

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting

7:00 PM
February 18, 2014

MINUTES

Council Chambers
135 E. Sunset Way

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Councilmembers:

Eileen Barber (*Excused Absence*)
Stacy Goodman
Tola Marts
Mary Lou Pauly
Joshua Schaer
Paul Winterstein

Administration/Staff:

Fred Butler, Mayor
Bob Harrison, City Administrator
Wayne Tanaka, City Attorney
Megan Gregor, Acting City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Butler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

- a) AB 6781 - Mayor's State of the City Address

Mayor Butler provided the State of the City Address (attached hereto and incorporated by reference,) referencing Issaquah's past and outlining notable achievements as well as present and future successes to come.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Randy Bass, 871 Bently Rd, Ellensburg, spoke regarding his property on East Lake Sammamish Rd Pkwy and how the newly accepted grant (AB 6764 - East Lake Sammamish Parkway) will affect his business.

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Milligan:

None.

Councilmember Pauly:

None.

Councilmember Tola Marts:

Land & Shore Committee -- An update from the previous meeting was provided. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2014 at 5:00 PM in the Council Chambers.

Sound Cities Association -- An update from the previous meeting was provided.

Councilmember Joshua Schaer:

Council Infrastructure Committee -- The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 13, 2014 at 5:30 PM in the Pickering Room at City Hall Northwest.

Eastside Transportation Partnership -- An update on the previous meeting was provided.

Councilmember Stacy Goodman:

None.

Council President Paul Winterstein:

Discussed a meeting he attended with Eastside Fire and Rescue.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Butler reported on the following:

- a) There will not be an Executive Session Meeting held this evening.
- b) Update of recent King County Cities Climate Collaboration to discuss ways to collectively address climate change.
- c) Christopher Wright, Development Services, received a wonderful response to his presentation at the Chamber of Commerce's "Innovation in Issaquah" luncheon last week. Christopher covered the City's innovative efforts to improve our internal processes and become a higher-performing organization.
- d) The Mayor's monthly breakfast will now shift to other locations. The next no-host breakfast will be held from 9-10 a.m. March 8 at Café Ladro in the Issaquah Highlands.
- e) Join us to share your ideas in person about the location of the new skate park. The first Public Input Meeting will be from 6-8pm next Wednesday, February 26th, at Tibbetts Creek Manor.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Items listed below were distributed to Councilmembers in advance for study and were enacted with one motion.

IT WAS MOVED BY WINTERSTEIN, SECONDED BY GOODMAN, MOTION CARRIED (6-0), TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.

- a) Accounts: Payables and Payroll, February 18, 2014; **Approved.**
 - i. Accounts Payable Checks 149051 thru 149068 in the amount of \$23,896.54
 - ii. Accounts Payable Replacement Checks 149069 thru 149282 in the amount of \$1,514,050.08
 - iii. Accounts Payable Checks 149283 thru 149287 in the amount of \$17,500.00
 - iv. Payroll Checks 74510 thru 75468 in the amount of \$19,313.66
 - v. Payroll Benefits Checks 75469 thru 75489 in the amount of \$92,250.04
 - vi. Direct Deposits 62233 thru 62510 in the amount of \$528,997.62
 - vii. Payroll Wire Transfer Checks 1008 thru 1008 in the amount of \$34,471.36
 - viii. Payroll Wire Transfer Checks 1014 thru 1018 in the amount of \$470,803.76
- b) Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, February 3, 2014; **Approved.**

- c) AB 6775 - Interlocal Agreement w/City of Bellevue for Utility Pre-Assumption within Issaquah Corporate Limits; **Referred AB 6775 to the March 13, 2014 Council Infrastructure Committee for review and recommendation, returning to the full Council on April 7, 2014.**
- d) AB 6777 - Amended and Restated Interlocal Agreement Establishing eCityGov Alliance and Related Articles of Incorporation; **Adopted Ordinance No. 2707 authorizing the Mayor to sign an amended and restated Interlocal Agreement establishing the eCityGov Alliance and approving other actions related thereto.**
- e) AB 6786 - Interlocal Agreement with Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District; **Referred AB 6786 to the March 10, 2014 Council Committee Work Session for review and recommendation, returning to the full Council on March 17, 2014.**

PUBLIC HEARING

- a) AB 6776 - Extension of Recreational Marijuana Moratorium

Jason Rogers, Associate Planner and Councilmember Marts, introduced the agenda item.

Mayor Butler opened the Public Hearing at 7:39 PM.

The following individuals spoke in favor of extending the moratorium:

- Stephen Pereira, 170 NE. Dogwood St.
- Robert Milligan, 2712 17th Ave. NE

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:43 PM.

Following Council Discussion,

IT WAS MOVED BY MARTS, SECONDED BY WINTERSTEIN, TO:

Adopt Ordinance No. 2708, extending a moratorium on the establishment of recreational marijuana facilities enacted by Ordinance No. 2686 pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390 and RCW 35A.63.220, defining "Recreational marijuana facilities," adopting Findings of Fact and Conclusions, providing for severability, and establishing an effective date and expiration date.

MOTION CARRIED, 6-0.

REGULAR BUSINESS

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Megan Gregor, Acting City Clerk

Fred Butler, Mayor

State of the City 2014

Issaquah citizens, community members, City employees and City Council members – I am honored to appear before you this evening to present my first State of the City address as your new mayor.

A community is made up of many elements, including businesses, human service nonprofits, and schools. We are blessed with an outstanding school district, an active and professional chamber of commerce, citizens who are involved, first-class medical facilities and a City Council committed to regional involvement. In short, we are becoming a 5-Star City by any measure.

During my years of public service to Issaquah, I've been committed to listening to our community's needs, wants and hopes for the future.

To the Seahawks fans waiting at Issaquah's bus stop, I've been listening. To my friends at the Community Center gym, I've been listening. To the Bingo group at the Senior Center, I've been listening. And to the teens planning a drug-free future for their classmates, I've been listening.

As I assume this new position, now two months into the job, my role is crystal clear.

As your new mayor, my focus is this: maintaining momentum.

Our previous mayor, Ava Frisinger, has set the stage for a successful – and sustainable – future. Her leadership and commitment to smart growth, environmental preservation, economic success and human service will exponentially benefit us in the decades ahead.

Thank you, Ava, for your years of public service, including 16 as our mayor.

Our forward momentum – and the exceptional energy in this community – is substantial.

In November, close to 80 percent of voters supported our parks system with a new bond. Our citizens were overwhelmingly ready to reinvest, using their own tax dollars, in our future.

A new \$70 million retail center in the Issaquah Highlands recently opened to happy customers, who were anxious to have a grocery store, restaurants and other services close to home and work.

And just a month ago, Issaquah was named the "Best Burb" in the West by Sunset Magazine.

Meanwhile, we are fiscally responsible. We have a budget where our projected revenues exceed our expenditures, and we have a healthy reserve.

I'm so proud of our community. We have a lot to celebrate.

To maintain this success, and continue planning for what's next, I am focused on these four initiatives as your mayor:

- Providing exceptional customer service
- Partnering with our community organizations
- Maintaining a focus on sustainability, and
- Setting the stage for our future

Customer Service

Two years ago, our City Council set a goal to become a 5-Star City.

And the foundation of that work comes from providing exceptional customer service to our citizens, from the day-to-day interactions at our front counter, to answering the 911 calls from those experiencing the most stressful moments of their lives.

We are here to serve you, our community.

We are an extremely safe City, with a dedicated force that is rooted in community policing and proactive patrols.

Our police department's work is saving and enhancing lives. As an example, we received a thank you letter last month after one of our detectives took extra care while handling an investigation.

"As I close this chapter of my journey, and begin a new one, I wanted to say thank you," the letter reads. "Ultimately, your kindness saved my life. I have gone from being lost and helpless to feeling purpose again and seeing hope for my future."

This is community policing at its best.

Late last year, we also graduated a class of students from our Citizens' Police Academy. Two motivated officers organized and taught a series of courses to our local citizens to help them better understand our services, dedication and challenges.

Speaking of public safety, I'm pleased that the City recently signed an interlocal agreement with Eastside Fire & Rescue, securing our quality fire and emergency medical service for the next seven years.

This agreement keeps our partnership intact, and strengthens our region's readiness for responding to emergencies and disasters.

In the coming year, Issaquah will also work with Eastside Fire & Rescue to find more efficiencies to keep costs down and service levels high.

Customer service spans beyond our first responders. For example, Issaquah has become a regional leader in online communications with our customers.

Thanks to social media, our new website and dedicated staff, our City has opened a 24-hour online customer service desk. Citizens of all ages no longer have to visit City Hall – or even send an email – to ask a question. They can simply join the conversation online.

We are also building community. In just seven days surrounding the Super Bowl, we reached more than 1 million people by sharing our 12th Man spirit.

Connecting with our citizens online broadens our reach, helps us better understand public sentiment and only improves our effectiveness in providing excellent customer service.

Partnerships

While we have a stellar team here at City Hall, we could not meet our goal of becoming a 5-Star City without the help of our community partners.

We have great working relationships with the Greater Issaquah Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Issaquah Association and nearby businesses to strengthen our local economy and increase our tourism efforts.

Together, we host more than 180,000 of our closest friends for Salmon Days each fall. We enjoy wine and art walks in the heart of our downtown. And in the months ahead, we'll work with our community partners to pioneer innovative ways to attract more visitors to Issaquah.

Issaquah also supports all aspects of our children's lives as they grow up in our schools and make memories in this wonderful town. As the Issaquah School District, a key partner for the City, begins to remodel several of its facilities in the coming year, Issaquah will be there in a supporting role.

We also invest in our partners. This year, we assisted the Cougar Mountain Zoo in purchasing much-needed refrigerators to keep their perishable food fresh for the animals. Thanks to the City's contributions this year, the Issaquah History Museums will develop a plan to preserve the community's past for future generations. We also financially support a variety of our local arts partners – including Village Theatre and artEAST.

Meanwhile, meeting our community's basic human needs is a shared responsibility, and one that Issaquah is dedicated to. Through our grants program, we help fund the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank, AtWork!, Eastside Baby Corner and dozens more.

We also started 2014 with great news, as we negotiated with the Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer District to resolve issues related to stormwater.

Community-wide challenges require community-wide partnerships to solve. Together, Issaquah has the right team of partners in place to carry us forward.

Sustainability

Continuing Issaquah's focus on sustainability, including our people, planet and economic prosperity, is key to maintaining our momentum.

Concerning people, Issaquah has committed to spending \$9 per capita on human service needs in this community for 2014. I hope to see that number up to \$10 by 2015.

We are also focused on developing a human service campus, which will become a one-stop shop for people in our community to receive support from a variety of human services agencies.

Our commitment to the environment is paramount to Issaquah. Crews are currently wrapping up one of the largest – and most significant – habitat restoration projects in our region, which removed an aging dam on Issaquah Creek. This dam was blocking salmon from reaching the majority of the creek’s watershed.

We’re excited to see an increase in the production of Chinook salmon, which are listed as an endangered species, here in the creek and throughout the greater Lake Washington basin.

In addition, thanks to voter support last year, Issaquah now has bond funds to leverage for additional open space grants, expanding our opportunities to acquire and preserve more land.

Our economic prosperity – the final building block of sustainability – is a strong focus for Issaquah as we recover from the financial downturn.

Our Economic Vitality Commission recently completed an analysis that studied our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats as a community. This gives us a great roadmap as we start to develop Issaquah’s future economic vitality strategies.

Planning for the Future

Issaquah is truly a special place where people care. And we can thank our community’s previous leaders for their visionary planning, which created the Issaquah we all know and love today.

Now, it’s time to plan for what’s next.

While Issaquah recently adopted the Central Issaquah Plan and Rowley Development Agreement – which will both guide the long-term evolution of our commercial core into a more sustainable, urban area – our work has just begun. It’s time to realize the vision we’ve created.

I’m excited to announce several projects are now sprouting up in the valley floor, including a 120-room extended-stay hotel and, soon, the Seventh and Gilman project, which will add about 340 multi-family units downtown. We’re also working with Costco to ensure their international headquarters in Issaquah can expand as the company grows.

In the Issaquah Highlands, the City recently approved the Site Development Permit for Bellevue College so that it can begin a phased build-out of its new campus, which could offer everything from degree programs to summer camps for children.

We also recently signed a development agreement that allows Swedish Medical Center to expand its campus by about 10 acres for more medical offices. Right next door, Issaquah will be working on another agreement that holds exciting opportunities for our community, including more housing, retail and, possibly, a campus that will bring living-wage jobs to our City.

State of Our City

In summary, the state of our city is strong, thanks to strong leadership and careful planning. As your new mayor, I'm committed to setting the stage for continued success.

In 2014, we will focus on always providing exceptional customer service, strengthening our wonderful community partnerships, maintaining our focus on sustainability and planning for what's next.

Together, as a community of residents, businesses, nonprofits, students, seniors, volunteers and public servants, we can capitalize on our community's momentum, and continue building our bright future.

Thank you.