



City Council Study Session Minutes

<http://www.cityoftacoma.org/SSMinutes>

Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room 16, 733 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

July 30, 2013

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:09 p.m.

Council Members Present: 7 – Boe, Campbell, Ibsen (participated telephonically), Lonergan, Mello, Walker, and Mayor Strickland.

Council Members Absent: 2 – Thoms (arrived at 12:12 p.m.), and Woodards.

Mayor Strickland announced Council Member Ibsen is participating telephonically, and the first study session topic is the Second Quarter Financial Report. Tadd Wille, Budget Officer, stated he will provide an update on the General Fund and funds supported by the General Fund for the 2013-2014 biennium through the second quarter of 2013.

Council Member Thoms arrived here, at 12:12 p.m.

Mr. Wille reviewed the 2013-2014 revised budget, revenues, expenditures, and variances. He then provided an update on funds supported by the General Fund through the second quarter of 2013, including the Street Maintenance and Engineering portions of the Streets Special Revenue Fund, the Traffic Enforcement Fund, the Permit Services Fund, Parking Fund, and Public Assembly Facilities Funds. Mr. Wille stated the Budget Office, Finance, and the City Manager's Office will continue monthly monitoring of revenues and expenditures. Discussion ensued regarding the including the Streets Special Revenue Fund, the Tacoma 24/7 Report, and fund variances. Council Member Lonergan requested additional information regarding the cap for Real Estate Excise Tax contributions to the Streets Special Revenue Fund, and a breakdown of the Parking Fund to show on-street versus off-street revenues and expenses.

Mr. Wille reviewed recommended mid-year budget adjustments, including establishing the Transportation Benefit District (TBD) Fund and recognizing updated revenue estimates for mental health. Discussion ensued regarding the availability of money transferred to the TBD Fund and why the fund was not set up earlier. Peter Huffman, Interim Director of Planning and Development Services, reviewed the mid-year budget adjustment recommendation to enhance funding for permit services, including background information, 2013 revenue update for permitting, permits issued and staffing levels, and the permitting enhancement request. Discussion ensued regarding staffing levels, restrictions on funds used for permitting services, the permit review process, potential changes in permitting fees, and changes in the service model for permitting services. Council Member Walker requested information regarding staffing levels prior to budget cuts. Council Member Thoms requested information regarding the permit review process response times.

Andy Cherullo, Finance Director, reviewed the General Fund Reserve Policy, including background information, reserve history, proposed updates, recommended changes, and requested actions. Discussion ensued regarding the City's credit rating, reserve levels, and fiscal and service impacts of adjusting reserve levels. Deputy Mayor Campbell requested staff post the adopted budget on the City's website.

Mayor Strickland asked for other items of interest; hearing none, she called upon City Manager T.C. Broadnax for a review of tonight's Council agenda. Mr. Broadnax stated there will be one proclamation celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Lincoln High School, and there will be an amendment to Resolution No. 38701 to include the names of appointees to the "For" and "Against" Committees for the City of Tacoma Proposition No. 1. He then stated there will be a special meeting of the TBD Governing Board tonight, and a public hearing regarding open space current use assessment application for property located at 615 South 82nd Street.

Deputy Mayor Campbell moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation, the session not to exceed 10 minutes. Seconded by Council Member Lonergan. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Mayor Strickland stated Council would take a five minute break followed by Executive Session.

The Council convened to Executive Session at 1:40 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli and Chief Deputy City Attorney Bill Fosbre were present.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 1:50 p.m.

Ms. Pauli provided information regarding youth positions on City Committees, Boards, and Commissions (CBC's). Discussion ensued regarding whether youth positions are required or optional; it was determined the City Council has the option, but is not required, to appoint a youth to CBC positions. Ms. Pauli then provided information regarding dual service on CBC's. Discussion ensued and it was determined this issue would be discussed further at the Committee of the Whole meeting next week.

Council Member Boe requested an update on billboards.

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

MARILYN STRICKLAND, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
DORIS SORUM, CITY CLERK