

Anacortes City Council Minutes - May 20, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of May 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Amanda Hubik were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller announced that the Skagit County Board of Commissioners are hosting a meeting to discuss solid waste rates on May 21st at 8:30 am. He then thanked the Public Works and Fiber department personnel whose quick work during a power outage last Tuesday allowed for restoration of internet service to 2000 affected customers within several hours of the outage. He then mentioned the successful Anacortes Boat and Yacht Show held over the past weekend and that the Port of Anacortes selected Brett Greenwood as its new Executive Director. He then thanked Principal Duez of Anacortes High School for hosting him and several Councilmembers for a day at Anacortes High School. He then announced that it was National Public Works Appreciation Week and reminded the public that city offices would be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 27th. Finally, he congratulated the Anacortes High School boys baseball team for advancing to the 2A state semifinal to be held in Bellingham on Friday, May 24th.

Economic Development Committee

Mr. Young reported from the Economic Development Committee meeting held May 14th. The topics discussed included the final contract with Western Washington University, a future plan to meet with the Downtown Anacortes Alliance, and upcoming stakeholder discussions.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Public Works Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included the solid waste contract with Waste Management, and parking and traffic safety issues.

Port / City Liaison Committee

Mr. Fantini reported from the Port / City Liaison Committee meeting held May 14th. The topics discussed included the hiring of a new executive director, the event center project, applications for \$70 million in cleanup grants through the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant Outfall project.

Ms. Moulton mentioned the Samish Housing ribbon cutting for 14 affordable homes for tribal elders held on Friday, May 17th.

Mr. Fantini mentioned the Anacortes Senior Center fundraiser and fashion show held on Saturday, May 18th.

Public Comment

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

Public comment was delivered as follows:

Zoom audience members Joe Kunzler, Albert Jr, and Phil Barber raised their hands to comment, but were not audible in the Council Chambers.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Minutes of May 13, 2024
- b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$869,862.91
The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
EFT numbers: 109419 through 109451, total \$800,868.38
Check numbers: 109452 through 109467, total \$64,459.05
Wire transfer numbers: 347621 through 347621, total \$4,535.48
- c. Contract Award: 2024 Trip Hazard Removal #24-155-TRN-001

Other Business

Approval of Public Participation Plan for 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update

Planning, Community, and Economic Development Director John Coleman introduced the public participation plan for the 2025 Comprehensive Plan Update as approved by the Planning Commission, referring to a slide presentation that was added to the packet materials for the meeting.

Mayor Miller invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item.

Linda Martin of Anacortes commented on behalf of the Planning Commission that they would like to hear questions and direction from the City Council and suggested that Planning Commissioners attend City Council Planning Committee meetings to facilitate communication between the two bodies in the Comprehensive Plan Update process.

Pat Gardner of Anacortes addressed the possibility of having a centrally located roller board with Comprehensive Plan updates and other city events to increase public awareness.

Brian Wetcher of Anacortes pointed out that there seems to be a missing element from the process where a committee of stakeholders and city staff go through the Comprehensive Plan update piece by piece prior to review by the Planning Commission and the City Council.

Discussion topics included:

- Housing types over time in a stacked bar chart.
- Land capacity analysis as a tool to make policy decisions about density and zoning.
- Who performed the land capacity analysis? The [Leland Consulting Group](#)
- The decision process timing for the Council considering land capacity analysis and potential expansion of urban growth area.
- Expanding the city limits to include the Anacortes Community Forest Lands.
- Comprehensive Plan update application due date end of June 2024.
- Inclusion of stakeholders.
- Notify Me link for subscription to Comp Plan updates.
- How does the Council scope the update?
- City Council check-in points after Planning Commission consideration as the process progresses.
- How population growth projections are developed.
- Schedule of when consultants will be available. Three workshops and land capacity analysis.
- Climate Policy Advisory Team scope of work and responsibilities.
- Land capacity analysis report to the City Council.
- Direct mailer timing and medium. Utility bill inserts, *The Clamdigger*.
- Greatest impact points in the process for public participation.
- How to ensure issues are included in the update.

- Review of docketed items from years past and new items.
- Add target participants to the plan.
- Citizen advisory board.
- The comprehensive plan articulates community values for the next twenty years.
- 2016 Comprehensive Plan as a guiding document for open houses.
- Bring back public participation plan as a resolution.

Contract Modification: R Avenue Long-Term Improvement Project - Consultant Services #20-127-TRN-001

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced the proposed modification to contract #20-127-TRN-001 with H W Lochner for consultant services on the R Avenue Long-Term Improvement project.

Discussion topics included:

- The size of the water lines included in the project.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by BRUCE MCDUGALL, to authorize the mayor to sign modification to contract #20-127-TRN-001 with H W Lochner.

Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Contract Modification: Water Quality Assessment & Planning Project #21-184-WTR-001

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced the proposed modification to contract #21-184-WTR-001 with Confluence LLC for the Water Quality Assessment and Planning project.

Discussion topics included:

- Area of unidirectional flushing.
- More of these amendments for other areas?

CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to authorize the mayor to sign the modification to contract #21-184-WTR-001 with Confluence LLC.

Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Resolution 3155: 2024 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Appointment Filling a Vacancy

Mr. Walters introduced Resolution 3155 to appoint Kristy Southard to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, replacing Anastasia Brencick as one of three committee members that are from organizations authorized to be funded by lodging tax.

ANTHONY YOUNG moved, seconded by TJ FANTINI, to approve Resolution 3155.

Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 8:06 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of May 20, 2024, was adjourned.