



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

February 02, 2021

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Beale, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Blocker

Deputy Mayor Blocker arrived at 12:08 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [21-0118](#) Systems Transformation

At approximately 12:04 p.m., City Manager Elizabeth Pauli introduced Eugene Mustin, International City/County Management Association Veterans Local Government Management Fellow, City Manager's Office, and presented the systems transformation update.

Deputy Mayor Blocker arrived here, at 12:08 p.m.

City Manager Pauli further presented the system transformation update, including new items, noting a plan to accelerate deployment of body cameras, and preliminary recommendations from 21CP Solutions'; the systems transformation update table; the next steps timeline; and the draft transformation timeline.

Discussion ensued regarding 21CP Solutions' recommendations and final report, community questions and expectations, the role of the Community's Police Advisory Committee, collective bargaining agreements and negotiations, prioritizing and implementing recommendations, incorporating staffing study recommendations, aligning with regional and State efforts, police training oversight, and the timeline for next steps.

Other Items of Interest

2. [21-0119](#) Council Consideration Request - South Sound Together

At approximately 12:48 p.m., Mayor Woodards presented a Council Consideration request for \$12,000 in Council Contingency Funds for the City's membership in South Sound Together, and introduced Mark Pagano, Member, and Courtenay Chamberlin, Project Manager, South Sound Together. Ms. Chamberlin reviewed the background and history of South Sound Together, the City's past involvement, initiatives planned in 2021, and the South Sound Proud program. Mr. Pagano outlined membership benefits, other participating organizations, response to community impacts from COVID-19, projects, community involvement, and membership dues.

Discussion ensued regarding collaborations, civic engagement, and expected City Council action next week.

3. [21-0120](#) 2021 Council Appointments

At approximately 12:56 p.m., Mayor Woodards presented the proposed 2021 Council Appointments, and stated that they are on tonight's agenda for approval.

4. [21-0128](#) Encampment Mitigation Pilot Program.

At approximately 12:57 p.m., Linda Stewart, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services, presented an update on an encampment mitigation pilot program, including City Council priorities and efforts to date, COVID-19 impacts, increasing services, options to mitigate health and safety concerns in encampments, the proposed pilot program to establish five hygiene stations, past City strategies, program amenities and requirements, and the process to identify and set up hygiene stations.

Discussion ensued regarding past issues at encampment sites, community partners, garbage collection and the Purple Bag Program, possible hygiene site locations, site safety and monitoring, opportunities for volunteers and donations, health agency recommendations related to encampments, available shelter beds and vacancies, COVID-19 rates among those experiencing homelessness, other support services, short- and long-term strategies and philosophies, and planning for additional City Council discussion.

Committee Reports

Council Member Hunter reported at the Government Performance and Finance Committee meeting today, Council Member Thoms resigned from his position as Vice Chair, and the Committee elected Council Member Hines to fill the vacant position.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [21-0123](#) Weekly Report to the Mayor and City Council, January 28, 2021

City Manager Pauli stated that there is one ceremonial on tonight's agenda, proclaiming Thursday, February 4, 2021, as Transit Equity Day; and that one change is expected to Resolution No. 40744, to correct the name of the property owner.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(ii) and (1)(iii) to discuss potential litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

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

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 2:30 p.m.
City Attorney Bill Fosbre was present.

The Executive Session was extended by 30 minutes at 2:45 p.m., and by 20 minutes at 3:15 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened at 3:38 p.m.

Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to convene to a Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a and b) to discuss labor negotiations, not to exceed 30 minutes.

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

Adjournment

There being no further business, the study session was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

The Closed Session was held after adjournment of the study session.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk