

Anacortes City Council Minutes – June 15, 2020

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of June 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters, Christine Cleland-McGrath, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Matt Miller all participated in the meeting in absentia via video conference.

Announcements and Committee Reports

COVID-19 Update: Mayor Gere announced that Skagit County was in Phase 2 and that if no new cases were confirmed in the county between June 6 and June 20, on June 26 Skagit County would apply to enter Phase 3.

Public Safety Committee: Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the committee meeting the prior week. The committee discussed nationwide concern over police performance and excessive force. The committee expressed its confidence in the progressive, inclusive, professional nature of the Anacortes Police Department.

Public Works Committee: Ms. Moulton reported from the committee meeting earlier in the evening. The committee was introduced to the new Water System Manager Brian McDaniel. The group discussed the Cartegraph asset management program, the status of the raw water line and clearwell project, a proposed interlocal agreement with Skagit PUD, the Oak Harbor fiber project, the risk and resiliency program for the water system, the Skookumchuck wind turbine project, a rural economic development grant for the 11th to 13th Street improvements on Commercial Avenue, and the retirement of Operations Manager Sandi Andersen.

Public Comment

Per Section 3 of Resolution 2082 Ratifying Proclamation of Emergency and Providing Temporary Procedures to Respond to the COVID-19 Epidemic, adopted by the Anacortes City Council on March 16, 2020, the public comment portion of Council meetings and any scheduled public hearings were temporarily suspended to discourage public in-person attendance of City Council meetings. The public was encouraged to comment via email or written comment addressed to: City Clerk, P.O. Box 547, Anacortes, WA 98221. Public comments received prior to the meeting become part of the record for the meeting, just as if presented in person.

Mayor Gere asked Public Works Director Fred Buckenmeyer to respond to a question from the public as to whether the city had tested its wastewater for the presence of coronavirus. Mr. Buckenmeyer reported that the city was looking for guidance from the Washington State Department of Ecology on this issue and said DOE did not yet have a protocol for such testing.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Walters removed Item 3e from the Consent Agenda. Mr. McDougall removed Item 3d from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Young, to approve the following Consent Agenda items. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Minutes of June 8, 2020
- b. Approval of Claims in the amount of: \$606,374.48
- c. Contract Modification: Sewer Cost of Service & Rate Design Study #18-099-SEW-001
- f. Contract Award: Water System Risk and Resilience Assessment & Emergency Response Plan #20-150-WTR-001

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
EFT numbers: 97357 through 97412 and 97432, total \$493,719.11
Check numbers: 97413 through 97431, total \$95,105.19
Wire transfer numbers: 269484 through 269810, total \$15,245.10

d. Interlocal Agreement: Coronavirus Relief Funds #20-145-FIN-001

Mr. McDougall asked Finance Director Steve Hoglund to review this funding source and allowed uses of the funds. Mr. Hoglund described the federal funds and the reporting requirements. He advised that staff had been diligent about accounting for expenditures relating to COVID-19 and said the city would apply for reimbursement for those expenditures from the grant.

e. Contract Approval: Master Service Agreement with Samish Indian Nation for Communication Services #20-146-FBR-001

Mr. Walters disclosed that as a fixed salary employee of the Samish Indian Nation, one of the contracting parties to the agreement, under RCW 42.23.040 he had a remote interest in the agreement and for the city to enter into the agreement his vote could not be counted.

Mr. McDougall moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve Consent Agenda items 3d and 3e. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Mr. Walters abstained.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ordinance 3072: Amending Ordinance No. 3032 Adopted on December 3, 2018, Entitled “An Ordinance Adopting the Budget for All Municipal Purposes and Uses for the 2019/2020 Biennium”

Finance Director Steve Hoglund shared his slide presentation from the packet materials explaining the proposed budget adjustment to respond to COVID-19 impacts on the city’s revenue streams. Mr. Hoglund responded to councilmember questions about the ordinance provision to reallocate property tax between non-General Fund and General Fund departments. Mr. Miller suggested that action on the ordinance be deferred for one week to allow refinement of the revenue projections after the April sales tax data was received from the Department of Revenue. Mr. Miller also asked that the sales tax and property tax portions of the ordinance be identified separately. Mr. Walters suggested moving the property tax reallocation from the recitals into the resolved sections of the ordinance. Mayor Gere concluded that the ordinance would come back to Council for consideration and action at its June 22, 2020 meeting.

There being no further business, at approximately 6:48 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of June 15, 2020 was adjourned.