



**City Council
Special Meeting
February 26, 2025 - 6:00 PM
Muckleshoot Casino Resort
White River, Green River, and Medicine
Convention Rooms
2402 Auburn Way South, Auburn, WA
98002**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Backus called the Special City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Muckleshoot Casino Resort, 2402 Auburn Way South, Auburn, WA 98002.

Councilmembers present: Deputy Mayor Cheryl Rakes, Hanan Amer, Clinton Taylor, Tracy Taylor, and Yolanda Trout-Manuel.

Mayor Nancy Backus and the following staff members present included: City Attorney Jason Whalen, Director of Community Development Jason Krum, Director of Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Director of Human Services Kent Hay, Director of Parks, Arts, and Recreation Daryl Faber, Chief of Police Mark Caillier, Utility Billing Services Manager Joan Nelson, and City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

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 Special City Council Meeting was held in person and virtually.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Mayor Backus' State of the City Address

Mayor Backus thanked all the City of Auburn staff and Councilmembers for their hard work and dedication to the City. She recognized former Deputy Mayor Larry Brown, former Councilmembers, area Mayors, Junior City Councilmembers, representatives from the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA), Auburn School District, King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, friends, and family.

Mayor Backus spoke about public safety, new construction in Auburn, the Comprehensive Transportation Plan, the Auburn Regional Airport, Maintenance and Operations work, City infrastructure, and the Next Step Auburn Internship Program. She also spoke about planning for the future of Auburn, the Auburn Avenue Theater, growth in population, growth projects, climate resilience, the Comprehensive Plan updates, Parks Department activities and programs, the homelessness program, the Auburn Resource Center, Community Court, and congratulated Directors Hinman and Faber on their retirement, acknowledging their dedication to the City.

Mayor Backus shared a story about an Auburn community member, Aaron Baker, who had turned his life around with the help and resources provided by Auburn's Anti-Homelessness Team.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

APPROVED this 17th day of March 2025.

NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

Shawn Campbell, City Clerk