



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 16

November 26, 2013

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:05 p.m.

Present: 8 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Mello, Thoms, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Lonergan

Council Member Lonergan arrived at 12:07 p.m.

Mayor Strickland announced the first study session item will be a Closed Session to discuss labor negotiations.

Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Campbell moved to convene to Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)(b) to discuss labor negotiations, the session not to exceed 45 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Woodards.

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

Ayes: 8 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Mello, Thoms, Walker, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Lonergan

The Council convened to Closed Session at 12:05 p.m.

Council Member Lonergan arrived here, at 12:07 p.m.

The Closed Session was extended for five minutes at 12:50 p.m.

The Closed Session was extended for five minutes at 12:55 p.m.

The Closed Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Briefing Items

13-0310 2013/2014 Mid-Biennium Budget Modification

Mayor Strickland announced the next study session topic is the 2013-2014 mid-biennium budget modification. Tadd Wille, Budget Officer, reviewed the modifications, including the purpose of modification, general fund modifications, other fund modifications, and summary and next steps. Discussion ensued regarding expenditure adjustments, the projected shortfall for the 2015-2016 budget, whether the Police Department is adequately staffed, reserve levels and their impact on bond ratings, liabilities stemming from the Murray Morgan Bridge Project, parking initiatives, funding for the East Side Community Center and People's Pool, pedestrian safety enhancements, the Foss seawall repair, license plate recognition software, and parking initiatives. Council Member Mello requested staff provide a photo of the esplanade after repairs are complete, and renderings of the Tacoma Art Museum safety improvement project.

13-0311 2014 State and Federal Legislative Agenda

Mayor Strickland announced the next study session topic is the City of Tacoma's 2014 State and Federal legislative agendas. Randy Lewis, Government Relations Officer, reviewed the agenda, including the legislative and congressional outlook, the draft State legislative agenda, the draft Federal Policy agenda, and next steps. Discussion ensued regarding revenue from marijuana sales tax, the Main Street Fairness Act, the Harbor Maintenance Tax, the process to finalize the City's Federal and State agendas, affordable housing taxation, and the proposed gas tax.

Mayor Strickland requested staff provide dollar amounts associated with the street maintenance utility, recovery of liquor taxes, and marijuana sales taxes. Council Member Walker requested the State legislative agenda relating to economic development include the word "will" instead of "may" in reference to including value capture tools, and that staff share the City's agendas with the Puget Sound Regional Council. Deputy Mayor Campbell requested staff add the maintenance of commissaries at Joint Base Lewis-McCord to the Federal agenda. Additionally, Mayor Strickland requested staff add strong language in the draft State agenda to convey the City's support of the creation of a street maintenance utility. Council Member Thoms requested additional information regarding diversion costs associated with the local liquor excise taxes. Council Member Boe requested staff add language regarding innovative projects for water quality and quantity to the draft State agenda.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Agenda Review

City Manager T.C. Broadnax stated Mayor Strickland will be recognizing the City's certification as a STAR (Sustainability Tools for Assessing and Rating) community. He then stated the public hearing relating to the surplus and proposed sale of Tacoma Water property will be removed from the agenda, and there will be two public hearings; one on the proposed 2015-2020 Six-Year Comprehensive Transportation Improvement Program and one on the proposed modifications to the 2013-2014 biennial budget. Mr. Broadnax then noted City of Tacoma offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29, 2013, in recognition of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Executive Session - City Manager Performance Review

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Campbell moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of the City Manager, the session not to exceed 60 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Woodards.

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

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

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

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:30 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli was present.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 3:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk