

Anacortes City Council Minutes - September 9, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of September 9, 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.

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Mr. Young to move item 4.b. Library Board of Trustees Appointments to the beginning of the agenda prior to entering into executive session. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Library Board of Trustees Appointments

Mayor Miller introduced the proposed appointments to the Library Board of Trustees of Jhana Shimizu for a five-year term effective immediately replacing Nancy Fisher-Allison, and Mike VanQuickenborne for a five-year term effective January 1, 2025 replacing John Shafer upon completion of his term.

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Ms. Hubik, to approve the appointment of Jhana Shimizu and Mike VanQuickenborne to the Library Board of Trustees. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Executive Session

Potential Real Estate Transaction per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) (30 minutes)

At 6:03 pm the City Council Mayor Miller announced that City Council and the City Attorney would convene in Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b) for approximately 30 minutes to discuss a potential real estate transaction. The mayor advised that the regular meeting would then reconvene with no final action having been taken. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Amanda Hubik attended the executive session.

At 6:43 pm, Mayor Miller reconvened the regular Anacortes City Council meeting.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller thanked Anacortes Senior Center staff, Administrator Karl Wolfswinkel and Program Coordinator Amanda Miller, and attending council members for a successful volunteer appreciation event over the weekend. He then announced that Saturday, September 14th would be the Space and International Observe the Moon Night at the library starting at 2:30pm and moon observation at Seafarers Memorial Park from 6:30-8:30pm. The mayor also announced that Saturday, September 21st, would be fall residential cleanup day at the city operations facility at 37th Street and D Avenue, and the Anacortes Family Center shred-a-thon in the Walgreens parking lot from 9am-1pm. He then reminded the public that pavement resurfacing projects would be ongoing this month on Kingsway, Fidalgo Avenue, Hillcrest Drive, Guemes View, San Juan and Cay Way.

Planning Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Planning Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included the Housing Action Plan and the recommendation to the Planning Commission for elements that would be included or not in the Comprehensive Plan update process and a contextual review of why certain elements were included in the plan .

Mr. Fantini announced on September 26th that he would host his third quarter town hall from 6-8pm in the library community room.

Ms. Moulton thanked the Anacortes Music Project for a successful festival over the past weekend.

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

Mr. Walters removed items 6.b. and 6.d. from the Consent Agenda.

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

a. Minutes of September 3, 2024

c. Special Event Application: Downtown Trick or Treat

Approval of claims in the amount of \$791,793.56

Mr. Walters mentioned that the City offers a rebate on energy efficient appliances, for which he received a \$50 rebate for a new dishwasher, and announced that he would abstain from voting for this item.

Ms. Cleland-McGrath moved, seconded by Mr. Fantini, to approve item 6.b. - Approval of claims in the amount of \$791,793.56. The motion carried by voice vote, with Mr. Walters abstaining.

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 110376 through 110413 total \$738,648.73

Check numbers: 110414 through 110434, total \$39,500.94

Wire transfer numbers: 353805 through 354111, total \$13,643.89

Contract Award: Operations Site Utilization and Master Plan #24-170-OPS-001

Mr. Walters summarized the proposed contract as conducting a needs and use assessment that would outline how the city can use the operations facility to its full potential. He suggested adjusting the scope of work to explore options where the site would be shared with the Anacortes School District (ASD), including possible adjacent property acquisition. Public Works Director Andrew Rheume remarked that the needs and use assessment would include consideration of the School District and that a reconfigured site could possibly accommodate both entities. Operations Manager WiL Ludemann added that the surrounding property is mostly residential, with the only possible adjacent expansion to the south on land that is currently an open mining operation.

Discussion topics included:

- Leaving the door open to change and acting in the best interest of the city.
- Procuring additional property and being able to share the site with the school district.
- Budgeted funds for the project.
- Any changes to the interlocal agreement with the school district requires council approval.
- Co-locate the school bus garage and the city operations to save taxpayer funds.
- Not pre-judging the outcome and having the school district conduct their own needs assessment.
- Exclusion of ASD and community members from initial kickoff.
- Including engagement of ASD and community in the scope of work.
- Exhibit A includes discussion of communication strategies with ASD staff.
- Discussions with ASD regarding bus facility expansion?
- State program that provides funding for a facility if they cooperatively operate with another district.

TJ FANTINI moved, seconded by ANTHONY YOUNG, to authorize the mayor to sign contract #24-170-OPS-001 with Makers Architecture and Urban Design LLP.

Vote: Ayes - ANTHONY YOUNG, TJ FANTINI. Nays - RYAN WALTERS, CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, CAROLYN MOULTON, BRUCE MCDOUGALL, AMANDA HUBIK. Result: Failed

Other Business

Feasibility Review for Movie Theater Purchase and Sale Agreement

City Attorney Darcy Swetnam introduced the feasibility review of the movie theater purchase and sale agreement, 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:

- Retrieve earnest money and walk away from the agreement.
- The building is not worth the price offered.
- Risk of maintaining the building.
- Amending the existing lease to allow the current owner to sell the building.
- Outside the purview of the city government to operate a theater or private enterprise.
- The movie theater is open and operating.

RYAN WALTERS moved, seconded by BRUCE MCDOUGALL, to direct the mayor to indicate to the seller the feasibility period has not been satisfied and to terminate the purchase and sale agreement and request return of the earnest money.

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

Memorandum of Agreement #24-177-PRK-001 with Anacortes Rotary Charitable Association

Parks and Recreation Director Jonn Lunsford introduced the proposed memorandum of agreement #24-177-PRK-001 with the Anacortes Rotary Charitable Association for the lookout construction project at Cap Sante, referring to a slide presentation that was added to the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Thanks to the Rotary for their effort and cooperation with the city and community.
- Invitation to bid and construction timeline
- The possibility of closures during construction.

CAROLYN MOULTON moved, seconded by CHRISTINE CLELAND-MCGRATH, to authorize the mayor to sign the memorandum of agreement with the Anacortes Rotary Charitable Assoc.

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

Resolution 3165: Establish a Climate Policy Advisory Team to Assist in the Development of a New Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan

Planning, Community, and Economic Development Director John Coleman introduced proposed Resolution 3165 that would establish a Climate Policy Advisory Team (CPAT) to assist with the development of the Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan update. Mr. Coleman emphasized that the members would be associated with community groups that would be most affected by climate change and that coordination between the consultants, mayor, and mayor pro tempore focused on identifying the appropriate individuals to be team members.

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

Discussion topics included:

- Are CPAT meetings open to the public?
- Possibly hybrid in-person and virtual meetings.
- Four meetings over the course of the process.
- Asking CPAT members to react to consultant work.
- How does the team provide recommendations to staff and consultants? Consensus, individual, or substantive input?
- Can any one member of the team author a proposal?
- Public participation to the maximum extent possible.
- Importance of the team working together.
- Are the team members confirmed by the council?
- The importance of having at least one in-person meeting.

ANTHONY YOUNG moved, seconded by AMANDA HUBIK, to approve Resolution 3165 establishing a Climate Policy Advisory Team.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 7:41 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of September 9, 2024 was adjourned.