



Application for - CITY COUNCIL - Ward- #1

Please Print Clearly-

Name (Full) Samantha A Horner

Address [REDACTED] Camas, WA 98607

Contact Phone [REDACTED] **Other Phone** _____

E-Mail Address [REDACTED]

Eligibility Requirements, Notification and Signature

A Council Member for the City of Camas must reside within City limits and be a registered voter in Camas, Washington. To be eligible for appointment to a Council vacancy, applicants must have lived in the City of Camas for 12 consecutive months prior to being appointed to office.

As an applicant, I declare that I am qualified for appointment to this public office and acknowledge the information provided on this application will be available to the public.

Signature Samantha Horner **Date** 9/1/22

Additional Information

Are you a registered voter in Camas, WA?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
Are you a resident of Ward 1 in the City of Camas?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
How long have you been a resident of the City of Camas?	4.5 years	
How long have you lived at your current address?	4.5 years	
If you have lived at your current address for less than 12 months, please list your previous address:		
Previous address & length of time at address -		
Do you or any family member residing in your household, have a financial interest in, or are you an employee or officer of any business or agency that conducts business with the City of Camas?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
I confirm that I am legally qualified to serve in this capacity.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO

Please return this form, your cover letter, resume and answers to the supplemental questions to the City of Camas City Hall (616 NE 4th Avenue) no later than 5:00 pm on September 2, 2022. Applications received after 5:00 pm will not be accepted.

The application and attachments should be sent to:

Clerk's Office
Camas City Hall
 616 NE 4th Avenue
 Camas, WA 98607
 Contact Phone: (360) 834-6864 Email Address: administration@cityofcamas.us

Cover Letter

I was born and raised 5 miles west of Camas in East Vancouver. In 1996 I graduated from Mtn. View High School where I was editor of the school newspaper. Every 3 weeks in the wee hours of the morning, I would drive the large square box that held the final draft of what I always believed to be a masterpiece from 164th avenue down Highway 14 to Columbia Litho Printer, (now MinuteMan Press,) to go to press.

After high school and two years at Clark College, I spent 6 years moving around the country working as an insurance agent. I always felt like I was in search of where and what I wanted to be. I did well, and for the most part I enjoyed being a property casualty insurance agent. However, I never felt fulfilled. After I met my husband, we ended up in Portland where we bought a house. Soon after, we had our first child. In 2010, shortly after my son Benny was born, I felt the need to be closer to my roots. That is when we moved to Fishers Landing in East Vancouver.

Years later in 2014, I was a stay-at-home mom getting ready to have our third child. That is when my sister decided to open her bakery on 4th Ave in Camas. It was all hands-on deck, and I would help whenever I could. Eventually, I joined my sister full-time and began helping her run the business. One day, I went to Columbia Litho to get menus printed. I walked in and was instantly transported back to 1995. Pat Guard stood there before me with his twinkly eyes and his jolly smile. I remember my exact words to Pat... "You don't remember me, but I remember you." At that moment, I knew I was exactly where I was meant to be.

In 2016 it became clear my oldest son was on the Autism Spectrum. His second grade teacher advised us that one of the best things we could do for him would be to move to Camas. She thought that he would have more access to services and with smaller class sizes he would be able to get more individualized help from the teachers. This was a move I had already wanted to make. The teacher's advice simply sealed the deal. So, we began looking at houses.

We found a fantastic house near 19th on Franklin. Although it was a little out of our budget, we made it work. I quickly found myself feeling something I had never felt. For the first time in my life, I felt like I was home. I spent years searching for this feeling, and it was right under my nose the whole time.

I spent the next several years managing Cake Happy. The convenience of living a quarter mile from work and the fact that my sister was the owner allowed me to have a flexible schedule and bring my kids to the shop. The community embraced us all and I got to know so many residents and business owners during my time at Cake Happy.

We decided to close the Cake Happy storefront in 2021. I was heartbroken. This community, its residents and local business owners had become such a huge part of my life. I wasn't ready to give that up.

Shortly after our decision to close the storefront, I saw a post, the C-W Chamber had an opening for an administrative position. I immediately emailed Jennifer Senescu, the Director, to let her know I was interested. I couldn't imagine a more perfect fit. I loved being a part of Cake Happy, but it was never mine. I didn't choose it. It chose me. While at Cake Happy, my passion became this town, its people and the small businesses I spent years collaborating and cultivating relationships with.

My transition to the Chamber seemed seamless. Again, I finally felt like I was exactly where I was supposed to be. I have been at the Chamber for nearly a year, building on existing relationships and developing new ones. I am making connections and learning so much about our local government. I feel more connected here than I have anywhere in my life.

Applying for the City Council Ward One position feels like such an organic next step. Nothing makes me feel more fulfilled than being a part of this community and it would be an honor to serve it.

Supplemental Questions

1. Why do you want to serve on the City Council?

Over the past 8 years I have immersed myself in this community. For several years, I ran a business on 4th Ave. Now I serve as the administrative assistant at the C-W Chamber. I have 3 kids in Camas public schools, and I own a home near downtown Camas. This community has become my life. My roots here run deep. As I become more engaged with the economics, growth, and development in Camas, I find myself wanting to know more and to be more involved. In my position at the Chamber, I speak to people daily who have questions and concerns about things happening in our community. I take a lot of pride in the work I do and the relationships I have built at both the Cake Happy and the Chamber. Serving on the City Council seems like a natural progression to my position at the Chamber, a position I find organic and fulfilling. I find value in helping and serving others. This was pointed out to me by a psychologist a few years ago. Little did I know how right she was. I want to serve on the city council because I believe I have a natural ability to communicate and connect with people, I have a passion for this community, and I want to be a part of its growth and development.

2. What experiences, talents or skills would you bring to the Council and community that you would like to highlight.

As stated in my first answer, I have a natural ability to communicate and connect with people. This probably stems from the years I spent in sales and marketing. Although I do believe some of it is just in my nature. I also enjoy working closely with others in a collaborative manner. I thrive in environments where people work together for the greater good. I am a passionate person who is easily motivated by doing the right thing. My interest in government stems back to my high school career. In college my area of study was political science and communications. I even participated in the International Model United Nations Conference in New York City. While I never finished my degree, and it was a long time ago, it is a positive experience I still carry with me. I learned a lot about effective communication and working with others toward a common goal during my time with Model United Nations.

Being a part of the business community in Downtown Camas the past 8 years, has allowed me to build many strong relationships. I have many connections in this community through my work at Cake Happy and the Chamber. I believe my connections and relationships could be very beneficial if I were to be appointed to Council.

3. Camas, like many Washington cities, is facing a structural deficit, where expenses grow faster than revenues, due to property tax limitation measures. Explain your views on how the city of Camas should address these budgetary difficulties. Specifically, discuss the actions you might encourage to balance revenues and expenditures and the impacts of city services.

I will analyze the budget, so I have a comprehensive view of what revenue sources the city has available versus our outgoing expenses to see if there are other areas for adjustments or other sources of revenue to offset increasing expenditures.

4. In your opinion, excluding finances, what are the most significant challenges facing the City of Camas today? How do you propose to address these challenges?

I think one of the immediate challenges the city is facing is replacing high level city positions that are currently or are about to become vacant (i.e. City Administrator, Fire Chief, Police Chief and Community Development Director. I think that we need to be transparent with the community about the transition process

The pollution in the lakes is also on the forefront. I appreciate the city's efforts to inform the community on the cleanup efforts and how their actions can reduce pollution in our beloved lakes. I would continue to engage the community and be transparent about what else the city is doing to improve this situation.

While canvassing my ward in the recent week, the public wants a community pool. I will assess and review any existing surveys as well as any proposals that have been obtained by the city. I would like to expand on any additional information that is needed to address and find a resolution that reflects the desires of the community.

I will review all proposals for the development for the North Shore including citizens' input. I will review the plan for infrastructure to ensure it supports the major growth and development that is anticipated for this area and be transparent with the community about its impacts both positive and negative. I believe that transparency with the community about this process is going to be key in the project's success.

As for the Mill Property owned by Koch industries, I will put forth every effort to engage Koch industries to work with the city and come up with a plan that suits both our community and their future vision.

5. What forms of Public Service or Volunteering have you been involved in. Provide details regarding dates, roles, and responsibilities.

While I often volunteer for different events and organizations. I have been focused on raising my family for the past 12 years. Now, with my children getting older, I am finally able to figure out what I want to do. Over the past year I have discovered my niche and desire to serve this community. Being appointed to the City Council will be the beginning of this journey I am so excited to begin. There are 2 organizations I plan on lending my time to in the next year.

6. What other elected bodies have you sought a seat on or been elected to? Provide details regarding the dates, organization/agency name, and responsibilities. N/A

Samantha Horner

[REDACTED]
Camas, WA 98607
[REDACTED]

Objective:

City Council, Ward One Appointment

Summary of Qualifications:

- Over 20 years of experience in Sales/Marketing and Customer Service experience.
- Well organized, good time manager and persistent in achieving or exceeding goals and set objectives.
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to communicate with people on multiple levels.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Applications.
- 6 years as General Manager at Cake Happy in Downtown Camas.
- Extensive knowledge Downtown Camas and surrounding areas.
- Nearly 1 year as Administrative Assistant for the C-W Chamber of Commerce

Employment:

Camas Washougal Chamber of Commerce, Camas, WA 11/20/21 to current

Administrative Assistant

- Maintain financial records, including income and expense records. Maintain membership dues.
- Maintain a membership database in Chamber Masters and other databases.
- Draft and prepare communications, emails, newsletters, flyers, and other publications.
- Answer incoming calls, greet the public and respond to inquiries regarding the business community, service groups, school districts, local government, recreation, and other demographics.
- Assist with event planning and fundraising, including, Camas Days, Golf Tournaments, Holiday Gift Basket Luncheon, monthly lunch meeting, banquets and after-hours events.
- Keep and record meeting minutes for monthly board meetings as well as the monthly meeting with the City Communication Director. .

Cake Happy Bakery and Coffee Shop, Camas, WA 10/2015 to 12/2021

General Manager

- Prepare various types of coffee and espresso drinks for customers.
- Assist with front window display designs and set up.
- Sell pastries, ice cream and other goods.
- Manage front of the house, work with clients to place custom orders, manage POS systems, send and manage invoices, general accounting and ordered supplies
- Work with other local businesses coordinating promotions and collaborations.

Stamm Stuart Bybee Insurance, Portland, OR 06/2006 to 02/2010

Personal Lines Account Executive

- Develop and implement marketing strategies for Oregon and Washington property casualty insurance carriers in effort to increase product sales.
- Provide personal account information, counseling, and advice as part of high-quality customer service for clients.
- Maintain client accounts, including payments, premium owed, account history and claims.
- Networking with other local business professionals in effort to build referrals.

Miller Insurance, Tualatin, OR 08/2004 to 10/2005

Account Manager

- Develop and implement marketing strategies for Oregon and Washington property casualty insurance carriers in effort to increase product sales.
- Provide personal account information, counseling and advice as part of high-quality customer service for clients.
- Maintain client accounts, including payments, premium owed and account history.
- Assist clients in filing claims, decipher policy terminology and determine when coverage is applicable.

Amica Insurance, Flagstaff, AZ 08/1998 to 08/2004

Regional Sales Executive, Northern AZ

- Market Personal Lines Property Casualty Insurance to qualified clients within Northern Arizona.
- Operate and maintain a satellite office assisting the Phoenix based office in increasing a quality book of business.
- Develop leads and maintain a viable network of business contacts and prospective clients to consistently meet assigned sales quotas.
- Ascertain client needs and cost parameters; formulate appropriate product packages; make effective sales presentations.
- Negotiate and secure sales, developing existing accounts and acquiring new account business.
- Process and track fulfillment of customer policies, troubleshoot customer problems and ensure total client satisfaction.
- Monitor account performance; ensure collection of account balances.
- Maintain annual sponsorship and advertising budgets.
- Complete monthly expense reports detailing costs of maintaining a satellite office.

Amica Insurance, Portland, OR 08/1998 to 02/2002

Associate Account Representative

- Sell Personal Lines Property Casualty Insurance.
- Acquisition new accounts; maintain and reactivate existing accounts.
- Assist in implementing new sales strategies and sponsorship activities.
- Maintain client billing accounts.
- Decipher policy terminology and explain policy coverages.

Education:

Mtn. View High School, Vancouver, WA 09/1992 to 06/1996

General Studies/Diploma

Clark College, Vancouver, WA 09/1996 to 06/1998

General Studies, Political Science and Communications

Intellapass Insurance School 08/1998

P&C Agents License

References:

Provided upon request

DECLARATION AND AFFIDAVIT OF CANDIDACY

State of Washington }
County of Clark } ss.
City of Camas }

DECLARATION

I, Samantha Horner, declare that I am a registered voter residing at [REDACTED], City of Camas, Clark County, State of Washington. I further declare that I am legally qualified to assume the office of COUNCIL MEMBER, if selected. I hereby request that my name be placed before the City Council, as a candidate.

AFFIDAVIT

FURTHER, I do solemnly swear, or affirm, that I will support the Constitution and laws of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the State of Washington, and the Ordinances of the City of Camas.

Samantha Horner
Signature of candidate as registered to vote

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31 day of August, 2022.

(SEAL)

NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF WASHINGTON
KACEY L SOUKI
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES
DECEMBER 15, 2025
COMMISSION # 2053

[Signature]
Signature of Acknowledging Official
Notary for Washington
Notary
Title of Acknowledging Official