



CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

February 24, 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, and Jo Johnson.

Mayor Katherine Ross was also present.

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

Excuse Councilmember Christensen.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

City Staff Present: Mike Chambless, City Administrator; Dena Burke, City Attorney; 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; Andrew Vining, Project Engineer (remote); Kim Johnson, HR Manager; Danna McCall, Communications Coordinator; Janna Walker, Budget Manager; Jen Hughes, Deputy Finance Director; Dylan Gamble, CIP Project Manager; Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk/Legal Assistant; and Andrew Jongekryg, IT Support.

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

Approve the agenda as amended.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

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

Add agenda bill AB25-038 following the first Executive Session.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

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

Move the Utility Rate Discussion to Parks & Public Works Committee Report.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

PUBLIC HEARINGS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND APPOINTMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve the City Council Meeting Minutes dated February 10, 2025.
2. **AB25-034:** Water Reclamation Facility Phase 3 Improvements Project Update and Contract Shange Order No. 2.
3. **AB25-037:** Railroad Crossing Improvement Design/Engineering Contract.

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

Approve the consent agenda.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

ORDINANCES

4. **AB25-025:** City Hall Hours. Introduction read into the record by CM Holloway. This is the second reading of Ordinance 1304.

It was moved by CM Holloway, seconded by CM Washington to:

Adopt Ordinance 1304 amending Snoqualmie Municipal Code Section 2.02.010, relating to City Hall hours.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

5. **AB25-026:** Code Enforcement and Nuisance Abatement Cost Recoupment and Process Clarifications. Introduction read into the record by CM Washington. This is the second reading of Ordinance 1305.

It was moved by CM Washington, seconded by CM Holloway to:

Adopt Ordinance 1305 amending Snoqualmie Municipal Code Titles 8, 13, 15, and 17 to enable recoupment of City costs for code enforcement and nuisance abatements related to water, sewer, storm water, and zoning regulations; and harmonize and clarify the appeal processes and penalties for code enforcement and nuisance abatement actions.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety Committee:

6. Fire Quarterly Accreditation Report. Information only.
7. **AB25-015:** 2024 Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Update. Introduction read into the record by CM Wotton. Discussion led by Fire Chief Mike Bailey.

It was moved by CM Wotton, seconded by CM Holloway to:

Approve Resolution 1708 adopting the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and authorizing the Mayor to sign.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

Community Development Committee: There was no report.

Parks & Public Works Committee:

8. Utility Rate Study. CIP Project Manager Dylan Gamble introduced FCS Group's Sergey Tarasov who presented a brief overview of the rate setting process, a recap of the activities performed to date, and a summary of three possible rate structure scenarios. Council questions and discussion followed.

Finance & Administration Committee:

9. Approve the Claims Report dated February 24, 2025.

It was moved by CM Holloway, seconded by CM Washington to:

Approve the Claims Report dated February 24, 2025.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

Committee of the Whole: There was no report.

REPORTS

10. Mayor's Report:

- An update was provided on the North Bend City Council meeting that City Administrator Mike Chambless and Mayor Ross attended last week.
- An update was provided on the Association of Washington Cities Action Days event that CM Christensen and Mayor Ross attended last week. There were speakers from the Office of Financial Management, Attorney General, State Auditor, and lobbyists. CM Christensen and Mayor Ross met with legislatures in the 5th and 12th districts, and covered Council priorities, including Community Center funding support to ensure the youth recreational facilities program grant for the YMCA. They also spoke to SR 18 funding for the final phase, and additional types of revenues available for cities such as State sales tax revenue sharing for the project.
- 400 to 500 people from around the globe attended the Twin Peaks events this past weekend and today. Thank you to the Twin Peaks Board who planned and hosted the event.
- There are two upcoming climate planning workshops that will provide input for the Climate Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The first workshop is on Thursday, February 27 from 6-8:00 pm in City Hall Council Chambers. The second workshop will be online and take place on Thursday, March 6 from 7-8:30 pm.
- Sound City Association networking event is on March 5th.

11. Commission/Committee Liaison Reports: There were no reports.

EXECUTIVE / CLOSED SESSION

12. Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Litigation.

At 8:40 pm, Council took a 5-minute break and went into RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Executive Session which was expected to last until 9:00 pm.

Council reconvened at 9:00 pm.

ADD ON ITEMS:

13. **AB25-038:** Separation Agreement dated February 24, 2025.

It was moved by CM Holloway, seconded by CM Washington to:

Approve Motion Authorizing the Mayor to sign the Separation Agreement dated February 24, 2025.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

It was moved by CM Johnson, seconded by CM Holloway to amend the agenda to:

Add in Separation Agreement dated February 20, 2025.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

It was moved by CM Johnson, seconded by CM Washington to:

Approve the Motion Authorizing the Mayor to sign Separation Agreement dated February 20, 2025.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

At 9:03 pm, Council went into Closed and Executive Sessions which were expected to last until 9:50 pm. No further actions were anticipated so Council did not return to open session and recording of the meeting ceased.

14. 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.

At 9:03 pm, Council went into RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) Executive Session which lasted until 9:05 pm.

15. Closed session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a) Collective bargaining sessions with employee organizations, including contract negotiations, grievance meetings, and discussions relating to the interpretation or application of a labor agreement.

At 9:05 pm, Council went into Closed Session RCW 42.30.140(4)(a) which lasted until 9:10 pm.

16. Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Litigation.

At 9:10 pm, Council went into RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) Executive Session which lasted until 9:50 pm.

At 9:50 pm, Acting Police Chief Gary Horejsi announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended past 10:00 pm to 10:05 pm.

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

Extend Council meeting past 10:00 pm.

PASSED: 6-0 (Benson, Wotton, Holloway, Washington, Cotton, Johnson)

At 10:05 pm, Acting Police Chief Gary Horejsi announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended to 10:15 pm.

At 10:15 pm, Acting Police Chief Gary Horejsi announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended to 10:30 pm.

At 10:30 pm, Acting Police Chief Gary Horejsi announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended to 10:40 pm.

At 10:40 pm, Acting Police Chief Gary Horejsi announced outside Council Chambers, into the lobby of City Hall, that Executive Session was extended to 10:50 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 pm.

CITY OF SNOQUALMIE

Katherine Ross, Mayor

Attest:

Gretchen Garrett, Deputy City Clerk/Legal Assistant