

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH  
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM  
November 20, 2023

**MINUTES**

Council Chambers  
135 E. Sunset Way

**COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT**

*Councilmembers:*

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

*Administration/Staff:*

Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor  
Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator  
Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator  
Rachel Bender Turpin, City Attorney  
Tisha Gieser, 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.

**SPECIAL BUSINESS**

a) **ID 1384 - Small Business Saturday Proclamation**

Mayor Pauly presented the proclamation to Economic Vitality Commission Chair Chris Reichley, Economic Development Manager Jen Davis Hayes and Economic Development Coordinator Farel Otieno.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

Randy Bannecker, representing the Seattle King County Realtors Association, urged the City Council to remove the item advocating for REET revenue for affordable housing in AB 8683, 2023-24 State Legislative Agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

**IT WAS MOVED BY WALSH, SECONDED BY MARTS; MOTION CARRIED (6-0), TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

a) **ID 1483 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of Nov. 20, 2023, \$7,863,511.04; Approved.**

- b) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, Aug. 7, 2023;** Approved.
- c) **AB 8707 - 2023 Unclaimed Property Report, Cancellation of Unredeemed City Checks;** Approved Resolution No. 2023-15, ordering the cancellation of checks reported as stale to the Washington State Department of Revenue and Arizona State Unclaimed Property Unit.
- d) **AB 8709 - Amendment to Interlocal Agreement with King County for Public Safety Answering Point;** Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with King County for the City's Public Safety Answering Point.
- e) **AB 8714 - Surplus City Equipment;** Approved Resolution No. 2023-16, declaring certain City vehicles and equipment as surplus.
- f) **AB 8721 - Hearing Examiner Contract (Alex Sidles);** Confirmed the appointment of the Law Offices of Alex Sidles as Hearing Examiner for the City of Issaquah, with a term commencing on Dec. 1, 2023 and expiring on Nov. 30, 2024, subject to the terms of a Professional Services contract.
- g) **AB 8729 - Octagon Towers Lease Amendment #5 (1901 NE Park Drive);** Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the Fifth Amendment to the Facilities Lease Agreement between the City and Simplicity Towers, LLC (d/b/a, Octagon), for the lease agreement at 1901 NE Park Drive.
- h) **AB 8735 - Establishing Financial Policy Ad Hoc Committee;** Established the Financial Policy Ad Hoc Committee to consider changes to the City's Financial Management Policy as identified in AB 8735, returning to the full Council at the Jan. 16, 2024 Council meeting with a formal recommendation.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

- a) **AB 8670 - Transportation Benefit District Councilmanic Sales Tax**  
 Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Chief Financial Officer Robert Hamud.  
  
 Mayor Pauly opened the public hearing at 7:18 p.m.  
  
 No public comments were made.  
  
 There being no objection, the public hearing was closed at 7:19 p.m.  
  
 This item will return to the City Council for action at the Dec. 4, 2023 City Council meeting. The City Council expressed a preference to have this item return under Regular Business.

*\*\*Please note, the presentations and public hearings for AB 8662 and AB 8672 were presented and conducted jointly.\*\**

- b) **AB 8662 - 2023-24 Mid-Biennium Budget Adjustment**
- c) **AB 8672 - 2024 Property Tax Levy**  
 Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Chief Financial Officer Robert Hamud and Budget Manager Susie Monsell.

Mayor Pauly opened the joint public hearing at 7:18 p.m.

No public comments were made.

There being no objection, the public hearing was closed at 7:19 p.m.

These items will return to the City Council for action at the Dec. 4, 2023 City Council meeting. The City Council expressed a preference to have these items return under Regular Business.

## REGULAR BUSINESS

a) **AB 8683 - 2023-24 State Legislative Agenda, Priorities and Policy Manual Update**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by City Lobbyist Shelly Helder.

**IT WAS MOVED BY WALSH, SECONDED BY MARTS, TO:**

Approve the 2023-24 Legislative Agenda as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED, 6-0.**

b) **AB 8704 - High Street Collection Development Agreement**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by City Attorney Rachel Bender Turpin.

Councilmember Joe announced she would abstain from voting until she could receive more information from the City Attorney on implications of increasing the fees.

**IT WAS MOVED BY WALSH, SECONDED BY MARTS, TO:**

Adopt Ordinance No. 3035, approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute the High Street Collection Development Agreement.

Councilmember Joe announced that he will be abstaining from voting on this item.

**MOTION CARRIED, 6-0 (Abstaining: Joe).\***

\*Per the Issaquah Municipal Code, abstentions are counted as "yes" votes (IMC 2.06.120).

c) **AB 8734 - Amending City Council Rules of Procedure Re: Public Comments**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by City Attorney Rachel Bender Turpin.

**IT WAS MOVED BY WALSH, SECONDED BY MARTS, TO:**

Approve Resolution No. 2023-17, amending Section 4.08 of City Council Rules of Procedure to require that general audience comments directly related to City programs, projects, services, or events.

**MOTION CARRIED, 4-2 (Opposed: de Michele, Reh).**

## COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

*Councilmember Joe:*

Cascade Water Alliance Board - The December regular meeting was canceled. Announced an upcoming special meeting.  
 Cascade Water Alliance Public Issues Committee & Finance Committee - Meetings are canceled.

*Councilmember Hunt:*

WRIA8 Salmon Recovery Council - Made report.  
 Planning, Development and Environment Committee - Made report.  
 National League of Cities Conference - Will be preparing a written summary.

*Councilmember Reh:*

Mobility & Infrastructure Committee - Made report.

*Councilmember Marts:*

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - Will be sending a draft Legislative Agenda to the City Council for input.  
 Services, Safety & Parks Committee - November meeting is canceled.

*Council President Walsh:*

King County Affordable Housing Committee - Made report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor reported on the following topics:

- Executive Session: An Executive Session will be held to discuss pending litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The items are expected to take approximately 45 minutes. Action is anticipated to follow in open session.
- Upcoming Community Events

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

*Mayor Pauly:*

Upcoming Council Meetings - Announced anticipated agenda items.

*Councilmember Joe:*

Olde Town Community Meeting - Thanked the City for hosting the event.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a) **ID 1554 - Executive Session - Pending/Potential Litigation**

At 8:43 PM, the City Council took a five-minute recess. The City Council then recessed into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing pending/potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) at 8:48 PM. The item was expected to take approximately 45 minutes. Action was anticipated to follow in open session.

**RECONVENE OPEN SESSION**

- a) Take Action on Executive Session Item

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The regular meeting reconvened at 9:34 PM.

**IT WAS MOVED BY WALSH, SECONDED BY MARTS, TO:**

Approve the Settlement Agreement and Release as discussed in Executive Session.

**MOTION CARRIED, 6-0.**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

*Councilmember Marts:*

Eastside Fire & Rescue Legislative Agenda - Requested whether City Council has any feedback. Feedback included:

- Support for bringing forward the lithium-ion battery issue.
- Concern about increased costs of building new construction due to wildland fire regulations.

*Mayor Pauly:*

- Dec. 2 Morocco Fundraiser - Encouraged City Councilmembers to attend and RSVP.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.

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Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor

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Tisha Gieser, City Clerk