

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM
January 5, 2026

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Mark Mullet, Council President Barbara de Michele, Councilmember Kelly Jiang, Councilmember Russell Joe, Deputy Council President Tola Marts, Councilmember Kevin Nichols, and Councilmember 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 Mullet called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Mullet led the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

a) ID 1935 - Swearing in of Mayor & City Council Position Nos. 1, 3, 5 & 7

Judge Stewart issued the oath of office to the following elected officials:

- Mark Mullet, Mayor
- Kelly Jiang, Council Position No. 1
- Barbara de Michele, Council Position No. 3
- Russell Joe, Council Position No. 5
- Tola Marts, Council Position No. 7

b) ID 1955 - National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day (LEAD) Proclamation

Mayor Mullet presented the proclamation to Police Chief Schwan.

c) AB 9103 - Election of Council President and Deputy Council President for 2026

Russell Joe nominated Barbara de Michele as Council President.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

MOTION: Elect Councilmember de Michele as 2026 Council President.

RESULT:	Carried 6-0
IN FAVOR:	Councilmember de Michele, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Nichols, and Councilmember Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

Russell Joe nominated Tola Marts as Deputy Council President.

There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

MOTION: Elect Councilmember Marts as 2026 Deputy Council President.

RESULT:	Carried 6-0
IN FAVOR:	Councilmember de Michele, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Jiang, Councilmember Marts, Councilmember Nichols, and Councilmember Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

The following public comment was provided:

- Paul Quinn, suggested changes to the rate structure for waste disposal to help the City meet its diversion goals.
- Matthew Fischer, Circe Allen, and Cam Penhart, Sustainability Ambassadors, made comments regarding initiatives they have led to increase sustainability and help the City meet it's Climate Action Plan goals.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

- a) **ID 1932 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of Jan. 5, 2026, \$15,168,288.55**

MOTION: Approved.

- b) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, Dec. 1, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

- c) **Minutes: City Council Special Meeting, Dec. 13, 2025**

MOTION: Approved.

- d) **ID 1942 - Informational Update: Environmental Board Report**

MOTION: Received Report.

- e) **AB 9107 - T-Mobile Lease Amendment No. 1: 21282 NE Park Drive, Tract D**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute Lease Amendment No. 1 with T-Mobile in substantially the same form as the attached amendment (Exhibit A), as approved by the City Attorney.

f) **AB 9108 - Issaquah Senior Center Solar & Battery Storage Project Contract Award**

MOTION: Authorized the award of the building engineering systems contract in the amount of \$1,399,984.57 to Sulis Energy and authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the related agreement.

g) **AB 9114 - Issaquah Police Officers Association (IPOA) Collective Bargaining Agreement & Memorandum of Understanding re: Field Training Officers**

MOTION:

- 1) Approved the terms of the 2026-2028 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and Issaquah Police Officers Association, representing Police Officers, and authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute the Agreement; and
- 2) Ratified the Specialty Incentive Bonus for Field Training Officers Memorandum of Understanding; and
- 3) Directed the Human Resources Director to amend the salary ordinance to incorporate the revised wages in a subsequent amendment.

h) **AB 9115 - Issaquah Police Support Services Association (IPSSA) Collective Bargaining Agreement**

MOTION: Approved the terms of the 2026-2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City and Issaquah Police Support Services Association, representing Police Support Services employees and authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute the Agreement; and directed the Human Resources Director to amend the salary ordinance to incorporate the revised wages in a subsequent amendment.

i) **AB 9118 - Amendment to Jail Services Contract with Sunnyside**

MOTION: Retroactively authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute the Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sunnyside for Jail Inmate Housing.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a) **AB 9117 - Public Defender Contract**

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

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

MOTION: Authorize the Mayor to execute a professional services agreement with Valley Defenders for public defender services for the City.

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

b) **AB 9096 - 2026 City Council Calendar**

Introduced by Mayor Mullet and presented by Deputy City Clerk Cassidy Mueller.

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

MOTION: Approve Resolution No. 2026-01, adopting a City Council calendar for 2026.

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

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Jiang:
Eastside Transportation Partnership - Made report. Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Joe:
Cascade Water Alliance Public Affairs Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
Cascade Water Alliance - Announced upcoming meeting.
Lodging Tax Advisory Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Walsh:
Eastside Fire & Rescue Board - Elected Vice Chair. Announced upcoming meeting.

Deputy Council President Marts:
Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - Made report. Announced upcoming meeting.
Sound Cities Association Board - Made report.
Services, Safety & Parks Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Council President de Michele:
PSRC Transportation Policy Board - Announced upcoming meeting.
Regional Transit Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
Board of Health - Announced upcoming meeting.

MAYOR'S REPORT – None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

a) Motion by Councilmember Nichols

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

MOTION: Suspend the City Council Rules and add a resolution in support of Issaquah School District Propositions #1, 2 & 3 on the Feb. 10 Special Election ballot to the Jan. 20 City Council meeting agenda.

RESULT:	Carried 6-0
----------------	--------------------

IN FAVOR:	Council President de Michele, Councilmember Joe, Councilmember Jiang, Deputy Council President Marts, Councilmember Nichols, and Councilmember Walsh
OPPOSED:	None

Mayor Mullet:

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 8:19 PM.

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk