

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting

7:00 PM
 August 3, 2020

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Alternate Meeting Format: On March 6, 2020 the Mayor declared a civil emergency due to the outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On March 24, 2020 the Governor issued Proclamation 20-28 prohibiting open public meetings from occurring in person. The proclamation has been extended to Sept. 1, 2020. Due to these factors, the meeting was held using a remote meeting platform.

Councilmembers:

Barbara de Michele
 Stacy Goodman
 Zach Hall
 Victoria Hunt
 Tola Marts
 Chris Reh
 Lindsey Walsh

Administration/Staff:

Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor
 Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
 Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
 Jim Haney, City Attorney
 Tisha Gieser, Deputy City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pauly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

The following individuals provided public comment:

- Larry Franks, spoke in support of the Environmental Board.
- Villette Nolon, representing Imagine Housing, spoke in support of providing rental assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic (ID 0738) and suggested that the Eastside Legal Assistance program be designated as an administrator of some of the funds.
- Connie Marsh, spoke regarding concerns with the Master Mobility Plan, the current Environmental Board proposal (ID 0739) and the Area of Special Flood Code Hazard Code Updates (AB 7962).
- David Johnson, expressed concern with water rates as proposed under Utility Rate Adjustments (AB 8002).
- Susan Neville, 2825 NW Pinecone Dr., spoke regarding concerns with aspects of the Environmental Board proposal (ID 0739).
- Dani Madan, made suggestions regarding the Environmental Board proposal (ID 0739).
- Ann Fletcher, 255 SE Andrews St., spoke in support of the Environmental Board proposal (ID 0739) and made suggestions regarding aspects of the proposal.
- Kristi Tripple, representing Rowley Properties, urged continued police funding and spoke regarding recently announced state rental assistance relief.
- Ellen O'hara, representing Imagine Housing, spoke in support of providing rental assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic (ID 0738).

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Hall:

Cascade Water Alliance Board - Made report.

King County Growth Management Planning Council Affordable Housing Committee - Made report.

Councilmember de Michele:

Eastside Human Services Forum Legislative Committee - Made report.

Eastside Human Services Forum Board of Directors - Announced upcoming meeting.

HealthierHere Governing Board - Announced upcoming meeting.

Combined Transportation Boards - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Marts:

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - August meeting is cancelled.

Puget Sound Regional Council Growth Management Policy Board - August meeting is cancelled.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported on the following items:

- Executive Session: There will be an executive session to discuss pending and potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The item is expected to last 30 minutes. No action is anticipated in Open Session.
- Funding Granted from Puget Sound Regional Council
- Shoreline Master Plan and Flood Hazard Code Updates
- Bargaining Agreement Annual Summary

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES**a) ID 0738 - Rental Assistance Options**

Human Services Coordinator Monica Negrila presented the City Council with an update on regional rental assistance programs and options for providing additional City rental assistance.

Council President Hunt summarized email comments received on this item.

Councilmembers requested on-going updates on the status of regional rental assistance resources and the state moratorium on evictions.

b) ID 0739 - Environmental Board Update

Sustainability Coordinator Megan Curtis-Murphy presented the City Council with an update on the Environmental Board proposal and next steps.

Council President Hunt summarized email comments received on this item.

Councilmembers asked questions and provided feedback on the proposal.

A public hearing on the draft ordinance and creation of the Environmental Board will be conducted by the Planning Policy Commission on Thurs., Aug. 13. The Commission will provide a recommendation for City Council consideration.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Council President Hunt requested that AB 7962 - Area of Special Flood Hazard Code Updates (Issaquah Municipal Code 16.36) (item ("g")) be removed from the Consent Calendar and considered under Regular Business.

Council President summarized email comments received on AB 7962 - Area of Special Flood Hazard Code Updates (Issaquah Municipal Code 16.36).

IT WAS MOVED BY HUNT, SECONDED BY REH; MOTION CARRIED (7-0), TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED (removing agenda item (g)).

- a) **ID 0398 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of Aug. 3, 2020, \$ 2,798,376.67;** Approved.
- b) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, July 6, 2020;** Approved.
- c) **Minutes: City Council Special Meeting, July 13, 2020;** Approved.
- d) **Minutes: City Council Study Session, July 14, 2020;** Approved.
- e) **AB 7772 - Shoreline Master Program Periodic Update;** Adopted Ordinance No. 2913, amending IMC 18.10.940(a) to adopt the Shoreline Master Program periodic update; directing transmittal of the update to the Washington State Dept. of Ecology for state review and approval; providing for severability; and providing for the Shoreline Master Program periodic update to become effective upon the Department of Ecology's approval.
- f) **AB 7781 - Teamsters 763 Collective Bargaining Agreement;** Approved the terms of the 2020-2022 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and Teamsters Local Union No. 763 and authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute the Agreement.
- g) **AB 7962 - Area of Special Flood Hazard Code Updates (Issaquah Municipal Code 16.36);** Removed from the Consent Calendar to be heard under Regular Business (item "a).
- h) **AB 7998 - ArtsWA Creative District Grant;** Authorized acceptance of ArtsWA Grant funds of \$5,000 to support the development of Issaquah's Creative District and execution of the grant agreement.
- i) **AB 8015 - Amend 2020 Salary Ordinance;** Adopted Ordinance No. 2914, amending the Teamsters Local Union No. 763 salary schedule previously adopted by Ordinance No. 2887 and providing for an effective date of January 1, 2020.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a) **AB 7962 - Area of Special Flood Hazard Code Updates (Issaquah Municipal Code 16.36)**

Introduced by City Administrator Bobkiewicz. Following Council discussion,

IT WAS MOVED BY HUNT, SECONDED BY REH, TO:

Adopt Ordinance No. 2915, amending Chapter 16.36 of the Issaquah Municipal Code relating to Areas of Special Flood Hazard, providing for severability and establishing an effective date.

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0.

b) **AB 8002 - Utility Rate Adjustments**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Bob York, Interim Public Works Engineering Director, and Shawn Koorn, Consultant.

Council President Hunt summarized email comments received on this item.

Following Council discussion,

IT WAS MOVED BY HUNT, SECONDED BY REH, TO:

1) Adopt Ordinance No. 2916, amending Section 13.24.110(C) of the Issaquah Municipal Code relating to Water Rates, and establishing January 1, 2021 as the effective date.

2) Adopt Ordinance No. 2917, amending Section 13.30.050(C) of the Issaquah Municipal Code relating to Stormwater Rates, and establishing January 1, 2021 as the effective date.

3) Adopt Ordinance No. 2918, amending Section 13.70.040 of the Issaquah Municipal Code relating to Sewer Rates, and establishing January 1, 2021 as the effective date.

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0.

c) **AB 8005 - Village Theatre Funding**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Jeff Watling, Parks & Community Services Director.

Following Council discussion,

IT WAS MOVED BY HUNT, SECONDED BY GOODMAN, TO:

Direct the Finance Director to include an additional \$25,000 for Village Theatre in a subsequent 2020 budget amendment utilizing the Municipal Art Fund; and authorize the amendment of Village Theatre's 2020 arts grant contract to increase the funding amount from \$50,000 to \$75,000.

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0.

d) **AB 8006 - Second 2020 Budget Amendment**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Susie Monsell, Senior Budget Analyst.

Following Council discussion,

IT WAS MOVED BY HUNT, SECONDED BY REH, TO:

Adopt Ordinance No. 2919, amending the 2020 budget as set forth in Ordinance No. 2888 and amended in Ordinance No. 2908 concerning revenues, expenditures, and fund balance for various funds for the year 2020.

MOTION CARRIED, 7-0.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councilmember Hall:

Cougar Mountain Zoo - Shared a recent experience visiting the zoo.

Mayor Pauly:

Upcoming Council Meetings - Announced anticipated agenda items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:06 PM, Council recessed into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending/potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The item was expected to take approximately 20 minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:22 PM. There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 PM.

Tisha Gieser, Deputy City Clerk

Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Council Study Session**

6:30 PM
August 11, 2020

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

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Councilmembers:

Barbara de Michele
Stacy Goodman
Zach Hall
Victoria Hunt
Tola Marts
Chris Reh
Lindsey Walsh, Designated Chair

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
Christine Eggers, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **Public Comment – None.**
- b) **ID 0644 - Work Plan Quarterly Reporting**

Presented by:
Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator

Councilmembers asked questions.

Council provided feedback including encouraging prioritization of the Hillside Park capital project.

- c) **ID 0646 - 2020/2021 Revenue Forecast**

Presented by:
Beth Goldberg, Finance Director

Council provided feedback on the proposed budget and upcoming community engagement opportunity, including:

Public Engagement on 2021 Budget:

- Pursue informal opportunities outside of a meeting (i.e. survey)
- Ensure community is aware of impacts of their budget recommendations
- Encourage high-level engagement, such as providing choices

Other:

- Given impacts of COVID-19, consider using general fund balance in excess of required reserves

- Interest in paying down unfunded liability incrementally

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:31 PM.

Christine Eggers, City Clerk

Lindsey Walsh, Designated Chair

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Council Study Session**

6:30 PM
August 25, 2020

Virtual Meeting

MINUTES

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

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Councilmembers:

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Tola Marts
Chris Reh
Lindsey Walsh

Administration/Staff:

Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator
Tisha Gieser, Deputy City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA ITEMS

- a) **Public Comment** - None.
- b) **ID 0743 - Housing Stability: Local Defense Against Evictions**
- Ad Hoc Committee Presentation
 - Council Q&A
 - Public Comment
 - Council Direction

Council President Hunt and Councilmembers Hall and de Michele reported out on the Housing Stability Ad Hoc's work. Councilmembers Goodman and Reh provided a summary of the memo provided in the agenda packet regarding mediation.

The following public comment was provided:

- Kristi Tripple, representing Rowley Properties, provided specific input and concerns with the proposed ordinance by section and expressed support for mediation out of court.

Council President Hunt summarized email comments received on this agenda item.

Council then provided direction on AB 8013, Housing Stability: Local Defense Against Evictions by discussing and providing input on a series of questions. The questions and a summary of the responses are provided in the attached notes.

Following discussion, Council provided direction to:

- Return this item to the Sept. 15 Council Study Session with an interim report of the Ad Hoc Committee at the Sept. 8 Council meeting.
 - Administration to provide research on mediation cost and availability to report out at Sept. 15 Study Session.
 - Ad Hoc Committee to outreach to those they have connected with re: mediation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:17 PM.

Tisha Gieser, Deputy City Clerk

Victoria Hunt, Designated Chair

Additional Notes: Aug. 28 Study Session

During discussion on ID 0743 - Housing Stability: Local Defense Against Evictions, the City Council discussed and provided input on the following questions. A summary of the Council input received is provided in a bulleted list below each question:

1. How can we more closely tie the ordinance to the impacts of the COVID-19 emergency?

- Reiterate that the ordinance relates to COVID-19 throughout ordinance as appropriate.
- Use suggestions in Rental Housing Association of Washington marked up version of the ordinance which indicated circumstances being defined as related to COVID-19.

2. How would council like to address the concern around a sunset/end date?

- Tie ordinance expiration to termination of the civil emergency declared by the Mayor.
- Tie ordinance expiration to Phase 4 of the Governor's Safe Start plan.
- If proceeding with payment plan, provide a specific date for payment plans.

3. Would council consider adding 'whereas' clauses to balance the wording between and advocate for tenants, landlords, and mortgage holders, as well as removing any language in the "whereas" statements that could be perceived as creating an adversarial environment?

- No specific wording/direction was provided.

4. Is council's preference to include or not to include Section 5, regarding the early termination of rental agreements? This section was raised as a concern by multiple individuals we spoke with.

- Majority opinion: Strike from ordinance.
- Minority opinion: Retain.

5. Would council like to consider modification of the payment plan specifications in Section 3? The King County Council's ordinance (Attachment D) and the Seattle City Council's ordinance (Attachment G) each have different specifications. Because we share a border with some unincorporated King County area, the ad hoc committee discussed the potential benefits of aligning more closely with their ordinance. In addition, the Attorney General's office has put together a worksheet to help landlords and tenants create reasonable payment plans (Attachment L).

- Plan could follow other methods, like mediation.
- Keep payment plan specifications minimal, not prescriptive.
- Support having a required plan to provide certainty.
- Require any payment plan agreements to be written and dated/signed.
- Consider providing payment plan option as a back-up if mediation or other tools are not successful.

6. Discussion of mediation option provided by Councilmembers Goodman and Reh.

- Support adding mediation as one of the defenses against eviction in the proposed ordinance.
- Concerns about funding, capacity; interest in doing more research on this option.
- Funding mediation will be significantly less than funding rental assistance.
- Wait to see what happens with work group convened by Chief Justice of the state Supreme Court re: mandatory pre-eviction meet and confer process.
- One possibility: require mediation and have parties share costs of mediation. City could agree to pay for a certain number of hours of mediation.

7. There is considerable uncertainty whether the governor's moratorium on evictions will be further extended. If council wishes to proceed with a local defense against evictions, how should the governor's moratorium be factored into implementation timing? The ad hoc committee considered the following potential options, but there are likely other options.

- a. Pass the ordinance with the understanding that it will not be used for an unknown