

Anacortes City Council Minutes - June 3, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of June 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall, and Amanda Hubik were present. Councilmember Christine Cleland-McGrath participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller thanked Community Action for the valuable guidance provided to community members in need, and city staff for supporting the Anacortes Water Front Festival over the past weekend. He announced that a [virtual Americans with Disabilities Act workshop](#) is to be held on June 4th from 6-7pm, and that the Planning Department will host a Community Open House for the Comprehensive Plan Update on June 5th from 6-8pm in the City Council Chambers. He then reminded the public about the [online budget survey](#) that will remain open through August, the Art Walk on June 7th from 6-8pm, a Port of Anacortes RV Park ribbon cutting on June 6th at 4pm, First Command Financial ribbon cutting on June 6th at 5pm, and Wellness for Life expansion ribbon cutting on June 8th at 11am. He then announced the Daughters of the American Revolution 80th D-Day commemoration at Causland Park at 6pm on June 6th, the Kids Fishing Derby on Saturday, June 8th at Heart Lake. Finally, he announced that the online document portal is intermittently offline due to a technical issue.

Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee meeting held May 29th. The topics discussed included a quarterly housing providers meeting, accessibility for youth services in Skagit County, incentives for building multifamily housing, including a multifamily tax exemption and a sales tax exemption for multifamily housing developers.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Public Works Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included the Transportation Improvement Plan, the ladder truck manufacturing process, two replacement ambulances, and a review of traffic safety issues.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee

Mr. Walters reported from the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meeting held earlier in the day. The topics discussed included a funding request for a Christmas concert program and the revised application form.

Public Comment

Mayor Miller invited the public to comment on any item not on the agenda. No one present wished to address the Council on any topic not already on the agenda.

Consent Agenda

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

a. Minutes of May 28, 2024

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$196,822.22

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 109526 through 109553, total \$173,264

Check numbers: 109554 through 109563, total \$9,839.52

Wire transfer numbers: 347834 through 348431, total \$13,718.70

- c. Special Event: Annual Turkey Trot
- d. Special Event: High School Graduation Parade
- e. Resolution 3157: Dismissing Chidester Appeal of SDP-2024-0001

Public Hearings

Public Hearing: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) 2024 Action Plan

Planning, Community, and Economic Development Coordinator Stephanie Snyder introduced the CDBG 2024 Action Plan, providing responses to Council members' questions from the previous regular meeting.

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

At 6:15pm Mayor Miller closed the public hearing.

CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by ANTHONY YOUNG, to approve the CDBG 2024 Action Plan. Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK, TJ FANTINI. Nays - None. Result: Passed

Other Business

Office of Public Defense Update

Administrative Services Director Emily Schuh introduced Public Defender Crystal Chappell, who presented an update on office activities over the past year, including taking the office paperless via the Defender Data application, joining the county JARS calendar rotation, contracting with the Office of Assigned Counsel for screening those eligible for a public defender, an audit of overflow attorney contracts, and receipt of a \$30,000 grant award from the State Office of Public Defense for 2024-2025. Ms. Schuh provided an update on the Washington State Bar Association's revised Standards for Indigent Defense Services, 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. No one present wished to address the Council.

Discussion topics included:

- The reason for the reduction in the case load threshold.
- Funding for public defense attorneys.
- Shortage of public defense attorneys.
- Credit system for calculating case load.
- Current case load trends.
- Consequences of not having adequate public defense coverage.
- Impact on indigent screenings through the Office of Assigned Counsel.
- Social worker availability and care model.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 6:52 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of June 3, 2024 was adjourned.