6:02 pm), Bruce McDougall and Amanda Hubik were present. Councilmember 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 Faith in Blue events this past weekend that connect diverse houses of worship with law enforcement, the upcoming library in-service and closure on Friday, October 13th, and White Cane Safety Day on October 15th that raises awareness for visually impaired community members, an upcoming candidates forum on October 10th from 5-8 pm at City Hall, and updates to the meeting agenda.

Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee meeting held October 4th. The topics discussed included Community Development Block Grant funding, including \$14,000 for cold weather shelters from 2020 funds, \$34,000 toward curb cuts and ADA improvements at 24th Street and H Avenue from 2021 funds, and \$17,000 to the Anacortes Family Center for painting the emergency shelter from 2022 funds, and 15% to the Anacortes Family Center for services and the remaining 85% to re-roof the Anacortes Housing Authority building at 508 6th Street from 2023 funds.

Planning Committee

Mr. Walters reported from the Planning Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included a \$125,000 grant for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan update and a separate grant for incorporating mitigation and resiliency measures to address climate impacts in the plan.

North Star Housing Work Group

Mr. Walters reported from the North Star Housing Work Group held earlier in the afternoon. Discussion topics included housing project pipeline planning to identify publicly owned and commercial / industrial parcels that could be developed for lower income housing and / or multi-use projects, and the upcoming Whatcom Housing Week.

Public Safety Committee

Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the Public Safety Committee meeting held October 3rd. The police topics discussed included narcotics-related arrests as a result of new state legislation that went into effect on August 15, 2023, the installation and operational status of the Tommy Thompson Trail security cameras, the Anacortes Police Department 2024-2029 Strategic Plan, virtual reality training software and equipment, the recent hiring of four new officers, and the 2024 budget. Fire topics included the two new lateral hires, in-house training for new firefighters in 2024, and the Skagit County Emergency Medical Services levy renewal.

Mayor's Budget Message

Mayor Miller delivered his annual budget message for fiscal year 2024. Finance Director, Steve Hoglund, introduced the schedule for consideration of the 2024 operating budget and capital facilities plan.

Public Comment

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

Public comment was given as follows:

Colette Mues Arvidson, President of the Anacortes Lions Club, spoke about the history of White Cane Day and its aim of increasing public awareness of visually impaired community members' safety and quality of life.

Consent Agenda

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

a. Minutes of October 2, 2023

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$2,212,594.16

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 107504 through 107544, total \$1,958,645.322

Check numbers: 107503 through 107559, total \$239,191.95

Wire transfer numbers: 331936 through 332739, total \$14,756.89

c. Special Event/Road Closure: Kiwanis Expansion Celebration

Closed Record Decision Hearing

Continued Appeal Hearing - Port of Anacortes / SDP-2023-0002

Mayor Miller re-convened the continued appeal hearing for the Port of Anacortes Shoreline Substantial Development Permit (SDP-2023-0002) with conditions. City Attorney, Darcy Swetnam, detailed the two lines of appeal pursued by the Port of Anacortes of the Planning Commission's decision, including Case 23-008 before the Shoreline Hearings Board and the current appeal hearing before the Council. She then introduced the proposed settlement agreement that was reached during mediation between the City and Port held on October 3rd that would replace the three conditions included in the permit with the following four new conditions:

1. The Port would place wayfinding signs directing the public to Q'elech'ilhch Park, in consultation with local stakeholders for appropriate language, on the corner of 3rd Street and Commercial Avenue, 2nd Street and O Avenue, and 3rd Street and O Avenue.
2. The Port would coordinate beautification measures to place murals created by Anacortes High School seniors and accompanying informational signs on the fence that surround the Quiet Cove property.
3. The Port of Anacortes would install street trees on the west side of O Avenue between 2nd Street and 3rd Street and on the north side of 3rd Street between O Avenue and N Avenue.
4. The parties agreed to limit the precedential value of this agreement to this particular project.

Ms. Swetnam reported that City staff recommended approval of the settlement agreement. She added that within five days of execution of the agreement, the City would re-issue the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and decision in the shoreline substantial development permit and within five days of that, the Port would dismiss with prejudice its appeal to the Shoreline Hearings Board.

Discussion topics included:

- Endurance, number and changeability of the murals, alternative public access to the Q'elech'ilhch Park, trust and the working relationship between the parties.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by JEREMY CARTER, to approve the settlement amending condition 3 to have street trees on the west side of O Avenue. Vote: Ayes - JEREMY CARTER, ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Other Business

Contract Award: AT&T FirstNet Communications System #23-262-ITS-001

Administrative Services Director, Emily Schuh, introduced the proposed contract with AT&T FirstNet Communications System #23-262-ITS-001, referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Device buyback credit, staff training and budget, additional equipment for emergency services, eligible city staff, and bundling options.

JEREMY CARTER moved, seconded by RYAN WALTERS, to approve contract #23-262-ITS-001 with AT&T as presented. Vote: Ayes - JEREMY CARTER, ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Lease Agreement: Hawkeye Wrestling Club #23-281-PRK-001

Parks and Recreation Director, Jonn Lunsford, introduced the proposed lease agreement with the Hawkeye Wrestling Club and the Boys and Girls Club of Anacortes #23-281-PRK-001, pointing out that the Boys and Girls Club board has reviewed and approved the agreement.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to approve lease agreement #23-281-PRK-001 with the Hawkeye Wrestling Club and Boys and Girls Club. Vote: Ayes - JEREMY CARTER, ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Contract Modification: Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall Permitting Services #20-032-SEW-003

Public Works Director, Andrew Rheame, introduced City Engineer, Tim Hohmann, who detailed the proposed contract for Wastewater Treatment Plant outfall permitting services #20-032-SEW-003.

Discussion topics included:

- Cultural resources data and considerations, earmarked funds for permitting services, Exhibit D services, outfall alignment, project estimated cost breakdown, and consultant capability and competence.

Mayor Miller invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item. Public comment was given as follows:

John Wilkinson of Anacortes asked about the extension of the outfall project into 2025 without funding being appropriated under the proposed Capital Facilities Plan.

BRUCE MCDOUGALL moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to authorize the mayor to sign the modification to contract #20-032-SEW-003 with Widener and Associates. Vote: Ayes - JEREMY CARTER, ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Contract Award: WWTP Pump Station 14 Replacement Pump Purchase #23-283-SEW-001

Public Works Director, Andrew Rheaume, introduced the proposed contract for Wastewater Treatment Plant Pump Station 14 replacement pump purchase #23-283-SEW-001, detailing the location of the pump station near the Washington State Ferry landing, the existing system, and required repairs.

Discussion topics included:

- Amount of the allotted 2023 budget that had been spent on wastewater treatment plant pumps.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by ANTHONY YOUNG, to authorize the mayor to sign contract #23-283-SEW-001 with Whitney Equipment Company, Inc. Vote: Ayes - JEREMY CARTER, ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) 2024-2029, Public Works

Finance Director, Steve Hoglund, Public Works Director, Andrew Rheaume, Water System Manager, Brian McDaniel, and Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager, Brian Walker, presented the proposed 2024-2029 Capital Facilities Plan for Public Works, referring to a presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Facilities
 - City Hall elevator retrofit, fire department elevator replacement, City Hall seismic retrofit cost estimate, merits of repair line items included in the Capital Facilities Plan, integration with the Comprehensive Plan, comprehensive list of projects for the Council, and clear articulation of needs.
- Operations
 - New vehicles or replacements.
- Transportation
 - H Avenue multi-modal trail, OpenGov stories, and pavement maintenance.
- Wastewater Utility Collections
 - Funding for Reservation Road, Padilla Heights Road and Similk Bay Road Sewer.
- Wastewater Utility
 - Wastewater treatment plant re-design, cash reserves in the sewer fund, and sewer rate setting.
- Water Utility
 - Whistle Lake Dam assessment grant funding, internal maintenance for Skyline and 29th Street

reservoirs, and water treatment plant controls reliability project timing.

- 2023 CFP Status Update and Conclusion
 - A holistic review of the road overlay program, and a complete Guemes Channel Trail plan.

Resolution 3133: Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day

Mr. Walters introduced Resolution 3133 recognizing and celebrating the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples' Day in a non-binding resolution.

ANTHONY YOUNG moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to approve Resolution 3133 Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day in the City of Anacortes. Vote: Ayes - JEREMY CARTER, 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 8:44 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of October 9, 2023 was adjourned.