

Anacortes City Council Minutes - December 2, 2024

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of December 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Amanda Hubik were present. Councilmember Ryan Walters was absent.

Ms. Moulton moved, seconded by Ms. Hubik, to excuse the absence of Mr. Walters. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller announced that:

- Cascade Natural Gas and Evergreen Pipelining will be installing a new gas regulator station on the east side of the 22nd Street and R Avenue roundabout with a 1- or 2-day closure beginning on December 3rd.
- There will be a Tommy Thompson Trail meeting on December 4th at 12:30pm in the Library community meeting room to discuss environmental findings and the trestle replacement design.
- The Climate Team, as part of the Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan update, will hold a marine waterfront focus panel on Wednesday, December 4th at 6pm on Zoom.
- The Chamber of Commerce Coastal Christmas Tree lighting will be Friday, December 6th at 6pm.
- The annual Holiday Parade will be on Saturday, December 7th at 11am.
- The Anacortes High School Seahawks football team will play in the state championship game on Saturday, December 7th at 3pm at Husky Stadium.

Public Works Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Public Works Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included:

- The Capital Facilities Plan and identifying more specific financing mechanisms for the Commercial Avenue improvement project from 14th Street to 34th Street.
- Traffic safety issues, including signs and placement of crosswalks.

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

a. Minutes of November 25, 2024

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$301,995.44

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 111079 through 111111 total \$241,671.68

Check numbers: 111118 through 111126, total \$30,480.12
Wire transfer numbers: 359004 through 359088, total \$29,843.64

Other Business

Ordinance 4090: 2025 Operating Budget

Finance Director Steve Hoglund re-introduced Ordinance 4090: 2025 Operating Budget, referring to a slide presentation that was added to the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Total expenditures for funds 104 and 105.
- Creosote pile removal and breakwater repair.
 - Funding for the main project is from fund balance.
 - Leases and associated costs.
 - Costs per pile are known, but will be adjusted for inflation when the project is undertaken.
 - Memo to the Council regarding city and leaseholder responsibilities.
 - Deep dive into the project and associated funding to avoid surprises.

TJ Fantini moved, seconded by Bruce McDougall, to approve Ordinance 4090 to adopt the 2025 Operating Budget of \$124,342,158.

Vote: Ayes - Carolyn Moulton, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Bruce McDougall, Amanda Hubik, TJ Fantini. Nays - None. Abstentions - None. Result: Passed

Ordinance 4088: 2024-2029 Capital Facilities Plan Amendment

Finance Director Steve Hoglund re-introduced Ordinance 4088: 2024-2029 Capital Facilities Plan Amendment, referring to an electronic copy of the draft ordinance that was included in the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Aspirational versus reflecting the current plan.
 - Stricter parameters.
 - More realistic inputs for long-term planning.
 - More concise language.
 - Stormwater and Transportation master plans that are in development will help better define the CFP.
 - Former ranking system of projects was not successful as a clarifying instrument.
 - Lack of clarity is always part of long-range planning.

Christine Cleland-McGrath moved, seconded by Amanda Hubik, to approve Ordinance 4088 to adopt the 2024-2029 CFP amendment.

Vote: Ayes - Carolyn Moulton, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Bruce McDougall, Amanda Hubik, TJ Fantini. Nays - None. Abstentions - None. Result: Passed

Interlocal Agreement 25-005-STM-001 with Skagit Conservation District for NPDES Phase II Public Outreach & Education

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced Stormwater Manager Aaron Esterholt, who outlined the proposed interlocal agreement 25-005-STM-001 with Skagit Conservation District for NPDES Phase II Public Outreach & Education.

Discussion topics included:

- Tracking participation in public outreach sessions.
- Education process for the community.

Anthony Young moved, seconded by TJ Fantini, to authorize the mayor to execute interlocal #25-005-STM-001 with Skagit Conservation District.

Vote: Ayes - Carolyn Moulton, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Bruce McDougall, Amanda Hubik, TJ Fantini. Nays - None. Abstentions - None. Result: Passed

Resolution 3172: A Resolution Regarding Proposed Amendments to the Anacortes Urban Growth Area Boundary

Planning, Community, and Economic Development Director John Coleman introduced Resolution 3172 that contained Planning Commission recommendations for the proposed amendments to the Anacortes urban growth area boundary. The amendments included a request from the city to add nine parcels adjacent to city land and a request from Signal Hill Family limited partnership to include 17.8 acres of land near Sharpes Corner in the urban growth area. He added that according to the land capacity analysis, the city has adequate land within the city limits to accommodate housing and employment growth projections for 2045. He concluded that staff and the Planning Commission recommend supporting the city's request and withdrawing Signal Hill's request from consideration by Skagit County.

Discussion topics included:

- Figure 11 on page 15 of the land capacity analysis on accessory dwelling units (ADU).
 - How much of the potential additional housing is accounted for in ADUs?
- How close are we to accommodating the required housing for 2045?
- County process for adjudicating urban growth area requests.
- March Point as available land.
 - Zoned as heavy industrial - residential development is not allowed.
- How will land capacity analysis inform the Comprehensive Plan update?

Amanda Hubik moved, seconded by Carolyn Moulton, to adopt Resolution 3172 Regarding Proposed Amendments to the Anacortes Urban Growth Area Boundary.

Vote: Ayes - Carolyn Moulton, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Bruce McDougall, Amanda Hubik, TJ Fantini. Nays - None. Abstentions - None. Result: Passed

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 7:16 pm the Anacortes City Council meeting of December 2, 2024 was adjourned.