City of Tacoma
Government Performance and
Finance Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782   Meeting ID: 827 5299 8740

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/82752998740 Passcode: 614650

October 20, 2020

10:00 AM

**Chair Lillian Hunter, Vice Chair Robert Thoms, John Hines,
Kristina Walker, Keith Blocker (alternate), Bryan Flint (ex officio)**

Call To Order

Chair Hunter called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Hines, Hunter, Thoms and Walker

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1.　**20-0735**　Tacoma Public Utilities Economic Development Plans
[Michael Catsi, Economic Development Manager, Tacoma Public Utilities]

At approximately 10:04 a.m., Michael Catsi, Economic Development
Manager, Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), made opening remarks
and introduced Jim Sant, Deputy Utilities Director, and Bill Berry,
Rates, Planning, and Analysis Manager. Mr. Catsi presented an update
on TPU's economic development plans, including the role that utilities
play in economic development, noting physical infrastructure; alignment
goal between TPU and the City; TPU partners; Public Utility Board's
Strategic Directive 9, related to economic development; focus areas of
the Economic Development Strategic Plan; TPU's competitiveness; the
reduction of pressure on rates; prospects; a shift in focus due to COVID-19;
Greater Seattle Partners' Regional Recovery Plan; and takeaways.

Discussion ensued regarding competitiveness of residential rates, rate
classes, rate increases, long-term business rate analysis, green hydrogen,
revenue stream of surplus sales of utilities, incentivizing development, target
industries, minimal economic growth in spite of competitive advantages, high
cost of business and labor, and locating gaps in economic development.

2.   **20-0734**   Planning and Development Services Proposed Code Changes
                            [Corey Newton, Site and Building Division Manager, Planning and
                            Development Services]

At approximately 11:07 a.m., Corey Newton, Site and Building Division
Manager, Planning and Development Services (PDS), presented the proposed
PDS code changes, including an overview, noting dedicated funds and fees,
and flexibility in management; updates to the Tacoma Municipal Code, PDS
Financial Policy, and PDS Fee Schedule; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding fiscal impacts, the typical consumer price index
increase, updates on strategic priorities, impact fees for projects, and the Fee
Schedule.

**MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to recommend the proposed
adjustments of the Tacoma Municipal Code, PDS Financial Policy, and
PDS Fee Schedule to the full City Council for consideration.**

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hines.

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared
adopted.**
    Ayes: 4 -   Hines, Hunter, Thoms and Walker

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

3.   **20-0733**   November 3, 2020 - Interviews for the Board of Ethics and Fee Schedule
                            November 17, 2020 - Interviews for the Audit Advisory Board

Bucoda Warren, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on
November 3, 2020, and will include interviews for the Board of Ethics;
and the November 17, 2020, meeting will include interviews for the
Audit Advisory Board.

Other Items of Interest

Chair Hunter requested that TPU return to the Committee to discuss
long-term business rates and the trends in surplus sales; and requested
information regarding an audit or analysis of the contract for youth services
at the Beacon Center.

Council Member Thoms made comments regarding improving notification
processes in the community.

Public Comment

Public Comment was heard from:

1. Kit Burns, speaking on TPU's Advanced Metering Infrastructure Program.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

_____

Lillian Hunter, Chair

_____

Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office