	Special City Council Meeting April 19, 2024 - 9:00 AM Muckleshoot Casino Resort - Prairie Conference Room, 2402 Auburn Way South Auburn, WA 98002 MINUTES
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I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Backus called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Prairie Conference Room at Muckleshoot Casino Resort, 2402 Auburn Way South.

II. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Public Participation

The City Council Meeting was held in person and virtually.

IV. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present: Hanan Amer, Kate Baldwin, Cheryl Rakes, Clinton Taylor, Tracy Taylor, and Yolonda Trout-Manuel. Deputy Mayor Larry Brown was excused.

Mayor Nancy Backus and the following Directors and staff members were present: Acting City Attorney Doug Ruth, Chief of Police Mark Caillier, Director of Parks, Arts and Recreation Daryl Faber, Director of Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Director of Administration Dana Hinman, Director of Human Resources & Risk Management Candis Martinson, Acting Director of Community Development Jason Krum, Director of Finance Jamie Thomas, Director of Innovation and Technology David Travis, Director of Equity and Inclusion Brenda Goodson-Moore, Director of Human Services Kent Hay, Council Administrative Assistant Melissa Bailey, Executive Assistant to the Mayor Tamie Bothell, Communications Manager Jonathan Glover, and Deputy City Clerk Hannah Scholl.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Training - Working Together as a Leadership Team

Director Gaub provided a brief recap of yesterday's retreat and reminded everyone to follow and respect the code of conduct guidelines. She introduced Valerie (Val) Jeffords from NASH Consulting.

Val provided an overview of her work history, and asked Council and Directors to take some time to reflect on why they are here, and their purpose for being in their positions.

She divided the Mayor, Councilmembers, and Director's into seven groups to share, and discuss their purpose.

They came back together and shared out their reasons/purpose for being in their roles.

They had an open discussion about communication styles, and how to navigate working with others who have different styles. Val discussed the four different behavior styles, and gave examples on how to communicate effectively with each different style.

They broke out into their behavior style groups, and had discussions about what motivates and drives them. They discussed the importance of learning and understanding the behavior and communication styles of the people around them, the importance of giving and receiving effective feedback, and what that looks like in the work place.

She wrapped up her presentation by thanking Mayor, Council, and Director's for participating.

Mayor Backus recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m.

B. Council Operations Discussion

Mayor Backus reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Director Gaub provided everyone with the history of the different Special Focus Areas (SFA), how they were created, and the purpose of the creation.

Council and Directors broke out into their four SFA's groups to discuss what is going well, the areas they need more information on, and what information Councilmembers felt could help them better understand the information presented. Directors shared what they would like from Councilmembers to better facilitate Council action. Afterward each SFA group shared their discussions to the full group.

Director Gaub provided an overview of the Regional Committees that Mayor Backus and Council are members of. She discussed the importance of participating in committees, how the committees can help the City receive additional funding, stronger chances to have projects throughout the City, what Councilmembers can do as a members to influence decisions and outcomes that directly impact the City, and how to protect the interests of the City.

They discuss other Regional Committees that the City does not have

representation at, and the possible value of increasing the City of Auburn's representation.

C. Ongoing Commitments Post Retreat

Director Hinman wrapped up the retreat by reminding Councilmembers and Directors the importance of all working together. She recapped the key points of the two-day retreat, highlighting the importance of communication.

Councilmembers and Directors shared their closing thoughts about the retreat, and thanked each other for their commitment and participation.

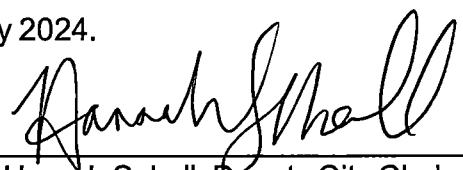
VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

APPROVED this 6th day of May 2024.



NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR



Hannah Scholl, Deputy City Clerk

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