

Anacortes City Council Minutes - April 14, 2025

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of April 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, and Bruce McDougall were present. Councilmember Amanda Hubik participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom. Councilmember Anthony Young was absent.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller thanked the Parks Department for the successful annual Egg Dash held the previous Friday. He then announced the Cap Sante Rotary View Point ribbon cutting would take place on April 16th at 1:30pm, residential cleanup day on April 19th from 9am-noon at the city operations facility, and that [online](#) and in-person (delivered to the Anacortes Senior Activity Center) nominations for grand marshal and [online float and marching group](#) applications for the Independence Day parade are open through June 15th.

Annual Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Miller read the Annual Arbor Day Proclamation, proclaiming Arbor Day as April 25, 2025.

Planning Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Planning Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included parking of trailers and containers on private property in the commercial business district.

Economic Development Committee

Mayor Miller announced that the Economic Development Committee met the previous week, and that Mr. Young would report on the meeting at a later date.

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

a. Minutes of April 7, 2025

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$990,286.66

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 112219 through 112254, total \$769,895.59

Check numbers: 112262 through 112273, total \$201,038.33

Wire transfer numbers: 367112 through 367475, total \$19,352.74

c. Contract Award – WTP Access Control & Camera Installation #25-118-WTR-002

Other Business

Resolution 3180

Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Bob Vaux introduced Resolution 3180 that would allow the city to accept a donation of \$200,000 from the estate of Sherry Kolar for the benefit of the Anacortes Community

Forest Lands. He introduced Stephanie Best, executor of Ms. Kolar's estate, who was in attendance.

Discussion topics included:

- A welcome and appreciated donation in a challenging fiscal environment.
- Extraordinary level of generosity.
- Ascertain specific uses of the funds according to Ms. Kolar's wishes.

TJ Fantini moved, seconded by Bruce McDougall, to approve Resolution 3180. Vote: Ayes - Carolyn Moulton, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Bruce McDougall, Amanda Hubik, TJ Fantini. Nays - None. Abstentions - None. Result: Passed

Skagit Transit Presentation

Mayor Miller introduced Skagit Transit Chief Executive Officer Crystle Stidham, who detailed the elements of the Skagit Transit Long Range Transit Plan relevant to Anacortes with the assistance of Maleah Kuzminsky, Skagit Transit Planning and Outreach Manager, referring to a slide presentation that was included in the packet materials for the meeting..

Discussion topics included:

- Micro-transit could happen with or without grant funding though it would affect the scale of service.
 - Route 409 will be eliminated.
 - Time-limited grant - future funding needed.
 - Skagit Transit drivers versus third-party drivers.
 - Payment collection via app and cash collection in the vehicle.
 - Ride tracking in the app.
- Service around the senior center, middle school and high school with discontinuation of route 409.
 - Help high school and middle school students to reach their after-school activities
- Outreach efforts
- Plan to assess demand for the expansion of the micro-transit service area.
- www.skagittransit.org/lrtp/ to submit public comments.
- Elimination of transfer stops at March's Point.
- Improvement of ridership from the pandemic.
- Consideration of running route 40X out to the Skyline area.
- Vehicle capacity for micro-transit vehicles.

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

Contract Award: Sewer Pump Station No. 16 Upgrade #23-259-SEW-002

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced proposed contract #23-259-SEW-002 for the sewer pump station number 16 upgrade project with Faber Construction Corporation, to upgrade the pump station to adequately handle the amount of stormwater the wet well basin receives, including the addition of a second basin, a backup generator, and a backflow prevention device.

Discussion topics included:

- Current development would be required to have a back-up generator on a pump station.

- Reasons for groundwater incursion into the system.

TJ Fantini moved, seconded by Amanda Hubik, to authorize the mayor to sign contract #23-259-SEW-002 with Faber Construction for the sewer pump station number 16 upgrade. Vote: Ayes - Carolyn Moulton, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Bruce McDougall, Amanda Hubik, TJ Fantini. Nays - None. Abstentions - None. Result: Passed

Anacortes Able Housing Initiative Letter of Support

Mr. Fantini introduced the proposed letter of support for the Able Housing Initiative in the effort to receive state funding. He introduced Mr. Bruce Henderson, who was present to answer any questions and represent the organization. Mr. Walters added that the concerned population is one with intellectual developmental disabilities that are vulnerable and in need of support, as their parents age and are unable to adequately care for them.

Discussion topics included:

- The state agency that is providing the funding.
 - Housing Trust Fund through the Department of Commerce.

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Mr. McDougall, to approve the letter of support as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

AHA Olson Project Letter of Support

Mr. Walters introduced the letter of support that was drafted by the Housing Affordability and Community Services committee, which will support the Anacortes Housing Authority in their application for newly available .09 funding for the Olson Building project that was included as one of three projects in the 2020 affordable housing tax. He added that the project has been delayed and has proven more costly than anticipated due to the historic nature and structure of the building and delays caused by the pandemic and associated inflation.

Mr. McDougall moved, seconded by Mr. Fantini, to approve the letter of support as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 6:50 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of April 14, 2025, was adjourned.