



City of Bellingham
Public Health, Safety, and Justice Committee Minutes
January 23, 2023, 1:30 PM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

Contact: (360) 778-8100, mayorsoffice@cob.org

Contact: (360) 778-8200, ccmail@cob.org

<https://cob.org/council>

All meetings are held in the City Hall Council Chambers at
210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, WA, unless otherwise noted.

Call to Order

President Lilliquist called the Public Health, Safety, and Justice Committee meeting to order at 1:30pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

Open to the public to attend. Note: there is generally no public comment period for Committee sessions. Standing Committee Members receive reports and information, ask questions and, when appropriate, vote on a recommended action for consideration by the full Council at the Regular Meeting. The notice of Committee Meetings identified below also serves as notice of Special Meetings of the City Council at the times identified as Council Members who are not members of the committee routinely attend and participate in the Committee Meetings. Committee Chairs give a report of the Committee Meeting at the Regular Meeting in the evening prior to deliberation and formal vote.

23599 1. Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for Advanced Life Support Services p. 3

Dave Pethick, Assistant Fire Chief, introduced the amendment to the Interlocal Agreement. In December of 2017, the City and County entered into an agreement to provide funding for County-Wide Advanced Life Support (ALS) services as envisioned in the EMS Levy Plan. In 2022, the EMS Levy was revised and approved by voters.

The proposed amendment to the original Interlocal Agreement provides an increase in the per medic unit cost from \$2.2 million in 2022 to \$2.5 million and increases the cost for the EMS supervisor unit from \$728,991 in 2022 to \$999,876 in 2023. The amendment also adds a fourth medic unit to the City of Bellingham (the fifth unit county-wide).

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Edwin H. "Skip" Williams moved to recommend approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Paramedic Training school costs.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:46pm.



City of Bellingham
Public Health, Safety, and Justice Committee Minutes
March 27, 2023, 1:00 PM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

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Call to Order

Council President Lilliquist called the Public Health, Safety, & Justice Committee meeting to order at 1pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23670 1. Healthy Children's Fund Implementation Plan Presentation

p. 3

Erika Lautenbach, Whatcom County Health and Community Services Director, presented a summary of the Healthy Children's Fund Implementation Plan, which was approved by the County Council on March 21, 2023. The Healthy Children's Initiative was approved by voters in November 2022 and established a dedicated fund to support young children and their families by supporting early learning and care programs. The fund is estimated to raise approximately \$9.98 million each year for ten years. To access the full implementation plan visit, <https://www.whatcomcounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/73571/Adopting-The-Healthy-Childrens-Fund-Implementation-Plan>.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:27pm.



City of Bellingham

Public Health, Safety, Justice, and Equity Committee Minutes

April 10, 2023, 1:15 PM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

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Call to Order

Council President Lilliquist called the meeting to order at 1:22pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23684 1. Enforcement of Ordinance Prohibiting Use of Controlled Substances in Public p. 3

Mayor Fleetwood, **City Prosecutor Ryan Anderson**, and **Chief Mertzig** returned to Council to discuss the ordinance prohibiting the use of controlled substances in public places, enforcement plans, implementation plans for therapeutic courts, and current diversion support services available.

23685 2. A Brief Review of Community Courts p. 12

Mark Gardener, Legislative Analyst, presented a summary of community court programs, including several in Washington State cities such as Spokane, Olympia, Shoreline, and Kenmore. **Judge Lev** answered Council questions and will return for a future discussion related to therapeutic court programs in Bellingham.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:58pm.



City of Bellingham
Public Health, Safety, Justice, and Equity Committee Minutes
April 24, 2023, 10:00 AM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

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Call to Order

President Lilliquist called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23691 1. Fire Department Review of 2022

p. 3

Bill Hewett, Fire Chief, presented on the 2022 fire department year in review. Chief Hewett briefed members on call volumes, staffing, 2022 accomplishments, and plans for 2023 and answered questions from Council members.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 am.



City of Bellingham
Public Health, Safety, Justice, and Equity Committee Minutes
May 8, 2023, 2:00 PM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

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Call to Order

Council Member Hammill called the meeting to order at 2:12 pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23711 1. Interlocal Agreement with Whatcom County Fire District 4 for Training Facility Use p. 3

Bill Hewett, Fire Chief, presented information on the interlocal agreement. The Bellingham Fire Department has been using the training facility owned by Whatcom County Fire District 4 since 2012 through a series of agreements. The facility, located at 4142 Britton Loop Road, is used for the Bellingham Fire Department's recruitment academy, paramedic training program, and ongoing training of firefighters. This updated agreement expands the use of the facility and allows for the consolidation of Bellingham Fire Department training staff into one location where the majority of its training occurs. Chief Hewett answered questions from Council Members.

Council Member Hammill stated that he had been at the training facility recently and it was clear to him that the facility was very much needed for the firefighters.

Edwin H. "Skip" Williams moved to recommend approval of the interlocal agreement.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:16 pm.



City of Bellingham

Public Health, Safety, Justice, and Equity Committee Minutes

July 10, 2023, 11:00 AM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

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Call to Order

President Lilliquist called the meeting to order at 11am.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23771 1. Presentation of the Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force 2023 Annual Report p. 3

Jack Hovenier and **Stephen Gockley**, Co-Chairs of the Whatcom County Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force (IPRTF), presented on the Task Force's 2023 Annual Report. The full [IPRTF report is available online](#).

The Task Force was formed in 2015 to review Whatcom County's criminal justice and behavioral health programs, recommend changes to reduce incarceration of individuals struggling with mental illness and chemical dependency, and to reduce jail use by pretrial defendants who can be safely released. The Task Force also serves as the County's Law and Justice Council. Members include representatives from organizations involved in criminal justice and law enforcement, policy makers, service providers, members of the public, and consumers of services. Council Members discussed the report and asked questions.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:56am.



City of Bellingham

Public Health, Safety, Justice, and Equity Committee Minutes

September 25, 2023, 1:30 PM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

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Call to Order

Council President Lilliquist called the meeting to order at 1:32pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23863 1. Interlocal Agreement for Training of Lateral Paramedics

p. 3

Fire Chief Bill Hewett presented an interlocal agreement for training of lateral paramedics. The Fire Department has engaged in training lateral-entry firefighter/paramedics to provide paramedic services in Whatcom County. The updated ILA provides an additional \$66,916.00 to the Medic One Fund, from the Whatcom County EMS Levy and expands from the previous contract, C2101241.

Hollie Huthman moved to recommend approval of the interlocal agreement to receive \$66,916 from the Whatcom County EMS levy for training costs of lateral paramedics.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:36pm.



City of Bellingham

Public Health, Safety, Justice, and Equity Committee Minutes

October 16, 2023, 1:00 PM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

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Call to Order

Council President Lilliquist called the meeting to order at 1pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23885 1. Presentations on Responses to Fentanyl and Meth Use Crisis p. 3

Mayor Fleetwood introduced **Dr. Greg Thompson**, Whatcom County Health Officer, **Heather McGuinness**, Whatcom County Health and Community Services Partnerships and Strategy Supervisor, and **Emily O'Connor**, All Hands Whatcom. Each gave presentations on aspects of the fentanyl and meth use crisis in our community and what is being done locally to address and prevent substance abuse and overdose. Council Members discussed and asked questions.

23886 2. Presentations on Downtown Safety Needs and Actions p. 4

Mayor Fleetwood introduced **Alice Clark**, Executive Director of the Downtown Bellingham Partnership, who gave a presentation on the state of downtown, the issues her organization is seeing, and feedback they have gotten from business owners and downtown patrons. **Darby Galligan**, Senior Planner, and **Tara Sundin**, Community and Economic Development Manager, presented on in-progress and future City actions to address health and safety concerns downtown, including highlights of a draft Downtown Safety Strategy.

23887 3. Interlocal Agreement with Whatcom County to Cover Medic Unit Start-Up Costs p. 31

Dave Pethick, Assistant Fire Chief, presented the interlocal agreement. In February 2023, the Bellingham Fire Department staffed a fourth Medic Unit in support of the County-wide EMS system. Over the two-year process of preparing to bring this unit online, unanticipated costs arose that were not provided for in the original agreement (City Contract #2100997). This interlocal agreement allows the Fire Department to bill Whatcom County for the additional start-up costs from the County-wide EMS Levy.

Edwin H. "Skip" Williams moved to recommend approval of the Interlocal Agreement with Whatcom County to cover Medic Unit start-up costs.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

23888 4. Second Amendment to Interlocal Agreement for First Response Emergency Medical Services p. 165

Dave Pethick, Assistant Fire Chief, presented the interlocal agreement revision. The Bellingham Fire Department is party to a County-wide agreement to provide first response and basic life support for medical emergencies (City Contract #2018-0114). This amendment extends the contract through December 31, 2023 and provides \$595,861.03 in General Fund revenue from the EMS Levy. The EMS Levy provides the funding to support the delivery of basic life support by the Fire Department throughout the County.

Edwin H. "Skip" Williams moved to recommend approval of the amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with Whatcom County for First Response Emergency Medical Services.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:59pm.



City of Bellingham
Public Health, Safety, Justice, and Equity Committee Minutes
December 11, 2023, 11:00 AM

Mayor: Seth Fleetwood
Council Members: Daniel Hammill, Chair
Hollie Huthman, Edwin H. "Skip" Williams

Contact: (360) 778-8100, mayorsoffice@cob.org
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<https://cob.org/council>

Call to Order

Council President Lilliquist called the meeting to order at 11am.

Roll Call

Present:

Committee Chair Daniel Hammill, Third Ward
Committee Member Hollie Huthman, Second Ward
Committee Member Edwin H. "Skip" Williams, Fourth Ward

Council Standing Committee Meetings

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23962 1. Interlocal Agreement for Advanced Life Support (ALS) Services

p. 3

Assistant Fire Chief Dave Pethick presented a six-year extension of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for Advanced Life Support (ALS) Services in Whatcom County. Funding comes from the County-wide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy and covers the cost of operating the program. Council Members discussed and asked questions regarding the ILA.

Edwin H. "Skip" Williams moved to recommend approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Advanced Life Support (ALS) Services.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

23963 2. Interlocal Agreement for Paramedic Training

p. 38

Assistant Fire Chief Dave Pethick presented an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) for Paramedic Training. Funding comes from the County-wide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy and covers the student back-fill and preceptor costs for the 2024 Paramedic Class cohort and anticipated needs for lateral training in 2024. Council Members discussed and asked questions regarding the ILA.

Edwin H. "Skip" Williams moved to recommend approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Paramedic Training.

MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:03am.