

Anacortes City Council Minutes - October 14, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Pro Tempore Carolyn Moulton called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of October 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, and Amanda Hubik were present. Councilmembers Christine Cleland-McGrath and Bruce McDougall were absent.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Ms. Hubik, to excuse the absence of Ms. Cleland-McGrath. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Mr. Young moved, seconded by Ms. Hubik, to excuse the absence of Mr. McDougall. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Pro Tempore Moulton announced that today is Indigenous Peoples Day and read a quote from President Biden's proclamation regarding the commemoration. She then announced that the Chamber of Commerce Candidates' Forum would take place on Wednesday, October 16th from 5-8pm in the City Council chambers, that Thursday, October 17th, will be the Great Washington Shakeout that will include earthquake drills and a test of the county-wide Code Red alert system, and that the Comprehensive Plan Open House would take place from 6-8pm on October 23rd in the City Council chambers. Mayor Pro Tempore Moulton concluded by thanking public-facing staff from the Public Works, Library and Parks departments for their daily commitment and professionalism in their service to the community.

Economic Development Committee

Mr. Young reported from the Economic Development Committee meeting held October 8th. The topics discussed included a review and analysis of the initial draft of the survey that will be sent out to community stakeholders.

Finance Committee

Mayor Pro Tempore Moulton reported from the Finance Committee meeting held October 10th. The topics discussed included the budget schedule and the Capital Facilities Plan.

Planning Committee

Mr. Walters reported from the Planning Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included a draft ordinance to adopt new permit timelines and three process improvement measures pursuant to Senate Bill 5290 from the 2023 legislative session; the award of a \$200,000 grant from the Department of Commerce for converting paper records to digital format and training and enhancements for SmartGov; a possible request for proposals for a new hearing examiner; bluff erosion work and protection of the native growth protection areas above the Guemes Channel Trail; and a future tree protection ordinance.

Port / City Liaison Committee

Mr. Fantini and Mr. Walters reported from the Port / City Liaison Committee meeting held October 8th. The topics discussed included an update on the Wastewater Treatment Plant outfall replacement project, the city permitting process, an update on the Altair Americus Park improvement project, design for the maritime plaza connection, a review of the event center interlocal agreement to be considered at a joint meeting of the City Council and the Port Commission tentatively scheduled for November 4th, an upcoming Port Commission study session on October 15th for the 2025 budget, and the commencement of construction on the Cap Sante Lookout project.

Public Comment

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

a. Minutes of October 7, 2024

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$614,536.42

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 110664 through 110699, total \$304,840.20

Check numbers: 110700 through 110722, total \$289,216.75

Wire transfer numbers: 356150 through 356205, total \$20,479.47

c. Contract Award: WWTP Dream Reports Software License & Integration #24-260-SEW-001

d. Special Event Application: Santa Run

Public Hearings

2024-2029 Capital Facilities Plan Amendment

Finance Director Steve Hoglund opened the advertised public hearing for the proposed amendment to the 2024-2029 Capital Facilities Plan. He detailed the amended elements of the plan, referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

Parks - Director Jonn Lunsford

- Little Cranberry Lake Shoreline - funding for project exploration. Details not defined.
- Transition of funds from 2024 to 2025.
- Funds that are included in the 'Contributions' line of the spreadsheet.
- No impact fees are included in the 2025 budget for parks projects.
- Criteria for impact fee spending.
- Storvik Park sand volleyball courts - northwest corner of the park.
- Covering the basketball courts at Storvik.
- A community meeting on November 14th regarding pickleball courts.
- Trying to meet everyone's needs. Thanks to the staff for balancing community interests.
- Guemes Channel Trail Environmental Impact Study out of 2024 and 2025 CFPs due to lack of funding. Moved into 2026. Finding funds for the study elsewhere.
- Parks Foundation funding availability for sound dampening of pickleball courts - adding to 2025 CFP as a separate item from 'Pickleball Infrastructure'.
- Port Dog Park will go away. Will there be any improvements to H Avenue Ace of Hearts Dog Park?
- Fixing the operating budget problem and then revisiting the EIS for the Guemes Channel Trail.

Storm Utility - Director Andrew Rheume

- Deferring storm water projects until stormwater plan is completed.
- Stormwater fund balance.
- Will the 'Storm System Restoration and Upgrades' project be eliminated from CFP?

- Can CFP be amended at any time or after stormwater plan is completed?

Wastewater Utility

- Support for wastewater projects in light of increased density and expected growth due to extended service life of many systems.
- Inclusion of capital projects in the operating budget.

Water Utility

- Oak Harbor water line cost division.

General

- Integrate the amendments into the existing CFP so that the Council has one reference document.

At 7:08pm, Mayor Pro Tempore Moulton opened the public hearing.

Mayor Pro Tempore Moulton invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item.

Linda Martin of Anacortes thanked the Council for bringing up the Guemes Channel Trail project, emphasizing the project's importance. She then asked about the Port of Anacortes' share of funding for the Q'elech'ilhch (formerly N Avenue) Park improvement project and the status of the property on West 6th Avenue that is designated as a park. Ms. Martin also expressed appreciation for the Council taking the fiscal part of the CFP process seriously, citing the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) and its careful consideration of funding awards for 2025 in a constrained fiscal environment. She pointed out that the LTAC had intelligently set aside money for a future plan, and that it would be smart for the Council to similarly set aside money for the future plan in this process.

At 7:11pm, Mayor Pro Tempore Moulton closed the advertised public hearing on the 2024-2029 Capital Facilities Plan amendment.

Other Business

Resolution 3168: Public Right-of-Way American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced Resolution 3168 that would adopt the Public Right-of-Way American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan, referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

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

Discussion topics included:

- Which members of the community are included in the plan?
- Difficulty of navigating truncated domes for individuals with walkers.

- Prioritize where the ramps are missing, not where they need adjustment.
- Enabling mobility for those with disabilities and mobility challenges.
- Priorities are based on community feedback and capital facility projects.
- Criteria should include where there is no ramp at all.
- What is the maintenance plan for the ramps?
- Timeframe for plan execution - indefinite.
- How much was accomplished since the last evaluation in 2016?
- Encourage public input and listen to those who are affected for prioritization.
- Zoom in Figure C-5 to be able to see individual dots - including data in GIS.
- Spending of Community Development Block Grant funds on improvements for community members on H Avenue to access transit.
- Old email addresses in the plan.
- Language on how improvements will be paid for - Out of general revenue.
- Listing or referencing light poles in the plan.
- Missing ramps are prioritized over imperfect ramps.
- If you prioritize missing ramps, then possibly missing out on improving those that are included in road improvement projects.

Contract Award: Water Booster Stations Generator Replacement Project – Generator Purchase #24-257-ERR-001

Operations Manager WiL Ludemann introduced the proposed contract award #24-257-ERR-001 to Cummins Inc. for the Water Booster Stations Generator Replacement Project – Generator Purchase, specifying that the existing generators are difficult to maintain due to lack of parts and have exceeded their service life.

Anthony Young moved, seconded by TJ Fantini, to authorize the mayor to sign contract #24-257-ERR-001 with Cummins Inc. for the Water Booster Stations Generator Replacement Project.

Vote: Ayes - Carolyn Moulton, Amanda Hubik, TJ Fantini, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters. Nays - None.

Result: Passed

USEPA Lead and Copper Rule Revisions

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced Water Distribution System Supervisor Brent Christensen who presented US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- What happens if a lead line is discovered? - Notify the EPA and customer that it is present, then it is incumbent upon the customer to address it.
- How can the city determine the composition of the customers' pipes?
- High quality of city water.
- Informing customers of how they can fix it.
- Microplastic mitigation.
- Are there incentives for water line replacement?

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 8:18pm the Anacortes City Council meeting of October 14, 2024, was adjourned.