

Anacortes City Council Minutes - February 5, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of February 5, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, and Carolyn Moulton were present. Councilmember Christine Cleland-McGrath participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Councilmembers Bruce McDougall and Amanda Hubik were absent.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Young, to excuse the absence of Mr. McDougall and Ms. Hubik. 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 Anacortes Family Center's upcoming Dine and Shop to End Homelessness on February 8th, Adventure Day at the Anacortes Library on February 17th, and an R Avenue Improvement Project update.

Fiber Committee

Mr. Walters reported from the Fiber Committee meeting held on January 24th. The topics discussed included a city-wide take rate of 48%, installation of a back-up router to allow for regular maintenance of the primary router, the coming bid opening on Wednesday for the Economic Development Administration area, and an update on the final stages of the Guemes View area installation project.

Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee meeting held February 1st. The topics discussed included temporary housing vouchers, a community services resource matrix, and the Northstar countywide service coordination effort.

Public Works Committee

Mr. Walters reported from the Public Works Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included the South Commercial Avenue Complete Streets project phase 1, safe routes to schools, evolving space requirements at the joint operations center for the city and school district, water service to the City of Oak Harbor, the request for qualifications for Federal Emergency Management Agency grant funding administration and reporting, and adding engineering and development service fees included in Anacortes Municipal Code Chapter 15.24 to the unified fee schedule.

Northstar Project Housing Workgroup

Mr. Walters reported from the Northstar Project Housing Workgroup meeting held earlier in the day. The discussion topics included a list of possible public properties for housing development county-wide and grant opportunities for low-income housing.

Housing Authority Board Appointment

Mayor Miller presented the proposed appointment of Pat Barrett for a term of 5 years effective through December 31, 2028, to the Housing Authority Board.

Ms. Moulton moved, seconded by Mr. Fantini, to confirm the appointment of Pat Barrett to the Housing Authority Board for a term of 5 years effective through December 31, 2028. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Reappointments

Mayor Miller presented the reappointment of Alex Hernandez and Christine Hansen to a second term through December 31, 2028, on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission.

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Fantini, to approve the reappointment of Alex Hernandez and Christine Hansen to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Anacortes Arts Commission Appointments

Mayor Miller presented the proposed appointment of Steven Cheng and Trish Wilson to the Anacortes Arts Commission for a three-year term through December 31, 2026.

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Ms. Moulton, to approve the appointment of Steven Cheng and Trish Wilson to the Anacortes Arts Commission for a three-year term through December 31, 2026. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Comment

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

Public comment was delivered as follows:

Peggy Flynn, Laurie Sherman and Andy Stewart of Procession of the Species, and Loalynda Bird of the Luminary Light Parade presented event goals, details, and art work associated with the Anacortes Earth Day Celebration on April 20th.

Theresa Baker of Anacortes addressed the lack of clarity in the map depicting voting wards on the city website.

Allen Rhoades of Anacortes commented on the need for a public events space to replace the recently closed Port Transit Shed, and urged the port and city to work together on a joint plan to find and develop a replacement location and facility.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Minutes of January 22, 2024
- b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$3,025,530.81
- The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
 - EFT numbers: 108437 through 108506, total \$2,463,443.85
 - Check numbers: 108432 through 108537, total \$531,337.02
 - Wire transfer numbers: 339537 through 340482, total \$30,749.94
- c. Contract Award: Purchase of Chevrolet Silverado 2500 #24-031-ERR-001
- d. Special Event: Anacortes Earth Day Celebration

Other Business

Ordinance 4068: Amending the 2023 Budget

Finance Director Steve Hoglund introduced Ordinance 4068: Amending the 2023 Budget, referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

Mayor Miller invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item. No one present wished to address the Council.

Discussion topics included:

- Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) collection trends from September through December 2023.
- Cost benefit of additional funding for staff time for road maintenance versus contracting for the same work.
- Adjusting the current year's budget for additional staff time to avoid going over budget.
- Using REET to balance funds where expenditures exceed revenues.
- Expenditures on the Former Water Treatment Plant demolition.
- Impending increase in tipping fees for solid waste.
- Estimate of funds for professional services and repairs and maintenance that could be allocated to the utilities.
- Staffing changes throughout the city staff.
- Detailed reasoning behind excessive budget facilities maintenance expenditures.
- Degree of overage relative to previous years.

Mayor Miller announced that this agenda item would be reconsidered at the next regular meeting of the City Council on February 12th.

Ordinance 4069: Parking Code Amendment

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced Ordinance 4069: Parking Code Amendment, referring to a slide that depicted the area affected by the parking code amendment.

Mayor Miller invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item. No one present wished to address the Council.

Discussion topics included:

- Amending Section 1. of the draft ordinance to read "The Anacortes Municipal Code is amended as follows:
Table 10.12.385-1 is amended as follows:"
- Amending Table 10.12.385-1 to read "Strom Place" instead of Storm Place as drafted.

CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by TJ FANTINI, to suspend City Council procedures and waive the two-read rule for ordinances. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result: Passed

CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by TJ FANTINI, to approve Ordinance 4069 with above amendments to Section 1. and Table 10.12.385-1. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Resolution 3148: Rejecting All Bids for the AMI Mono Poles and Antennas Installation Project #21-137-WTR-002

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced Resolution 3148: Rejecting All Bids for the AMI Mono Poles and Antennas Installation Project #21-137-WTR-002, reporting that the two bids received were incomplete and twice the engineer's estimate respectively. He added that the City Engineer proposed placing the antenna on a city-owned water tower, thus eliminating the need for the antenna pole.

Discussion topics included:

Anacortes City Council Minutes - February 5, 2024

- The reason for the increased bid amount.
- How the Federal Aviation Administration requirement for aircraft warnings came about.
- Effectiveness of placing the antenna on a water tower.
- Antenna locations.

ANTHONY YOUNG moved, seconded by RYAN WALTERS, to adopt Resolution 3148 rejecting all bids for the AMI mono poles and antennas installation. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Resolution 3147: Requesting Ballot Initiative to Create a Metropolitan Park District

City Attorney Darcy Swetnam introduced Resolution 3147: Requesting Ballot Initiative to Create a Metropolitan Park District, explaining the reason for the resolution being brought back before the Council to include the specific resolution numbers adopted in the ballot language.

Discussion topics included:

- Metropolitan Park versus Metropolitan Recreation district.
- Replacing the current district with the approved district.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by TJ FANTINI, to approve Resolution 3147 as presented. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result:

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 7:44 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of February 5, 2024 was adjourned.