



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL: Mayor Ross called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

City Council: Councilmembers Ethan Benson, Rob Wotton, Bryan Holloway, Louis Washington, Catherine Cotton, Cara Christensen, and Jo Johnson.

Mayor Katherine Ross was also present.

City Staff Present: Mike Chambless, City Administrator; Dena Burke, City Attorney; Deana Dean, City Clerk; Jeff Hamlin, Parks & Public Works Director; Drew Bouta, Finance Director; Fletcher Lacroix, IT Director; Mike Bailey, Fire Chief; Gary Horejsi, Acting Police Chief/Police Captain; Mona Davis, Acting Community Development Director/Senior Planner; Nicole Wiebe, Community Liaison; LT Liebetrau, Police Evidence and Records Technician; Andrew Vining, Project Engineer; Patrick Fry, Project Engineer; Kim Johnson, HR Manager; Danna McCall, Communications Coordinator; Janna Walker, Budget Manager; Jen Hughes, Deputy Finance Director; and Jimmie Betts, IT Support.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The pledge of allegiance was led by CM Benson.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by CM Johnson; seconded by CM Holloway to:

Approve the agenda as amended.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

It was moved by CM Holloway; seconded by CM Christensen to:

Amend the agenda to add Appointment of Maria Hurley to Arts Commission under the Appointments section.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

It was moved by CM Holloway; seconded by CM Christensen to:

Add additional executive session regarding potential litigation with action to follow.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND APPOINTMENTS

1. **AB25-040:** Appointment to Planning Commission. This item was introduced by Mayor Ross.

It was moved by CM Washington; seconded by CM Cotton to:

Confirm the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Simon Hurley to the Planning Commission.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

ADD ON

Appointment to Arts Commission. This item was introduced by Mayor Ross.

It was moved by CM Cotton; seconded by CM Christensen to:

Confirm the Mayor's recommendation to appoint Maria Hurley to the Arts Commission.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA – There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve the City Council Meeting Minutes dated February 24, 2025.
2. Approve the Claims Report dated March 10, 2025.

It was moved by CM Holloway; seconded by CM Johnson to:

Approve the consent agenda.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

ORDINANCES – There were no ordinances.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety Committee:

4. Snoqualmie Police Department 2024 Annual Report. Information only. No presentation or discussion.

Community Development Committee: There was no report.

Parks & Public Works Committee:

5. **AB25-039:** Resolution Accepting Additional Loan from the Department of Ecology. Introduction read into the record by CM Benson. Project Engineer Andrew Vining answered Council questions.

It was moved by CM Benson; seconded by CM Holloway to:

Approve Resolution 1709 accepting a loan from the Department of Ecology.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

Finance & Administration Committee: There was no report.

Committee of the Whole: There was no report.

REPORTS

6. Mayor's Report:
 - Snoqualmie will be hosting the Snoqualmie Valley Government Association at Meadowbrook Interpretive Center on March 26, 2025. Please RSVP to the City Clerk.

- The city has earned the AWC Well City award for the 2nd year. This distinguished designation results in a 2% discount, or \$55,000, on our annual premiums. Thank you to the Wellness Committee members.
 - The city has earned the 2024 Tree City USA status which highlights our dedication to tree stewardship.
 - The Mayor attended the police academy for Officer Dylan Losvar and administered the oath of office. There will be a ceremonial swearing in later this month.
 - The Mayor attended the WSDOT meeting regarding SR18 and provided a brief update.
7. Commission/Committee Liaison Reports:
- CM Johnson indicated the Planning Commission will be seeking direction from Community Development Committee regarding the Historic Downtown Overlay.
8. Department Reports for the month of February 2025. Department reports were reviewed by City Administrator Chambless. He also spoke to the March 28, 2025, Council Retreat. This topic to be added to the next Finance & Administration Committee agenda.

CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADD ON

Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence lasting approximately 10 minutes. Action is anticipated following the Executive Session and recording of the meeting paused.

At 7:21 pm, Council went into Executive Session which was expected to last until 7:31 pm.

At 7:31 pm, Mayor Ross announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended to 7:36 pm.

At 7:36 pm, Council reconvened. Recording of the meeting resumed at 7:40 pm.

It was moved by CM Johnson; seconded by CM Christensen to:

Approve the separation agreement dated March 10, 2025, and authorize the Mayor to sign.

PASSED: 7-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Christensen, Johnson)

9. Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress lasting approximately 20 minutes. No action is anticipated following the Closed Session.

10. Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee lasting approximately 5 minutes. No action is anticipated following this Executive Session.
11. Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price lasting approximately 15 minutes. No action is anticipated following this Executive Session.
12. Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence lasting approximately 30 minutes. No action is anticipated following this Executive Session.

Closed and Executive Sessions were expected to last until 9:00 pm. No action was anticipated following those sessions and recording of the meeting ceased.

At 7:43 pm, Council went into Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) which was expected to last until 8:05 pm.

At 8:05 pm, Council went into Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) which was expected to last until 8:10 pm.

At 8:10 pm, Council went into Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) which was expected to last until 8:50 pm.

At 8:50 pm, Council went into Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) which was expected to last until 9:20 pm.

At 9:20 pm, Mayor Ross announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended to 9:30 pm.

At 9:30 pm, Mayor Ross announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended to 9:40 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

CITY OF SNOQUALMIE

Katherine Ross, Mayor

Attest:

Deana Dean, City Clerk

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