



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

**AB 5647
January 7, 2020
Special Business**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 5647: Councilmember Oaths of Office and Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elections	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Swear in re-elected and new Councilmembers and elect Mayor and Deputy Mayor.	<input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

DEPARTMENT:	City Manager
STAFF:	Deb Estrada, City Clerk
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. City Council Rules of Procedure, Section 2
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

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

SUMMARY

Pursuant to Chapter 35A.13 RCW (which governs optional municipal code cities under the Council-Manager plan of government), the Mercer Island City Code, and the City Council Rules of Procedure, newly elected and/or re-elected Councilmembers are sworn into office at the first Council meeting of the year. Additionally, the elections of Mayor and Deputy Mayor are conducted.

At Tuesday’s Council Meeting, the City Clerk will officially call the meeting to order and administer the oaths of office to newly elected and re-elected Councilmembers and then she will conduct the elections for Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

OATHS OF OFFICE

In November 2019, David Rosenbaum (Position No. 1), Wendy Weiker (Position No. 3), Lisa Anderl (Position No. 4), Craig Reynolds (Position No. 5), and Jake Jacobson (Position No. 7) were elected by the citizens of Mercer Island to serve on the City Council. General Election results were certified (November 26), including a mandatory machine recount for Council Position No. 1, which results were duly canvassed by the King County Canvassing Board on December 6, 2019. Councilmember Lisa Anderl (Position No. 4) will serve a two-year term until December 31, 2021 and the remaining four elected Councilmembers will serve a four-year term until December 31, 2023.

The swearing-in ceremony will be conducted by the City Clerk who will administer the oaths of office. Each Councilmember will be asked to repeat the following:

I, _____, do solemnly swear that I will support the constitution of the United States of America, the laws of the State of Washington, and all local ordinances, and that I will faithfully and impartially perform and discharge the duties of the office of City of Mercer Island, Council Position No. ___ according to the law and to the best of my ability.

Each Councilmember is required to sign the oath of office and will receive their Certificates of Election as provided by King County Elections.

ELECTIONS

In the Council-Manager form of government, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected from among the Councilmembers for two-year terms. The Mayor presides at all Council meetings, votes as a Councilmember, and does not have any veto power. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will act in that capacity.

At the Council meeting, the City Clerk will entertain a motion for "nominations" for a Councilmember to serve as Mayor. As described in Section 2.2 of 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.

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. The roll call vote will be conducted as follows:

1. The City Clerk shall distribute voting cards to each Councilmember with their names on the card.
2. Each Councilmember will write the nominee's name they would like to vote for
3. The cards are returned to the City Clerk
4. The City Clerk reads the name of the Councilmember and their vote in order by position number.

If there is not a majority of votes for one nominee (i.e. 4 votes), the process will repeat with only the nominees who have received two or more votes in the first round.

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 in the same fashion with the election of Deputy Mayor.

RECOMMENDATION

Nominate Councilmember _____ to serve as **Mayor**.

Nominate Councilmember _____ to serve as **Deputy Mayor**.