



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

February 09, 2016

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:08 p.m.

Present: 6 - Blocker, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 3 - Campbell, Lonergan and Woodards

Council Members Lonergan and Woodards arrived at 12:10 p.m. and

Council Member Campbell arrived at 12:29 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. [16-0094](#)

Washington State Treasurer's Proposed Tax Plan

At approximately 12:09 p.m., Mayor Strickland introduced Jim McIntire, Washington State Treasurer.

Council Members Lonergan and Woodards arrived here, at 12:10 p.m.

Mr. McIntire presented his proposed tax plan for Education Funding Reform, which included lowering property taxes by 20 to 30 percent, lowering the State sales tax rate from six and one-half percent to five and one-half percent, lowering business and occupation taxes, and creating a five percent flat tax on personal income. Mr. McIntire stated that the Washington General Fund tax base is shrinking relative to the State's economy and that this is a proposal to fix our broken education finance system.

Council Member Campbell arrived here, at 12:29 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding structural changes to the tax system, preferential tax breaks, proposed elimination of the State's property tax levy, and the politics of changing the tax system.

2. [16-0095](#)

Climate Change Resilience Study

At approximately 1:06 p.m., Jim Parvey, Assistant Division Manager, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability (OEPS), provided opening remarks regarding the City's Climate Change Resilience Study, and why it is

important to Tacoma. He then introduced Jeanne Walter, OEPS; Nora Ferm, Senior Associate, Cascadia Consulting; and Laura Whitely Binder, Outreach Specialist, University of Washington's Climate Impacts Group. Ms. Ferm presented the intended study outcome, climate science, and the initial focus areas of the assessment. Ms. Whitely Binder then reviewed, present and future climate change, including rising sea levels and warming in all seasons. Ms. Ferm then concluded by discussing the built environment, natural systems, social systems and recommended actions.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Committee Reports

At approximately 1:38 p.m., Deputy Mayor Mello gave a brief report on the Pierce County Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee meeting. He stated that the committee is looking into the impact of sediment transport flowing from Mount Rainier to the Puget Sound and Commencement Bay.

Deputy Mayor Mello reported on the Pierce Transit Board meeting, stating the board is considering an increase to the shuttle service fare.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [16-0096](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, February 4, 2016
At approximately 1:42 p.m., T.C. Broadnax, City Manager, stated that there were no proclamations, recognitions, presentation, announcements or changes to tonight's agenda.

Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Mello moved to convene to Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.144(a)(b) to discuss labor negotiations, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Campbell.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

The Council convened to Closed Session at 1:50 p.m.

The Closed Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:05 p.m.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Mello moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Campbell.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:05 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli was present.

The Executive Session was extended by five minutes at 2:20 p.m., 2:25 p.m., and 2:30 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:35 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk