



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
City Hall – 1104 Maple Street
January 5, 2026 at 6:00 PM

The city conducted this public meeting using a hybrid model, in-person and on the Zoom platform.

Staff present: Wilson, Marquez, Johnstone, Palmer, Moericke, Windish, Steffens, Kosa, Beagle, McCurdy and Converse

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SUMNER CITY COUNCIL WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR BOWMAN AT 6:00 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation by Taylor Ford of Calvary Community Church

Roll Call: Elfers, Hochstatter and Wilsey

OATH OF OFFICE

City Clerk Michelle Converse administered the Judicial Oath of Office to Ms. Anneke Berry.

Judge Berry administered the Mayoral Oath of Office to Ms. Carla Bowman.

Mayor Bowman administered the Councilmember Oath of Office to Mr. Evers, Kenna and Reinke.

The Councilmembers and Mayor then took their seats on the Dias.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED BY ELFERS SECONDED BY EVERS TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF:

1. Approval of the minutes from the November 17, 2025, regular council meeting and special study session, the November 24, 2025, special council meeting and the December 1, 2025, regular meeting.
2. Approval of the checks and electronic payments in the amount of \$4,123,709.13.
3. Fryar Avenue Trail Project – Carr Trust Property Acquisition

PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

PUBLIC HEARING

None tonight.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Unfinished Business

Nothing tonight.

2. Public Comment

Tina Burnett, Sumner, spoke about decorative crosswalks.

Randall Adams, Sumner, spoke about the BESS plants in Sumner.

3. New Business

a. Ordinance No. 2949 – Franchise Agreement with Forged Fiber 37, LLC

MOVED BY KENNA, SECONDED BY ELFERS TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2949, FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH FORGED FIBER 37, LLC.

City Attorney Andrea Marquez spoke to the item

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

b. Resolution No. 1737 – Confirming Emergency Proclamation – Flood Emergency (December 2025)

MOVED BY REINKE, SECONDED BY WILSEY TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 1737 – CONFIRMING EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION – FLOOD EMERGENCY (DECEMBER 2025)

City Attorney Andrea Marquez and City Administrator Jason Wilson addressed the item.

Randall Adams, Sumner, commented.

Comments were made by Councilmembers Kenna, Reinke and Elfers.

PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE.

c. Election of Deputy Mayor

City Administrator Jason Wilson addressed the Council.

MAYOR BOWMAN OPENED THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS.

COUNCILMEMBER KENNA NOMINATED COUNCILMEMBER ELFERS

WITH NO OTHER NOMINATIONS MADE, COUNCLMEMBER REINKE MOVED TO CLOSE THE NOMINATIONS. MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE.

THE CLERK THEN CALLED EACH COUNCILMEMBERS NAME, COUNCILMEMBERS STATED THEIR CHOSEN CANDIDATE.

COUNCILMEMBER ELFERS WAS ELECTED UNANIMOUSLY.

MAYOR BOWMAN CONGRATULATED DEPUTY MAYOR ELFERS.

c. Committee Selection

City Administrator Jason Wilson explained the Council Committee Selection process. Per the Council Rules, Section 20 – City Council Committees, committee members are to be selected every two years, on even numbered years. Council has recommended the assignments would be done on a seniority basis for the committees for 2026 – 2027.

Councilmembers Wilsey and Hochstatter, serving two-year terms, have equal seniority. A coin flip determined Wilsey would pick first.

Councilmembers Evers and Kenna, both serving four-year terms, also have equal seniority. A coin flip determined Evers will pick first in 2026, and Kenna will pick first in 2028.

The 2026/2027 Committees are as follows -

Community Development: Wilsey, Hochstatter, Evers, (Alternate Kenna)

Finance and Personnel: Elfers, Reinke, Kenna, (Alternate Wilsey)

Public Safety: Reinke, Wilsey, Hochstatter, (Alternate Evers)

Public Works: Kenna, Evers, Elfers, (Alternate Reinke)

City Lodging Tax: Elfers, (Alternate Hochstatter)

Meeting times and chair positions are agreed upon by committee members at their first meeting.

c. Pierce County Regional Council Representative Selection

City Administrator Jason Wilson spoke to the Council regarding the topic.

The appointment is for two years. The member and alternate(s) must be elected officials representing the member agency. There is no limit to the number of alternates the City can appoint. A member jurisdiction can select its representative(s) and designated alternate(s) by its own appropriate process.

Per the Council Rules Section 21 – Appointments to Regional Organizations (below), Council can appoint representatives to regional organizations.

21.1(d) When the Council has the authority to make direct appointment to a regional committee, discussion shall take place with the full Council to determine interest. The Mayor or Councilmember receiving a majority vote will represent the City on that regional body.

21.1(e) Changes in representation to regional committees where the Council has the authority to make a direct appointment shall also be determined through full Council discussion and majority vote of the Council.

Sumner will chose their representative and alternate through a selection process.

MAYOR BOWMAN ASKED IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN THIS APPOINTMENT.

REINKE EXPRESSED HIS INTEREST.

COUNCILMEMBER KENNA VOICED AN INTEREST IN THE ALTERNATE POSITION. HE ALSO ENCOURAGED THE NEWER COUNCILMEMBERS TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN THE ALTERNATE.

COUNCILMEMBERS WILSEY AND HOCHSTATTER BOTH DECLINED, COUNCILMEMBER EVERS VOLUNTEERED.

City Administrator Jason Wilson reminded Council there are two members who have expressed interest in the alternate position.

COUNCILMEMBER KENNA THEN DECLINED THE POSITION ALLOWING COUNCILMEMBER EVERS TO BE THE CITY'S ALTERNATE.

COUNCILMEMBER REINKE ASKED FOR A POINT OF CLARIFICATION. HE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THE MEETINGS DIDN'T CONFLICT WITH ANY OF THE CITY'S COMMITTEE MEETINGS. City Administrator Wilson and Deputy Mayor Elfers concluded it did not.

Roll was called – COUNCILMEMBER REINKE WAS APPROVED AS THE REPRESENTATIVE.

Roll was called – COUNCILMEMBER EVERS WAS APPROVED AS THE ALTERNATE.

3. Reports

a. Council

Councilmember Kenna commented on the new faces on Council and thanked those who ran for office. He congratulated the Sumner High School football team on their back-to-back state championships. He concluded his comments by thanking City Administrator Wilson and staff for their work during the December flooding, noting their great job and excellent communication with the residents on social media.

Deputy Mayor Elfers been a great year for teams – Mariners, Seahawks and the Spartans. The Sumner team has just sworn in a new judge, Judge Berry. He is looking forward to working with the Council and Mayor. One of the unique things about Sumner is senior staff , many have been here 20+ years, adding significant value. Thanked everyone for allowing him to take the role of Deputy Mayor, it's going to be a good 2026!

Councilmember Evers is excited to serve on the Council. This is a great group who truly care about Sumner. Mr. Evers ended his remarks by thanking his wife who was in attendance and a few of his friends who came to support him during his Oath of Office.

Councilmember Reinke hoped everyone had a great holiday. He also congratulated the newly elected Councilmembers and the Mayor. He is looking forward to working with everyone in 2026.

Councilmember Hochstatter thanked the staff for their efforts during the flood. As he sits on the Dias, he realized that we really are Team Sumner which because especially clear in times of disaster, when we all come together. He shared how wonderful it was to meet the people who keep the City running every day and expressed appreciation for the culture. The Council may disagree on things; all members are serving because of the love for Sumner and being part of Team Sumner. He ended his remarks by thanking everyone for the opportunity to serve.

Councilmember Wilsey mirrored what everyone has said, thanked staff for stepping up when the community needed them. She reminded everyone to shop small during the coming months, it's slower for retail. She ended her remarks by encouraging everyone to check out the downtown stores, they have some things the box stores don't.

b. City Administrator

City Administrator Jason Wilson began his comments by thanking Council for their kind words, he knows that staff will appreciate it. Some of us may not live in the community, but we all love Sumner and are truly Team Sumner!

Mr. Wilson continued with his report by sharing the following:

Upcoming Policy Issues:

- January 12th – Study Session
 - 2026 Refuse and Recycling Rates
 - 2026 Transportation Benefit District Update
 - Council Vacancy Process Discussion
 - Ordinance No. 2938 – Donation, Naming Rights and Sponsorships
- January 20th – Regular Council Meeting (Tuesday)
 - 2026 Refuse and Recycling Rates
 - Resolution setting hearing date for road vacation

c. **Mayor**

Mayor Bowman is looking forward to working with the new Council and City staff. After the election, almost immediately, transition meetings were scheduled. She has had the opportunity to meet with State Representatives and Community Partners. She emphasized there is much to do. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was a huge operation; she thanked staff for being proactive rather than reactive. She thanked Mayor Hayden for her numerous years of service.

4. Executive Session

There was none tonight.

5. Adjournment

With no additional business before the council, Mayor Bowman adjourned the meeting at 7:24PM. Councilmembers concurred.

ATTEST:

Signed by:

Carla S. Bowman

Carla S. Bowman, Mayor

DocuSigned by:

Michelle Converse

Michelle Converse, CMC, City Clerk

Certificate Of Completion

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andream@sumnerwa.gov

City Attorney

City of Sumner

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cbowman@sumnerwa.gov

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Michelle Converse

MichelleC@sumnerwa.gov

City Clerk

City of Sumner

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Witness Events	Signature	Timestamp
Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
Envelope Summary Events	Status	Timestamps
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Certified Delivered	Security Checked	1/23/2026 10:14:15 AM
Signing Complete	Security Checked	1/23/2026 10:14:48 AM
Completed	Security Checked	1/23/2026 10:14:48 AM
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