



**City Council
Regular Meeting
February 3, 2025 - 7:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nancy Backus called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Auburn City Hall, 25 West Main Street.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Backus acknowledged the Federally Recognized Muckleshoot Indian Tribe as the ancestral keepers of the land we are gathered on today.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The City Council Meeting was held in person and virtually.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Backus led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Nancy Backus and the following staff members present included: Senior City Staff Attorney Taryn Jones, Chief of Police Mark Caillier, Director of Community Development Jason Krum, Director of Public Works Ingrid Gaub, and Acting City Clerk Hannah Scholl.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Black History Month

Mayor Backus proclaimed February 2025 as "Black History Month" in the City of Auburn.

Members of the Green River College (GRC) Black Student Union accepted the proclamation, they thanked Mayor and Council for their support. They also provided more information about the Black Student Union at GRC including their mission and vision for the program, and invited everyone to come to their Community Day event at GRC on February 25, 2025.

B. Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership Award

Mayor Backus presented Councilmember T. Taylor with her Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership, and acknowledged her hard work and dedication.

APPOINTMENTS

A. Transportation Advisory Board
City Council to approve the appointment of Lori-Ann Black to the Transportation Advisory Board, for the American with Disabilities (ADA) position, for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027

Deputy Mayor Rakes moved and Councilmember Trout-Manuel seconded to approve the appointment of Lori-Ann Black to the Transportation Advisory Board, for the American with Disabilities (ADA) position, for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no modifications to the agenda.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Written Comments:

Rocky Salvador

Rocky provided comments regarding protecting the immigrant community in Auburn.

Sherri Barber

Sherri expressed concerns regarding the management of the Auburn Valley Humane Society (AVHS), and the treatment of the animals.

Kelli Stephens

Kelli expressed concerns regarding the management at AVHS.

Genevieve S.

Genevieve provided comments regarding their positive experience with AVHS, and their management.

Sherri Duensing, Auburn WA

Sherri provided comments regarding their positive experience working with AVHS and their staff.

Member of the Community

They expressed concerns regarding AVHS and the level of care for the animals.

Mars Flannery, Auburn WA

Mars provided comments regarding their support of AVHS and their management.

Olivia Henry

Olivia provided comments regarding their positive working experience at the AVHS Cat Cafe and with the AVHS staff.

Emily Mattison, Tacoma WA

Emily expressed concerns regarding the management of the AVHS, veterinarian shortages, and the safety of both the staff and animals.

In-Person Comments:

Jennifer Haskins, Tacoma WA

Jennifer expressed concerns regarding AVHS, its management, and the safety of the staff.

Ron Morgan, Auburn WA

Ron expressed appreciation for the Mayor and Council, and spoke about the future of Auburn.

Emily Mattison, Tacoma WA

Emily expressed concerns regarding AVHS, including the management, staff shortages, and the safety of staff.

Lalie Pete, Lake Tapps WA

Lalie expressed concerns regarding animal care and the treatment of staff at the AVHS.

Sarah Shier, Lake Tapps WA

Sarah expressed concerns regarding the safety of the staff, animals, and customers at the AVHS.

Jessica Jones, Bonney Lake WA

Jessica expressed concerns regarding the management and safety of the staff and animals at the AVHS.

Virginia Haugen, Auburn WA

Virginia expressed concerns regarding the upcoming widening project on R Street.

Erin Donovan, Tacoma WA

Erin expressed concerns regarding AVHS and the safety of the staff at both AVHS and Northwest Spay and Neuter Center.

Trayvon, Auburn WA

Trayvon provided comments regarding Lodging Tax and invited everyone to attend the State Tourism meetings.

Mayor Backus thanked everyone for coming to speak and informed everyone about the City's upcoming meeting with the AVHS Board Chair and Vice Chair.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for Council to review.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes from the January 13, and January 27, 2025, Study Session Meetings
- B. Minutes from the January 21, 2025, City Council Meeting
- C. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated January 29, 2025 which includes voucher numbers 478800 through voucher 478947, in the amount of \$3,103,941.50, one electronic fund transfer in the amount of \$200.00 and three wire transfers in the amount of \$884,055.61
- D. Payroll Voucher (Thomas)
Payroll check numbers 539641 through 539646 in the amount of \$685,821.75, electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,594,722.71, for a grand total of \$3,280,544.56 for the period covering January 16, 2025 to January 29, 2025

Deputy Mayor Rakes moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 6962 (Gaub)
An Ordinance granting to City of Kent, a Washington Municipal Corporation, a Franchise for Water Facilities

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Councilmember C. Taylor seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6962.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

- B. Ordinance No. 6971 (Whalen)
An Ordinance relating to the time period to correct Code Violations, and amending Section 1.25.030.A.2 of the Auburn City Code

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Baldwin seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6971.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

RESOLUTIONS

- A. Resolution No. 5803 (Thomas)
A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City of Auburn and King County to implement the 2025 Local Hazardous Waste Management Program and to accept and expend Program Grant Funds

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5803.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

- B. Resolution No. 5806 (Whalen/Gaub)
A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an amendment to the Auburn Municipal Airport Land Lease with Cascade Helicopter Services relating to the implementation of the 2025 Fair Market Value Lease Rate Adjustment and other Terms

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember Trout-Manuel seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5806.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

C. Resolution No. 5810 (Krum)

A Resolution approving the Lodging Tax Grant disbursements recommended by the Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City of Auburn and the Auburn Area Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of Tourism and Marketing Services

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5810.

Council discussed the grant application from the Auburn Area Chamber.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. From the Council

Council had no reports.

B. From the Mayor

Mayor Backus had no report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

APPROVED this 18th day of February 2025.

NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

Hannah Scholl, Acting City Clerk