

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

6:30 PM  
April 29, 2024

**MINUTES**

Council Chambers  
135 E. Sunset Way

**COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

*Councilmembers:*

Barbara de Michele  
Zach Hall  
Victoria Hunt  
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**

The following individual provided public comment:

- Charles Winters, resident, urged for additional police funding in the 2025-26 budget.

b) **COM 0023 - Facilities & Revenue Options**

*Presented by:*

*Autumn Monahan, Administrative Services Director*  
*Andrea Snyder, Interim Chief Financial Officer*

City Council feedback is summarized below the following questions:

**Should Administration focus further research on a phased approach to Olde Town Municipal Campus?**

- Yes

**Does the Council agree with the Administration proposal to use current resources for leasing office and court space?**

- Yes
- Yes, but important to have long term plan for leasing space for general government.

**Should the Administration proceed with planning for a ballot measure for a public safety facilities bond vote and start creating a community engagement plan for review?**

- Yes, but would like more information about the pros and cons of options.
- Yes, but concerned about impacts of various tax increases on residents.
- Yes, but want to ensure we know contingency plans.
- Concerned about going down this path without a firmer understanding of long-term options for City Hall.

- Not yet. Have not seen information demonstrating the need for new court, expanded police and fire facility.

**Comments regarding public engagement:**

- Neighborhood engagement regarding a proposed fire station is important.
- With engagement, need to ensure there is a plan for what happens if bond fails.
- Should start with public engagement before going to bond.

**Other comments:**

- Recommend City Council take a tour of City facilities and district court.
- Support for phased approach.
- Recommend publicly sharing why Option B (buying and renovating) for city facilities is not being pursued.

**The City Council also requested the following information:**

- # of full time employees the City is looking for leased space for
- Conceptual plans of fire station at proposed 135 E. Sunset Way location
- History of voter approved bonds and how they have overlapped
- Square footage comparison of police departments of eastside neighboring cities like Kirkland, Redmond
- Whether police administrative costs could be included in a bond, which may provide some resources towards general government facilities
- Table showing benefits of each option for each use (court, police, fire, general government).
- Information on school district bond passage/failure history in the area.
- Information about political appetite for a voter approved bond.

City Administrator Bobkiewicz shared that the City would focus the May 13 Committee of the Whole on data requested by the City Council. Staff will work on scheduling a field trip to visit the King County District Court and City facilities on one or two other dates.

c) **Good of the Order**

*Deputy Council President de Michele:*

Boards & Commissions - Please sign up on the list that is being circulated to visit and welcome the board and commissions.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:28 PM.

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Lindsey Walsh, Council President

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Tisha Gieser, City Clerk