

City Council Minutes – March 2, 2020

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of March 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath and Matt Miller were present. Councilmember Bruce McDougall participated in the meeting via telephone. Councilmember Carolyn Moulton and was absent.

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

The assembly joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements and Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Mr. Walters reported from the committee meeting the prior week. He said the committee members met with citizen Ward MacKenzie to learn about Seattle City Light's Capital Facilities Planning process.

Mr. Young reported that the Museum Committee had held its first meeting at which it had discussed the Thompson Train.

Fiber Committee: Mr. McDougall reported from the committee meeting the prior week, sharing statistics on customers in service and customer pre-orders. He reported on a brief damage outage and on design of next areas after the pilot zones.

Public Works Committee: Mr. Walters reported from the committee meeting earlier in the evening. He indicated that the committee had reviewed Public Works Director Fred Buckenmeyer's proposal for an intrusion and leak detection system for the water utility, making use of the fiber optic cable already installed in the pipes. Mr. Walters added that the group had briefly discussed the Port's proposed event center at Cap Sante marina.

Mayor Gere reported on her conversations with state and regional leaders about the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The mayor read the community press release that had been issued earlier in the afternoon. The press release was added to the packet materials for the meeting. Mayor Gere then introduced Island Hospital CEO Charles Hall who addressed the COVID-19 outbreak and steps being taken to keep the community informed and control risk of infection.

Mr. Walters reported from the public meeting between City Council Planning Committee and a Planning Commission committee the prior Tuesday on the bonus height provision in the R4 zone implemented in the recent Development Regulation updates and the moratorium on same. Ms. Cleland-McGrath added that the public boards displayed at that meeting were posted on the city website and said additional public feedback could be submitted there.

Mr. Walters reported that the prior Wednesday the City Council Planning Committee had met with BYK in Sedro Woolley to learn about affordable housing options being pursued there. He concluded that multifamily housing is clearly a more affordable option.

Public Comment

Lori Maul, 711 Commercial Ave, thanked the city for considering public comment on the proposed event center presented by the Port of Anacortes at the February 24, 2020 City Council meeting. Ms. Maul said she was excited by the plan, which would provide better access and parking than the current gravel lot. She said the

event center would also boost accessibility for the disabled. Ms. Maul urged Council to move ahead quickly with the required land swap at the five-way intersection. She encouraged connectivity to bring waterfront visitors into downtown and vice versa.

Doug Thurber also addressed the Cap Sante event center proposed by the Port of Anacortes at the February 24, 2020 City Council meeting. Mr. Thurber noted separate concerns about the event center's impact on 9th Street view corridors, about truck traffic in the R Avenue corridor, and about the 11th to 13th Street intersection improvements currently being studied. Mr. Thurber suggested incentivizing Safeway to move its store to R Avenue and 17th Street or R Avenue and 21st Street, vacating its current site which could then serve as an alternative location for an event center that would more naturally connect to the downtown business district.

Brian Wetcher, 814 26th Street, reported that at recent ACFL Advisory Board meetings members of the public had requested more information regarding progress on the Critical Areas Ordinance update and the schedule for updating the ACFL comprehensive plan. Mr. Wetcher inquired of Mr. Walters about progress on the CAO and how that might impact the ACFL comprehensive plan update. Mr. Walters invited the public to contact him directly for more information.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Ms. Cleland-McGrath, to approve the following Consent Agenda items. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Minutes of February 21, 2020 and February 24, 2020
- b. Approval of Claims in the amount of: \$362,319.75
- c. Interlocal #20-084-LEG-001 Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Snohomish County

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
EFT numbers: 96406 through 96462, total \$187,782.91
Check numbers: 96463 through 96481, total \$145,029.72
Wire transfer numbers: 264420 through 264861, total \$17,670.97

OTHER BUSINESS

Public Works GIS Demonstration

Mr. Buckenmeyer introduced Rob Hoxie, GIS Manager, to provide an update on the city's mapping and asset tracking services. Mr. Hoxie's slides were added to the packet materials for the meeting. He summarized the history of asset tracking and mapping in the city, tracing the evolution of paper records to electronic records management to provide better access to and security for critical information. Mr. Hoxie demonstrated several of the many interactive searchable maps available to the public on the city website, including Grand View Cemetery interments and building permits. Councilmembers encouraged coordination of all city utilities including the new fiber utility in the Cartegraph asset management system.

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

Stormwater Management Program Plan 2020

Mr. Buckenmeyer introduced Diane Hennebert, Stormwater Program Manager, to present the draft 2020 Stormwater Management Program Plan. Ms. Hennebert's slide presentation was added to the packet materials for the meeting. She discussed the requirements of the city's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit and how the city was meeting those requirements. Ms. Hennebert invited public comment on the plan through the end of the week.

Ms. Hennebert provided an overview of the components of the plan including comprehensive stormwater planning, public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, mapping and documentation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, controlling runoff from development and construction sites, municipal operations and maintenance, and source control.

Mayor Gere invited members of the audience to comment on this agenda item.

Brian Wetcher commended the city on its stormwater program but noted that infrastructure cannot remove pollutants from herbicides once they are in stormwater. Mr. Wetcher urged the SWMP to require the city to reduce or cease use of glyphosate and to encourage citizens to reduce or eliminate private use of that substance.

There being no further business, at approximately 7:20 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of March 2, 2020 was adjourned.