



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WA**

**AB 4251
January 7, 2008
Special Business**

**OATH OF OFFICE AND ELECTION OF MAYOR
AND DEPUTY MAYOR**

Proposed Council Action:

Swear in new and re-elected Councilmembers and elect Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

DEPARTMENT OF

City Manager (Ali Spietz)

COUNCIL LIAISON

n/a

EXHIBITS

1. City Council Rules of Procedure, Section 6

APPROVED BY CITY MANAGER

Rich Conrad 1-2-2008

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$	n/a
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$	n/a
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$	n/a

SUMMARY

Pursuant to state statutes in the Revised Code of Washington governing optional municipal code cities referencing the Council-Manager plan of government, the Mercer Island City Code and City Council Rules of Procedure, newly elected and/or reelected Councilmembers are sworn into office and the mayoral election is held every two years.

At Monday's Council Meeting, the City Clerk will officially call the meeting to order, administer the oaths of office, and conduct the election for Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

OATH OF OFFICE

In November 2007, Bruce Bassett, Mike Cero, El Jahncke and Steve Litzow were elected by the citizens of Mercer Island to serve on the City Council. Each of these terms begins in 2008. The swearing-in ceremony is conducted by the City Clerk who will administer the oaths of office, each Councilmember will be asked to repeat the following:

I, _____, having been duly elected to the office of City of Mercer Island, Council Position No. ___ do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of this office as prescribed by law and to the best of my ability and that I will support and maintain the Constitutions of the State of Washington and of the United States of America.

Formal signature is required and the City Clerk will present the Certificates of Election as provided by the King County Manager of Records and Elections.

MAYORAL ELECTION

The Mayor is elected from among the Councilmembers for a two-year term. The Mayor presides at all Council meetings, votes as a Councilmember and does not have any veto power.

At the Council meeting, the City Clerk will entertain a motion for "nominations" for a Councilmember to serve as Mayor. As described in the City Council Rules of Procedure (Exhibit 1), if only one nomination is made, it is appropriate to make a motion and obtain a second to instruct the City Clerk to cast a unanimous ballot for that nomination. However, if more than one nomination is made, an open election is conducted by roll call vote to decide among those nominated who shall be elected. Approval is by majority vote of Council members present.

Upon the election of the Mayor, the City Clerk shall administer the oath of office to the Mayor, who shall thereupon assume the role of Chair for the meeting. The City Clerk will then proceed with the election of Deputy Mayor in accordance with the City Council Rules of Procedure (Exhibit 1).

RECOMMENDATION

City Clerk Ali Spietz

MOVE TO: Nominate Councilmember _____ to serve as **Mayor**.

MOVE TO: Nominate Councilmember _____ to serve as **Deputy Mayor**.

SECTION 6. MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

6.1 The Presiding Officer at all meetings of the Council shall be the Mayor, and in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will act in that capacity. If both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are absent, the Mayor will appoint another Council member as acting Mayor. If the Mayor fails to appoint an acting Mayor, the Council members present shall elect one of its members to serve as Presiding Officer until the return of the Mayor or Deputy Mayor.

6.2 The Presiding Officer shall:

- (1) Preserve order and decorum in the Council chambers;
- (2) Observe and enforce these Rules;
- (3) Recognize Council members in the order in which they request the floor. The Presiding Officer, as a Council Member, shall have only those rights, and shall be governed in all matters and issues by the same rules and restrictions as other Council members;
- (4) Appoint Council members to serve on City Council Committees, ad hoc committees and to serve as liaisons to advisory boards and commissions; Recommend appointment of citizens to serve on advisory boards and committees; and
- (5) Impose Council member sanctions for violation of these Rules consistent with Section 12 of these Rules.

6.3 Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elections

- (1) Any Council Member may nominate a candidate; no second is needed.
- (2) Nominations are closed by a motion, second and 2/3 vote of Council.
- (3) If only one (1) nomination is made, it is appropriate to make a motion and obtain a second to instruct the City Clerk to cast a unanimous ballot for that nomination. Approval is by majority vote of Council members present.
- (4) If more than one (1) nomination is made, an open election is conducted by roll call vote.
- (5) To be elected, the nominee needs a majority vote of the Council.
- (6) Elections will continue until a Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by a majority vote of the Council.
- (7) The City Clerk shall declare the nominee receiving the majority vote as the new Mayor. The new Mayor shall declare the nominee receiving the majority vote as the new Deputy Mayor. The Clerk shall swear the individuals into office.