Planning Commission Meeting
Minutes for – January 27, 2016

Chair Laumbattus called the Meeting of January 27, 2016 to order at approximately 6 p.m.

Roll Call
Members Present: Commissioners Laumbattus, Oppel, McNett, Farnsworth, Cleland-McGrath and Pollard

Minutes
The minutes from January 13, 2016 were approved as presented.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Old Business

There was no old business

New Business

Public Hearing: 2016 Comp Plan Update – Transportation – Discussion/Possible Action

Ms. Libby Grage, Planning Manager introduced the Transportation Element of the 2016 Comp Plan Update.

Mr. Eric Shjarback, City Engineer, gave an overview of the process regarding traffic safety in the transportation plan. Mr. Shjarback then read the introduction from the Transportation Element, which reads "The Transportation Element ensures that the city's transportation system supports land uses and vision by the comprehensive plan. Being a small town Anacortes does have some of the usual transportation problems as those of the large cities such as multiple fatalities every year or a large freeway bisecting the town but we do have some challenges nevertheless and some of these are limit transit service, a desire for safe, non-threatening, non-motorized travel through town, a state highway running through the city and a vibrant downtown very close to a busy port and its associated truck traffic. In order to address these challenges, the goals and polices in this element are intended to promote more efficient use of existing roads, a shift of traffic to other modes, and reprioritizing of modes to make the City more accessible for all.

The transportation plan is supported by and inter-connected with many other elements of the Comprehensive Plan. In particular, the transportation system needs to be designed and sized appropriately to support the same population and employment growth as described in the Land Use Element.

As required by the Growth Management Act, the Transportation Element must demonstrate that there is enough transportation system capacity to serve the land uses that are planned, and to serve them at the level of service established in the goals and policies. This element also needs to include a financing plan to show how planned transportation improvements will be funded."

Mr. Shjarback highlighted a few other points from the plan regarding future parking, strong emphasis on safety, safe and non-threating travel throughout the city on all modes of transportation. The plan will also include new transportation impact fee calculations. In closing, Mr. Shjarback, explained that the transportation section of the Comprehensive Plan is a working document and want to reflect the communities' wants and needs.

Mr. Victor Saleman of Transportation Solutions, gave an extensive overview of the process that went into developing the models for future needs of the City relative to increased traffic flow and safer pedestrian pathways. Mr. Saleman then presented drawings to show the Commissioners the locations of the study. In answering a question from Commissioner Laumbattus, Mr. Saleman provided the proposed road impact fees would need to be raised to accommodate growth within Anacortes. There were no further comments.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m.