



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

**AB 5997
January 4, 2022
Special Business**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 5997: Councilmember Oaths of Office and Mayor and Deputy Mayor Elections	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Swear in new and re-elected Councilmembers and elect Mayor and Deputy Mayor.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

DEPARTMENT:	City Manager		
STAFF:	Jessi Bon, City Manager Bio Park, City Attorney Andrea Larson, City Clerk		
COUNCIL LIAISON:	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
EXHIBITS:	1. City Council Rules of Procedure, Section 2		
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	Choose an item.		

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 Attorney will officially call the Meeting to order and chair the Meeting until a Mayor is elected. The City Clerk will administer the oaths of office to newly elected and re-elected Councilmembers, followed by the election for Mayor. The Mayor will then conduct the election for Deputy Mayor and chair the rest of the Meeting.

OATHS OF OFFICE

In November 2021, Salim Nice (Position No. 2), Ted Weinberg (Position No. 4), and Lisa Anderl (Position No. 6) were elected by the citizens of Mercer Island to serve on the City Council. General Election results were certified on November 23, 2021. The elected Councilmembers will serve a four-year term until December 31, 2025.

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 Attorney 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 send an email ballot to each Councilmember.
2. Each Councilmember will reply only to the City Clerk with the nominee's name they would like to vote for
3. The City Clerk collects the email ballots
4. The City Clerk reads the name of the Councilmember and their vote in order by position number.

Elections will continue until a Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by a majority vote of the City Council. 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 Mayor will then proceed in the same fashion with the election of Deputy Mayor.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Nominate Councilmember _____ to serve as Mayor.

Nominate Councilmember _____ to serve as Deputy Mayor.