

COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting November 19, 2012

Mayor Tom Odell called the regular meeting of the Sammamish City Council to order at 6:30 pm.

Councilmembers present: Mayor Tom Odell, Deputy Mayor John James, Councilmembers Don Gerend, Ramiro Valderrama, Tom Vance and Nancy Whitten.

Councilmembers absent: Councilmember John Curley.

MOTION: Councilmember Gerend moved to excuse Councilmember John Curley. Councilmember Whitten seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Councilmember Nancy Whitten feels that attendance roll should also be called at the Council Study Sessions. She suggested that a policy be developed for attendance and when it would be correct to excuse someone and when it would be not. Mayor Odell also commented on the importance of the councils' attendance at the meetings.

Staff present: City Manager Ben Yazici, Deputy City Manager Lyman Howard, Public Works Director Laura Philpot, Finance Director Joe Guinasso, Deputy Finance Director Chris Gianni, Administrative Services Director Mike Sauerwein, Assistant City Attorney Kari Sand, and Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk Lita Hachey.

Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Roll was called. Sammamish Citizen/Boy Scout Daniel Kenneth Goto led the pledge.

Student Liaison Reports

Councilmember Gerend announced that the Skyline Girls soccer team won the State Championship this past weekend. The Skyline football team will be playing in the State Championship semi-final playoffs on Saturday, November 24th at 1 PM. The Eastside Catholic football team is undefeated this season and they are in a semi-final match in Spokane this weekend.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Vance moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Gerend seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Public Comment

Joyce Reed, 3922 202 Place SE, Sammamish, Ms. Reed commented on the street lights along Eastlake Sammamish Parkway. She feels the wrong types of lights were installed and it is bad for our eyes and environment. Ms. Reed would like to see an ordinance passed controlling lighting showing into people's yards and to have proper lighting for street lights. Ms. Reed has is also concerned about how large the

population of Sammamish has become and she feels it is getting over-populated. She feels we need to have better control over our population growth.

Greg Reynolds, 4329 210 Place NE, Sammamish, Mr. Reynolds commented on the Budget. The 2013-14 Budget contains a serious omission in funding for connectivity within Sammamish. For many years, staff and citizens have been working to develop a process to evaluate the merit of improved connectivity within the city. He is asking Council to restore the connectivity budget in the 2013-14 Budget. The barricade study process is essential in verifying the facts so that exaggerated claims can be resolved with honest facts. He has been involved for 12 years with the connectivity process and it is not right that it has been discontinued in the budget. *(Mr. Reynolds submitted a handout that can be obtained by request through the City Clerk's office at manderson@ci.sammamish.wa.us)*

Consent Agenda

Payroll for the period ending October 31, 2012 for pay date November 5, 2012 in the amount of \$ 262,217.16.

Approval: Claims for period ending November 19, 2012 in the amount of \$1,308,878.52 for Check No. 33447 through No. 33553

Approval: Minutes- October 9, 2012 Special Meeting/Study Session

Approval: Minutes- October 15, 2012 Regular Meeting

Approval: Minutes – November 6, 2012 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Councilmember Valderrama moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Vance seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Public Hearing

Ordinance: Second Reading - Relating To The Levying Of Regular Property Taxes And Establishing The Amount To Be Levied In 2013 On The Assessed Valuation Of The Property Within The City.

City Manager Ben Yazici combined the staff report for both of the public hearings. He related the history of this years' budget process. It is a modest budget; each line item has been discussed. Mr. Yazici spoke about the issues with the SE 8th Street Park Master Plan and suggests keeping the funding in the budget but spend some time readdressing the Master plan. There will be time later to review and refine the Park's Master plan.

The second issue is the concern over the funds on the capital side of economic development. He suggests reviewing this in a February 2013 study session. Another issue is the unified zoning development plan to spearhead the development activities within the Town Center. The Budget has been a long process and many hours have been spent. He strongly recommends that Council pass the 2013-2014 Biennial Budget. The City will not be imposing the 1% levy property tax increase as the council is sensitive to the economic conditions. *(presentation is available on the city's website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us).*

Councilmember Valderrama would like a separate alternative budget showing a 0 or negative based budget included in the next budget cycle process for 2015-2016 Biennial Budget.

Councilmember Whitten expressed concern with economic development funding. This is a process we have not taken a look at in the context of the Town Center plan and other priorities.

Councilmember Gerend asked about connectivity funding in the budget and if we have flexibility or if funds can be found elsewhere, for example the Street fund. The City Manager would like to be notified as soon as possible if Council decided to reallocate funds for connectivity, preferably a January or February timeline.

Deputy Mayor James asked about the time spent on the SE 32nd Street study. Director of Public Works, Laura Philpot explained that the mitigation costs were approximately \$300,000. The study portion of the cost was less than \$30,000., with a significant amount of staff time spent.

Councilmember Valderrama is concerned about the parking at the house in the SE 8th Street Park and feels parking should be limited. This will be conveyed during Council discussions of the master plan. Mayor Odell commented about the parks plan and the fact we have discussed this thoroughly and it can be amended with an action item in future discussions.

Public Hearing opened at 7: 10 PM and closed with no public comments.

MOTION: Councilmember Gerend moved to approve the The Levying Of Regular Property Taxes And Establishing The Amount To Be Levied In 2013 On The Assessed Valuation Of The Property Within The City. Nancy Whitten seconded. Motion was approved 6-0. (O2012- 336)

Ordinance: Second Reading: Adopting The 2013-2014 Biennial Budget

MOTION: Councilmember Vance moved to approve the 2013-2014 Biennial Budget. Councilmember Whitten seconded. Motion was approved 6-0. (O2012- 337)

Councilmember Valderrama commented that he was concerned about the parks budget rising 15% over the past years. He is concerned about the hiring of new employees in these economic times while other jurisdictions are still cutting back. He would like to thank staff for the work involved in this budget process. In the future, he would like to scrutinize the budget more thoroughly. Councilmember Valderrama feels that it may be necessary in the future to look at cuts to the operating expenses.

Councilmember Whitten reiterated Councilmember Valderrama's concerns about the economic development projects. She is also very pleased with the budget and thanked staff for all the work that went into the process.

Councilmember Gerend also thanked and complimented the staff for the work that was done in this budget. He commented that sales tax and excise tax revenues are up, so right now Sammamish revenues are increasing.

Deputy Mayor James commented on the new community aquatic center and gave direction to the City Manager to move forward with this at the next meeting. But in light of that, our capital reserve will be reduced and he feels we need to have a prudent outlook on behalf of our city when looking forward to the next budget cycle.

Councilmember Vance complimented all city staff on the budget process and appreciates all the hard work.

City Manager Yazici would also like to thank the Finance Director Joe Guinasso, Deputy Finance Director Chris Gianini and all the Department Heads for all their hard work and commitment during this budget process.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Resolution - Amending Resolution R2011-467 The City's Master Fee Schedule

Finance Director Joe Guinasso gave the staff report and a PowerPoint Presentation. *(available on the city's website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us).*

MOTION: Councilmember Whitten moved to approve the amendment to Resolution R2011-467 The City's Master Fee Schedule. Deputy Mayor James seconded. Motion carried 6-0. (R2012- 514)

Council Reports

Councilmember Vance attended an Eastside Fire and Rescue, funding model task force meeting and the committee continues their examination of the funding models and will have more details in the next couple of weeks.

Councilmember Valderrama attended an EF&R service delivery task force meeting and the delivery model has been moving forward with reviews of the first call areas being covered by each of the fire stations, service and support between stations, and at the staffing levels.

Deputy Mayor John James stated that on Thursday, Nov.15, 2012 he attended a meeting with The Enterprise Seattle and now called the Economic Development Council of Seattle and King County. He requested approval of Eastside Transportation Partnership (ETP) letter to be sent to the state legislators, that was given to council at the last meeting.

MOTION: Mayor Odell motioned to approve the ETP representatives to vote in support of sending the letter to the State Legislators and approve the 2013 ETP Legislative statement. Councilmember Whitten seconded. Motion was approved 6-0.

Councilmember Gerend made a friendly amendment to include the support of the ETP 2013 legislative statement.

Councilmember Gerend – attended the Finance Committee meeting today. They reviewed the October Financial Management report. The fiscal year 2011 audit was clear with no findings.

Mayor Odell attended the Enterprise Seattle meeting. He mentioned that people who may be running for public office need to look at the time commitment that is required.

The Community and Aquatic Center vote has passed by a margin 53.65% to 46.35%. He is looking forward to proceeding on this in the next weeks and months.

City Manager Report

Update: Fire Study

City Manager Ben Yazici gave a staff report along with Director of Administrative Services, Mike Sauerwein. *(presentation is available on the city's website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us).*

2013 Annual Comprehensive plan docket process

Assistant City Manager Lyman Howard gave a staff report *(presentation is available on the city's website at www.ci.sammamish.wa.us).*

No action taken tonight and the docket process will be reviewed at the December 4, 2012 meeting.

Mr. Yazici stated to Council that at the next council meeting the consent agenda will contain quite a few contracts. One additional item will be the resolution for the Community Aquatic Center, after ballots are certified on Nov. 27, 2012.

Executive Session –None

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm

Lita Hachey, Administrative Assistant
to the City Clerk

Thomas T. Odell, Mayor