



**City Council
Regular Meeting
January 5, 2026 - 7:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor 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 Tracy Taylor, Hanan Amer, Kate Baldwin, Brian Lott, Cheryl Rakes, Lisa Stirgus, and Clinton Taylor.

Mayor Nancy Backus and the following staff members present included: City Attorney Jason Whalen, Chief of Police Mark Caillier, Director of Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Director of Finance Jamie Thomas, Director of Parks, Arts, and Recreation Julie Krueger, and Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Wood-Pollock.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Mayor Backus proclaimed January 19, 2026, as "Martin Luther King Jr. Day" in the City of Auburn.

APPOINTMENTS

- A. Auburn Arts Commission
City Council to approve the appointments of Drew Dixon, Patrice Edwards, Chad Perkins, and Perry Shaw to the Auburn Arts Commission for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2028

Deputy Mayor T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Baldwin seconded to approve the appointment of Drew Dixon, Patrice Edwards, Chad Perkins, and Perry Shaw to the Auburn Arts Commission for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2028.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

- B. Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee
City Council to approve the appointment of Bob Fraser to the Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2028

Deputy Mayor T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to approve the reappointment of Bob Fraser to the Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2028.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

- C. Auburn Tourism Board
City Council to approve the appointment of Maddy Linday and the reappointment of Malia Dale to the Auburn Tourism Board for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2028

Councilmember Stirgus moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to approve the appointment of Maddy Linday and the reappointment of Malia Dale to the Auburn Tourism Board for a 3-year term expiring December 31, 2028.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no modifications to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Written Comments:

The City Clerk's Office received written comments from Susan, which were forwarded to the Mayor and Council prior to the meeting.

In-Person Comments:

Virginia Haugen provided comments.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for Council to review.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes from the December 15, 2025, City Council Meeting
- B. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated December 17, 2025, which includes voucher numbers 482169 through 482217 and voucher numbers 482219 through 482334, in the amount of \$7,536,191.08, five electronic fund transfers in the amount of \$1,124.97, and two wire transfers in the amount of \$666,185.34
- C. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated December 17, 2025, which includes voucher number 482218 in the amount of \$3,869.92
- D. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated December 31, 2025, which includes voucher numbers 482335 through 482441 in the amount of \$1,864,632.98, nine electronic fund transfers in the amount of \$16,147.79, and two wire transfers in the amount of \$1,136,859.21
- E. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated January 1, 2026, which includes voucher numbers 482442 through 482451, in the amount of \$267,380.52
- F. Payroll Voucher (Thomas)
Payroll check numbers 539767 through 539770 in the amount of \$847,807.02, electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,963,324.24, for a grand total of \$3,811,131.26, for the period covering December 11, 2025, to January 1, 2026

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 5883 (Whalen)

A Resolution ratifying and confirming the Proclamation of Emergency made by Mayor Nancy Backus on December 9, 2025

Councilmember Stirgus moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5883.

Council thanked Directors and City staff for their hard work during the recent flooding event in the City.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

B. Resolution No. 5884 (Gaub)

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to accept an initial offer of financial aid to The Auburn Airport from the Community Aviation Revitalization Board (CARB) and to execute Loan Agreement

Councilmember C. Taylor moved and Councilmember Baldwin seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5884.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

C. Resolution No. 5885 (Gaub)

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute grant agreements between the City of Auburn and the Federal Aviation Administration relating to Project No. CP2518, Airport T-Hangar Upgrades

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember Rakes seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5885.

Council discussed wait times to get airport hangar space.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. From the Council

Councilmembers provided reports on the events that they attended.

B. From the Mayor

Mayor Backus provided a report on the events she attended. She also discussed the recent flooding that occurred and thanked staff for their hard work in the Emergency Operations Center and in the field.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

APPROVED this 2nd day of February, 2026.

NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

Rebecca Wood-Pollock, Deputy City Clerk