



**City Council  
Special Meeting  
February 20, 2026 - 9:00 AM  
Muckleshoot Casino Resort  
2402 Auburn Way South, Auburn, WA  
98002  
Prairie Convention Room**

## **MINUTES**

---

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers present: Deputy Mayor Tracy Taylor, Hanan Amer, Kate Baldwin, Cheryl Rakes, Lisa Stirgus, and Clinton Taylor. Councilmember Brian Lott was excused.

Mayor Nancy Backus and the following staff members present included: Human Services Manager Jody Davison, Director of Human Resources and Risk Management Candis Martinson, Director of Finance Jamie Thomas, City Attorney Jason Whalen, Director of Parks, Arts, and Recreation Julie Krueger, Director of Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Chief of Police Mark Caillier, Director of Innovation and Technology David Travis, Director of Community Development Jason Krum, Financial Planning Manager Frank Downard, and City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

### **2027-2028 BIENNIAL BUDGET LEADERSHIP RETREAT DAY TWO**

#### **A. Mayor, Council, and Director Relationship Building**

Facilitator Shannon Kelley-Fong from Kelley-Fong Consulting reviewed the ground rules and led those present in team-building exercises.

#### **B. Discussion on Aligning City Vision, Mission, and Goals**

Council did not discuss Aligning City Vision, Mission, and Goals on Day Two of the Leadership Retreat.

C. Discussion of 2027-2028 Biennial Budget Priorities

Director Thomas led those present in a discussion on the 2027–2028 Biennial Budget Priorities, including understanding fund types, General Fund Budget, major revenues and constraints, expenditures and pressures, fund balances and reserve policies, long-range projections, future considerations, and Zero-Based Budgeting.

Mayor Backus recessed the meeting for 30 minutes at 12:00 p.m.  
Mayor Backus reconvened the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Facilitator Shannon Kelley-Fong led those present in identifying and ranking priorities for the next Biennial Budget.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

APPROVED this 6th day of April 2026.

---

NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

---

Shawn Campbell, City Clerk