

Anacortes City Council Minutes – September 14, 2020

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of September 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Anthony Young, Ryan Walters, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Matt Miller all participated in the meeting in absentia via video conference. Councilmember Christine Cleland-McGrath was absent.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Ms. Moulton, to amend the agenda to add Item 5c, Easement and Right of Way Agreement for Water Pipeline. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Announcements and Committee Reports

COVID-19 Update: Mayor Gere shared current case statistics for Skagit County and Washington State. The mayor observed that the 2020/21 school year had begun in Anacortes earlier in the day with all students learning from home.

At approximately 6:03 p.m. Ms. Cleland-McGrath joined the meeting in absentia via video conference.

Finance Committee: Mr. McDougall reported from the committee meeting the prior Wednesday. He said the primary topic had been the bond refinancing which would be addressed later on the agenda. Mr. McDougall elaborated on that topic and the capital projects involved. He said the committee also discussed the budget calendar for the remainder of the year.

Fiber Committee: Mr. McDougall reported from committee meeting the prior Thursday. He provided highlights from current installation statistics, the aerial expansion zone and projected expansion areas for 2021.

Public Comment

No members of the public wished to address the Council on any topic not on the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Young removed Item 4a, Minutes of September 8, 2020, 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.

- b. Approval of Claims in the amount of: \$785,970.82

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
EFT numbers: 98111 through 98152, total \$311,066.33
Check numbers: 98153 through 98161, total \$475,808.25
Wire transfer numbers: 273414 through 273683, total \$12,706.35

- a. Minutes of September 8, 2020

Mr. Young moved, seconded by Mr. Carter, to amend the minutes of September 8, 2020 to add the following sentence: "Councilman Young cautioned and asked questions of Legal Counsel, Council, and Museum staff concerning the Appearance of Fairness Doctrine and the Gifting of Public Funds concerning the process for entertaining Mr. Iwan's offer." The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ordinance 3073: Establishing an Annual Budget Process, Providing for Severability, and Establishing an Effective Date

Finance Director Steve Hoglund presented Ordinance 3073 to repeal Ordinance 2973 and return the city to an annual budget process on December 31, 2020. Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Ms. Moulton, to approve Ordinance 3073 as presented. In response to a question from Mr. Miller, Mr. Hoglund displayed and reviewed the budget calendar for the rest of the year. The calendar was added to the packet materials for the meeting. Vote: Ayes – Young, Walters, Moulton, McDougall, Miller, Carter and Cleland-McGrath. Motion carried.

Ordinance 3075: Revenue Bond

Mr. Hoglund presented Ordinance 3075 which had been revised following its first reading at the September 8, 2020 City Council meeting. Mr. Hoglund summarized the structure of the proposed bond, referring to his slides that were included in the packet materials for the meeting. He responded to councilmember questions about the very favorable rates in the current bond market.

Several councilmembers questioned inclusion of the \$500K Risk and Resiliency System line item included in the list of projects to be funded. Public Works Director Fred Buckenmeyer responded to councilmember questions and advised that the EPA had issued a risk and resiliency requirement for water systems. He described the proposed project in detail. Mr. Buckenmeyer said that project would be added to the Capital Facilities Plan when that document was amended later in the fall. Councilmembers supported including \$500K for a Risk and Resiliency System in the bond but reserved judgment on the specific system proposed.

Mr. Miller moved, seconded by Mr. Young, to approve Ordinance 3075 as presented. Vote: Ayes – Walters, Cleland-McGrath, Moulton, McDougall, Miller, Carter and Young. Motion carried.

Easement and Right of Way Agreement for Water Pipeline

City Attorney Darcy Swetnam presented an easement and ROW agreement for property owned by Dike, Drainage, and Irrigation Improvement District 12 to allow construction of the city's Raw Waterline Project to the water treatment plant. Ms. Swetnam noted that the agreement had been circulated to the councilmembers earlier in the afternoon, following its adoption by District 12 at 3:30 p.m.. The agreement was added to the packet materials for the meeting. Noting that the city's contractor was on standby awaiting execution of the agreement, Ms. Swetnam said staff recommended approval. Ms. Swetnam and Mr. Buckenmeyer responded to councilmember questions about the terms of the agreement.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Ms. Moulton, to authorize the mayor to sign the easement and right of way agreement as presented. Vote: Ayes – Cleland-McGrath, Moulton, McDougall, Miller, Carter, Young and Walters. Motion carried.

There being no further business, at approximately 6:58 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of September 14, 2020 was adjourned.