



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 3423 3126

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84834233126 Passcode: 349099

July 13, 2021

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Mayor Blocker called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Beale and McCarthy

Council Member McCarthy arrived at 5:12 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Thoms stated that we gratefully honor and acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.

The flag salute was led by Council Member Thoms.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

In honor of those who have lost their lives to or have been impacted by COVID-19 and systemic racism.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [21-0655](#) Minutes of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, May 12, 2021.
2. [21-0624](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, April 21, 2021.
3. [21-0625](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, May 5, 2021.
4. [21-0658](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board special meeting, June 9, 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. [21-0661](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, April 27, 2021.

RESOLUTIONS

6. [RES40809](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement, and any associated term extensions, with the Washington State Department of Transportation to accept \$1,315,000 for deposit into the Tacoma Rail Fund, to install new grade crossing signalization equipment at multiple Lincoln Avenue and Port of Tacoma Road locations, and authorizing City matching funds in the amount of \$185,000.
[Kyle Kellem, Roadmaster; Dale King, Rail Superintendent]

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

7. [ORD28754](#) An ordinance vacating a 10-foot wide planting strip within the south portion of the 6th Avenue right-of-way, lying between South Howard Street and South Rochester Street, to facilitate construction of a seven-story apartment building.
(6902 6th Ave LLP; File No. 124.1420)
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40809 and final reading of Ordinance No. 28754.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40809 and final reading of Ordinance No. 28754. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.

Ayes: 7 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Beale and McCarthy

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. [21-0680](#) Recognizing Miriam Barnett, CEO, YWCA Pierce County.

Deputy Mayor Blocker recognized Miriam Barnett, Chief Executive Officer, YWCA Pierce County, and presented the recognition to Ms. Barnett.

Council Member McCarthy arrived here, at 5:12 p.m.

9. [21-0681](#) Recognizing the Tacoma Ministerial Alliance.

Deputy Mayor Blocker recognized Tacoma Ministerial Alliance and presented the Compassionate Tacoma recognition to Pastor Gregory Christopher, President; Bishop Prentis Johnson, Secretary; and Grover Johnson, Member, Tacoma Ministerial Alliance.

10. [21-0682](#) Presentation regarding Systems Transformation.

Acting City Manager Linda Stewart presented an update on systems transformation, including new items, noting Heal the Heart of Tacoma and City Council actions; new policies and transforming existing programs, including Partnering for Equity and Community Engagement and reconciliation, alignment of City initiatives with anti-racist transformation, and Human Resources Director recruitment; administrative changes and process improvements, noting legislation related to Tacoma Police Department (TPD) policy updates and new TPD classifications; recent accomplishments and items in progress or up next; and short- and long-range transformation timelines.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:34 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received no written comment for Public Comment.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on the Acting City Manager's presentation regarding systems transformation.

Public Comment ended at 5:42 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS

11. [RES40810](#) A resolution appointing and reappointing individuals to the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma leadership team, to serve a one-year term to expire June 30, 2022.
[Ted Richardson, Management Fellow; Tadd Wille, Deputy City Manager, City Manager's Office]

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to adopt Resolution No. 40810.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The Resolution was declared adopted.

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Beale

RESOLUTIONS

12. [RES40811](#) A resolution authorizing the use of up to \$5,000, budgeted from the Council Contingency Fund, for expenditures related to the accommodations for the Korean Delegation.
[Deputy Mayor Blocker]

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to adopt Resolution No. 40811.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The Resolution was declared adopted.

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Beale

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

13. [ORD28771](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for the non-represented Fire Department CARES Program employees.
[Kari L. Louie, Interim Human Resources Director;
Senior Compensation and Benefits Manager]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28771 was set over for final reading next week.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPEALS

14. [21-0641](#) This is the date set for a public hearing by the City Council on the proposed Home In Tacoma Project housing policy actions, including amendments to the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan and the Land Use Regulatory Code, along with recognition of a Housing Action Plan to guide ongoing implementation, as recommended by the Planning Commission.
[Elliott Barnett, Senior Planner; Peter Huffman, Director,
Planning and Development Services]

The public hearing began at 5:53 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received 446 written comments for the public hearing.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Felicity Devlin, resident.
2. Esther Day, resident.
3. Theresa Power Drutis, resident.
4. Mike Elliott, resident.
5. Katie Evans, resident.
6. Marcy Rodenborn, resident.
7. Ben Ferguson, Ferguson Architecture.
8. Sean Dennerlein, resident.
9. Jonathan Pottle, resident.
10. Kristin Pierce, resident.
11. Theresa Evans, resident.
12. Renee and Andrew Sully, resident.
13. Halley Knigge, resident.
14. Jane Evancho, West Slope Neighborhood Coalition.
15. Devin Rydel Kelly, resident.
16. James Williams, resident.

17. David Galazin, resident.
18. Deborah Cade, resident.
19. Steve Allsop, resident.
20. Tara Brown, resident.
21. Leslie Malo, resident.
22. Yvonne McCarty, Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council.
23. Alex Ellis, Master Builders Association of Pierce County.
24. Julie Cain, resident.
25. John Gray, resident.
26. Jim Straub, resident.
27. Katie Szymanowski, resident.
28. Cheri Solien, West End Neighborhood Council.
29. Dylan Ruggeri, resident.
30. Kimber Starr, resident.
31. Aaron, resident.
32. Michael Yadrick, resident.
33. David Eichner, resident.
34. Troy Serad, resident.
35. Kevin Chung, resident.
36. Oneida Arnold, resident.
37. Andrew Strobel, resident.
38. Dan, resident.
39. Angela LaFave, resident.
40. John Walters, resident.
41. Luke Byram, resident.
42. Joseph Tieger, resident.
43. Kathy Lawhon, resident.
44. Heidi Stevens, resident.
45. Nathan Rosenbaum, resident.
46. David Roberts, resident.
47. Ellen Cohen, resident.
48. Patrick Hammond, resident.
49. Marquis King Mason, Sunrise Tacoma.
50. D'Ann, resident.
51. Mike Fleming, resident.
52. Rebecca, resident.
53. Adam Reichenberger, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.
54. Kyle Jolibois, resident.
55. Jim Henderson, Tacoma-Pierce County Association of Realtors.
56. Anthony Steele, resident.
57. Hugh Winskill, resident.
58. General Ovunayo X, Black Panther Party.
59. Anne Jones, resident.
60. John Halliday, resident.
61. Richard Six, resident.

62. Vanessa Dolbee, resident.
63. Regina Eury, resident.
64. Nakanee McCord, resident.
65. Nilmah Mills, resident.
66. Dave, resident.
67. Cheryl Bockus, resident.
68. Lauren Flemister, resident.
69. Heidi, resident.
70. Daisha Gomillion, resident.
71. Kimberly Boespflug, resident.
72. Georgette Reuter, resident.
73. Cheri Figuracion, resident.
74. Joyce, resident.
75. Marilyn Kimmerling, resident.
76. Ken Miller, resident.
77. Jacob, resident.
78. Liz Caster, resident.
79. Adrienne Ramm, resident.
80. Riley, resident.

The City Council meeting recessed at 8:54 p.m.

The City Council meeting reconvened at 9:04 p.m.

81. Nathan Schumer, resident.
82. Brian Taraki, resident.
83. Jason Gauthier, resident.
84. Michael McTaggart, resident.
85. Tara, resident.
86. Jody J., resident.
87. Jamika Scott, resident.
88. Joe Kunzler, resident.
89. Audra Layman, resident.
90. Nolan Hibbard-Pelly, resident.
91. Scott, resident.
92. Jill Jensen, resident.
93. Monet Carter-Mixon, resident.

The public hearing ended at 9:27 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Community Forum began at 9:27 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received no written comment for Community Forum.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Joe Kunzler, regarding Tacoma Freedom Fair and democratic reform.
2. Jody J., regarding City Council Zoom meetings.
3. Kathy Lawhon, regarding the TPD and Manuel Ellis.
4. Esther Day, regarding the TPD.
5. Kim Boespflug, regarding City Council Zoom meetings.

Community Forum ended at 9:38 p.m.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

Acting City Manager Linda Stewart reported the July 20, 2021, study session will be in person, located at the Tacoma Municipal Building North, room 16, will be open to community members who would like to attend in person, and a telephone number would be provided soon. She concluded by stating the audio discussions and presentations will air and stream on TV Tacoma and Facebook live, and City Council Standing Committees and Committee of the Whole will remain virtual.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Community Vitality and Safety Committee

Council Member Ushka, Chair of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, reported at the June 10, 2021, meeting, the Committee received presentations on the City's efforts to reduce litter, the Purple Bag Program, and graffiti removal; and as a follow up to this meeting, Tacoma residents received a one page letter informing them of different City trash services which is posted at cityoftacoma.org/cleanup. She continued by stating at the June 24, 2021, meeting, the Committee received presentations on the eviction moratorium, community outreach plan for the strategic spending plan for the revenues expected from Washington House Bill 1590, and an update on using American Rescue Plan Act funding for the TPD; and concluded by stating the next meeting will be held on July 22, 2021, at 4:30 p.m., through Zoom, and will include presentations on the eviction moratorium, American Rescue Plan Act funding, and an update on the City's code compliance.

Economic Development Committee

There was no report.

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MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to excuse Council Member Beale from the meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Beale

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk