

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM
November 10, 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 Lehner, 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.

Mayor Pauly announced that Councilmember Hall would be arriving late.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pauly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) **ID 1925 - Recognition of Fire Chief Ben Lane**

Mayor Pauly thanked Fire Chief Ben Lane for his service.

b) **ID 1929 - Recognition of Police Officer John Lindner**

Mayor Pauly and Chief Paula Schwan thanked Officer Linder for his 27 years of service.

c) **ID 1865 - Accounting Day Proclamation**

Mayor Pauly presented the proclamation to Senior Financial Analyst Brittany Hinsley and Finance Director Kristin Garcia.

d) **ID 1866 - Issaquah Recycles Day Proclamation**

Mayor Pauly presented the proclamation to Public Works Director Emily Moon.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

The following individuals spoke regarding AB 9026, WSDOT Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Development Agreement Extension for Bellevue College:

- Kevin Nichols, resident, expressed opposition to the extension.
- Sarah Hoey, Executive Director of the Issaquah Highlands Community Association (IHCA), urged IHCA involvement in any proposed extension of the Development Agreement.
- Natalie Anderson urged the Bellevue College parcel be considered for a future school facility.
- Dave Osmer, resident, expressed support for a school being built on the Bellevue College parcel.
- Jay Sternoff, resident, urged finding ways to build schools in the community.
- David Kappler, resident, spoke regarding concerns with single-family housing being built on the Bellevue College parcel.
- Lynda Tammone, resident, urged the Bellevue College parcel be used for educational purposes.
- Landon Halverson, resident, urged the Bellevue College parcel be used as intended when the agreement was initially entered into.

The following individuals spoke regarding concerns with the removal of funding to the Downtown Issaquah Association (DIA) and urged it be reinstated:

- Corby Casler, Executive Director of the DIA
- Judy Ecklund, resident
- Barbara Mayfield, Issaquah business owner

Other comments included:

- Elizabeth Maupin, resident, urged the City pursue affordable housing at 60% Area Median Income and below.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Mayor Pauly made comments regarding item "m", AB 9090 - B&O Tax Online Payment Processor Agreement.

Mayor Pauly also made comments on behalf of Councilmember Hall, Chair of the Planning, Development & Environment Committee, regarding item "h", AB 9063 - 2025 Comprehensive Plan Amendments and Rezone.

It was moved by Council President Walsh, seconded by Deputy Council President de Michele, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion Carried (6-0).

- a) **ID 1800 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of Nov. 10, 2025, \$5,944,360.72**

MOTION: Approved.

- b) **Minutes: City Council Committee of the Whole, Sept. 29, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

- c) **Minutes: City Council Special Meeting, Oct. 6, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

- d) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, Oct. 6, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

e) **Minutes: City Council Committee of the Whole, Oct. 13, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

f) **ID 1822 - Informational Update: Economic Development Quarterly Report - Q3 2025**

MOTION: Received Report.

g) **ID 1871 - Informational Update: Citywide Work Plan and Capital Projects Third Quarter 2025 Update**

MOTION: Received Report.

h) **AB 9063 - 2025 Comprehensive Plan Amendments and Rezone**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3119, adopting by reference several amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Issaquah by updating the housing and transportation elements and adopting by reference amendments to the zoning map.

i) **AB 9030 - Amendments to Mobility Action Plan Re: Transportation Concurrency Policy Update**

MOTION: Approved Resolution No. 2025-19, adopting amendments to the Mobility Action Plan.

j) **AB 9078 - ARCH 2026 Administrative Budget**

MOTION: Approved the 2026 Administrative Budget for A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) as recommended by the ARCH Executive Board.

k) **AB 9083 - Amending Community Planning and Development Fees**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3120, amending sections 3.64.010 and 3.64.030 of the Issaquah Municipal Code and subsection 109 of the Construction Administrative Code as codified in section 16.04.010 of the Issaquah Municipal Code to update the city's building, site work, and land use permit fees and fees for inspections, plan review and other related services; providing for severability and establishing an effective date.

l) **AB 9086 - Franchise Agreement with Forged Fiber 37, LLC**

MOTION: Introduced.

m) **AB 9090 - B&O Tax Online Payment Processor Agreement**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute an agreement with Authorize.net to provide payment processing services for the City’s online B&O tax return system.

n) **AB 9092 - Memorandum of Understanding with Washington State Council of County and City Employees Issaquah Administrative Staff Association (AFSCME) Re: One Year Contract Extension**

MOTION: Ratified the Memorandum of Understanding between the Washington State Council or County and City Employees Issaquah Administrative Staff Association (AFSCME) regarding the one year contract extension and authorize the Mayor to execute the Memorandum of Understanding; and directed the Human Resources Director to amend the 2026 salary ordinance to incorporate the revised wages in a subsequent amendment.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a) **AB 9095 - City Council Statement Regarding Immigration Enforcement**

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

MAIN MOTION: Approve Resolution No. 2025-20, making a statement regarding federal immigration enforcement in Issaquah.

It was moved by Councilmember Jiang, to:

AMENDMENT: Amend the resolution to replace all instances of "citizen or non-citizen" with "regardless of citizenship or immigration status."

There being no objection, the amendment was adopted.

The following main motion as amended was before the City Council:

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: Approve Resolution No. 2025-20, making a statement regarding federal immigration enforcement in Issaquah as amended.

RESULT:	Main Motion as Amended Carried 6-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None
ABSENT:	Councilmember Hall

Councilmember Hall entered the City Council Chamber.

c) **AB 9026 - WSDOT Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) Development Agreement Extension for Bellevue College**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Community Planning & Development Director Minnie Dhaliwal.

The below motion, which was moved at the July 21, 2025, City Council meeting, was on the floor:

MAIN MOTION: Approve Resolution No. 2025-15, authorizing the Mayor to approve an amendment to the WSDOT TDR Development Agreement extending the expiration date to allow Bellevue College to evaluate development options and seek community input.

It was moved by Deputy Council President de Michele, seconded by Councilmember Hall, to:

AMENDMENT: Substitute the pending resolution with the revised version dated Nov. 10, 2025.

RESULT:	Amendment 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 Councilmember Hall, to:

AMENDMENT: Amend the resolution to remove the word “standalone” from Exhibit A to the resolution as follows:

During this extension period, the College may continue to evaluate additional development scenarios and potential uses consistent with the community informed plan for a mix of uses with no land use application to be filed until the public outreach is complete and thereafter no land use application for ~~standalone~~ housing can be filed unless specifically approved by the City Council.

RESULT:	Amendment 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 Councilmember Jiang, seconded by Council President Walsh, to:

AMENDMENT: Amend the resolution to remove "for housing" from Exhibit A to the resolution as follows:

During this extension period, the College may continue to evaluate additional development scenarios and potential uses consistent with the community informed plan for a mix of uses with no land use application to be filed until the public outreach is complete and thereafter no land use application ~~for housing~~ can be filed unless specifically approved by the City Council.

There being no objection, the amendment was withdrawn.

It was moved by Councilmember Jiang, to:

AMENDMENT: Amend Exhibit A to include a community engagement process for an institutional use.

Director Dhaliwal clarified that the content of this amendment is already encompassed by the proposed extension.

This amendment did not receive a second and was not considered further.

The following main motion as amended was before the City Council:

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: Approve Resolution No. 2025-15, authorizing the Mayor to approve an amendment to the WSDOT TDR Development Agreement extending the expiration date to allow Bellevue College to evaluate development options and seek community input as amended.

RESULT:	Main Motion as Amended Carried 4-3
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Joe, and Councilmember Reh
OPPOSED:	Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marts, and Council President Walsh

e) **AB 8968 - 2026 School Impact Fees**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Planning Manager Christen Leeson.

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

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 3121, amending Subsection 3.63.100(A) of the Issaquah Municipal Code to revise the amount of the school impact fee imposed by the City.

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

f) **AB 9077 - Fire Code Permit Fee Increase and Fee Pass Through**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Building Official James Gray, Assistant Fire Chief Will Aho and Fire Marshall Jeromy Hicks.

Councilmember Hall, Chair of the Planning, Development & Environment Committee, summarized the Committee's recommendation on this item.

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

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 3122, amending Section 16.06.245 of the Issaquah Municipal Code to adopt updated operational permit fees for permits issued under the International Fire Code; repealing and replacing Section 16.06.250 of the Issaquah Municipal Code relating to fire code permit fees; and authorizing the City to collect and remit fire permit fees to Eastside Fire & Rescue.

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

g) **AB 9074 - 2026 Legislative Agenda**

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Management Analyst Gillian Straub and Government Affairs Consultant Shelly Helder.

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

MAIN MOTION: Approve the 2026 Legislative Agenda as presented.

Councilmember Hall announced that he would recuse himself from voting due to his role as a state representative.

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

AMENDMENT: Add a 4th section to the Legislative Agenda page as follows:

*Immigrant Protections
Issaquah requests the legislature strengthen monitoring and policies of the Keep Washington Working Act to close data-sharing loopholes such as those from ALPR cameras, strengthen protections and access to vulnerable locations such as healthcare facilities, courthouses, shelters, and schools, and require all law enforcement display visible identification including agency emblems and badges while banning the use of face-concealing items.*

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

**Councilmember Hall abstained from voting. Per the Issaquah Municipal Code, abstentions are counted as "yes" votes (IMC 2.06.120).*

The following main motion as amended was before the City Council:

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: Approve the 2026 Legislative Agenda as amended.

RESULT:	Main Motion as Amended Carried 6-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Reh, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None
ABSENT:	Councilmember Hall

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Jiang:

K4C Climate Collaborative Elected Official's Committee - Made report.
Eastside Transportation Partnership - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Joe:

Cascade Water Alliance Board - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Chamber of Commerce Board - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Mobility & Infrastructure Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Hall:

Eastside Fire & Rescue Board - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Marts:

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Services, Safety & Parks Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Deputy Council President de Michele:

Non-Profit Convening in Issaquah Area - Made report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported on the following topics:

- There will be no Executive Session this evening.
- AFSCME Contract Extension
- Announced Upcoming Events

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Council President Walsh:

MetroFlex Contract - Requested the New Business request process be waived and this item be considered at the Nov. 17, 2025 City Council meeting. There being no objection, this item will be added to the Nov. 17 City Council meeting agenda.

Councilmember Hall:

Resignation - Announced his resignation from Council Position No. 2 as of December 31, 2025 due to his role as State Representative for District No. 5.

Councilmember Joe:

Dia de las Muertos Event - Shared that it was a robust community event.

Mayor Pauly:

Upcoming Council Meetings - Announced anticipated agenda items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 PM.

Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk