

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM
February 24, 2025

MINUTES

Council Chambers
135 E. Sunset Way

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Deputy Council President Barbara de Michele, Councilmember Zach Hall, Councilmember Kelly Jiang, 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.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

The following public comment was provided:

- James Marquardt, resident, spoke regarding concerns with safety along the Rainier trail.
- Ann Fletcher, resident, made comments regarding AB 8887, Mobility Action Plan Update.
- Peter Walters, representing Life Enrichment Options, thanked the City for the opportunity to apply for IHIP dollars (AB 8953 - Inclusive Housing Investment Pool (IHIP) Funding Recommendation).

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Mayor Pauly made comments regarding AB 8993 - Amendment to 2025-26 Legislative Agenda.

It was moved by Walsh, seconded by de Michele, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion Carried (7-0).

- a) **ID 1785 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of Feb. 24, 2025, \$5,622,284.42**

MOTION: Approved.

- b) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, Feb. 3, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

c) **AB 8905 - Franchise Agreement Renewal - Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3085, granting to Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC, a nonexclusive franchise to install, operate, and maintain a cable communications system in, on, over, upon, along, and across certain designated public rights-of-way of the city of Issaquah, Washington, prescribing certain rights, duties, terms, and conditions with respect thereto, and establishing an effective date.

d) **AB 8933 - Project Acceptance, SE 43rd Way Pavement Preservation**

MOTION: Accepted completion of the SE 43rd Way Pavement Preservation Project (TR 065) and to release the retainage bond to the contractor.

e) **AB 8934 - Project Acceptance, East Lake Sammamish Pkwy SE Pavement Preservation**

MOTION: Accepted completion of the East Lake Sammamish SE Pavement Preservation Project (TR 064) and to release the retainage bond to the contractor.

f) **AB 8953 - Inclusive Housing Investment Pool (IHIP) Funding Recommendation**

MOTION: Authorized the transfer of \$482,687 from the City's 0.1% sales tax (HB 1590) Issaquah Housing Investment Pool (IHIP) funding to ARCH to fund and manage a contract with Life Enrichment Options (LEO) to purchase Emily House; and

Approved Resolution No. 2025-04, authorizing the duly-appointed administering agency for ARCH to execute all documents necessary to enter into agreements for the funding of Inclusive Housing Investment Pool projects, as approved by the City Council, utilizing funds transferred from the City.

g) **AB 8963 - 2024 ARCH Housing Trust Fund**

MOTION: Approved Resolution No. 2025-05, authorizing the duly-appointed administering agency for ARCH to execute all documents necessary to enter into agreements for the funding of affordable housing projects, as recommended by the ARCH Executive Board, utilizing funds from the City's Housing Trust Fund.

h) **AB 8964 - Planning Policy Commission Annual Appointments**

MOTION: Confirmed the Mayor's Appointments to the Planning Policy Commission as presented; terms effective March 1, 2025.

i) **AB 8966 - Franchise Agreement - Ezee Fiber Texas, LLC**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3086, granting to Ezee Fiber Texas, LLC, a nonexclusive franchise to install, operate, and maintain a communication system in, on, over, upon, along,

and across certain designated public rights-of-way of the city of Issaquah, Washington, prescribing certain rights, duties, terms, and conditions with respect thereto, and establishing an effective date.

j) **AB 8980 - Newport Way Landslide Stabilization Project (TR 060)**

MOTION: Awarded the construction contract for the Newport Way Landslide Stabilization Project (TR 060) to Northwest Construction Inc. in the amount of \$1,195,669.00 (including sales tax).

k) **AB 8983 - Department of Ecology Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance Grant Amendment**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to accept the Department of Ecology Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance (LSWFA) Program grant amendment, re-allocating \$22,000 from Task 2 to Task 1 and execute the grant agreement.

l) **AB 8987 - Amending IMC Chapter. 3.71, 3.72, 3.73, Impact Fee Exemptions**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3087, amending Section 3.71.040, 3.72.040, and 3.73.040 of the Issaquah Municipal Code relating to impact fees to comply with State Law.

m) **AB 8993 - Amendment to 2025-26 Legislative Agenda**

MOTION: Approved the 2025-26 Legislative Priorities as amended.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a) **AB 8887 - Mobility Action Plan Update**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Senior Transportation Planner Thomas Valdrez.

Councilmember Reh, Chair of the Mobility & Infrastructure Committee, summarized the Committee's recommendation on this item.

It was moved by Councilmember Reh; seconded by Councilmember Hall, to:

MOTION: Approve Resolution No. 2025-06, adopting the Mobility Action Plan update, including the plan strategies and actions.

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

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Joe:

Mobility & Infrastructure Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Cascade Water Alliance Board - Announced upcoming meeting.

Cascade Water Alliance Public Affairs Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Greater Issaquah Chamber of Commerce Board - Meeting canceled.

Councilmember Hall:

Eastside Fire & Rescue - Made report. Was elected Chair of the Board. Announced upcoming meeting.
 Planning, Development & Environment Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
 AWC City Action Days - Summarized recent event.

Councilmember Marts:

Services, Safety & Parks Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember de Michele:

Eastside Transportation Partnership - Made report.
 Regional Transit Committee - Meeting canceled.
 Board of Health - Made report.

Council President Walsh:

Puget Sound Regional Council Growth Management Policy Board - Announced upcoming meeting.
 King County Affordable Housing Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported on the following topics:

- Executive Session: There will be an Executive Session this evening to discuss property acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b). This item is expected to take approximately 20 minutes. Action is anticipated to follow in open session.
- Legislative Session Update
- Delay to Consideration of Grand Ridge Elementary School Zone Location
- Upcoming Events - Spring Business Open House in March

INFORMATIONAL UPDATES

a) **ID 1816 - Informational Update: Windstorm Financial Recovery**

Emergency Manager Jared Schneider, Urban Forest Supervisor Dan Hintz and Management Analyst Gillian Straub provided the informational update.

b) **ID 1821 - Informational Update: 2024 Economic Development Annual Report**

Economic & Housing Development Manager Jen Davis Hayes and Economic Vitality Commission Chair Chris Reichley provided the informational update.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mayor Pauly:

Upcoming Council Meetings - Announced anticipated agenda items.

Council President Walsh:

City Council Retreat - The retreat will be held at the Issaquah School District Administration Building on March 1. An email with some pre-work will be sent out shortly.

Mayor Pauly:

US Conference of Mayors – Made report of this event. Shared impacts of potential funding cuts at the federal level. There was unity behind opposition to these cuts expressed at the conference.

ID 1825 - 2025 City Council Appointments: Council Committees

Council President Walsh summarized the standing Committee appointments as well as a few minor changes to the regional committee assignments made on Feb. 3, 2025. The appointments were included in the agenda packet.

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

MOTION: Approve an exception to the City Council Rules of Procedure Section 2.04, Appointments, Standing Committees, to allow a member of Council leadership to be appointed to two standing committees in 2025.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:58 PM, Council moved into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing property acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b). The Executive Session was preceded by a 5-minute break. The Executive Session began at 9:05 PM. The item was expected to take approximately 20 minutes. The session was extended by five minutes. Action was anticipated in open session.

- a) **ID 1829 - Executive Session - Property Acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b)**

OPEN SESSION

The open session was reconvened at 9:34 PM.

- a) **Motion Following Executive Session**

Jeff Watling, Parks & Community Services Director, provided a brief presentation on the proposed property acquisitions discussed in Executive Session, referred to as the Kinnune and Kelkari properties.

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

MOTION: Authorize the Mayor to execute a purchase and sale agreement and other documents necessary to purchase the property, also known as King County Tax Parcels 3800900120, 3800900080, 3800900090, and 3800900100, from Kelkari Two Development, LLC, for the amount of \$2,500,000.00 plus closing costs.

RESULT:	Carried 7-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Jiang, 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: Authorize the Mayor to execute a purchase and sale agreement and other documents necessary to purchase the property located at 330 2nd Ave. NE, also known as King County Tax Parcel 272406-9116, from the Kinnune Living Trust, for the amount of \$900,000.00 plus closing costs.

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk