



**City Council
Special Meeting
April 13, 2026 - 5:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Backus called the meeting to order at 5:30 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 Human Resources and Risk Management Candis Martinson, Director of Community Development Jason Krum, Director of Finance Jamie Thomas, Director of Parks, Arts, and Recreation Julie Krueger, Real Estate Manager Josh Arndt, Parks Planning and Development Manager Thaniel Gouk, Senior Planner Alyssa Tatro, Planner II Gabriel Clark, and City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Municipal Court Judge Candidate Presentation

Judge Matthew Leyba provided Council with a brief presentation on his history, his judicial philosophy, his vision for establishing the Auburn Municipal Court,

his approach to diversion or problem-solving court models, his philosophy for building community trust, and measuring for success.

Council discussed proposed changes from King County District Court, accountability, diversion court, and measuring the success of the Auburn Municipal Court, community trust, Municipal Court staffing, policies and procedures of the Judicial Branch of government, case management software, staff training, and the presiding judge.

Mayor Backus explained the process to bring Mr. Leyba forward as a Municipal Court Judge appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

APPROVED this 4th day of May 2026.

NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

Shawn Campbell, City Clerk