

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
City Council Regular Meeting**

7:00 PM
February 23, 2026

MINUTES

Council Chambers, 135 E.
Sunset Way, Issaquah WA

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE

Present: Mayor Mark Mullet, Councilmember Paul Adair, Council President Barbara de Michele (*Attended Virtually*), Councilmember Kelly Jiang, Councilmember Russell Joe, Deputy Council President Tola Marts, and Councilmember Lindsey Walsh

Excused Absence: Councilmember Kevin Nichols

Staff Present: Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator, Andrea Lehner, Deputy City Administrator, and Rachel Bender Turpin, City Attorney

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 1963 - Issaquah Youth Advisory Board Update**

This item was delayed and will occur at a future meeting.

b) **ID 1980 - Fourth of July Commission Update**

An informational update was provided by Fourth of July Commission Executive Director Janie Bube.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

The following public comment was provided:

- David Bangs expressed concerns over the delay of the installation of the Tesla chargers near Barnes and Noble.
- Corby Casler, representing the Downtown Issaquah Association (DIA), shared some upcoming DIA events.
- Ric Shewell made comments regarding a recent student-led protest.

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 1937 - Accounts: Payables and Payroll of Feb. 23, 2026, \$7,926,474.72**

MOTION: Approved.

b) **Minutes: City Council Regular Meeting, Feb. 2, 2026**

MOTION: Approved.

c) **ID 1962 - Informational Update: Economic Vitality Commission Annual Report**

MOTION: Received Report.

d) **AB 9116 - Change Order for Energy Services Proposal for Energy Efficiency Upgrades at Public Works**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$28,563.70 to the Energy Services Proposal with the Department of Enterprise Services, adjusting the contract total to \$224,307.39.

e) **AB 9138 - Olde Town Targeted Drainage Study Contract Amendment No. 1 (Phase II)**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute Amendment No. 1 to the Olde Town Targeted Drainage Study contract with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants, Inc. (NHC) in substantially the same form as the attached agreement (Exhibit A), as approved by the City Attorney.

f) **AB 9140 - Inclusive Housing Investment Pool (IHIP) Funding Recommendation**

MOTION: 1) Authorized the transfer of \$1,883,000 from the City's 0.1% sales tax (HB 1590) Issaquah Housing Investment Pool (IHIP) funding to ARCH to fund and manage contracts with Life Enrichment Options (LEO) and the KCHA to fund the LEO Condominiums at Trailhead and the KCHA Trailhead Development projects; and
2) Authorized the inclusion of this transfer in a subsequent 2026 budget amendment; and
3) Approved Resolution No. 2026-08, 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 9144 - Franchise Agreement - NFC Northwest, LLC**

MOTION: n/a (Introduced)

h) **AB 9148 - Building Permit Plan Review Contracts**

MOTION: Authorized the Mayor to enter into and execute three professional service contracts with Kolke Consulting for building permit plan review services in the amounts not to exceed \$110,667, \$277,000, and \$192,000 in substantially the same form as the attached agreements (Exhibit A-C), as approved by the City Attorney.

REGULAR BUSINESSa) **AB 9137 - Amendments to Council Rules of Procedure**

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

MOTION: Establish a Council Rules Ad Hoc Committee to consider changes to the Council Rules of Procedure as identified in AB 9137, returning to the full Council at the May 4 City Council meeting with a formal recommendation.

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

Council President de Michele appoint herself, Councilmember Walsh and Councilmember Nichols to the committee, and recommended Councilmember Walsh serve as Chair.

COMMITTEE / REGIONAL REPORTS

Councilmember Adair:

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - Appointed as Alternate.
 Eastside Fire & Rescue Board - Appointed as Alternate.

Councilmember Jiang:

Planning, Development & Environment Committee - Made report. Announced upcoming meeting.
 Eastside Transportation Partnership - Made report.
 King County Regional Homelessness Authority Governing Board - Made report.

Councilmember Joe:

Cascade Water Alliance Board - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Cascade Water Alliance Board Oversight Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Lodging Tax Advisory Committee - Made report.
 Mobility & Infrastructure Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.

Councilmember Walsh:

Services, Safety & Parks Committee - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Eastside Fire & Rescue Board - Made report.
 ARCH Council of Elected Officials - Announced upcoming meeting.

Deputy Council President Marts:

Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee - Made report.
 Sound Cities Association Board - Announced upcoming meeting.
 Sound Cities Association Networking Event - Announced upcoming event.

Council President de Michele:

Regional Transit Committee - Made report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported on the following topics:

- The Taste of Victory
- Save Issaquah Light Rail Community Meeting Tomorrow

- State of the City Address Thursday, February 26th

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mayor Mullet:

Upcoming Council Meetings - Announced anticipated agenda items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a) **ID 1984 - Executive Session - Property Acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b)**

At 7:49 PM, the Mayor announced the City Council would move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing property acquisition per RCW 42.30.110(1)(b). The item was expected to take approximately 10-15 minutes and action was anticipated in open session. The City Council took a five-minute break. The City Council moved into Executive Session at 7:54 PM.

OPEN SESSION

- a) **Potential Action following Executive Session**

The open meeting was reconvened at 8:04 PM.

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

MOTION: Authorize the Mayor to execute a purchase and sale agreement and other documents necessary to purchase the property located at 320 NW Holly Street, also known as King County Tax Parcel 20240419000728, from the Hailstone Revocable Trust, for the amount of \$750,000 plus closing costs.

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Tisha Gieser, City Clerk

Approved: March 16, 2026