

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM
December 1, 2025

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Deputy Council President Barbara de Michele, Councilmember Zach Hall, Councilmember Russell Joe, Councilmember Tola Marts, Councilmember Kevin Nichols, and Councilmember Lindsey Walsh

Excused Absence: Councilmember Chris Reh

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pauly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) ID 1924 - Swearing in of City Council Position No. 6

Mayor Pauly provided the Oath of Office to Kevin Nichols.

b) ID 1926 - Recognition of Mayor Pauly & Councilmember Hall

Mayor Pauly recognized Councilmember Zach Hall for his six years of service as an Issaquah City Councilmember.

c) ID 1930 - Informational Update: Asset Management System Update

Deputy City Administrator Andrea Lehner made a presentation and recognized the staff in attendance who played a role in implementing Cartograph, the City's Asset Management System, including Chief Information Officer Gus Tiwana, Senior Application Analyst Brian Oeverman and Systems Analyst Roma Hicks.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

The following public comment was provided:

- Joan Wallace, Acres of Diamonds Board member, shared the mission of Acres of Diamonds related to AB 9079, Acres of Diamonds Affordable Housing Covenants.
- Stacy Goodman, property owner, thanked Mayor Pauly for her years of service.
- Nancy Davidson, resident, thanked Mayor Pauly for her years of service.
- Michelle Winterstein, resident, spoke regarding concerns with e-bicycle restrictions on trails in AB 9087 - E-Motorcycle & E-Bicycle Ordinances.

- Paul Winterstein, resident, spoke regarding concerns with the scope of e-bicycle restrictions and urged they be focused on unsafe operation and not e-bicycle riders in general.
- Corby Casler, Executive Director of the Downtown Issaquah Association (DIA), spoke regarding recent and upcoming DIA events.
- Mariah Bettise thanked Mayor Pauly and Councilmember Hall for their service.
- Kelly Jiang, resident and Councilmember-elect, spoke in support of AB 9079 - Acres of Diamonds Affordable Housing Covenants and expressed minor concerns with proposed restrictions of e-bicycle use in AB 9087 - E-Motorcycle & E-Bicycle Ordinances.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

The City Clerk noted a corrected version of the ordinance for AB 9068 - 2026 Salary Ordinance, was distributed to the City Council prior to the meeting as minor errors were found in Exhibit A, the Non-Rep Salary Schedule. The corrected version of the ordinance is the version that will be before the City Council for adoption on the Consent Calendar.

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 1802 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of Dec. 1, 2025, \$4,819,915.28**

MOTION: Approved.

- b) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, Nov. 10, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

- c) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, Nov. 17, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

- d) **ID 1880 - Informational Update: Issaquah Climate Action Plan Implementation Update**

MOTION: Received Report.

- e) **ID 1895 - Informational Update: 2025 Q3 Grant & Contract Report**

MOTION: Received Report.

- f) **ID 1943 - Informational Update: Review of 2026 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Appointments**

MOTION: Received.

- g) **AB 9058 - Amending IMC 5.04, Business & Occupation Taxes**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3127, amending Section 5.04.040 of the Issaquah Municipal Code regarding business & occupation taxes to implement changes in state law.

h) **AB 9067 - Rainier Trail Dog Park Project**

MOTION: Awarded the construction contract including Bid Alternates 1 and 2 for the Rainier Trail Dog Park project in the amount of \$491,274.24 (including sales tax) to Fury Site Works, Inc.; and authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the related agreement; and authorized inclusion of an additional \$300,400 of project funding from the Hillside Park Improvement Project in a subsequent 2026 budget amendment increasing the construction project total to \$611,401.46.

i) **AB 9068 - 2026 Salary Ordinance**

MOTION: Adopted Ordinance No. 3128, adopting the 2026 salary ordinance including revised salary schedules for Non-Represented; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; and Teamsters 763, representing Public Safety Telecommunicators effective January 1, 2026.

j) **AB 9097 - King County Flood Control District Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant (Issaquah Creek Stream and Riparian Habitat Restoration at Squak Valley Park South)**

MOTION: Authorized acceptance of King County Flood Control District Cooperative Watershed Management Grant funds in the amount of \$425,000 for the design and permitting of the Issaquah Creek Stream and Riparian Habitat Restoration at Squak Valley Park South Project and execution of the grant agreement with King County in substantially the same form as the attached agreement (Exhibit A) as approved by the City Attorney.

k) **AB 9098 - Cooperative Purchasing Interlocal Agreement with the City of Everett**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute an Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with the City of Everett.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a) **AB 9079 - Acres of Diamonds Affordable Housing Covenants**

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

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

MOTION: Authorize the Mayor to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Acres of Diamonds and the related restrictive covenant release documents attached thereto.

RESULT:	Carried 6-0
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Nichols, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

ABSENT: Councilmember Reh

b) AB 9087 - E-Motorcycle & E-Bicycle Ordinance

Introduced by Mayor Pauly and presented by Police Chief Paula Schwan.

Councilmember Marts, Chair of the Services, Safety & Parks Committee, summarized the Committee's recommendation on this item.

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

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 3129, adopting Chapter 10.48 of the Issaquah Municipal Code to regulate the use of electric-assisted bicycles and electric motorcycles; and Adopt Ordinance No. 3130, amending Chapter 10.34 of the Issaquah Municipal Code, abandoned, unauthorized and junk motor vehicles, to modernize the chapter; authorizing impound without notice for vehicles operated illegally; and authorizing in person notice of impound and notice by first-class mail.

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

MOTION: Amend the ordinance to delete Section 10.48.030 and Subsection 10.48.040(A) regarding Class 1 and 2 electric-assisted bicycles.

RESULT:	Amendment Carried, 6-0.
IN FAVOR:	Deputy Council President de Michele, Councilmember Hall, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Nichols, and Council President Walsh
OPPOSED:	None
ABSENT:	Councilmember Reh

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

c) AB 9089 - City Council Vacancy Process, Council Position No. 2

City Council provided the following input on the vacancy process:

Proposed Timeline:

- Allow for appointment to potentially be made at Jan. 12 meeting and notice as a Special City Council meeting.
- Rename Dec. 13 event "Council Applicant Info Session".
- Ensure low income assistance is highlighted at Dec. 13 event and in noticing of vacancy.

Application questions:

- Highlight benefits
- Questions #3 and #4: Consider revising. Ideas include reflection on community service experience, role of local government, and identifying challenging aspects of serving in office. Review City of Redmond application and job description.
- Question #5: Ensure that dedicated seats are also included instead of just regional SCA seats
- Question #6: Specify optional community engagement opportunities.
 - Find salary commission metrics around # of hours Council spends on their Council work.
- Stay with six questions total.
- Highlight benefits, including low-income assistance.
- Delegate final approval of questions to Council Leadership.

Outreach:

- Ensure outreach to Greater Issaquah Chamber of Commerce and other non-profits the City partners with rather than just the human service-related non-profits.
- Convey that the City Council encourage outreach

Verbal Presentations (Jan. 12):

- Encourage applicants to reach out to Councilmembers.
- Ensure applicants are positioned at the side of the room for their presentations.
- Preference for 5-minute duration for verbal presentations.

Question & Answer period (Jan. 20):

- Support not providing questions in advance.
- Vary applicant response order.
- Could ask individual questions if there are a small number of applicants at this stage.
- Council Leadership to determine questions and whether individual questions are asked.
- Consider requesting applicants stay out of the room during other applicant interviews so they can't hear each other's responses.

It was moved by Councilmember Hall, seconded by Councilmember Joe, to:

MOTION: Approve the process and timeline for filling the 2026 City Council vacancy of Position No. 2 as amended [per the discussion summarized above].

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

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Joe:

- Lodging Tax Advisory Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
- Greater Issaquah Chamber of Commerce Board - Announced upcoming meeting.
- Mobility & Infrastructure Committee - December meeting canceled.
- Cascade Water Alliance Board - December meetings canceled.

Councilmember Marts:

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

Deputy Council President de Michele:

Regional Transit Committee - Made report. December meeting canceled.
 King County Board of Health - Made report. December meeting canceled.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported on the following topics:

- Executive Session: There will not be an executive session this evening.
- Rainier Trail Off-Leash Dog Park Bid Award
- Climate Action Plan Implementation Progress Report
- Expression of Gratitude for Serving the City of Issaquah

GOOD OF THE ORDER*Council President Walsh:*

Eastside Fire & Rescue Board Appointment - Announced that she would be taking the Regular member seat and Councilmember Hall will be moving to the Alternate member seat in December due to his upcoming vacancy.

Thank You - Thanked Councilmember Hall for his service.

Councilmember Hall:

Farewell Remarks - Expressed gratitude for his time on the City Council and thanked the community, staff and his colleagues.

Deputy Council President de Michele:

Thank You - Thanked Mayor Pauly for her service.

Councilmember Marts:

Thank You - Thanked Mayor Pauly for her leadership.

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 9:55 PM.

 Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor

 Tisha Gieser, City Clerk