

Anacortes City Council Minutes - April 28, 2025

Call to Order

Mayor Matt Miller called to order the April 28, 2025, Anacortes City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers TJ Fantini, Ryan Walters, Anthony Young, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, and Bruce McDougall were present. Councilmember Amanda Hubik participated in the meeting remotely via Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Mayor Miller thanked the Parks Department and San Juan Montessori School for their assistance with the tree planting on Arbor Day at Altair Americus Park. He then announced that the Guemes Island Ferry haul out would be extended by at least a week and a half with updated information available at [Guemes Island Ferry](#), that the Skagit Transit Long Range Transit Plan is open for [public comment](#) through May 14th, and that a San Juan County [Marine Transportation Services Pilot Program](#) would offer free passenger service to San Juan county from Cap Sante Marina and emergency inter-island passenger and barge service through June 30, 2025. Finally, Mayor Miller announced that the Independence Day parade [float](#) and [grand marshal](#) applications are available online or at the Senior Center.

Planning Committee

Ms. Moulton reported from the Planning Committee meeting held earlier in the evening. The topics discussed included [public comments](#) regarding the climate element of the [Comprehensive Plan Update](#) and the potential footprint of battery storage facilities for the Guemes Island Ferry and/or Washington State Ferry.

Fiber Committee

Mr. McDougall reported from the Fiber Committee meeting held April 23rd. The topics discussed included a subscription update with 2,667 customers in service as of April 23rd, just shy of a 53% city-wide take rate, a Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration grant construction update with the project being 75% complete and the final federal reimbursement pending construction completion, the April 1st arrival of Corby Stevens as the new network engineer, and the installation of a fourth optical line terminal signal aggregator in the city operations yard that will serve the southwest portion of the service area.

Finance Committee

Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the Finance Committee meeting held April 24th. The topics discussed included the most recent month's revenue reports, the kickoff of the Capital Facilities Plan that will be discussed at the City Council-Mayor retreat on June 12th, wholesale versus retail water utility taxes, and an update on the content management and retention capabilities of the new Enterprise Resource Planning application. Mr. Walters added that the discussion regarding sales tax was about increasing revenues, not sales tax rates.

Mr. Fantini commended the planning teams for the successful community events, Luminary Light Parade and Procession of the Species, celebrating Earth Day.

Public Comment

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

Linda Martin of Anacortes requested that the Council provide a report on how the city fared on its legislative priorities and what actions each Councilmember took in support of those priorities.

Consent Agenda

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

a. Minutes of April 21, 2025

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$487,038.12

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:

EFT numbers: 112330 through 112374, total \$224,687.77

Check numbers: 112329 through 112382, total \$243,015.39

Wire transfer numbers: 367948 through 368327, total \$19,334.96

c. Special Event: Samish Indian Nation Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons

Other Business

Contract Modification: WWTP Pump Station 16 Reconstruction - Design #23-259-SEW-001

Public Works Director Andrew Rheume introduced the proposed modification to contract #23-259-SEW-001 with Wilson Engineering, LLC for the amount of \$181,712.00, increasing the total contract price to \$440,002.00, to provide construction phase services for the Sewer Pump Station 16 Upgrade project.

TJ Fantini moved, seconded by Anthony Young, to authorize the mayor to sign the modification to contract #23-259-SEW-001 with Wilson Engineering, LLC.

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

Resolution 3181: Personnel Policy Updates

Human Resources Director Kendall Moyle introduced proposed Resolution 3181 that would update the city's personnel policies, referring to a slide presentation that was added to the packet materials for the meeting.

Discussion topics included:

- Appreciation of the inclusion of telecommuting in the employee manual
 - How two days per week were chosen versus three or more.
 - Helping to limit construction or division of new / current office space.
 - Enhancing retention and increasing competitiveness for recruitment
- Policy 605 review to fully comply with the statute.
- Adapting to existing practices and changes in state law
 - Periodicity of future policy reviews.
- Employee feedback summary

Christine Cleland-McGrath moved, seconded by TJ Fantini, to adopt Resolution 3181 adopting the city's personnel policies.

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

Executive Session

Potential Litigation or Litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) (15 minutes)

Mayor Miller announced that City Council and the City Attorney would convene in Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110 (i) for approximately 15 minutes to discuss potential litigation or litigation. The mayor advised that the regular meeting would then adjourn 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 6:41 pm, Mayor Miller called the meeting back to order and announced that the executive session had concluded with no action having been taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business, at approximately 6:41 pm the Anacortes City Council meeting of April 28, 2025, was adjourned.