



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

Dial: 253 215 8782 Meeting ID: 848 3423 3126

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

September 14, 2021

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

All Council Members participated virtually.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Woodards 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 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. [21-0862](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, May 13, 2021.
2. [21-0863](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, June 10, 2021.
3. [21-0867](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, April 27, 2021.
4. [21-0868](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, May 11, 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. [21-0850](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, April 27, 2021.
6. [21-0876](#) Minutes of the City Council special meeting, May 7, 2021.
7. [21-0877](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, May 11, 2021.

RESOLUTIONS

8. [RES40836](#) A resolution setting Thursday, October 28, 2021, at 1:30 p.m., as the date for a hearing by the Hearing Examiner on the request to vacate a portion of an alley abutting and lying south of East 30th Street, between East "K" Street to the west, and Valley View Terrace to the east, for expanded yard use.
(Aaron Beckord; File No. 124.1425)
[Teague Pasco, Senior Real Estate Specialist; Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Director, Public Works]

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

9. [ORD28777](#) An ordinance vacating a portion of the North Narrows Drive right-of-way at North 26th Street to facilitate future residential development on abutting, undeveloped real property.
(Paul and Deidra Miller; File No. 124.1416)
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40836 and first reading of Ordinance No. 28777.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to accept the Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations of the Hearing Examiner for Ordinance No. 28777.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40836 and setting Ordinance No. 28777 over to a date to be determined. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.

Ayes: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. [21-0880](#) Proclaiming September 13-19, 2021, as National Small Business Week.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed September 13-19, 2021, as National Small Business Week and presented the proclamation to Arti O'Brien, President, Advanced Government Services.

11. [21-0885](#) Proclaiming September 15-October 15, 2021, as Hispanic and Latine Heritage Month.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed September 15-October 15, 2021, as Hispanic and Latine Heritage Month and presented the proclamation to Chris Paredes, Core Member, Latinx Unidos of the South Sound; Lorenzo Cervantes, Director of Prevention, Pierce County Aids Foundation; Yesenia Arellano, Licensed Mental Health Therapist, Cultivating Resilience Counseling; Dr. Bernal Baca, Chair, Washington State Commission on Hispanic Affairs and Executive Director of Mi Centro; and Annalycia Matthews, and Maria Hernandez, Leadership Team Members, Tacoma Hispanic and Latine Network.

12. [21-0881](#) Compassionate Tacoma Recognition: Oscar's Enemies.

Mayor Woodards recognized Oscar's Enemies and presented the Compassionate Tacoma recognition to Jessica Tweed, Founder, Oscar's Enemies.

13. [21-0878](#) Presentation from the City Manager regarding Systems Transformation.

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli presented an update on systems transformation, including new items, noting the Heal the Heart of Tacoma Core Coordinating Team; mid-biennium modifications and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding; consultant-facilitated cross-departmental review of mid-biennium modification proposals; Rental Housing Code; housing precarity model; language access; support offered to refugees from Afghanistan; Committees, Boards, and Commissions recruitment project; retention strategies team; Juneteenth holiday; Community's Police Advisory Committee's presentation to the Community Vitality and Safety Committee on use of force and oversight; recruitment for the Tacoma Police Department (TPD) Chief; Washington House Bill 1310 concerning permissible uses of force; dashboard cameras; TPD uniforms, grooming, and equipment; and a request for a proposal on communication strategy assessment and recommendations. She concluded by reviewing the new transformation website feature.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:33 p.m.

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

No individuals addressed the City Council.

Public Comment ended at 5:36 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

14. [ORD28778](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.01 of the Municipal Code, entitled Utility Charges, to delegate authority to the Director of the Tacoma Public Utilities Department and the Director of the Environmental Services Department to provide a credit or refund to utility customers for amounts billed in error; and providing for severability.
[Daniel C. Thompson, Ph.D., Division Manager; Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28778 was set over for final reading next week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Community Forum began at 5:38 p.m.

The City Clerk’s Office received 17 written comment for Community Forum regarding Tideflats Interim Regulations and the Home in Tacoma Project.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Esther Day, regarding the TPD and the Home in Tacoma Project.
2. Larry Leveen, regarding the Pierce County Trails Conference.
3. Kyle Jolibois, regarding the Home in Tacoma Project, homelessness, liquefied natural gas, and the Pierce County Sheriff.
4. Alton McDonald, regarding the light rail route, employment, equity, and the Pierce County Sheriff.

Community Forum ended at 5:47 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 the August 24, 2021, meeting, the Committee received presentations on ARPA livable wage job resources and the Small Business Assistance Program; at the August 31, 2021, meeting, the Committee received a presentation on the Tacoma Anchor Institutions Network; and today's meeting was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum. He concluded by stating the next meeting will be held on September 28, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., through Zoom, and will include interviews for the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board.

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Council Member Thoms informed everyone that for the past month he has been working with local refugee relocation partners to find out how to build upon the City being a welcoming city, noting the relocation of Afghanistan refugees, and stated that he would like to bring forward a Council Consideration Request at next week's study session to discuss these efforts.

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MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to excuse Council Member McCarthy from the meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

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

Ayes: 7 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 2 - McCarthy and Mayor Woodards

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk