

**City of Sammamish  
City Council Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
January 26, 2000**

Deputy Mayor Jack Barry called the regular meeting of the Sammamish City Council to order at 7:26 p.m.

**Councilmembers Present:** Deputy Mayor Jack Barry, Councilmembers Don Gerend, Kathleen Huckabay and Troy Romero

**Staff Present:** City Manager Michael Wilson, City Attorney Bruce Disend, Director of Community Development Kelly Robinson, Chief of Police Richard Baranzini, Director of Administrative Services Dennis Richards and Minutes Clerk Kathy Pugh

**Roll Call/Pledge**

Roll was called. Mayor Phil Dyer and Councilmembers Ron Haworth and Kenneth Kilroy were excused from the meeting. Deputy Mayor Barry led the pledge.

**Introduction of Special Guests and Presentations**

**a. Zero Impact Development:** Scott Hamilton introduced Mr. Tom Holz of SCA Engineering, and said that Mr. Holz is participating in a Sierra Club presentation series of four to six speakers who will be before the City Council during the course of the year. Ms. Gail Twelves next provided an overview of the Sierra Club Speaker Series which will cover subjects specialized to growth needs and environment.

Mr. Tom Holz presented a slideshow and discussion to City Council entitled “The Case for Zero Impact.” The presentation and discussion highlighted methods of development that could be implemented and have little to no impact on the environment, with the end result of preserving natural resources.

**Approval of Agenda**

Councilmember Gerend moved that the agenda be approved. Councilmember Romero seconded the motion. The motion to approve the agenda carried unanimously.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Consent Calendar**

Councilmember Romero moved that the Consent Calendar be approved. Councilmember Gerend seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously to approve: (a) Claims for the period ending January 20, 2000 in the amount of \$107,478.24; (b) Payroll for the period of January 1-15, 2000 in the amount of \$22,703.98; (c) Minutes of Regular

Council Meeting of January 12, 2000; and (d) Minutes of Special Council Meeting of January 19, 2000.

### **Unfinished Business**

**Election of Mayor for Year 2000.** Deputy Mayor advised that as nominations for both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were made on motions at the previous meeting, at this point a motion is not necessary, and called for a vote on the nomination of Jack Barry as Mayor for the year 2000. On vote the motion to elect Jack Barry as Mayor for the year 2000 carried unanimously.

Mayor Barry said that it is an honor to him to be elected Mayor of the City of Sammamish by councilmembers whom he respects. He commended councilmembers for their high energy and visionary approach to matters before the Council, and thanked outgoing Mayor Dyer for his leadership and the foundation he has built for the city over the previous year. Mayor Barry also thanked city residents and voters for their confidence in the City Council.

**Election of Deputy Mayor for Year 2000.** Mayor Barry called for a vote on the nomination of Troy Romero for the position of Deputy Mayor. On vote the motion to elect Troy Romero as Deputy Mayor for the year 2000 carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Romero thanked his fellow councilmembers and spoke to the diverse backgrounds and talents of the various City Councilmembers. Deputy Mayor Romero noted that the City Council is only as effective as the people they represent. He requested the public's patience in fixing and meeting goals, and commented the primary goal is to bring people together to mold the Sammamish Community to the residents' vision.

### **New Business**

**Appraisal of Property.** Deputy Mayor Romero moved to authorize the City Manager to move forward with certification of the appraisal on property under consideration by the City Council. Councilmember Huckabay seconded the motion. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

**Request for Hardship Exemptions.** Deputy Mayor Romero reported that the Land Use Committee met the previous evening to consider two requests for Hardship Exemptions from the building moratorium currently in place. The first request by the Ritzens involved a request that the city accept applications for a reasonable use exception and shoreline development permits in order that the Ritzens be able to explore whether their vacant lot is a buildable lot. The owners invested several thousand dollars in water service for the lot and wished to recover that investment. Additionally, delay in developing the property impacts the Ritzens' retirement plans.

Deputy Mayor Romero reviewed the second request for Hardship Exemption, made by the Schleppe. In this case the Schleppe reside in a home constructed in 1928 and wish to

bring it up to modern building code standards. Because the house encroaches on the frontyard setback, a variance is required.

Deputy Mayor Romero advised it is the Land Use Committee's recommendation that both requests for Hardship Exemption be approved.

In response to questions from Councilmember Huckabay, Community Development Director Robinson reviewed the history of the Ritzen property, and how it came to have a wetland designation. Mr. Robinson noted that historically hardship exemptions have been related to water rights, but both of these requests demonstrate true hardships, and in the case of the Ritzens, the shoreline development permit is necessary to explore the possibility of making this lot a buildable lot. Mr. Robinson commented that the moratorium is specifically directed to subdivisions. Mr. Robinson opined that the Ritzen lot will be a buildable lot with variances.

Deputy Mayor Romero commented that the Ritzens are a retired couple and that their ability to develop this lot as a buildable lot will have a direct impact on their retirement plans.

Regarding the Schlep request, Councilmember Gerend commented the need to bring their home up to current building code standards should be respected.

Deputy Mayor Romero moved that the Ritzen and Schlepp Requests for Hardship Exemption be considered separately. Councilmember Huckabay seconded the motion. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Romero moved that the Schlep Request for Hardship Exemption be approved. The motion was seconded. On vote the motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Mayor Romero moved that the Ritzen Request for Hardship Exemption be approved. The motion was seconded. On vote the motion was defeated with Councilmembers Romero, Gerend and Barry voting to approve the request, and Councilmember Huckabay voting against approval of the request.

City Attorney Disend reminded that for a hardship exemption to be approved requires an aye vote by four councilmembers.

### **Council and Committee Reports**

Deputy Mayor Romero reported on the Land Use Committee activities including a presentation by Lisa Daly Wilson on community visioning, and follow up on the Plaza Sign Discussion. Regarding the Plaza Sign Discussion, it is the committee's recommendation that the matter be reviewed at the next work/study meeting.

Deputy Mayor Romero reminded that the building moratorium expires on February 18<sup>th</sup>, and advised that at the February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting there will be a presentation and staff

recommendation regarding the moratorium and that on February 9<sup>th</sup> a public hearing has been scheduled regarding the moratorium. Deputy Mayor Romero invited the press to disseminate information regarding the public hearing and process and reminded that no public comment will be taken on February 16<sup>th</sup> at the time of the vote on the moratorium.

Mayor Barry echoed Deputy Romero's comments regarding the public process and public hearing and the importance of advising the public of this schedule.

Reporting on the activities of the Transportation Committee, Councilmember Gerend advised that the I-405 Forum is considering a city arterial without city input. This is occurring as Sammamish is not sited on the I-405 corridor. The committee will contact the Forum to remedy this situation. Other topics the Transportation Committee is involved with include the intersection project of SR202 and Sahalee Drive, which was removed from the state's priority list due to I-695. The project was recently put back on the priority list following receipt of a letter from the Transportation Committee. HOV lanes are being reviewed and discussed. A traffic model for the city is in the works; however, more information in the form of traffic counts is necessary.

Councilmember Gerend noted that Street Classifications and Standards needs to be included as part of the Comprehensive Plan process. Additionally, the city needs to develop a needs list and funding projects for the Puget Sound Regional Planning process as part of the grant funding process for road improvements.

Councilmember Gerend noted there is a Transportation Improvement Meeting in Lynnwood on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Barry said the Human Services/Judiciary Committee had no new items of interest to report.

### **City Manager and Staff Reports**

City Manager Wilson provided an update on the city's efforts to interface with both water and sewer districts. He said currently he is meeting with both districts to obtain feedback regarding the analysis of consolidating the water districts with the city. Currently they are working in a collaborative fashion with representatives from both water districts and the city so that the study outcomes will be unified. Mr. Wilson expected to make a final recommendation in approximately sixty days.

Mr. Wilson next reviewed the Organizational Structure for the city and anticipated there would be more dialogue regarding this structure at the February 12<sup>th</sup> retreat. He noted currently the following positions are open: Code Enforcement, City Engineer, two Administrative Assistant positions, Building/Fire Official, and Parks & Recreation Supervisor.

Speaking to the Parks & Recreation Supervisor position, City Manager Wilson reviewed his request to upgrade the position from a Manager to a Supervisor position. He noted

this request includes a salary upgrade of \$500, based on a recent salary survey. The Parks & Recreation Supervisor will have additional responsibilities over a manager, including development of the Parks element of the Comprehensive Plan, development of the annual budget, interfacing with King County, and oversight of recreation staff. Mr. Wilson anticipates hiring someone with previous experience as a Parks & Recreation Supervisor.

Councilmember Huckabay moved to change the classification and salary range of Parks & Recreation Manager to Parks & Recreation Supervisor, as requested by the City Manager, and that the position be readvertised. Deputy Mayor Romero seconded the motion.

Speaking to the proposed salary range of \$3700 to \$4780, Councilmember Gerend noted that the comparables show other cities at \$4780 or higher.

On vote the motion to change the classification and salary range of Parks & Recreation Manager to Parks & Recreation Supervisor, and to readvertise the position, carried unanimously.

Regarding the 228<sup>th</sup> Street Project, City Manager Wilson said he will attend the meeting scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup> regarding the city assuming traffic control of the project.

City Manager Wilson advised that issues related to access of the Library are being addressed.

City Manager Wilson said he is in the process of developing revisions to both the Agenda Planning Process and the Agenda Bill Process which he will present to Council upon completion.

At 9:45 p.m. the Council adjourned to Executive Decision for the purpose of considering land use appeals and possible pending litigation for approximately 30 minutes.

The regular meeting reconvened at 10:15 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:17 p.m.

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Kathy Pugh, Minute Clerk

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Jack Barry, Mayor