

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Committee-of-the-Whole**

6:30 PM
July 17, 2023

MINUTES

Council Chambers
135 E. Sunset Way

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Councilmembers:

Barbara de Michele
Zach Hall
Victoria Hunt (*Attended Virtually*)
Russell Joe
Tola Marts
Chris Reh
Lindsey Walsh

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
Tisha Gieser, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **Public Comment** - None.
- b) **ID 1474 - Transportation Benefit District Funding Options**

Presented by:
Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
Robert Hamud, Chief Financial Officer

The City Council provided responses to the following questions:

Should the Administration proceed with public outreach on a Councilmanic 0.1% sales tax for transportation infrastructure?

- A majority of the City Council expressed support for pursuing a 0.1% Councilmanic bond and conducting public outreach on the potential increase.

Does Council have feedback on the proposed public outreach plan?

- Need to be clear that the sales tax is one part of the project funding as is the Councilmanic debt.
- Need to explain the need to the public.
- Would prefer to move the timeline to April implementation in order to ensure there is an adequate opportunity for the public to provide input and for the City Council to review that engagement. The summer may be a challenging time to receive public input.
- Provide a variety of opportunities to provide input (i.e. survey).
- Need to be clear about financial implications if there are no new revenues.

Other feedback included:

- Not interested in acquiring debt without new revenue
- Not supportive of sales tax

- Interest in pursuing additional funding in the future to be able to do more projects

The City Administrator stated that the Administration can look at an adjusted timeline to provide for additional public engagement that would still be looking for a City Council vote on this issue by the end of 2023. The City will return with the draft public engagement plan in early September.

- c) **Good of the Order** - None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:57 PM.

Lindsey Walsh, Council President

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk