



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

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

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

December 07, 2021

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

All Council Members participated virtually.

FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Beale 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 Beale.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

In honor of those who have lost their lives to or have been impacted by COVID-19 and systemic racism.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [21-1191](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, June 29, 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. [21-1197](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, June 29, 2021.
3. [21-1196](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, July 13, 2021.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

- 4. [ORD28781](#) An ordinance reclassifying approximately three acres of real property, located at 5517 North 33rd Street, from an R-3 Two-Family Dwelling District to an R-4L Low Density Multiple-Family Dwelling District, to allow for the development of up to 68 dwelling units and associated site improvements.
(Bruce and Dixie Arneklev; File No. LU21-0046)
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including final reading of Ordinance No. 28781.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to consider Ordinance No. 28781, relating to the reclassification of property, separately from the Consent Agenda.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

- 4. [ORD28781](#) An ordinance reclassifying approximately three acres of real property, located at 5517 North 33rd Street, from an R-3 Two-Family Dwelling District to an R-4L Low Density Multiple-Family Dwelling District, to allow for the development of up to 68 dwelling units and associated site improvements.
(Bruce and Dixie Arneklev; File No. LU21-0046)
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]

MOTION: Council Member Hines moved to amend Ordinance No. 28781, to add a condition that the applicant shall install a 7-foot-wide landscaping screening buffer along the east property line, along with a minimum 6-foot-tall solid wood fence. This is in lieu of the code-required 5-foot landscaping perimeter strip.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28781, as amended. The Ordinance, as amended, was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

CONSENT AGENDA (Continued)

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. [21-1193](#) Compassionate Tacoma Recognition: Tacoma Rescue Mission.

Mayor Woodards recognized the Tacoma Rescue Mission and presented the Compassionate Tacoma recognition to Duke Paulson, Executive Director, and Larry Hackman, Board Chair, Tacoma Rescue Mission.

6. [21-1194](#) Presentation of the Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge Best Special Project Award.

Jaye Drye, Director of Local Programs, Melinda Roberson, Division Administrator of Federal Highway Administration, and Bryan Dias, Local Programs Engineer, Washington State Department of Transportation; and Puyallup Tribal Council Member James Rideout, presented the Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge Best Special Project Award.

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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to suspend the rules to consider Item 13, Ordinance No. 28795, relating to the Compensation Plan, at this time.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

- 13. [ORD28795](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for nonrepresented employees and employees represented by the Tacoma Firefighters Union, Local 31, and the Professional Public Safety Management Association.
[Kari L. Louie, Assistant Director; Shelby Fritz, Director, Human Resources]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to continue Ordinance No. 28795 to the meeting of December 14, 2021.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to suspend the rules to consider Item 14, Ordinance No. 28796, relating to the Compensation Plan, at this time.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

- 14. [ORD28796](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to provide for the implementation of a new classification structure, rates of pay, and compensation plan changes for nonrepresented employees and nonrepresented executive employees, based on recommendations included in the classification and compensation study.
[Kari L. Louie, Assistant Director; Shelby Fritz, Director, Human Resources]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to remove Ordinance No. 28796 from the agenda.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

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MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to suspend the rules to consider Item 18, Ordinance No. 28800, relating to the unlawful use of public property, at this time.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

ACTION: Roll call vote was requested and taken. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 6 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards
Nays: 3 - Hunter, McCarthy and Thoms

- 18. [ORD28800](#) An ordinance relating to public health and safety, entitled “Pathways to Shelter and Stability”, and amending Title 8 of the Municipal Code, by adding a new Chapter 8.19, and providing for severability.
[Council Member Thoms]

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved, pursuant to Council Rule 5 A.3, to remove Ordinance No. 28800 from the agenda.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to suspend the rules and limit debate by each individual Council Member on the motion to remove Ordinance No. 28800 from tonight’s agenda to no more than three minutes each.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

ACTION: Roll call vote was requested and taken. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 6 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Nays: 3 - Hunter, McCarthy and Thoms

ACTION: Roll call vote was requested and taken on the motion to remove Ordinance No. 28800 from the agenda. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 6 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Nays: 3 - Hunter, McCarthy and Thoms

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was held later in the meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

7. [21-1210](#) A motion may be considered to confirm the appointment of Avery Moore as Police Chief, effective January 18, 2022.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to confirm the appointment of Avery Moore as Police Chief, effective January 18, 2022.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 6:42 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received 94 written comments for Public Comment on Resolution No. 40882, regarding the Age Friendly Tacoma Action Plan; Ordinance No. 28793, regarding the Home in Tacoma Project; and Ordinance No. 28800, regarding the Pathways to Shelter and Stability; as well as a petition that lists the names regarding the Home in Tacoma Project with 2,320 signatures.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Kamber Good, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
2. Les Pogue Jr., speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
3. Heidi White, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
4. Felicity Devlin, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
5. Devin Rydel Kelly, speaking on Ordinance Nos. 28793 and 28798.
6. David Galazin, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
7. Yvonne McCarty, speaking on the appointment of Avery Moore as Police Chief.
8. Steve, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
9. Heidi Stevens, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
10. Jodi Cook, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
11. Holly Rydel Kelly, speaking on Ordinance Nos. 28793 and 28798.
12. Bard Luippold, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
13. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on the appointment of Avery Moore as Police Chief.
14. Evan Smith, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
15. Athena Brewer, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
16. Logan Harvey, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
17. Brianna, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
18. Seth Dawson, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
19. Daisha Gomillion, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
20. Angela Connelly, speaking on the appointment of Avery Moore as Police Chief and Ordinance No. 28793.
21. Sean Arent, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
22. Kimberly Freeman, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
23. Ken Miller, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
24. Morgan Dorner, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
25. Elly Claus-McGahan, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
26. Nathan Schumer, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.
27. Amanda DeShazo, speaking on Ordinance No. 28793.

Public Comment ended at 7:28 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

8. [RES40882](#) A resolution adopting the Age Friendly Tacoma Action Plan, and directing the City Manager to take the steps necessary to implement the plan.
[Bucoda Warren, Strategic Initiatives Coordinator; Tanisha Jumper, Director, Media and Communications Office]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40882.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

9. [RES40883](#) A resolution designating certain expenditures for reimbursement from bond proceeds that may be issued for the construction, repair, replacement, upgrading, improvement, and equipping of the solid waste and sewer (wastewater and stormwater) systems.
[Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40883.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

10. [RES40884](#) A resolution approving the write-off of uncollectible debt, for a total amount of \$234,289, pursuant to Municipal Code Section 1.06.226.
[Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40884.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

11. [ORD28793](#) (Continued from the meeting of November 30, 2021) An ordinance amending various chapters in Title 13 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Land Use Regulatory Code; approving the Home in Tacoma Project housing policy actions as recommended by the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee, including amending the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan elements related to Housing, Urban Form, and Design and Development; and endorsing a Housing Action Plan to guide ongoing implementation, effective January 3, 2022.
[Brian Boudet, Planning Division Manager; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to amend Ordinance No. 28793 and its exhibits by adding and modifying conditions and amending the policies and map as follows:

"1. Amend the Home In Tacoma Ordinance by adding additional conditions for the Phase 2 process as further described in the attachment to this Motion:

a. Requiring a view study, in particular to examine areas that have not previously received view analysis and/or protections in the Eastside and South End.

b. Clarifying that, as part of Phase 2, map adjustments may be appropriate after additional analysis.

c. Calling for study of the potential to expand Mid-scale along the S. 84th Street corridor, around the Fern Hill District, as well as other corridors and areas meeting the policy intent for Mid-scale.

d. Requiring that the Phase 2 work ensure that zoning and standards are consistent with the goals and policies of historic areas including the North Slope Historic District.

e. Requiring as part of the Phase 2 work, evaluation of whether to establish maximum density standards.

2. Amend the text of the Tacoma Comprehensive Plan Urban Form Chapter as further described in the attachment to this Motion:

a. Clarifying the policy intent that zoning should be structured to encourage development in areas that don't already meet the vision in terms of density targets.

b. Clarifying that single-family detached housing is not non-conforming in both Low-scale and Mid-scale areas.

c. Discouraging demolition in Low-scale areas of Historic Districts in the same manner as in Mid-scale areas.

3. Amend the Tacoma Comprehensive Plan Urban Form maps according the revised maps attached to this Motion."

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to amend the consolidated amendment for Amended Ordinance No. 28793, on pages 1 and 2 (amend 1.d) and on page 3, No. 4, to include the following language:

“, including a review of changing all (existing and proposed) land use designations within the North Slope Historic District to Low-scale.”

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

ACTION: Roll call vote was requested and taken. The motion was declared adopted.

Ayes: 5 - Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms and Mayor Woodards

Nays: 4 - Beale, Blocker, Ushka and Walker

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28793, as amended. The Ordinance, as amended, was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, McCarthy, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Nays: 2 - Hunter and Thoms

12. [ORD28794](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to provide for the addition of June 19th “Juneteenth” as a paid holiday for City employees, beginning in calendar year 2022. [Lisa Woods, Equity and Human Rights Director; Shelby Fritz, Director, Human Resources]

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28794.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

13. [ORD28795](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for nonrepresented employees and employees represented by the Tacoma Firefighters Union, Local 31, and the Professional Public Safety Management Association. [Kari L. Louie, Assistant Director; Shelby Fritz, Director, Human Resources]

Ordinance No. 28795 was continued to the meeting of December 14, 2021, earlier in the meeting.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

14. [ORD28796](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to provide for the implementation of a new classification structure, rates of pay, and compensation plan changes for nonrepresented employees and nonrepresented executive employees, based on recommendations included in the classification and compensation study.
[Kari L. Louie, Assistant Director; Shelby Fritz, Director, Human Resources]

Ordinance No. 28796 was removed from the agenda earlier in the meeting.

15. [ORD28797](#) An ordinance amending Chapters 2.02, 2.19, and 2.22 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Building, Site Development, and Right-of-Way Development Codes, to modify requirements of the City’s floodplain management in order to comply with the State of Washington’s floodplain ordinance, as required by the Department of Ecology; and to make administrative changes to correct section numbers and clarify decision making where there are code conflicts.
[Susan Coffman, Building Official; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28797 was set over for final reading next week.

16. [ORD28798](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 6A.110 and Chapter 13.17 of the Municipal Code, relating to Property Tax Exemptions for Multi-Family Housing and Mixed-Use Center Development, to update language regarding the Multi-Family Property Tax Exemption Program, effective 90 days from the date of passage.
[Debbie Bingham, Project Manager; Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development]

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to amend Ordinance No. 28798, on page 2, line 24, to add the following “Whereas”:

“WHEREAS the 12-year and 20-year MFTE in TMC 6A.110 shall not become available in the neighborhood commercial nodes until a comprehensive review and update of the design standards for projects which include residential development in those commercial areas is completed, and”

She further move to amend Ordinance No. 28798, by amending Exhibit A, Tacoma Municipal Code 6A.110.020.F.2, to add the following language after the word “Section 13.17.020”:

“, provided that the tax exemptions under this subsection shall not become available in the neighborhood commercial nodes until a comprehensive review and update of the design standards for projects which include residential development in those commercial areas is completed.”

SECONDED BY: Council Member McCarthy.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

MOTION: Council Member Hines moved to amend Amended Ordinance No. 28798, on page 8, line 17, to insert the following language after subparagraph 6:

"a. In the case of projects intended exclusively for owner occupancy, households may earn up to 80 percent of the Pierce County family median income."

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

The amendment had substantive changes and public comment was taken.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Les Pogue Jr.
2. Jason Gauthier.
3. Devin Rydel Kelly.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28798, as amended, was set over for final reading next week.

- 17. [ORD28799](#) An ordinance amending, renaming, and renumbering Chapter 9.16 of the Municipal Code, relating to Streets and Sidewalks - Keeping Clean, by adding two new sections, to prevent obstruction and damage to sidewalks from the loading, unloading, and transport of goods; and amending the penalty provision to align with Tacoma’s Uniform Enforcement Code. [Council Member Ushka]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28799 was set over for final reading next week.

- 18. [ORD28800](#) An ordinance relating to public health and safety, entitled “Pathways to Shelter and Stability”, and amending Title 8 of the Municipal Code, by adding a new Chapter 8.19, and providing for severability. [Council Member Thoms]

Ordinance No. 28800 was removed from the agenda earlier in the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

There was no report.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Economic Development Committee

Council Member Thoms, Chair of the Economic Development Committee, reported at the November 23, 2021, meeting, the Committee received a presentation on the operations and reopening of the Tacoma Dome, Greater Tacoma Convention Center, and the performing arts venue in Cheney Stadium; and at the November 30, 2021, meeting, the Committee conducted Tacoma Arts Commission interviews. He concluded by stating the next meeting will be held on December 14, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., through Zoom, and will include interviews for the Tacoma Venues and Events Director and a presentation on Tacoma Creates' annual report.

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Mayor Woodards announced that she plans bring forward two resolutions to next week's City Council meeting, to express support for the Tacoma Public School levies on the February 8, 2022, Special Election ballot. She further announced that the COVID-19 Omicron variant has come to Pierce County, the first test was confirmed on November 30, 2021, the symptoms are mild in comparison to previous variants, there is no knowledge if this variant will cause more severe infection, health experts

are watching the data to see if there is an increase in hospitalizations, and beginning the week of December 13, 2021, the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department will report most metrics once a week.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk