

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Economic Vitality Commission**

6:00 PM
July 16, 2025

Tibbetts Manor, 750 17th Ave.
NW, Issaquah

MINUTES

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

Chris Reichley, Chair
Kym Lee, Vice Chair
Anuradha Tanepalli (Virtual)
Shalini Bansal
Robert Lerch
Jake Magill
Jennifer Larson
Barb Pexa
Kelly Richardson

Administration/Staff:

Andrea Snyder, Deputy City Administrator
Jack Pedlow, Economic Development
Coordinator

Maciej Stanski, Alternate (Virtual)
Don Crowe, Alternate (Excused)
Diana Djuranovic, Alternate (Excused)

CALL TO ORDER

CHAIR REICHLEY called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Minutes of May 21, 2025.

The minutes were unanimously approved

Minutes of June 18, 2025.

The minutes were unanimously approved

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

AGENDA ITEMS

b) **City of Issaquah Permitting - Process Improvements**

Presented by:

Minnie Dhaliwal, Community Planning & Development Director

The presentation was presented by Minnie Dhaliwal.

Community feedback is a very important vessel to permit process improvements, please share.

Feedback and improvements included:

- Updated website information
- Information on what is needed before the process starts
- Revisiting the streamlining of low hanging fruit

REPORTS

a) **Industry Trends, Business Openings & Closures (D)**

Presented by:

All Commissioners

Jojo's Café, Wine Me Up both opened recently

b) **2025 Schedule (I)**

Presented by:

Chris Reichley, Chair

August meeting to be moved. A special request of the administration is to have a special meeting on August 11th to host a reception for the new ED & Housing Manager in lieu of the regularly scheduled meeting with the public encouraged to attend.

OTHER BUSINESS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Housing strategy was mentioned, but will wait until the new ED & Housing Manager is working so that they can be leading the discussion

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

The next meeting is currently scheduled for August 11, 2025 and will be a special meeting.

**CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Economic Vitality Commission Special Meeting**

6:00 PM
August 11, 2025

MINUTES

Council Chambers
135 E. Sunset Way

COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION ATTENDANCE

Mayor & City Council Members Present: Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Deputy Council President Barbara de Michele, Councilmember Zach Hall, Councilmember Russell Joe, Councilmember Tola Marts, Councilmember Chris Reh, Council President Lindsey Walsh, and Councilmember Kelly Jiang

Economic Vitality Commissioners Present: Chris Reichley; Kym Lee; Robert Lerch; Kelly Richardson; Maciej Stanski; Don Crowe

Excused Absence:

Staff Present: Wally Bobkiewicz, City Administrator; Jack Pedlow, Economic Development Coordinator; Lindsey Marsh, Executive Department Operations Coordinator

Additional City staff were in attendance for the reception.

WELCOME RECEPTION

This was a special joint meeting of the City Council and Economic Vitality Commission to allow members of both bodies to attend a reception to welcome the new Economic Development & Housing Manager Alexis Fitzsimmons.

The reception opened at 6:00 PM and ended at approximately 7:00 PM.