



**City Council  
Regular Meeting  
February 18, 2025 - 7:00 PM  
City Hall Council Chambers**

**MINUTES**

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**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 Yolanda 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 Finance Jamie Thomas, and City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS, MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

Mayor Backus read a statement from Councilmember Larry Brown announcing he is resigning from his role as a City of Auburn Councilmember.

Mayor Backus spoke about Councilmember Brown's history of his time on the Council and outside organizations. She announced that the Council will invoke Section 13 of Council Rules of Procedure and begin the process of filling the vacant position.

## **APPOINTMENTS**

- A. Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee  
City Council to approve the reappointment of Elizabeth Burton to the Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027

Deputy Mayor Rakes moved and Councilmember Trout-Manuel seconded to approve the reappointment of Elizabeth Burton to the Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

- B. Business Improvement Area (BIA) Committee  
City Council to approve the appointments of Rachel Perry and Trevor Schneckloth to the BIA Committee for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027

Deputy Mayor Rakes moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to approve the appointments of Rachel Perry and Trevor Schneckloth to the BIA Committee for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

- C. Cemetery Board  
City Council to approve the appointment of Bridget Jones to the Cemetery Board for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to approve the appointment of Bridget Jones to the Cemetery Board for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

- D. Parks & Recreation Board  
City Council to approve the appointment of John Boatman to the Parks & Recreation Board for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2027

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember Trout-Manuel seconded to approve the appointment of John Boatman to the Parks & Recreation Board 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:**

April Lewis, Auburn WA

April provided comments regarding their positive experiences working with the Auburn Valley Humane Society (AVHS), and the management/staff.

Linnea Thorpe

Linnea expressed their concerns regarding AVHS and the safety of staff.

### **In-Person Comments:**

Elder Montague, Auburn WA

Elder requested a Resolution to recognize Spirit Fest.

Josie Hunter, Auburn WA

Josie expressed concerns about federal funding.

Virginia Haugen, Auburn, WA

Virginia expressed concerns regarding Resolution No. 5811, the Mayor's salary, the cost of the new Auburn Theater, and Ordinance No. 6968.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence for Council to review.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes from the February 3, 2025, City Council Meeting
- B. Minutes of the February 10, 2025, Study Session Meeting
- C. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)  
Claims voucher list dated February 12, 2025 which includes voucher numbers 478948 through voucher 478948, in the amount of \$11,741.00

Claims voucher list dated February 12, 2025 which includes voucher numbers 478949 through voucher 479055, in the amount of \$3,474,771.99, 20 electronic fund transfers in the amount of \$31,561.30 and two wire transfers in the amount of \$809,995.94

D. Payroll Voucher (Thomas)

Payroll check numbers 539647 through 539654 in the amount of \$108,068.21, electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,869,056.90 for a grand total of \$2,977,125.11 for the period covering January 30, 2025, to February 12, 2025

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

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Council Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee Selection

Deputy Mayor Rakes reminded Council that Councilmembers Baldwin and C. Taylor expressed interest in being on the Council Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee.

Councilmember Baldwin moved to appoint herself and Councilmember C. Taylor to the Council Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee and Councilmember Trout-Manuel seconded.

Councilmember T. Taylor moved to amend the motion to include herself and Councilmember Amer seconded.

Council discussed the purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Council voted on the amendment. Motion failed 3-3.

Council voted on main motion. Motion carried 4-2; Councilmembers Amer and T. Taylor voted no.

Councilmembers Baldwin and C. Taylor will serve on the Council Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## ORDINANCES

A. Ordinance No. 6963 (Thomas)

An Ordinance amending Sections 3.53.120, 3.54.030, 3.54.060, 3.54.070, 3.54.080, 3.54.140, 3.54.155, and 3.54.210 of the Auburn City Code (ACC) relating to the imposition and administration of the City Business & Occupation (B&O) Tax

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Deputy Mayor Rakes seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6963.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

B. Ordinance No. 6964 (Thomas)

An Ordinance amending Auburn City Code Chapter 3.41 related to the Administration of City's Solid Waste Garbage Utility Tax and Chapter 3.62 Administrative City Code related to Utilities, Admissions, and Gambling Tax

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember C. Taylor seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6964.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

C. Ordinance No. 6967 (Thomas)

An Ordinance amending Auburn City Code (ACC) Chapter 3.52 related to the Administration of City Admission Tax

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember C. Taylor seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6967.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

D. Ordinance No. 6968 (Thomas)

An Ordinance establishing the Local Sales and Use Tax Rate for Local Revitalization Financing for 2025

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Deputy Mayor Rakes seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6968.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

E. Ordinance No. 6969 (Whalen)

An Ordinance relating to Appeal Procedures, and amending Sections 2.46.035, 2.46.160, 5.15.070, 5.22.070, 5.22.090, and 15.76.040 of the Auburn City Code

Deputy Mayor Rakes moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6969.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

## **RESOLUTIONS**

A. Resolution No. 5811 (Krum)

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute an agreement between the City of Auburn and Segale Properties LLC and Otak Inc for Consulting Services related to the Stuck River Road and Mount Rainier Vista Special Planning Areas

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Baldwin seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5811.

Council discussed the extension of the scoping phase.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

## **MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS**

A. From the Council

Deputy Mayor Rakes reported she attended a fundraiser at the Senior Center for the Auburn Respite Center Care Program.

Councilmember Amer reported she attended the Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 9 meeting, and thanked Councilmember Brown for his time on the Council.

Councilmember Baldwin reported she attended a luncheon with the Lakota Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the orientation for the new appointees Seattle Education Association (SEA) 2025 Boards and Committees.

Councilmember T. Taylor reported she attended the Green River College Development Committee meeting, Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) Board meeting, Green River Handford Award Committee meeting, Seattle Animal Foundation Board meeting, Sound Cities Association meeting, and the I Adore Body Sculpting Ribbon Cutting event. She also thanked Councilmember Brown for his time on the Council.

Councilmember Trout-Manuel thanked Councilmember Brown for his service on the Council.

B. From the Mayor

Mayor Backus reported she hosted the last meeting of the Safe Auburn Series, MC'd for the Miss Auburn Scholarship program, attended Mayor Jim Ferrell's State of the City address for the City of Federal Way, and reminded everyone about the City of Auburn State of the City address at the Muckleshoot Casino Resort.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

APPROVED this 3rd day of March 2025.

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NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

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Shawn Campbell, City Clerk