

Anacortes City Council Minutes - June 17, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of June 17, 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

The Mayor mentioned the prior week's Mayor Council retreat, bark in the park, the upcoming Juneteenth holiday observed Wednesday June 19th, the upcoming Pride Parade in the coming weekend, and Race Week the following week of June 24th. He also spoke about the rules around using fireworks within City of Anacortes city limits, reminding residents no fireworks are allowed, primarily in order to try and protect the Anacortes Community Forest Lands. The Mayor also talked about a derelict boat program run by the Port, and reminded the public of upcoming Planning meetings, and Ferry meetings.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Public Works Committee meeting held at 5:00 PM before the Council meeting. The topics discussed included Equipment needs and ERR replacement funding.

Personnel Committee

Mr. Fantini and Mr. Young provided an update from the Personnel Committee meeting held at noon earlier on Monday before the Council meeting. The topics discussed included recruiting and staffing, turnover rate, promotional testing for police and fire, a telecommuting policy, the NeoGov recruitment platform, internal department hiring, the enterprise resource planning replacement process, police guild negotiations, and the recent completion of diversity, equity and inclusion training.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee

Mr. Walters provided an update from the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meeting that was held earlier in the day at 2:00 PM, during which revisions to the 2025 application were implemented, as well as setting the calendar for submittals, reviews, and approval of 2025 funding applications.

Police Officer Swearing In

Officer Steven J. Granger was sworn in by Mayor Miller. Chief Floyd was in attendance, as well as many members of the Police Department. Officer Granger's father performed his pinning.

Public Comment

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

Mr. Steve Anderson of Anacortes commented that he couldn't find Shipwreck days on the City calendar, and he also asked what happened to the outhouse at the Heart Lake parking lot.

Consent Agenda

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

a. Minutes of June 10, 2024

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$1,307,518.13

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 109640 through 109672, total \$1,101,271.87

Check numbers: 109673 through 109690, total \$188,081.16

Wire transfer numbers: 348620 through 349246, total \$18,165.10

c. Contract Award: Blue Heron Water Pump Station Roof Replacement #23-286-FAC-001

d. Contract Modification: Thompson TRail Trestle and Causway Replacement Project - Design #23-092-PRK-001

Public Hearings

Ordinance 4080: Port of Anacortes Vacation / Dedication Application for a Portion of 9th Street

City Attorney Darcy Swetnam reported that Port of Anacortes staff, and several citizens, were in attendance for the public hearing, and introduced the right of way vacation, and provided background information. She also went through the compensation requirements that would have to be fulfilled in order to complete the vacation, which is 8,050 sq ft at an estimated value of \$100,000. The City would receive from the Port an area of 2939 sq ft with an estimated value of \$40,000; leaving an additional \$60,000 in consideration that would need to be agreed upon. Ms. Swetnam then reported that City staff recommended approval of the vacation, once the details of the vacation have been agreed to, as there appears to be a clear public benefit of the proposed vacation. Mr. Walters and Ms. Moulton asked follow up questions about the proposal.

Adam Morrow, representing the Port, then addressed the Council and provided hard copy reports to the elected officials and the Clerk regarding the study performed by the Port on the proposed vacation. Mr. Morrow then showed graphics of the "marginally controlled 5 legged intersection that currently exists", where Market street, R avenue and 9th street converge. He also provided graphical illustrations of the vision the Port has for that intersection.

The Mayor then invited the public to comment. No members of the public came forward to comment at that time, and the Mayor stated the public hearing would remain open so there would be further opportunity for the public to comment.

The Mayor then invited Council to comment. Several council members then made comments, and asked questions, to Mr. Morrow about the vacation specifically, and the overarching project in general, that the Port is requesting the vacation for.

The mayor then clarified the public hearing was continued to the July 1st regular City Council meeting.

Other Business

Drug Task Force Commander

Anacortes Police Chief Dave Floyd introduced Skagit County Chief Criminal Deputy Tobin Meyer, who is the Commander of the Skagit County drug task force. Commander Meyer then provided an overview of the 2023 Skagit County Drug Task Force annual report. The Mayor then invited the public to comment, of which there were none.

Mayor Miller then invited the Council to comment and ask questions, and several council members commented and asked questions to Commander Meyer.

Opioid Lawsuits and Funding Update

City Attorney Darcy Swetnam provided a presentation that showed background and historical information on the opioid lawsuit that is in place which the City is a party to. She pointed out the different settlements the City is a party to, and the amounts of money the City will receive, and the timeframes over which those monies will be received. Ms. Swetnam then introduced George Kosovich, who is the County Public Health Analyst, who provided some additional information on the lawsuits, funds from the lawsuits, and potential uses.

Mayor Miller then invited the public to comment, of which there were none. He then invited Council to

comment and ask questions. Several members of the Council did then make comments, and asked questions, of Mr. Kosovich.

Ordinance 4082: Transportation Improvement Plan

Public Works Director Andy Rheaume introduced ordinance 4082 to adopt the City's Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). This is the 2nd read on the ordinance which will adopt the 2025-2030 TIP.

Several council members commented and asked Mr. Rheaume questions about TIP.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by TJ FANTINI, to Approve Ordinance 4082 as presented.

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

Contract Award: Generators Replacement Project #24-151-ERR-001

Public Works Director Andy Rheaume introduced the need to replace three wastewater pump generators. They are 32 years old, and have been well maintained, but are now at risk of failure and need to be replaced to avoid a potential wastewater accident.

TJ FANTINI moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to authorize the mayor to sign contract #24-151-ERR-001 with VECA Electric Technologies LLC.

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 the Mayor adjourned the City Council meeting.