

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM
December 2, 2024

MINUTES

Council Chambers
135 E. Sunset Way

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Mary Lou Pauly (*Attended Virtually*), Deputy Council President Barbara de Michele, Councilmember Zach Hall, Councilmember Victoria Hunt (*Attended Virtually*), Councilmember Russell Joe, Councilmember Tola Marts, Councilmember Chris Reh, and Council President Lindsey Walsh

Excused Absence:

Staff Present: Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator; Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator; Rachel Bender Turpin, City Attorney; and 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 - None.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS – None.

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 DE MICHELE; MOTION CARRIED (7-0), TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

- a) Minutes: City Council Committee of the Whole, Nov. 18, 2024

MOTION: Approved.

- b) **ID 1765 - Informational Update: Grant and Contract 3rd Quarter Report**

MOTION: Received Report.

- c) **ID 1767 - Informational Update: End of Year Issaquah Climate Action Plan Update**

MOTION: Received Report.

- d) **AB 8653 - Gilman Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project TR-066 Design Contract**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute a design contract with the consultant (DEA) for the Gilman Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project in substantially the same form as the attached agreement (Exhibits A), as approved by the City Attorney.

e) **AB 8897 - 2025 Salary Ordinance**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3079, adopting the 2025 salary ordinance including revised salary schedules for Non-Represented, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Teamsters 763, representing Administrative Services Fleet and Public Works Operations, Issaquah Police Officers Association, Issaquah Police Support Services Association, Teamsters 117 representing Police Commanders, Teamsters 117 representing Police Sergeants and Teamsters 117 representing Police Managers effective January 1, 2025; providing for severability; and establishing effective dates.

f) **AB 8902 - Amendments to IMC 13.24.090, Regional Supply and Treatment Charge - Water**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3080, amending IMC 13.24.090(c), general facility charge and regional capital facilities charges – water, in order to update the same with changes to regional capital facilities charges collected on behalf of Cascade Water Alliance and increase the city facilities charge based on the Seattle ENR construction cost index; amending IMC 13.24.090, IMC 13.30.055, general facility charge - stormwater, and IMC 13.70.020, general facility charge sewer to change the timeframe to calculate inflationary increases based on the ENR cost index; and establishing an effective date.

g) **AB 8920 - 2025-26 Historical and Museum Services, Lease, and Trolley/Equipment Storage Agreement**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the Historical and Museum Services, Lease, and Trolley/Equipment Storage Agreement with the Issaquah History Museums in substantially the same form as Exhibit B allowing for additional non-financial changes as approved by the City Attorney.

h) **AB 8926 - 179 1st Ave SE Surplus**

MOTION: Approved Resolution No. 2024-27, declaring certain City-owned real and personal property to be surplus to the needs of the city and providing for disposition of tax parcel 2354300120, located at 179 1st Ave. SE.

i) **AB 8932 - Memorandum of Understanding with the Issaquah Police Officers Association (IPOA), Issaquah Police Support Services Association (IPSSA), Teamsters 117 representing Police Commanders, Teamsters 117 representing Police Sergeants and Teamsters 117 representing Police Managers re: One Year Contract Extension**

MOTION: Ratified the Memorandums of Understanding between the Issaquah Police Officers Association, Issaquah Police Support Services Association, Teamsters 117 representing Police Commanders, Teamsters 117 representing Police Sergeants and Teamsters 117 representing Police Managers regarding the one-year contract extensions and authorizing the Mayor to execute the Memorandums of Understanding.

j) **AB 8936 - Final 2023-24 Budget Amendment**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3081, amending the 2023-24 budget as set forth in Ordinance No. 2994 and amended in Ordinance Nos. 3009, 3039, and 3061 concerning revenues, expenditures, and fund balance for various funds.

k) **AB 8941 - Amendments to IMC 13.70.040 Sewer Rates to Adopt King County Charge**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3082, amending Section 13.70.040 of the Issaquah Municipal Code relating to sewer rates and charges to add the 2025 King County pass-through charge.

l) **AB 8944 - City Prosecutor Contract and Lease**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to execute a two-year professional services agreement with Lynn Moberly for prosecution services for the City, along with an accompanying lease agreement, in substantially the same form as set forth in Exhibit A.

m) **AB 8945 - Interlocal Agreements for Jail Services: Bellevue, Duvall, Federal Way, Mercer Island, North Bend, Sammamish, Shoreline, Snoqualmie**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the Interlocal Agreement with the cities of Bellevue, Duvall, Federal Way, Mercer Island, North Bend, Sammamish, Shoreline, and Snoqualmie for the housing of inmates in the Issaquah Jail.

n) **AB 8946 - Newport Way NW Landslide Stabilization Contract Supplement #7**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute supplement #7 with KPG Psomas for the Newport Way Landslide Stabilization Project (TR 060) to extend the contract term through December 31, 2025 in substantially the same form as the attached agreement (Exhibit A), as approved by the City Attorney.

PUBLIC HEARING

a) **AB 8885 - 2025-26 Budget**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Interim Chief Financial Officer Andrea Snyder and Senior Planner Thomas Valdriz.

Mayor Pauly opened the public hearing at 7:39 PM.

The following public comment was provided:

- Corby Casler, Executive Director of the Downtown Issaquah Association (DIA), spoke regarding the Main Street Program and DIA's participation in that program and thanked the City for their response to the recent windstorm.
- Chris Reichley, spoke regarding the need to identify what the community benefits of MetroFlex and the Light Rail Study are.
- Matteo Schulz, employee of Kimley-Horn, spoke in support of conducting studies to plan for Sound Transit.

The public hearing was closed at 7:46 PM.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a) 2025-26 Budget

It was moved by Council President Walsh; seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to:

MAIN MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 3083, adopting the 2025-2026 budget; setting forth the estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund, and estimated impact on ending fund balances for all such funds combined of the city for the fiscal years commencing January 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026, and establishing an effective date.

It was moved by Council President Walsh; seconded by Councilmember Reh, to:

AMENDMENT: Amend Exhibit A of the ordinance, "Summary of Revenues, Expenditures & Fund Balance", to remove the proposed funding for the Light Rail Study: \$100,000 in 2025 and \$100,000 in 2026 from the General Fund.

RESULT:	Failed. 3-4
IN FAVOR:	Councilmember Hunt, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Joe, and Councilmember Marts

A vote was taken on the following motion:

MAIN MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 3083, adopting the 2025-2026 budget; setting forth the estimated revenues and appropriations for each separate fund, and estimated impact on ending fund balances for all such funds combined of the city for the fiscal years commencing January 1, 2025 and January 1, 2026, and establishing an effective date.

RESULT:	Carried. 7-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Hunt, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

b) **AB 8950 - Waiver of Permit Fees for Low Income Residents and Building Permit Fee Deferral for Emergencies**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Planning Manager Stephen Padua.

It was moved by Council President Walsh; seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to:

MOTION: Approve Resolution No. 2024-28, providing for a low-income fee waiver and fee deferral for certain building permit fees necessitated by an emergency or natural disaster with an amendment to change the area median income requirement in Section 1 to be at or below 80% of the median family income.

RESULT:	Carried 7-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Hunt, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

c) **AB 8796 - Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Planning Manager Stephen Padua.

It was moved by Council President Walsh; seconded by Councilmember Hall, to:

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 3084, adopting the 2024 periodic update of the Issaquah Comprehensive Plan pursuant to the Washington State Growth Management Act, Chapter 36.70A RCW; regarding King County Tax parcel number 2024069015, amending the land use designation map of the comprehensive plan; adopting an amendment to the zoning map; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

RESULT:	Carried 7-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Hunt, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

d) **AB 8911 - Citywide Strategic Plan Five-Year Update**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Assistant to the City Administrator Dale Markey-Crimp.

It was moved by Councilmember Marts; seconded by Council President Walsh, to:

MOTION: Approve Resolution No. 2024-29, adopting amendments to the Citywide Strategic Plan as part of the five-year Plan update.

RESULT:	Carried 7-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Hunt, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

AB 8924 and AB 8925 were presented jointly.

e) **AB 8924 - 2025 Council Calendar**

f) **AB 8925 - Council Vacancy Process & Timeline**

A majority of the City Council expressed support for the following changes to the proposed Council Vacancy Process & Timeline:

- Consolidate the application questions based on Council feedback (see below) and allow for longer responses. Council Leadership to review final questions.
- Remove the meet and greet on Feb. 10
- Move the appointment date up to Feb. 10.

- Add a pre-application event option to give candidates more information about the vacancy process. Jan. 13 was discussed as a date option.

Other feedback included:

- Pursue process that casts a wide net and results in determining if the applicants have the skills that are needed. Reduce barriers to applying.
- Reach out to community non-profits we partner with to share opportunity, including HOA's.
- Consider having someone broker individual meetings with Councilmembers rather than leave it up to the applicants to reach out to them individually.
- Highlight low-income waiver in the outreach materials.
- Consolidate the ten 2019 application questions and allow for longer responses.

Specific feedback on the 2019 questions included:

- Change question #9 related to housing affordability. Either eliminate it or make it more generic. Remove question #9.
- Consider combining questions #1 and 2.
- Remove "and its character" from question #7. Recommend removing this question.
- Questions #3 and 5 are similar. Consider combining them or eliminate one.
- Combine questions #4 and #10.
- Include question on community engagement.
- Use questions that will illicit thoughtful responses.
- Reword question #6 so it doesn't feel like a barrier to entry. Remove the word "qualification".
- Idea for a question: Look over these documents (Community Survey, Strategic Plan), and share an issue that is important to you and what you would do to improve that in the community. Consider this in lieu of question #9.

It was moved by Council President Walsh; seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to:

MOTION: Approve Resolution No. 2024-30, adopting a City Council calendar for 2025 with changes to adjust the April Committee of the Whole and August and November regular meetings to avoid meeting the day before the primary/general election.

RESULT:	Carried 7-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Hunt, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

It was moved by Council President Walsh; seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to:

MOTION: Approve the process and timeline for filling the 2025 City Council vacancy of Position No. 6 as amended [as discussed above, to:

- Consolidate the application questions based on Council feedback and allow for longer responses. Council Leadership to review final questions.
- Remove the meet and greet on Feb. 10
- Move the appointment date up to Feb. 10.
- Add a pre-application event option to give candidates more information about the vacancy process. Jan. 13 was discussed as a date option.].

RESULT:	Carried 7-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Hunt, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Joe:

Cascade Water Alliance Board - December meeting canceled.
 Cascade Water Alliance Public Affairs Committee - December meeting canceled.
 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee - Scheduling a meeting in December.

Councilmember Hall:

Eastside Fire & Rescue Board - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Hunt:

Planning, Development & Environment Committee - No December meeting.

Councilmember Marts:

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Services, Safety & Parks Committee - No December meeting.

Deputy Council President de Michele:

Eastside Human Services Forum - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Eastside Transportation Partnership - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Regional Transit Committee - December meeting canceled.

Council President Walsh:

King County Affordable Housing Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported on the following topics:

- Executive Session: There is not an executive session this evening.
- Windstorm Recovery Continues
- Debris Pickup Event on Sunday, December 8th
- City Launches How to Do Business in Issaquah Website and Print Booklet
- Don't Miss Legally Blonde: The Musical at the Village Theater

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Councilmember Joe:

I-90 Crossing Open House - Dec. 5 at Tibbetts Creek Manor.
 2024 Holiday Elected Leaders Party - Dec. 9, 5pm at Xfinity Store in Bellevue Square hosted by the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Pauly:

Upcoming Council Meetings - Announced anticipated agenda items. Asked Councilmembers for availability on Dec. 18 at 6-7:30 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 PM.

Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk