

# COUNCIL MINUTES

## Special Meeting/Study Session June 22, 2004

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

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

**Staff present:** City Manager Ben Yazici, Director of Community Development Ray Gilmore, Public Works Director Delora Kerber, Director of Parks and Recreation Jeff Watling, Director of Administrative Services Mike Saurewein, City Attorney Bruce Disend and City Clerk Melonie Anderson.

### Roll Call/Pledge

Roll was called. City Manager Ben Yazici led the pledge.

### Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Barry moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Petitti seconded the motion.

AMENDMENT: Deputy Mayor Gerend moved to revise the agenda to move the Executive Session to follow the close of the study session. Councilmember Petitti seconded. Motion carried unanimously 7-0.

MAIN MOTION: Main motion passed as amended unanimously 7-0.

### **Executive Session from 6:35 pm to 7:00 pm – Potential Litigation**

Public Comment - None

Unfinished Business - None

**New Business** (Order of Business changed)

### **Resolution: Amending Clearing & Grading Fees**

Deputy Director of Community Development Susan Cezar gave the staff report. This resolution is a housekeeping measure that was necessary after the adoption of the International

Building Codes. The previous fee schedule referenced the Uniform Building Code. To keep fees in place, new fees were added, with no change in the fees from the Uniform Building Code, and all references to the Uniform Building Codes were deleted.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Petitti moved to adopt the resolution amending the clearing and grading fees. Deputy Mayor Gerend seconded. Motioned carried unanimously 7-0 (R2004-174).

Councilmember Cross pointed out that the fee for moved 100,000 cubic yards of material is only \$1,000. This is very cheap. He is concerned that the fee is not high enough to recoup the cost of inspections.

City Manager Ben Yazici said that if Council so desired, the fee schedule could be revised at a later meeting.

Mayor Huckabay requested staff send a copy of the tree removal requirements and fees. Councilmembers received many questions regarding this issue.

**A Resolution Of The City Of Sammamish, Washington, Approving Public Benefit Rating System, Current Use Assessment For King County Tax Parcel No. 032406-9004**

Ms Cezar gave the staff report. This request is to allocate a percentage of this property into the open space program operated by the County. If given approval, the resident will receive a discount on the property taxes for that portion of the property accepted into the program. A restoration plan will be required for part of the property. This plan will be approved and monitored by the County and City staff. A hearing was held by King County and the city's hearing examiner, both recommending approval.

Ted Sullivan, King County gave additional information on this request. He explained that this program is a result of state legislation to encourage more open space by giving a tax incentive to the tax payer. The property must remain in the program for at least ten years. If the property is withdrawn from the program prior to that time, the taxpayer must pay all the back taxes. If the property remains in the program for 20 years, the tax payer pays the rate for the last seven years only. There are many categories in this program, with each property receiving credits for the categories satisfied by the particular property.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Petitti moved to approve the request. Councilmember Whitten seconded. Motion carried unanimously 7-0 (R2004-173).

**City Manager Report**

Mr. Yazici said the former Parks Manager Position, which was vacated by the promotion of Jeff Watling to Park and Recreation Director, is being changed to a Park Planner. This will result in a reduction in the salary and a cost saving to the city.

The Roundtable was discussed and ideas were given on how the process can be improved for next time. Councilmember Petitti said that some of the participants hoped there would be a question and answer session. Mayor Huckabay requested that the minutes from the Roundtable be sent to the participants as well as some follow up with the participants later in the year.

Mr. Yazici gave an update on the meeting with the Sammamish Plateau Water & Sewer District to discuss the joint use maintenance facility. The hope was to have a discussion regarding leasing vs. purchasing the property. Unfortunately, staff was not prepared to answer the questions. Another meeting will be schedule next week and these questions will be answered.

Council recessed at 7:50 pm.

### **Open Study Session**

**8:00 pm**

#### **Budget Priorities 2005/2006**

This discussion of going to be a broad overall perspective of what the operating budget will be for next the next two years and what the council priorities will be for the next two years. Mr. Yazici gave a comparison of expenditures and revenues compared with other Washington cities. The city spends less on operating expenses than most other cities.

Mr. Yazici gave an overview of the Capital Improvement Projects, in both transportation and parks that are being included in the budget. These projects are based on Council direction.

He asked Council if this budget is headed in the right direction or if council desires changes.

After discussion the additional areas for study would be connectivity and alternate sources of transportation, increasing the human services budget, developing programs to educate the public on safety issues.

Staff will take these priorities and further refine the budget. The next meeting will be to review the operating expenses.

### **Close Study Session**

**9:45 pm**

Council recessed for five minutes.

**Executive Session** – Potential Litigation pursuant to RCW42.30.110(1)(i) and Personnel pursuant to RCW42.30.(1) (g)

Council retired to executive session at 9:55 pm and returned at 11:30 pm. No action was taken.

**Adjournment** – Mayor Huckabay adjourned the meeting at 11:30 pm

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Melonie Anderson, City Clerk

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Kathleen Huckabay, Mayor