

City Council Minutes – January 17, 2017

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the regular Anacortes City Council meeting of January 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Eric Johnson, Ryan Walters, Erica Pickett, Brad Adams, Liz Lovelett, John Archibald and Matt Miller were present. The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Public Works Committee: Mr. Johnson reported from the committee meeting earlier in the evening. He advised that the committee and public works staff continue to work on stormwater rates and were aiming to bring those to full Council for consideration in early February.

Ms. Lovelett urged protection for vulnerable populations in our communities.

Public Comment

No one present wished to address the Council on any topic not already on the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Johnson moved, seconded by Mr. Archibald, to approve the following Consent Agenda items. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Minutes of January 5, 2017 and January 9, 2017
- b. Approval of Claims in the amount of: \$736,635.17
- c. Regional Water Contracts: Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
Check numbers: 83434 through 83485, total \$602,753.38
EFT numbers: 83397 through 83433, total \$90,933.77
Wire transfer numbers: 211513 through 212061, total \$24,828.34

OTHER BUSINESS

Resolution 1980: Legislative Priorities

Administrative Services Director Emily Schuh presented a revised Resolution 1980 adopting legislative priorities for the 2017 state legislative session. She reviewed the revisions which reflected input received from councilmembers at the January 3, 2017 meeting.

Mr. Miller argued for removing the explicit reference to Governor Inslee in the first bulleted priority. After some discussion, councilmembers generally concurred with that suggestion. Ms. Schuh agreed to reword as follows:

- “A shared revenue budget that fully funds ... “

Mr. Miller said he did not support increasing the property tax cap above 1% and provided extensive rationale for his position. He said he could support the legislative priority if it included a line stating that the city budget would not increase by more than CPI or some specific measure of inflation. Mr. Archibald agreed with Mr. Miller. Councilmembers discussed the failure of a 1% property tax increase to keep pace with inflation and with the city’s actual costs, different ideas for tying property tax increases to known metrics, and the appropriate venues for determining appropriate public expenditures.

Ms. Pickett moved, seconded by Mr. Walters, to approve **Resolution 1980** adopting the city's 2017 legislative priorities, removing the explicit mention of "Governor Inslee" in the first legislative priority bullet.

Mr. Lovelett moved, seconded by Mr. Adams, to amend the motion to add a line to the priorities supporting "Augmenting services and facilities for early childhood education and child care." The motion to amend passed unanimously by voice vote.

Vote on amended motion: Ayes – Walters, Pickett, Adams, Lovelett, Archibald and Johnson. Nays – Miller. Motion carried.

There being no further business, at approximately 6:25 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of January 17, 2017 was adjourned.