



**City Council
Regular Meeting
April 21, 2025 - 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 Cheryl Rakes, Hanan Amer, Kate Baldwin, Lisa Stirgus, Clinton Taylor, Tracy Taylor, and Yolanda Trout-Manuel.

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 Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Director of Parks, Arts, and Recreation Julie Krueger, and Deputy City Clerk Rebecca Wood-Pollock.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Earth Day

Mayor Backus proclaimed April 22, 2025, as "Earth Day" in the City of Auburn.

B. National Therapy Animal Day

Mayor Backus proclaimed April 30, 2025, as "National Therapy Animal Day" in the City of Auburn.

C. National Arab American Heritage Month

Mayor Backus proclaimed April 2025 as "National Arab American Heritage Month" in the City of Auburn.

D. Resolution 5812 Medic One/EMS Levy Presentation

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Director Michele Plorde provided Council with a presentation on the Medic One/EMS Levy Planning Process regarding Resolution No. 5812, including an overview of the process, how the Medic One/EMS system works, Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) statistics, population growth and response times, diversity, programs funded by the levy, an overview of the EMS Advisory Task Force and their recommendations, subcommittee recommendations, VRFA funding, revenues, expenditures and reserves, risk analysis, and a financial summary.

Council discussed average household costs for the levy.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

An updated PowerPoint presentation for Resolution No. 5812 was provided to the Mayor and Council.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Ron Morgan, Auburn

Ron discussed the King County Courthouse located in Auburn and expressed support for an Auburn Municipal Courthouse.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for Council to review.

COUNCIL AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Council Rules of Procedure

Councilmember Baldwin, Chair of the Council Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee, reported that the Committee has another meeting scheduled for April 22, 2025, for further discussion on the Council Rules of Procedure.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Setting the date for Public Hearing for Level 3 Communications, LLC Franchise Agreement

B. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated April 9, 2025 which includes voucher numbers

479399 through voucher 479440, and voucher numbers 479442 through voucher 479539 in the amount of \$4,386,091.70, seventeen electronic fund transfers in the amount of \$16,676.07 and four wire transfers in the amount of \$810,582.72

C. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)

Claims voucher list dated April 9, 2025 which includes voucher number 479441 in the amount of \$23,114.59

D. Payroll Voucher (Thomas)

Payroll check numbers 539666 through 539672 in the amount of \$84,716.71, electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,811,616.80, for a grand total of \$2,896,333.51 for the period covering April 3, 2025 to April 16, 2025

Deputy Mayor Rakes moved and Councilmember C. Taylor 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. 5812 (Mayor/Council)

A Resolution approving the placement of a Countywide Ballot Measure before voters in 2025 for a Funding Levy to support Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for the period from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2031, pursuant to RCW 84.52.069

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5812.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

Mayor asked for public comment in opposition to Resolution No.5812 ballot measure. No one came forward to speak.

B. Resolution No. 5819 (Gaub)

A Resolution designating the person serving in the position of the Sanitary Sewer Engineer and person serving in the position of the Utilities Engineering Manager as representatives to serve on the Metropolitan Water Pollution Abatement Advisory Committee

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Deputy Mayor Rakes seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5819.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

C. Resolution No. 5822 (Gaub)

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute and administer agreements accepting supplemental grant funds from the Washington State Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration for three projects: 1) Auburn Way S widening (Hemlock Street SE to Poplar Street SE); 2) 1st Street NE/NW and N Division Street pedestrian improvements; and 3) A Street SE preservation (37th Street SE to Lakeland Hills Way)

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5822.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

D. Resolution No. 5823 (Krum)

A Resolution approving the Lodging Tax Grant disbursements recommended by the Auburn Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and authorizing the Mayor to execute agreements between the City of Auburn and Flight Club Foundation, the City of Auburn and Emerald Downs Racing LLC, and the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department for the purpose of tourism, marketing, and hotel rooms for Tourism Events

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Amer seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5823.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

E. Resolution No. 5824 (Gaub/Whalen)

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City, a Purchase and Sale Agreement for Commercial Property Owned by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. at 105 1st Street NE (parcel no. 0483000050)

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Councilmember Baldwin seconded to adopt Resolution No. 5824.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 7-0

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

A. From the Council

Deputy Mayor Rakes reported she attended the Terry Home Auction, the Arbor Day tree planting ceremony, and the Postmark Center for the Arts Dedication and Open House event.

Councilmember Baldwin reported she attended the Auburn Lions Easter Egg

Hunt at the Les Gove Community Center.

Councilmember Stirgus reported she attended the Children's Dance Theater Grand Opening and the King County Children and Youth Advisory Board subcommittee meeting.

Councilmember T. Taylor reported she attended the Children's Dance Theater Grand Opening, the Terry Home Auction, and the Circle Creek Therapy grand opening.

Councilmember Trout-Manuel reported that she attended the Postmark Center for the Arts Dedication and Open House event.

B. From the Mayor

Mayor Backus reported she attended King County Regional Homelessness Board Authority retreat (KCRHA), the Children's Dance Theater Grand Opening, the Evergreen Parks Spring Back to School Free Haircuts Event, the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties quarterly meeting, the Mary Olson Farm tree planting ceremony, the Circle Creek Therapy Grand Opening, the Pierce County Homelessness Housing Authority meeting, South King Housing and Homeless Partners (SKHHP) monthly board meeting, the Bridges Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt, and the Postmark Center for the Arts Dedication and Open House Event.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

APPROVED this 5th day of May, 2025.

NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

Rebecca Wood-Pollock, Deputy City Clerk