

City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402 Conference Room 16 November 25, 2014 12:00 PM

Call to Order

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

Present: 9 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Thoms, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Mayor Strickland stated today will be the last of the scheduled budget presentations related to the General Fund and General Government operating budget.

Briefing Items

1. 14-1169 Budget Work Session - Tacoma Municipal Court

City Manager T.C. Broadnax called upon Presiding Judge Elizabeth Verhey to discuss the Municipal Court. Ms. Verhey introduced newly appointed Judge Drew Hinkey then reviewed the department overview and organizational structure; 2013-2014 major accomplishments; and 2015-2016 budget, including proposed reductions, enhancements and upcoming audits, 2015-2016 programs, upcoming performance measures and major initiatives.

Discussion ensued regarding funds to maintain the current workload, additional funding resources needed for Municipal Court becoming paperless, paying fines online, the ongoing relationship with the Fife Corrections Program and the development of the program. Ms. Verhey was asked to provide data on the revenue from the fines paid online as well as the total amount that has been paid online.

2. 14-1170 Budget Work Session - Information Technology Department

Mayor Strickland called upon Jack Kelanic, Information Technology Director. Mr. Kelanic discussed the department's overview and organizational structure; 2013-2014 major accomplishments; and 2015-2016 budget, including spending fund summaries with proposed reductions and enhancements, 2015-2016 programs with major initiatives and upcoming performance measures.

Discussion ensued regarding the savings from closing the print shop and the relationship with Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), including dedicated positions for TPU that are incorporated in the TPU budget, providing shared services to the TPU organization, and TPU's separate Information Technology group. Discussion continued regarding collaborations with South Sound 911, and the Tacoma Police and Fire Departments.

3. 14-1172 Budget Work Session - Non-Departmental and Other Budgetary Items

Mayor Strickland introduced Tadd Wille, Budget Officer. Mr. Wille reviewed the non-departmental budget; purpose, programs, and moves in funding to designated departments; fee adjustments; amendment to Title 6 Tax and License Code; and 2013-2014 budget amendments. Discussion ensued regarding private entities obtaining Tacoma Police services from off-duty officers, guidelines for events when hiring police, and the option for officers to negotiate a different rate of pay or possibly volunteer services. Discussion continued with a request to obtain data on how many events police were required at last year.

City Manager T.C. Broadnax reviewed recommended budget adjustments for the 2015-2016 proposed budget from the General Fund, Performing Arts Fund, Revenue Adjustments, REET Funding, and the Council Contingency Fund. Discussion ensued regarding the ability to track taxes paid online, facilitate tracking data from small business although they will not be required to fill out and file a no tax due form, supporting data for the Equity and Empowerment Capacity Building Pilot Program, taking a proactive approach with petty crime reduction, and possible revenue options as an adjustment for an upcoming mid-biennium review.

Mr. Wille then explained the 2013-2014 biennium adjustments made to specific funds and donations that have been received. He then reviewed the schedule for final budget wrap up and approval on December 9, 2014.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

4. 14-1174 Weekly Report to the City Council, November 20, 2014

City Manager T.C. Broadnax stated there will be one proclamation tonight, proclaiming December 1, 2014 as World Aids Day in Tacoma.

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On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.		
Marilyn Strickland, Mayor		
Doris Sorum, City Clerk		