

Anacortes City Council Minutes – July 13, 2020

Mayor Laurie Gere called to order the Anacortes City Council meeting of July 13, 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 reported current COVID case statistics for Anacortes and Skagit County and shared the County's recommendation that citizens avoid travel out of county. She also reported that Skagit County had received an additional \$1M for small business grants which would be managed by EDASC.

Port/City Liaison Committee: Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported from the July 7, 2020 committee meeting. She listed topics discussed including COVID-19 economic impacts, the Port's northwest basin plan, status of the City's Shoreline Master Program and Critical Areas Regulations updates, the Maritime Strategic Plan, the virtual boat show, the Blue Marine initiative, EDASC grants to local businesses, progress on Port capital projects, and the status of the Depot plaza restroom project.

Finance Committee: Mr. Carter reported from the committee meeting the prior Wednesday. The committee discussed switching from biennial to annual budgeting for 2021, collection of delinquent water accounts, and sales tax revenue which came in higher than had initially been expected.

Housing Affordability and Community Services Committee: Ms. Moulton reported from the committee meeting earlier in the evening. She reported on a presentation by Habitat for Humanity, timing for distributing the affordable housing sales tax to the Anacortes Housing Authority and the Anacortes Family Center, Department of Commerce grants, funding to support early childhood learning, CARES Act funding, and potential relaxation of state restrictions on LTAC funding.

Planning Committee: Ms. Cleland-McGrath reported on the committee meeting earlier in the evening. The meeting focused on the street closure in the Central Business District July 16-17 to expand socially distanced space for retail businesses and restaurants and mitigate the economic impacts of COVID-19 on those businesses. Ms. Moulton and Mayor Gere clarified that the current state regulations for Phase 2 of the Safe Start Washington plan prohibit gatherings of more than 50 people so only distributed retail activity and no festival events would be possible for this initial trial weekend. Councilmembers and Mayor Gere discussed the logistics for the event and the expectation that all attendees would wear masks except while seated for eating and drinking.

Mr. Young reported that he met with Police Chief Small and the Anacortes Police Department to begin dialogue regarding protests locally and nationwide.

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 Mr. Carter, to approve the following Consent Agenda items. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

- a. Minutes of July 6, 2020
- b. Approval of Claims in the amount of: \$284,450.63
- c. Contract Modification: Municipal Broadband Network - Library To MSTs Aerial Areas
#19-175-FBR-003

The following vouchers/checks were approved for payment:
EFT numbers: 97555 through 97599, total \$169,324.94
Check numbers: 97600 and 97615 through 97554, total \$98,155.18
Wire transfer numbers: 270664 through 270934, total \$16,908.63

There being no further business, at approximately 6:35 p.m. the Anacortes City Council meeting of July 13, 2020 was adjourned.