



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 3423 3126

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84834233126 Passcode: 349099

November 28, 2023

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Ushka stated that we gratefully honor and acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.

The flag salute was led by Council Member Ushka.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [23-1134](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, October 4, 2023.
2. [23-1149](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board study session, October 25, 2023.
3. [23-1148](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board special meeting, October 13, 2023.
4. [23-1150](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board meeting, October 25, 2023.
5. [23-1113](#) Minutes of the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board, October 2, 2023.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no modifications to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

6. [RES41299](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Commerce, in the amount of \$1,000,000, and accepting and depositing said sum into the Special Revenue Fund, together with \$500,000 in matching City funds, budgeted from the Affordable Housing Sales Tax Fund, for a cumulative total of \$1,500,000; and authorizing the execution of an agreement with the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority, in the amount of \$1,500,000, through November 1, 2050, for homebuyer education and first-time homebuyer down payment assistance.
[Felicia Medlen, Housing Division Manager; Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 41299.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 41299. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

7. [23-1147](#) Proclaiming Tuesday, November 28, 2023, as Student Government Day.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed Tuesday, November 28, 2023, as Student Government Day and presented the proclamation to D'Angelo Baker and Cathy Satava, Management Fellows, and all the students who attended Student Government Day.

8. [23-1162](#) Recognizing Twin Tigers Taekwondo.

Mayor Woodards recognized Twin Tigers Taekwondo and presented the recognition to Daniel Ramirez and Makayla White.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment began at 5:29 p.m.

The City Clerk’s Office received 123 written comments for public comment on Ordinance No. 28923, regarding the cat declawing ban.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Callista Brown, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
2. Ann Dorn, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
3. Michele Reich, speaking on Ordinance No. 28923.
4. Devin Rydel Kelly, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
5. Julia Bonscel, speaking on Ordinance No. 28923.
6. Penny Drost, speaking on Ordinance No. 28922.
7. Ken Gordon, speaking on Ordinance No. 28923.
8. Janeen Provazek, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
9. Eric Ard, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
10. Sally Perkins, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
11. Burt Al-Colluci, speaking on unknown.
12. Raquel Sandoval-Gonzalez, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
13. Colby Frank, speaking on unknown.
14. Andy Zemite, speaking on unknown.
15. Hershel Shoahbell, speaking on unknown.
16. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on unknown.
17. Sean Arent, speaking on Ordinance No. 28917.
18. Matthew North, speaking on unknown.
19. Amir Rosenbaum, speaking on unknown.
20. Peter Petrovich, speaking on unknown.
21. Angel Names, speaking on unknown.

Public comment ended at 6:03 p.m.

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The City Council meeting recessed at 6:03 p.m., and reconvened at 6:22 p.m.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to suspend the rules to remove Community Forum from the Agenda.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

REGULAR AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS

9. [RES41300](#) A resolution appointing individuals to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, Community’s Police Advisory Committee, Human Rights Commission, Human Services Commission, and the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities. [Nicole Emery, City Clerk; Chris Bacha, Interim City Attorney]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41300.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

10. [RES41301](#) A resolution appointing Devynee Ye to the Sustainable Tacoma Commission. [Nicole Emery, City Clerk; Chris Bacha, Interim City Attorney]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41301.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

11. [ORD28912](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.10 of the Municipal Code, relating to Water - Regulations and Rates, by amending Section 12.10.301, entitled “Fire hydrant services fee”, and Section 12.10.400, entitled “Rates - Inside and outside City limits”, effective January 1, 2024. [Jodi Collins, Financial Stewardship Manager; Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent]

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28912. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

12. [ORD28913](#) An ordinance authorizing an increase in the Ad Valorem general property tax revenue collection in terms of both dollars and percentage for the general property tax levy in 2024.
[Reid Bennion, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]
- ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28913. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**
Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards
13. [ORD28914](#) An ordinance fixing the amount of the Ad Valorem tax levies necessary to identify the amount of the estimated revenues from property tax levies to match estimated expenditures for debt service and other funding requirements.
[Reid Bennion, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]
- ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28914. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**
Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards
14. [ORD28915](#) An ordinance authorizing an increase for the Emergency Medical Services property tax levy in terms of both dollars and percentage.
[Reid Bennion, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]
- ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28915. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**
Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards
15. [ORD28916](#) An ordinance fixing the amount of the Emergency Medical Services levy necessary to identify the amount of the estimated revenues from the property tax levy to match estimated expenditures for debt service and other funding requirements.
[Reid Bennion, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]
- ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28916. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**
Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

16. [ORD28917](#) An ordinance modifying the 2023-2024 Biennial Operating Budget to appropriate funds for contractual obligations, transfers, and other budget adjustments; authorize interfund transfers and contributions; and accept, deposit, and appropriate miscellaneous donations, contributions, and/or fees. [Reid Bennion, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28917. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

17. [ORD28918](#) An ordinance modifying the 2023-2024 Capital Budget to recognize changes in transfers, additional revenues, and budget adjustments. [Reid Bennion, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28918. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

18. [ORD28919](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 3.11 of the Municipal Code, relating to Emergency Medical Transportation, by amending Section 3.11.060, entitled "Patient transportation service rates", to restore the Emergency Medical Services levy and allow the levy to pay for medical transport charges incurred by qualified City residents, as passed by voters in Proposition 1 in the August 1, 2023, Primary Election. [Teresa Green, Senior Business Services Manager; Toryono Green, Fire Chief]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28919 was set over for final reading next week.

19. [ORD28920](#) A supplemental ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of one or more series of Electric System Revenue and Refunding Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$225,000,000, to provide funds to finance and refinance capital improvements to the electric system, redeem certain obligations of the electric system, and pay costs of issuance for the bonds; and delegating the authority to approve the final terms of the bonds. [Michelle Brown, Financial Planning Supervisor; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28920 was set over for final reading next week.

20. [ORD28921](#) An ordinance amending the current non-exclusive Right of Use Agreement and Franchise with Pierce Transit, extending the renewal term an additional five-years and amending the current expiration from January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2029, for transit-related infrastructure within City rights-of-way.
[Joseph Romero, Senior Real Estate Specialist;
Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director, Public Works]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28921 was set over for final reading on December 19, 2023.

21. [ORD28922](#) An ordinance amending Titles 8 and 17 of the Municipal Code, relating to Animal Control and Public Safety, by amending Section 17.02.140, entitled “Public disturbance noise and public nuisance noise made by an animal”, and Section 8.12.060, entitled “Public disturbance noises”, to revise requirements for enforcement of an unlawful action and to remove the criminal misdemeanor charge for public disturbance and public nuisance noise made by an animal.
[Council Member Hines]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28922 was set over for final reading next week.

22. [ORD28923](#) An ordinance amending Title 17 of the Municipal Code, relating to Animal Control,
by adding a new Section 17.02.155, entitled “Cat Declawing”, to establish a ban on
performing a procedure that results in the partial or complete declawing of a cat except when conducted by a licensed veterinarian for a therapeutic purpose, effective March 31, 2024.
[Council Member Hines]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28923 was set over for final reading next week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Community Forum was not held.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

There was no report.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee

Deputy Mayor Walker, Chair of the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability (IPS) Committee, reported at the October 11, 2023, meeting, the Committee received a combined report out from four of the five committees, boards, and commissions, assigned to the IPS Committee, each reported a brief overview of their activities and future goals for the coming year; on October 25, 2023, the Committee received updates on the Schuster Parkway Trail project design and the Home in Tacoma Phase 2 project; on November 8, 2023, the Committee reviewed applicants for the Sustainable Tacoma Commission youth member position, and received a presentation from the Landmarks Preservation Commission regarding further review of Gault Middle School, a Vision Zero update, and an Active Transportation program update. She concluded by stating the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on December 13, 2023, at 4:30 p.m., and will include interviews for the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Planning Commission's annual report.

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Mayor Woodards reminded the community that the November 2023 General Election results have been certified, and Measure No. 1 has passed. She thanked the members of the Tacoma For All group who brought Measure No. 1 forward.

Council Member Hines spoke about the Pictures for Hope program, describing how the program provided cameras to youth in the community to photograph their hopes and dreams, and the photos are available for purchase, with proceeds funding the Tacoma Rescue Mission's youth programs. He also invited the public to attend the unveiling of the full collection at the Museum of Glass on December 4, 2023.

Mayor Woodards shared her experience with Pictures for Hope and how mentors were able to interact with the children, and spent an afternoon exploring downtown Tacoma to capture their photos.

Deputy Mayor Walker requested an update on the Kia Boys.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Nicole Emery, City Clerk