

## **Anacortes City Council Minutes – May 18, 2020**

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of May 18, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeremy Carter, Ryan Walters, Carolyn Moulton, Bruce McDougall and Matt Miller all participated in the meeting in absentia via video conference. Councilmembers Anthony Young and Christine Cleland-McGrath were absent.

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

Mr. McDougall moved, seconded by Ms. Moulton, to excuse the absence of Mr. Young. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

### **Announcements and Committee Reports**

**COVID-19 Update:** Mayor Gere reported on preliminary financial indicators after the first two months of the COVID-19 pandemic, cancellations of summer events and festivals, applications for the city’s small business stabilization grants, alternative graduation ceremonies and celebrations for the Anacortes High School, and planning for phased reopening of local businesses and Island Hospital. The mayor shared current to date statistics for COVID-19 cases and deaths in Anacortes and in Skagit County.

**Public Works Committee:** Ms. Moulton reported from the committee meeting earlier in evening. She shared staff updates on the Oakes Avenue roundabout, the 2020 slurry seal project, fiber infrastructure entry into the GIS mapping system, a grant application for an electric vehicle charging station, the raw water line and clearwell project, and the sewer plant outfall project which would come back to Council for a review of options. Mr. Walters added that the city website would soon have additional pages about the A Avenue dump site and the wet fiber technology used for the fiber telemetry project.

### **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.*

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- a. Minutes of May 11, 2020
- b. Approval of Claims in the amount of: \$754,896.80
- c. Contract Award: March Point Area Cape Seal Repairs #20-112-TRN-001

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:  
EFT numbers: 97109 through 97159, total \$706,371.05  
Check numbers: 97160 through 97174, total \$32,059.61  
Wire transfer numbers: 268377 through 268584, total \$16,466.14

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Access - Anacortes Fiber Internet Update**

Administrative Services Director Emily Schuh provided the regular monthly update on Access Anacortes Fiber Internet. Her slides were added to the packet materials for the meeting. Ms. Schuh shared current statistics on installed customers, revenue, and orders for future service. She outlined the protocols in place for installations to comply with COVID-19 distancing guidelines and updated Council on the status of non-GPON customers. Ms. Schuh shared a proposal for a service suspension policy for fiber customers who may be out of area for several months at a time and advised that the proposal would be presented to Council for action at the May 26, 2020 regular meeting. Mr. Walters suggested that the Fiber Committee draft a resolution expressing affirmative direction for the project to proceed beyond the originally adopted pilot zones subject to specified financial targets. Mr. Miller and Mr. McDougall agreed.

### **Resolution 2086: Authorizing Execution of Bargaining Agreement by and between the City of Anacortes and the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 231**

Human Resources Director Vanessa Bronsema presented the collective bargaining agreement and recommended its approval. Ms. Bronsema briefly summarized the negotiation history and the financial implications of the agreement as outlined in the packet materials for the meeting. Mr. Miller said that he did not support wage increases for any staff in light of the current declared emergency and hiring freeze. Mr. Carter asked if the 3% COLA in the agreement could go into effect at some future date while the rest of the agreement would take effect immediately. Ms. Bronsema explained the agreement had already been ratified by the union membership and would have to be renegotiated if any changes were made to it by Council. She added that all other city employees had received normal wage increases on January 1 but that the Teamsters had not, pending execution of the present agreement.

Ms. Bronsema responded to Mr. Miller's questions about Article 3.02, advising that the language reflected the MOU that had already been signed with the Teamsters following the Janus v. AFSCME Supreme Court decision in 2018. Ms. Schuh advised that the MOU language had been reviewed by the Personnel Committee at that time.

Mr. McDougall, the only member of the Personnel Committee present, spoke in support of the agreement on behalf of the committee.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. McDougall, to approve Resolution 2086 adopting the contract as presented. Vote: Ayes – Walters, Moulton and McDougall. Nays – Miller and Carter. Motion carried.

### **Resolution 2090: Authorizing the Adoption of the Skagit County Multi-Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Fire Chief David Oliveri reviewed his prior presentation of the draft plan to City Council in January 2020 and reported its subsequent review, revision and approval by state and federal emergency management agencies. Chief Oliveri said that each local jurisdiction then needed to adopt the final plan by resolution. Chief Oliveri responded to councilmember questions about the hazards addressed in the plan.

Mr. Walters moved, seconded by Mr. Miller, to approve Resolution 2090 as presented. Vote: Ayes – Moulton, McDougall, Miller, Carter and Walters. Motion carried.

There being no further business, at approximately 6:55 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of May 18, 2020 was adjourned.