



CITY OF SNOHOMISH

Founded 1859, Incorporated 1890

116 UNION AVENUE □ SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON 98290 □ TEL (360) 568-3115 FAX (360) 568-1375

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

SNOHOMISH CITY COUNCIL

in the
George Gilbertson Boardroom
1601 Avenue D

**THURSDAY
July 28, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

*Estimated
time*

- 7:00 1. **CALL TO ORDER**
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Roll Call
- 2. **APPROVE AGENDA** contents and order
- 7:05 3. **CITIZEN COMMENTS** - *Three minutes allowed for citizen comments on subjects not on the agenda. Three minutes will be allowed for citizen comments during each Public Hearing, Action or Discussion Agenda Item immediately following council questions and before council deliberation. Citizen comments are not allowed under New Business or Consent items.*
- 7:15 4. **ACTION ITEM** – Selection of Pro and Con Committees for Ballot Measure Regarding Change in Form of Government (*P. 1*)
- 8:00 5. **MANAGER’S COMMENTS**
- 8:15 6. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**
 - a. Potential Litigation (with potential action to follow)
 - b. Personnel Matter to Review the Performance of a Public Employee, RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)
- 8:45 7. **ADJOURN**

NEXT MEETING: (*The August 2, 2016 Regular Meeting is Cancelled*) Tuesday, August 16, 2016, regular meeting at 7 p.m., in the George Gilbertson Boardroom, Snohomish School District Resource Center, 1601 Avenue D.

The City Council Chambers are ADA accessible. Specialized accommodations will be provided with 5 days advanced notice. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 360-568-3115.

This organization is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

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Date: July 28, 2016
To: City Council
From: Larry Bauman, City Manager
Subject: **Appointment of Pro-Con Committees for Local Voters' Pamphlet – Change in Form of Government Ballot Measure**

SUMMARY: The purpose of this agenda item is for the City Council to consider appointing Pro and Con Committee members regarding the ballot measure proposing a change in form of government for the City of Snohomish. On July 19, 2016, the City Council adopted Resolution 1350 (Attachment A) requesting that the Snohomish County Auditor place a measure on the November 2016 ballot regarding a proposed change in the form of government for the City of Snohomish. This action was taken in response to the County Auditor's Office validating 218 signatures, the minimum number needed, on a petition submitted to the County for this proposed change in form of government. Resolution 1350 has been submitted to the County Auditor, and the measure is scheduled for the November 8, 2016, ballot only for registered voters within the City of Snohomish.

BACKGROUND: Under state law (RCW 35A.06.030) citizens have the opportunity to petition for a vote of the people regarding a change in the form or plan for organizing their city government. As the City of Snohomish government is currently organized under the Council/Manager plan, the petition submitted to Snohomish County asks voters to decide whether to change from this current form of government to a Mayor/Council form of government.

The ballot measure would be a binding decision by a simple majority of voters. If the proposed change in form of government is approved by the voters it would subsequently trigger a requirement to hold future elections for the purpose of electing a mayor separately from the City Council composed seven councilmembers. Existing councilmembers would continue to serve in their positions for their remaining terms and the City Council would continue to be composed of seven members. In order to meet requirements of state law the separate elections for mayor would need to be held on special election dates (February and April) in 2017 if the voters approve the ballot measure for change in form of government on November 8, 2016.

ANALYSIS: The City Council has the responsibility of appointing up to three members for both a Pro Committee that will write a statement for the measure and a rebuttal to the Con Committee Statement and a Con Committee that will write the statement against the measure and a rebuttal to the Pro Committee's statement. The form for submission of the committee member's names and phone numbers is attached as Exhibit B. This form also asks the Council to identify one member of each committee as the chair, who would be expected to help organize the committee and set meetings for developing the statement and rebuttal. If the City Council does not appoint citizens to the Pro and Con Committees or if citizens cannot be identified who are interested and willing to serve, the Auditor's Office would endeavor to make such

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appointments. However, if such committees are not formed the voter's pamphlet will not contain statements for or against the measure but the measure will nevertheless appear on the ballot.

If Pro and Con Committee members are appointed, the Snohomish County Auditor will contact the committee chairperson with information concerning submission requirements and deadlines. Each committee's statement may not exceed 250 words or contain obscene, vulgar, profane, scandalous, libelous or defamatory language. The appeal process for a rejected statement is outlined in the Snohomish County Local Voter's Pamphlet Administrative Rules that are available online or in the Auditor's Office.

On July 20, 2016, the City began advertising on social media, City web pages and Weekly Newsletter the opportunity for volunteers to submit their names to the City for either the Pro or Con Committee. In order to give citizens additional time to volunteer, the deadline for submitting names was established by staff as 9:00 a.m. on July 28, 2016. However, Attachment C provides a list of only those volunteers who submitted their names as of Monday, July 25, which was the date the July 28 City Council agenda packet was finalized for publication. If additional names are submitted after this agenda is published and by the advertised deadline of July 28, these names will also be brought to the City Council meeting at that time for the Council's consideration. Regardless of the deadline established by staff, the City Council also has the latitude to accept additional names of volunteers who attend the July 28 meeting and express their interests at that time in being named to either the Pro or Con Committee.

STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE: Not applicable

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council **REVIEW** all names submitted for appointment to Pro and Con Committees for the change in form of government ballot measure and **APPOINT** up to three members for each committee including designating one of the three members on each committee as chair.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Resolution 1350
- B. Exhibit B Local Voter's Pamphlet Committee Appointment Form
- C. List of Volunteers for Pro and Con Committees

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ATTACHMENT A

RESOLUTION NO. 1350

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS OF THE CITY, AT THE GENERAL ELECTION, TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016, OF A PROPOSITION WHETHER THE CITY SHOULD ADOPT THE MAYOR/COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND ABANDON THE COUNCIL/MANAGER FORM OF GOVERNMENT; AND REQUESTING THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY AUDITOR TO CONDUCT THAT GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016.

WHEREAS, Pursuant to RCW 35A.06.040 a petition for change in the form of government in the City of Snohomish from a Council/Manager to a Mayor/Council form of government was filed with the Snohomish County Auditor and signed by registered voters in number equal to not less than ten percent of the votes cast at the last general municipal election; and

WHEREAS, on July 14, 2016 the Snohomish County Auditor certified the petition as sufficient to meet the requirements of RCW 35A.06.040; and

WHEREAS, upon receipt of a petition meeting the requirements of RCW 35A.06.040 the City Council may pass a resolution requesting that a proposition be submitted to the qualified voters within the City whether the City should abandon its current form of government and reorganize under another plan of government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Snohomish has operated under its current form of government for more than six consecutive years;

WHEREAS, the City Council requests that the proposition be considered at the general election in the City to be held on November 8, 2016 for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City the proposition whether the City should adopt the Mayor/Council form of government and abandon the Council/Manager form of government;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SNOHOMISH, WASHINGTON DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. In accordance with RCW 35A.06.030, .040 and .050, RCW 29A.04.330 and other applicable state law, the City Council of the City of Snohomish hereby requests and calls for the Snohomish County Auditor to conduct and hold an election on November 8, 2016 in the City of Snohomish for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of the City the proposition whether the City should adopt the Mayor/Council form of government and abandon the Council/Manager form of government.

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Section 2. The proposition to be submitted at the general election on November 8, 2016 shall be substantially in the form of a ballot title prepared by the City Attorney and shall read as follows:

CITY OF SNOHOMISH

PROPOSITION NO.____

WHETHER TO ADOPT THE MAYOR/COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT
WITHIN THE CITY OF SNOHOMISH

Shall the City of Snohomish Adopt The Mayor/Council Form Of Government And Abandon The Current Council/Manager Form Of Government?

Yes.....

No.....

The City Attorney is authorized and directed to make such revisions in the statement of the Proposition as required by the Snohomish County Auditor and the Prosecuting Attorney for Snohomish County.

Section 3. The City Clerk is authorized and directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution with the Snohomish County Auditor on or before August 2, 2016.

Section 4. The City Attorney is authorized to take such additional steps required to cause the election on the proposition to occur.

Section 5. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution.

PASSED by the City Council this 19th day of July 2016

By: _____
Karen Guzak, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:

By: _____
Pat Adams, City Clerk

Approved As To Form:

Grant K. Weed, City Attorney

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ATTACHMENT C

**Names Submitted to Volunteer for the Pro and Con Committees
For the Change in Form of Government Ballot Measure
City of Snohomish, General Election Nov. 8, 2016
(List below is current as of 7/25/16)**

Pro Committee Volunteers

1. Bill Betten
2. John Kartak
3. Rolf Rautenberg
4. April Brodel
5. Mike Coombs

Con Committee Volunteers

1. Katherine Thompson
2. Meagan Gray
3. Melody Clemans
4. Terry Lippincott
5. Merle Kirkley
6. Joanne Kirkley
7. John First
8. Candace McKenna
9. Mary Pat Connors
10. Rich Patton
11. Randy Hamlin
12. Joan Whitney
13. Mike Whitney
14. Anna K. Eason
15. B.J. Meyers
16. Ann Averill
17. Karen Crowley
18. Miriam Driss