



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

January 10, 2023

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Council Member Bushnell participated virtually.

FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Rumbaugh 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 Rumbaugh.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

In honor of Maureen Howard and Dan Voelpel.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

There were no items filed in the City Clerk's Office.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Mayor Woodards stated a motion will be considered to amend Resolution No. 41120, to insert the name of a Council Member for the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

1. [RES41115](#) A resolution setting Tuesday, February 7, 2023, upon completion of Regular Agenda Items, no earlier than 5:15 p.m., as the date for a public hearing by the City Council on the consideration for enacting a moratorium on certain uses within the South Tacoma Groundwater Protection District, as recommended by the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee.
[Stephen Atkinson, Principal Planner; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

2. [RES41116](#) A resolution setting Thursday, February 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., as the date for a hearing by the Hearing Examiner on the request to vacate portions of South 23rd Street and South Cushman Avenue, to cure existing building encroachments.
(SoHo Properties Inc. dba SoHo Properties 2 Inc; File No. 124.1439)
[Troy Stevens, Senior Real Estate Specialist; Josh Diekmann, P.E. PTOE, Interim Director, Public Works]

3. [RES41117](#) A resolution setting Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 9:00 a.m., as the date for a hearing by the Hearing Examiner on the request to vacate a platted portion of an area called Block “C” and an area called “Lawn Strip”, lying north of North 38th and North Monroe Streets, to use as yard, driveway, and paved parking.
(Tania Posa; File No. 124.1441)
[Troy Stevens, Senior Real Estate Specialist; Josh Diekmann, P.E. PTOE, Interim Director, Public Works]

PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS

4. [RES41118](#) A resolution awarding a contract to Tucci & Sons, Inc., in the amount of \$518,400, plus applicable taxes, plus a 15 percent contingency, for a cumulative total of \$596,160, budgeted from the Street and the Streets Initiative Funds, for asphalt pre-coated crushed screening materials, for an initial contract period of three years, with the option to renew for three additional one-year periods, for a projected contract total of \$1,192,320 - Specification No. PW22-0076F.
[Rae Bailey, Street Operations Division Manager; Josh Diekmann, P.E. PTOE, Interim Director, Public Works]

5. [RES41119](#) A resolution authorizing an increase to the contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc., in the amount of \$621,997.50, plus applicable taxes, for a cumulative total of \$929,497.53, budgeted from the General Fund, for the continuation of the TASER 7 program - Sole Source Contract No. CW2239226.

[Avery Moore, Police Chief]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Ushka moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution Nos. 41115 through 41119.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution Nos. 41115 through 41119. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.

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

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

6. [23-0023](#) Proclaiming support for the Washington Future Fund.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed support for the Washington Future Fund and presented the proclamation to Senator Yasmin Trudeau, Washington State Senator, 27th Legislative District; and Aaron Sherman, Communications Director, and Jesse Johnson, Outreach and Community Engagement Director, Office of the Washington State Treasurer.

7. [23-0022](#) Proclaiming Monday, January 16, 2023, as Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed Monday, January 16, 2023, as Martin Luther King Jr. Day and presented the proclamation to Jessica Johnston, Chair, City Events and Recognitions Committee; and invited everyone to attend or watch the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration, on Monday, January 16, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.

8. [23-0024](#) Compassionate Tacoma Recognition.

Mayor Woodards recognized the compassionate work of America's Credit Union, Harborstone Credit Union, TAPCO Credit Union, and Sound Credit Union for their contributions on International Credit Union Day and presented the Compassionate Tacoma recognition to Jacob Cuthbertson, Marketing Manager, America's Credit Union; Mark Minickiello, Vice President of Community Development,

Harborstone Credit Union; Angel Phillips, Assistant Vice President of Marketing, TAPCO Credit Union; and Jen Reed, Vice President of Public Relations, Sound Credit Union.

9. [23-0021](#) Presentation from the City Manager and Tacoma Public Utilities Director regarding Systems Transformation.

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli provided opening remarks and introduced Jackie Flowers, Director, Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU). Together, they presented the systems transformation update, including an overview; details of the transformation guiding document, noting the vision, mission, and values; the draft anti-racist transformation strategic plan; and the transformation communication plan. City Manager Pauli and Flowers concluded by reviewing targeted universalism, including framework, the successful TPU pilot, and next steps; department consultation with the Office of Equity and Human Rights; a refresh of the racial equity action plan work; and 2023 department presentations and presenters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:45 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received no written comment for Public Comment.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Michele Reich, speaking on Resolution No. 41119.
2. Les Pogue Jr., speaking on the City Manager's presentation regarding systems transformation.
3. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on Resolution Nos. 41118 and 41119.

Mayor Woodards addressed comments made regarding purchase resolutions and the systems transformation presentation.

Public Comment ended at 5:54 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS

10. [RES41111](#) (Continued from the meeting of January 3, 2023) A resolution nominating and electing Council Member Kristina Walker to the office of Deputy Mayor to serve a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023.
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Ushka moved to adopt Resolution No. 41111.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

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

11. [RES41120](#) A resolution appointing City Council Members to various national, state, regional, and local committees, boards, and commissions, including the City Council's Standing Committees, through December 31, 2023.
[Mayor Woodards]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41120.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to amend Exhibit "A" of Resolution No. 41120 on page 3, line 13, to insert Council Member Hines to serve on the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

Public comment was taken.

No individuals addressed the City Council.

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

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

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

PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS

12. [RES41121](#) A resolution awarding 11 contracts to multiple agencies, in the amount of \$14,576,540.18, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder sales tax, General Fund, and the Credible Messenger grant, for providing community and human services - Specification No. NC22-0106F. [Allyson Griffith, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41121.

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

RESOLUTIONS

13. [RES41122](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a non-exclusive perpetual easement to Pierce County, for the amount of \$310,000, and depositing said sum into the Tacoma Rail Mountain Division Fund, for a grade-separated public road crossing within a portion of Tacoma Rail Mountain Division right-of-way in the Frederickson area of Pierce County, as required for the Frederickson 310 Project. [Dylan Harrison, Senior Real Estate Officer; Alan Matheson, Assistant Rail Superintendent]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41122.

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

14. [RES41123](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Human Resources Unit, consisting of 25 budgeted full-time equivalent positions, retroactive to January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024.

[Dylan Carlson, Senior Labor Relations Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41123.

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

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

15. [ORD28868](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for employees represented by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Human Resources Unit.

[Dylan Carlson, Senior Labor Relations Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28868 was set over for final reading on January 24, 2023.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Community Forum began at 6:21 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received 46 written comments for Community Forum regarding drug possession laws; crime; City leadership; speed limits; homeless encampments; Home in Tacoma Project Phase 2; and committee, board, and commission residency requirements.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Michele Reich, regarding the land acknowledgement and Native American genocide.

2. Alicja Wanot, regarding homeless encampments.
3. John Sevier, regarding homeless encampments.
4. Eric Musica, regarding school violence.
5. Andrea Haug, regarding Litter Free 253.
6. Steve Jones, regarding drug possession laws.
7. April Smith, regarding TacomaFIRST311 reporting and homeless encampments.
8. Les Pogue Jr., regarding drug possession laws.
9. Kristen Wynne, regarding drug possession laws.
10. Valentine Smith, regarding drug possession laws.
11. Lisa Olson, regarding drug possession laws.
12. Kathy Lawhon, regarding drug possession laws, power grid tax, public records, Harborstone Credit Union, systems transformation, Community Forum format, Blair Waterway.
13. Josh, regarding drug possession laws.
14. Resident, regarding drug possession laws.
15. Brian, regarding crime and drug possession laws.
16. Drew, regarding drug possession laws.
17. Mark Bardwil, regarding drug possession laws.
18. Theresa Evans, regarding City leadership.
19. Lisa Hunt, regarding therapeutic courts and drug possession laws.

Community Forum ended at 6:54 p.m.

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli addressed comments regarding homeless encampments, TacomaFIRST311, and Litter Free 253.

Mayor Woodards addressed comments regarding drug possession laws; provided an update on the behavioral health response team, noting it will be launched within the Tacoma Fire Department, the final job announcement for the team's program manager will be posted and ready for applications within the next two weeks, and the plan is to have the team ready in June or July 2023; and reviewed information about crime in the City, noting a comparison of crime rates from 2022 to previous years, partnerships with agencies to provide safe places for those experiencing hate crimes, and the launch of the Safe Place initiative. She concluded by announcing that the Growing Resilience In Tacoma program was completed in December 2022, noting the partnership with United Way of Pierce County, the program provided 110 households in the City with \$500 a month for a 12-month period, examples of how the program helped particular families, that the program was fully funded by grants, and that Washington State is considering starting a similar program by June 2024

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

There was no report.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Government Performance and Finance Committee

Council Member Hines, Chair of the Government Performance and Finance Committee, reported at the December 20, 2022, meeting, the Committee received a presentation on the Bonneville Power Administration's services to Tacoma Power's customers; and the January 3 and 17, 2023, meetings are cancelled. He concluded by stating the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on February 7, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., and will include elections for the Committee Chair and Vice Chair and presentations on Local Improvement Districts and the monthly budget update.

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Council Member Hines presented Mayor Woodards with an award from the Pierce Transit Board for her service as a member on the Board.

Mayor Woodards reminded everyone that the January 17, 2023, City Council study session and business meeting have been cancelled, and the next regularly scheduled study session and business meeting will be held on January 24, 2023; and to attend or watch the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration on Monday, January 16, 2023, at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk