



# City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

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

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/84834233126](https://www.zoom.us/j/84834233126) Passcode: 349099

**March 09, 2021**

**5:00 PM**

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## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:02 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 Thoms 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 Thoms.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

In honor of David Klutchko and 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. [21-0222](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, December 10, 2020.
2. [21-0223](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, January 28, 2021.
3. [21-0220](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, January 20, 2021.
4. [21-0221](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, February 3, 2021.

## CONSENT AGENDA

5. [21-0233](#) Minutes of the Virtual Forum, January 26, 2021.

### RESOLUTIONS

6. [RES40754](#) A resolution setting Tuesday, March 23, 2021, 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 declaration of surplus and sale of approximately 4,225 square feet of Tacoma Power property, located in the Graham vicinity of unincorporated Pierce County, to Pierce County, for the amount of \$17,450.  
[Greg Muller, Real Estate Officer; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

### FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

7. [ORD28741](#) (First and Final Reading) An ordinance approving and confirming the Assessment and Assessment Roll for Local Improvement District No. 8643, which provided for the construction of permanent pavement with storm drainage in the following locations:
- 1) Union Avenue, from North 24th Street to North 25th Street - northbound;
  - 2) Washington Street, from North 16th Street to North 18th Street;
  - 3) Wapato Street, from South 50th Street to South 51st Street; and
  - 4) Huson Street, from South 64th Street to South 66th Street.

[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40754 and first and final reading of Ordinance No. 28741.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40754 and first and final reading of Ordinance No. 28741. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.**

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

## PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. [21-0234](#) Presentation from the City Manager regarding Systems Transformation.

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli presented an update on systems transformation, including new items, noting Heal the Heart of Tacoma, anti-racist focused budget development, new policies and transforming existing programs, current state analysis of the Tacoma Police Department (TPD), administrative changes and process improvements, and the legislative agenda at the local, State, and Federal level. She concluded by reviewing the systems transformation update table, and the next steps and long range transformation timelines.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:17 p.m.

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

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Jo, speaking on the City Manager's presentation regarding systems transformation.

Public Comment ended at 5:19 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

9. [21-0235](#) A motion may be considered to authorize the City's full and final settlement of all claims against the City in the matter of Jeanine Luken v. City of Tacoma, Pierce County Superior Court Cause No. 17-2-13932-2, relating to claims associated with her prior City employment, upon payment by the City in the amount of \$100,000.

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to authorize the City's full and final settlement of all claims against the City in the matter of Jeanine Luken v. City of Tacoma, Pierce County Superior Court Cause No. 17-2-13932-2, relating to claims associated with her prior City employment, upon payment by the City in the amount of \$100,000.**

**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

## APPOINTMENTS

10. [RES40755](#) A resolution appointing and reappointing individuals to the Human Rights Commission.  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40755.**

**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

11. [RES40756](#) A resolution appointing and reappointing individuals to the Sustainable Tacoma Commission.  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40756**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to amend Exhibit A of Resolution No. 40756, to add the following appointment, “Appointing Margaret Schwertner to a three-year term, effective May 1, 2021, to expire April 30, 2024”.**

**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

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

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

## RESOLUTIONS

12. [RES40757](#) A resolution designating the Klinkenberg-Decker Residence, located at 1002 South Anderson Street, as a City Landmark and placing said property on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places. [Lauren Hoogkamer, Assistant Historic Preservation Officer; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40757.**

**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

13. [RES40758](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Supervisors' Unit, consisting of ten budgeted full-time equivalent positions, retroactive to January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. [Dylan Carlson, Senior Labor Relations Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40758.**

**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

14. [ORD28739](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Administration, to update the required frequency of physical inventory of City property from annually to bi-annually, to align with the Washington State Auditor’s Office.  
[Susan Calderon, Assistant Director; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

**ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28739.**

**The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**

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

15. [ORD28740](#) An ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of one or more series of limited tax general obligation refunding bonds, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$15,000,000, and unlimited tax general obligation refunding bonds, in an aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$6,000,000, to refund certain outstanding general obligation bonds and to pay costs of issuing the bonds; and delegating authority to approve the final terms of the bonds.  
[Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

**ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28740.**

**The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**

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

## FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

16. [ORD28742](#) 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, Supervisors’ Unit.  
[Dylan Carlson, Senior Labor Relations Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28742 was set over for final reading next week.**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## COMMUNITY FORUM

Community Forum began at 5:34 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received nine written comments for Community Forum, regarding the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project, employee hazard pay, and the TPD.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Dee Sonntag, regarding the TPD and Manuel Ellis.
2. Jonathan Pottle, regarding Manuel Ellis and City leadership.
3. Vince Kueter, regarding police accountability and Manuel Ellis.
4. Pace Smith, regarding Manuel Ellis, the TPD, and City leadership.
5. Kit Burns, regarding AMI.
6. Devin Rydel Kelly, regarding employee hazard pay, Manuel Ellis, and City leadership.
7. Ray Bennett, regarding employee hazard pay.
8. Joy Caddock, regarding Manuel Ellis and City leadership.
9. Darrlynn, regarding City leadership and Manuel Ellis.
10. Marcus Bartlett, regarding Manuel Ellis.
11. Eva Kafton, regarding employee hazard pay.
12. Heather Herness, regarding Manuel Ellis and employee hazard pay.
13. Jessa, regarding the TPD and Manuel Ellis.
14. Nakanee McCord, regarding employee hazard pay, the TPD, and Manuel Ellis.
15. Jo, regarding employee hazard pay, Manuel Ellis, and City leadership.
16. Alyssa Pierce, regarding employee hazard pay.
17. Resident, regarding employee hazard pay.
18. Ken, regarding Manuel Ellis and the TPD.
19. Elle Gray, regarding employee hazard pay, Manuel Ellis, and City leadership.
20. Sara Alavi, regarding Manuel Ellis, the TPD, and City leadership.
21. Josef Barlow-Farrar, regarding employee hazard pay, Manuel Ellis, the TPD, and City leadership.
22. Naomi, regarding Manuel Ellis and the TPD.
23. Laura Svancarek, regarding mobility access and Manuel Ellis.
24. Laurie Arnold, regarding Manuel Ellis.

Mayor Woodards stated the City Council took action at last week's study session to send a letter to the Washington State Attorney General, to continue to prioritize the Manuel Ellis case and resolve it as soon as possible.

- 25. Megan Capes, regarding employee hazard pay, Manuel Ellis, City leadership, and the City Charter.
- 26. Krystal Monteros, regarding mobility access.
- 27. Jessica Campbell, regarding systemic racism and Manuel Ellis.
- 28. Amanda Swarr, regarding the TPD, Manuel Ellis, Bennie Branch, and Said Joquin.
- 29. Michael Whalen, Jr., regarding employee hazard pay.
- 30. Siabhon Ayuso, regarding employee hazard pay, mobility access, the City Charter, City leadership, and Manuel Ellis.
- 31. Terri Allshouse, regarding employee hazard pay.
- 32. General Ovunayo X, regarding Manuel Ellis, City leadership, and the TPD.
- 33. Leah Smillie, regarding Manuel Ellis and City leadership.
- 34. Treyvon Dunbar, regarding City leadership, homelessness, the City budget, police accountability, and victims.
- 35. Les Pogue, Jr., regarding Manuel Ellis, Community Forum, and the TPD.
- 36. Seven Da Pantha, regarding the City Charter, City leadership, and Manuel Ellis, Bennie Branch, and Said Joquin.

Community Forum ended at 6:40 p.m.

**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 today's meeting, the Committee received presentations on employee hazard pay for grocery workers and on hotel worker recall rights; and stated the next meeting will be held on March 23, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. He continued by stating he toured the Tacoma Dome District last week with Tacoma Public Utilities to talk about issues related to waste and debris, and expressed gratitude for the tour; and that the Tacoma Fire Department brought in a new Rosenbauer Tractor Drawn Aerial for Ladder 1 and it was placed in service on March 4, 2021.

\* \* \* \* \*

Council Member Ushka stated that while there is still wide transmission of COVID-19, there are positive signs of declining cases, hospitalizations, and percentage of positive test results; asked everyone to continue wearing their masks, stay safe, social distance, and use hand sanitizer; expressed excitement for the potential of widespread vaccination to help improve and safely reopen more businesses; explained who is currently eligible to receive the vaccine and that people can find out when it will be their turn to



be vaccinated by going to [findyourphasewa.org](http://findyourphasewa.org); and stated that people can sign up to be notified of future vaccination events at [tpchd.org/notify](http://tpchd.org/notify) or by calling 800-525-0127, between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m., seven days a week, to learn more.

Council Member Beale expressed appreciation for and addressed comments from Community Forum regarding mobility access and employee hazard pay.

Deputy Mayor Blocker expressed appreciation for the speakers who attended and provided comments.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk