



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

November 21, 2017

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:08 p.m.

Present: 8 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello, Walker
Lee and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Briefing Items

1. [17-1205](#) 2017/2018 Mid-Biennium Budget Modifications

At approximately 12:08 p.m., Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager, thanked staff for their efforts on the Mid-Biennial Budget and briefly explained the modification process. Tadd Wille, Assistant City Manager, explained the purpose of the modification and reviewed the General Fund modification, including General Fund revenue projection, General Fund expenditure savings, and General Fund updates on the remaining 2017-2018 budget. Katie Johnston, Budget Manager, reviewed 2017-2018 City Council priorities and provided information on budget adjustments, including homelessness efforts, the Fire Department, the Police Department, and the Tacoma Dome infrastructure and bond costs; other infrastructures, including the Esplanade and Seawalls on Foss Waterway, 21st Street Safety Improvement, and Fast Foot Ferry feasibility study; and other items including the Trade Occupations Opportunity Learning Center, Safe Streets initiative, Sustainability Small Grants program, and Third Party Liability Fund contribution. She then reviewed the outstanding commitments and considerations with budget projections and a list of other outstanding considerations without the estimated costs. Ms. Johnston presented other fund modifications for the homelessness efforts; public safety; infrastructure improvements, noting grants; economic development; environmental policy and sustainability; special revenue and capital funds; enterprise funds, and concluded with important dates. Ms. Pauli indicated the Police Department hiring process plan is in the works and anticipating on presenting the plan with the City Council on December 5, 2017.

Discussion ensued throughout the presentation regarding the number of the Police Department full-time employees, clarification on the Immigrant Defense Fund and the Affordable Housing Strategies Fund, funds for the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center, reserve fund projection, clarification on Emergency Medical Services declining revenue, full levy amount of property tax, the Third Party Liability Fund, and parking fund.

Other Items of Interest

2. [17-1227](#) Council Consideration Request - Health and Equity in All Policies

Council Member Campbell presented a Council Consideration Request (CCR) to direct the City Manager to create and implement a Health and Equity in all policies in the City and work with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.

Discussion ensued regarding the timeline and creation of resolution.

3. [17-1228](#) Council Consideration Request - Changes to Citizen's Forum Format

Council Member Walker Lee presented a CCR to consider changes to the Rules of Procedure to strike Rule 9 Section C-Citizen's Forum and proposed a one-year pilot project, where each Council position shall host a Citizens' Forum in their district, the Mayor and Council Members at At-Large positions to host Citizens' Forum across the city. She then stated the purpose, format, rules, location, accessibility, and schedule.

Discussion ensued regarding the equity inclusion, formality of the current Citizens' Forum, whether it would be a business meeting or not, location of the forum, new Council Members' input, expectations on Council Members, amenities, ability to answer and interact with citizens, citizens able to discuss items not on the agenda, and the need for including a representative from the Center for Dialog and Resolution.

4. [17-1229](#) Proposed Amendments to Ordinance No. 28470

Council Member Mello presented a proposed amendment to Ordinance No. 28470, Tideflats Subarea interim regulations, to add interim restrictions on the expansion of all existing use and allowing expansion only through a conditional use permit process.

Discussion ensued regarding differences between the conditional use permit and non-conditional use permit process and the State Environmental Policy

Act (SEPA) process, the proposed amendment language, and removed and reintroduced items.

Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services, briefly explained the conditional use permit and non-conditional use permit process and the SEPA process.

Discussion ensued regarding the SEPA checklist, the option for holding a public review with the Department of Ecology, existing business expansion and process, triggers for SEPA, and examples of existing businesses going through the SEPA process.

Committee Reports

Council Member Mello stated the Pierce Transit Board presented a resolution regarding the Fast Foot Ferry development and planning and noted of Pierce Transit Board's interest in taking the leadership role in advancing planning.

Council Member Lonergan stated the Pierce County Regional Council met last week and discussed a letter, which will be sent to Council Member Mello, Growth Management Policy Board Chair of the Puget Sound Regional Council, to share common values of the Pierce County Regional Council Members.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [17-1206](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, November 16, 2017

Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager, stated the Mayor will be recognizing Lea Armstrong and Zachary Smalls each with a Key to the City and there is one expected change to tonight's agenda, which is the proposed amendment to Ordinance No. 28470 brought forward by Council Member Mello.

Discussion ensued regarding a public hearing on a proposed sale of property and its real estate transaction process, and a citywide survey on vacant parcels for affordable housing.

Executive Session-Review Recommended Interim Director of Utilities Qualifications

MOTION: Council Member Mello moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the qualification of the recommended Interim Director of Tacoma Public Utilities, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Campbell.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello, Walker Lee and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Thoms

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 1:50 p.m. City Attorney Bill Fosbre was present.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:05 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk