

#1 - C0029-26

Ways and Means Committee
February 12, 2026

The Committee on Ways and Means met on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 6:00pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

The meeting was recorded by ECTV and can be viewed on the City of Everett website.

Members present were Councilor Peter Pietrantonio, presiding; Councilors Vivian Nguyen and Katy Rogers.

The Committee met on an Order offered by Councilor Stephanie Smith, as President: An Order requesting approval to appropriate by borrowing the amount of \$1,234,108.00 for the Fuller Street Park Renovation Project.

Chief Administrative and Financial Officer Omar Boukili and Chief Procurement Officer Kiara Freeman were also present.

Councilor Rogers noted that this park renovation was long sought after by the residents in that area and that she was fully in favor of the project. Councilor Nguyen concurred and announced her support for this renovation project as well.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action .

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

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Members present were Councilor Stephanie Smith, presiding; Councilors Vivian Nguyen, Katy Rogers and Peter Pietrantonio.

The Committee met on a Order offered by Councilor Stephanie Smith, as President: An Order requesting approval to appropriate by borrowing the amount of \$1,326,928.00 for the Chelsea Street Park Renovation Project.

Chief Administrative and Financial Officer Omar Boukili and Chief Procurement Officer Kiara Freeman were also present.

Councilor Rogers question if a portion of the project would be utilized as a dog park, however Ms. Freeman responded that she was not aware of that and Councilor Rogers requested that a finalized design plan be provided to the City Council. Councilor Nguyen questioned some of the line item costs but Ms. Freeman assured her that these were the anticipated cost for each of the line items provided by the City's Landscape Designer, SLR. Chairperson Smith mentioned that the original estimate received two years ago was listed at \$945,000.00 but was never fully funded and has now resulted in an escalated cost of almost \$400,000.00. She questioned if there was any community engagement on the design of the park especially since she was not in agreement with the previous design and Ms. Freeman noted that she was not involved in that aspect of the project. Chairperson Smith informed Mr. Boukili that the City Council needed to see a design plan before a vote for funding could take place.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with no recommendation pending receipt and review of the park design plan.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

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Members present were Councilor Stephanie Smith, presiding; Councilors Vivian Nguyen, Katy Rogers and Peter Pietrantonio.

The Committee met on an Order offered by Councilor Stephanie Smith, as President: An Order requesting approval of an intra departmental transfer in the amount of \$85,000.00 from the Public Health Department's professional services account to the salaries account, to cover overtime expenses.

Director of Public Health Sabrina Firicano was also present.

Ms. Firicano explained that the Department now has 21 full time nurses and that they don't need to utilize the contract nurses from Cataldo Ambulance Services. She noted that since the nurses are not fully staffed the current full time nurses would provide overtime coverage. Councilor Pietrantonio asked if the \$85,000.00 would be sufficient to cover the Department until the end of the fiscal year on June 30th and Ms. Firicano responded that it would.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

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Members present were Councilor Stephanie Smith, presiding; Councilors Vivian Nguyen, Katy Rogers and Peter Pietrantonio.

The Committee met on an Order offered by Councilor Stephanie Smith, as President: An Order to accept and expend an EmPower grant from the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center in the amount of \$50,000.00 to support preliminary design work for the Connolly Center Reconstruction project.

Chief Administrative and Financial Officer Omar Boukili was also present.

Mr. Boukili explained that the grant funding would be used to support preliminary design and engineering work associated with the Connolly Center reconstruction project. He noted that grant would fund feasibility analysis, schematic design, and design development activities necessary to complete engineering and construction plans. These plans will position the City to pursue additional funding to implement clean energy and resilience measures, including designs for a new roof, weatherization, and an electrified heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system. He informed the Committee that oversight of the project would be done by the City's Planning and Facilities Departments and he agreed to update the City Council throughout the process. Chairperson Smith that any additional funding for the Connolly Center presented to the City Council should include the work on both the inside and outside of the facility.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees

#5 - C0036-26

Ways and Means Committee
February 12, 2026

The Committee on Ways and Means met on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 6:00pm in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

The meeting was recorded by ECTV and can be viewed on the City of Everett website.

Members present were Councilor Stephanie Smith, presiding; Councilors Vivian Nguyen, Katy Rogers and Peter Pietrantonio.

The Committee met on an Order offered by Councilor Stephanie Smith, as President: An Order to accept and expend the FY2026 Radio grant from the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services in the amount of \$50,000.00 to support an upgrade of fire department's communications equipment.

Chairperson Smith informed the Committee that she spoke to Fire Chief Joseph Hickey earlier in the day and he informed her that this grant was a reoccurring grant the Fire Department receives every year. He explained that the grant would be used to support improvements to the Fire Department's emergency communication infrastructure, including updates to Channel 2 and the evaluation and potential acquisition of a mobile repeater and/or mobile radios. He stated further that these upgrades are critical to maintaining reliable, interoperable communication systems for emergency responders and will enhance public safety operations throughout the City.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

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Members present were Councilor Stephanie Smith, presiding; Councilors Vivian Nguyen, Katy Rogers and Peter Pietrantonio.

The Committee met on an Order offered by Councilor Stephanie Smith, as President: An Order requesting approval to re-purpose a total of \$1,028,317.30 in remaining balances (cost savings) from various completed Everett Public Schools capital improvement projects.

School Superintendent of Finance Chris Barrett and School Director of Finance Rob Moreschi were also present.

Councilor Pietrantonio asked how long has the balances for these completed projects been building up and Mr. Barrett explained that they were part of the City's 5 year Capital Improvement Plan for the periods of FY23 through FY24 and that they were looking to re-purpose the unexpended funds by putting them to good use for the bathrooms, roof, elevator and floor repairs. Councilor Rogers announced that since these unexpended funds had already been allocated and approved by the City Council that she was fully in favor of the School Department moving forward with these necessary repairs. Chairperson Smith asked if there were other CIP accounts with open funds and Mr. Barrett responded yes and mentioned that there had been about \$20 million in approved Capital Improvement projects for the School Department. Chairperson Smith asked if any of the unexpended funds were getting interest if they weren't being used and Mr. Barrett indicated that he didn't know. Chairperson Smith remarked that she would love to see the unexpended funds re-purposed as requested for the school needs listed.

The Committee voted: to report back to the City Council with a recommendation for Favorable action.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Burley
Clerk of Committees