



**City Council
Regular Meeting
May 19, 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, and Tracy Taylor. Councilmember Yolanda Trout-Manuel 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 Public Works Ingrid Gaub, Director of Finance Jamie Thomas, and Deputy City Clerk Hannah Scholl.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Brandon Mohler
Recognizing Mr. Mohler for his work on the Marshallese Canoe Carving Project

Consultant Bailey introduced Brandon Mohler, Manager of the State Department of Natural Resources, Wilson Jimna, President of the Washington

Marshallese Association, and Erik Parker, Chemist for Weyerhaeuser and expressed her gratitude for their hard-work on the Marshallese Canoe Carving Project.

Mayor Backus proclaimed May 19, 2025, as Brandon Mohler Day in the City of Auburn.

Brandon thanked Pat Bailey for her support.

B. 2025 Goodwill Ambassadors for the City of Auburn

Mayor Backus proclaimed Chandler Groce, Miss Auburn 2025, and Malia Watanabe-Collier, Miss Auburn's Teen 2025, as Goodwill Ambassadors for the City of Auburn.

Chandler and Malia both thanked the Mayor and Councilmembers for all their support. They each spoke about their initiatives as Miss Auburn and Miss Auburn's Teen.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no modifications to the agenda.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Yuval Fleming, Auburn

Yuval expressed his appreciation for Auburn's diverse community and expressed his concerns regarding traffic safety and the Transportation Advisory Board vacancies.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence for Council to review.

COUNCIL AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Council Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee (Baldwin)

Councilmember Baldwin, Chair of the Council Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee, reported that the Ad Hoc has completed their first draft of revisions and that it will be brought forward at the May 27, 2025, Study Session Meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes from the May 1 and 2, 2025, Special City Council Meetings
- B. Minutes from the May 5, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting
- C. Minutes from the May 12, 2025, Study Session Meeting

- D. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
One wire transfer dated May 6, 2025, in the amount of \$620,203.64
 - E. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated May 7, 2025, which includes voucher numbers 479697 through voucher 479725, and voucher 479727 through voucher 479812, in the amount of \$5,284,477.85, eleven electronic fund transfers in the amount of \$28,009.83 and five wire transfers in the amount of \$284,559.85
 - F. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated May 7, 2025, which includes voucher number 479726, in the amount of \$5,226.46
 - G. Claims Vouchers (Thomas)
Claims voucher list dated May 14, 2025, which includes voucher numbers 479813 through voucher 479839, in the amount of \$964,008.22
 - H. Payroll Voucher (Thomas)
Payroll check numbers 539679 through 539686 in the amount of \$85,460.22, electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,820,738.91, for a grand total of \$2,906,199.13 for the period covering May 1, 2025, to May 14, 2025
 - I. Public Works Project No. CP2117 (Gaub)
City Council to approve an increase of \$110,000.00 in the total maximum authorized contract amount for Public Works Contract No. 23-19; Construction of Project No. CP2117, A Street Loop
 - J. Public Works Project No. CP2317 (Gaub)
City Council to approve an increase of \$150,000.00 in the total maximum authorized contract amount for Public Works Contract No. 24-18; Construction of Project No. CP2317, 2024 Neighborhood Improvements
- Deputy Mayor Rakes moved and Councilmember C. Taylor seconded to approve the consent agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance No. 6974 (Gaub)
An Ordinance granting to Level 3 Communications, LLC, a Franchise for Fiber Optic Telecommunications

Councilmember T. Taylor moved and Deputy Mayor Rakes seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6974.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

- B. Ordinance No. 6975 (Thomas)
An Ordinance amending the City's 2025-2026 Biennial Budget

Councilmember Baldwin moved and Councilmember C. Taylor seconded to approve Ordinance No. 6975.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

- A. From the Council

Deputy Mayor Rakes reported she attended the Petpalooza event and the Municipal Services Special Focus Area (SFA) meeting.

Councilmember Amer reported she attended the Law Enforcement Officers' and Firefighters' (LEOFF) Board Conference and the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) Board meeting.

Councilmember Baldwin reported she attended the Council Rules Ad Hoc Committee meeting, the Public Works and Community Development SFA meeting, and the Master Builders Association event.

Councilmember Stirgus reported she attended the Rotary Club of Auburn meeting and the King County Children's Youth Advisory Board meeting.

Councilmember T. Taylor reported she attended the Green River Hanford Award Committee meeting, VRFA Board of Governance meeting, and the Public Works and Community Development SFA meeting.

- B. From the Mayor

Mayor Backus reported she attended the Kick-Off Meeting for Security Emphasis Site Coordination Sub-Committee Transit Public Safety Task Force, Business Connect Event at Muckleshoots Smoke & Cedar Restaurant, Public Employee Appreciation Week Ice Cream Day, Celebration for King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer's 30 years of service, Coffee Hour at the

Senior Center, Sikh Community Khalsa Day event at Showare Center, Petpalooza event, and Don Stevensons' Memorial Service.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

APPROVED this 2nd day of June 2025.

NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR

Hannah Scholl, Deputy City Clerk