

# COUNCIL MINUTES

## Special Meeting/Study Session January 13, 2004

Mayor Kathleen Huckabay called the regular meeting of the Sammamish City Council to order at 6:00 pm.

**Councilmembers present:** Mayor Kathleen Huckabay, Deputy Mayor Don Gerend, Councilmembers Jack Barry (via telephone), Mark Cross, Lee Felling, Michele Petitti and Nancy Whitten.

**Staff present:** City Manager Ben Yazici, Director of Administrative Services/Assistant City Manager Pete Butkus, Director of Community Development Ray Gilmore, Public Works Director Delora Kerber, Parks Planner Hope Gibson, Police Chief Richard Baranzini, Communications Manager Tim Larson, City Attorney Bruce Disend and City Clerk Melonie Anderson.

### Roll Call/Pledge

Roll was called. Councilmember Cross led the pledge.

### Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Gerend moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Petitti seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Executive Session - to consider the qualifications of an appointed position pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (h)

Council adjourned to Executive Session at 6:05 pm and returned at 7:00 pm.

### Public Comment

Bob Mallory, 22526 NE 19<sup>th</sup> Place, Spoke regarding Section 36, the 650 acres located just east of the City. He is part of a group that would like to keep Section 36 in its natural state. If sports fields are put in Section 36, he hopes the impact to the rest of the area will be minimal. He also requested that the extension of 244<sup>th</sup> Street not go through the park.

### Unfinished Business – None

## New Business

### **Appointment of Council Member Position #3**

Mayor Huckabay explained the process for selecting a candidate to fill the vacant Position 3 on the City Council. Nominations will be made, requiring a second. Once all the names have been placed into nominations a vote will be taken. The appointment requires a majority (4) votes. If no candidate receives a majority the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be dropped and voting will continue until one candidate receives a majority vote. Councilmember Barry will participate in the vote via telephone.

Councilmember Whitten nominated Bob Keller. There was no second.

Councilmember Cross nominated Lee Felling. Councilmember Petitti seconded. Councilmember Cross said was very difficult to choose between the candidates. He nominated Mr. Felling because he has experience with budgets and he gained much experience on the Planning Advisory Board. He was impressed with his volunteer efforts as a probation officer. This adds a new dimension to his knowledge of public agencies. He listens to people and takes in new information and can adjust his thinking accordingly. Councilmember Petitti said that the process for narrowing down the candidate list was done very methodically. She encouraged all the candidates to stay involved in the city as they are all outstanding people and represent our community well. She was favoring Mr. Felling in part because he lives in the northend of the city. Mayor Huckabay was impressed by the fact the Mr. Felling attended many meetings and study sessions.

Councilmember Gerend nominated Bob White. Councilmember Barry seconded. Councilmember Gerend used a scientific and mathematical process to select the top candidate. After reviewing the videotape of the candidate interviews again, he developed the following impressions. Mr. White rose to the top. Mr. White has a degree in environmental science and regionally he knows all the players from the Governor on down and this would be very helpful to a young city. He is also a “numbers cruncher”. All the candidates impressed him. Councilmember Barry said this whole process has been very humbling for him and he would be glad to serve with any of the candidates. He believes that Bob White gave very useful information regarding the East Lake Sammamish Trail and he is a good consensus builder. He is able to look at the bigger picture. He also pointed out the danger to the city if the newest initiative rolling back property taxes passes.

No other nominations were made.

The voting was as follows:

Bob White – 3 votes (Councilmembers Barry, Whitten and Deputy Mayor Gerend)

Lee Felling – 3 votes (Councilmembers Cross, Petitti and Mayor Huckabay.

More discussion followed regarding the merits of both candidates and another vote was taken.

Bob White – 3 votes (Barry, Whitten, Gerend)

Lee Felling – 3 votes (Cross, Huckabay, Petitti)

After more discussion another vote was taken.

Bob White – 2 votes (Whitten, Gerend)

Lee Felling – 4 votes (Cross, Huckabay, Petitti, Barry)

Deputy Mayor Gerend and Councilmember Whitten changed their vote. The Council selected Lee Felling to fill Council Position 3 by unanimous decision.

Mayor Huckabay said that all 11 candidates that applied for the position impressed all on the Council. It was difficult to narrow the choice down to 6. Any of the six would have been great on the Council. She encouraged all the candidates to volunteer for committees and groups in the future.

Council recessed from 8:40 pm to 8:55 pm.

### **Council Committee Appointments**

Mayor Huckabay proposed the following Committee Appointments:

- *Finance Committee*: Deputy Mayor Gerend\*, Councilmembers Whitten and Felling
- *Community Development Committee*: Councilmember Cross\*, Barry and Whitten
- *Public Works Committee*: Councilmember Petitti\*, Councilmembers Cross and Barry
- *Legislative Committee*: Mayor Huckabay\*, Deputy Mayor Gerend and Councilmember Petitti
- *Public Safety Committee*: Councilmember Felling\*, Mayor Huckabay and Councilmember Cross

The following regional committees recommendations will be submitted to the Suburban Cities Association:

Puget Sound Regional Council: Mayor Huckabay – Executive Board and Economic Development Committee  
Councilmember Whitten – Growth Policy Board  
Councilmember Gerend – Transportation Policy Board

Eastside Transportation Partnership: Deputy Mayor Gerend  
Councilmember Petitti  
Councilmember Barry (Alternate)  
Councilmember Cross (Alternate)

Suburban Cities Association: Mayor Huckabay  
Councilmember Whitten  
Councilmember Petitti

Regional Transit Committee: Deputy Mayor Gerend (regular or alternate)

Eastside Fire & Rescue: Mayor Huckabay  
Councilmember Felling

\* Indicates Chairman

**MOTION:** Councilmember Whitten moved to form a new committee relating to Parks, Trails and Open Space to provide a liaison between the Parks & Recreation Commission. Councilmember Cross seconded 7-0.

Deputy Mayor Gerend thinks this is a good idea. Non-motorized modes of transportation should be encouraged in the community. Councilmember Petitti thinks this will create a balance between all the commissions.

The committee will be permanently named and members appointed after the Council retreat on January 22, 2004.

Council recessed to Study Session at 9:30 pm.

Study Session Opened at 9:35 pm

Topics discussed were:

- Economic Development Community ID Program / Buxton Company
- Interlocal: City of Sammamish and Lake Washington School District / build ball fields

Study session ended at 10:00 pm

**Adjournment** – Mayor Huckabay adjourned the meeting at 10:00 pm

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Melonie Anderson, City Clerk

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Kathleen Huckabay, Mayor