



APPROVED 3-22-23

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
March 8, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Mr. O'Loughlin called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: William Bridges; Elly Claus-McGahan; Carlos Watson (via Zoom); John O'Loughlin; Holland Cohen, Carlos Watson

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Ms. Cohen moved that the minutes of the previous meetings be adopted; seconded by Mr. Bridges. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted.

Comments by the Public

There were no comments by the public.

Regular Agenda

Departmental

C-1 Resolution U-11372– Award contracts and approve purchases:

1. Award contract to JP Morgan Chase for banking and merchant services (\$1,500,000, plus applicable taxes) [Patsy Best, Procurement and Payables Division Manager];
2. Award three-year contracts to Advanced Government Services, Inc., and O-K Traffic Control Services, LLC, for flagging and traffic control services on an as-needed basis (\$2,061,531.50 and \$150,000 plus applicable taxes, respectively. Includes option to renew for two additional one-year periods for a combined project contract of \$3,768,081.09, plus applicable taxes) [Joe Parris, Contract Program Manager];
3. Award two-year contract to J.J. Kane Auctioneers for auctioneer services for surplus vehicles and equipment on an as-needed basis (\$1,875,000, plus applicable taxes. Includes option to renew for two additional one-year terms for a projected contract amount of \$3,125,000, plus applicable taxes. Auction proceeds are an undetermined amount deducted directly from sale proceeds) [Don Ashmore, Fleet Manager].

Mr. O'Loughlin moved to separate item number one from the general purchasing resolution to allow additional review time; seconded by Ms. Cohen. There was no public comment. Voice vote taken and carried.

Mr. O'Loughlin moved to adopt the two remaining items of the resolution; seconded by Board Member Cohen.

In response to a Board request to expand on auctioneer services pricing, Don Ashmore, Fleet Manager, explained there are two parts to the contract; auctioneering and direct purchase of parts. TPU is struggling to purchase equipment due to supply chain issues and is examining different avenues to bring in equipment and vehicles. The cost is for all three operational divisions. The contract is for direct purchase of assigned vehicles through auctioneering and the fees are revenue recovered by percentage.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution as amended was adopted.

C-2 Resolution U-11373 – Approve declaration of surplus for heavy duty fleet equipment no longer needed for Tacoma Power’s current or future needs and authorize the sale of surplus equipment to the highest responsive bidder.

Mr. O’Loughlin moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Ms. Claus-McGahan.

Don Ashmore, Fleet Manager, summarized the resolution. Tacoma Power has determined that the equipment listed on the declaration of surplus property is no longer necessary for providing continued public utility service due to age, reliability, and damage and is deemed surplus to Tacoma Power’s needs pursuant to the applicable provisions in RCW 35.94.040 and TMC 1.06.272-278. The equipment has an estimated resale value of \$88,500.

In response to a Board inquiry, Mr. Ashmore explained that the code does allow for TPU to surplus equipment with smaller, local utilities and has done so in the past.

Prior to voting on this matter, a public comment period was opened per RCW 35.94.040. There was no public comment.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

Unfinished Business.

C-3 Amended Resolution U-11133 – Amend Government Process 2, Section 8, to bring hybrid meeting participation and processes into alignment with the current practices and available technology.

Mr. O’Loughlin moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Ms. Claus-McGahan.

Mr. O’Loughlin remarked this resolution would bring hybrid meeting participation processes into alignment with the current environment in which remote participation is allowed and technology is available to ensure that remote participants in a hybrid meeting may fully participate. It also updates the expectations and preference concerning remote participation and attendance at Board meetings. Per Governance Process 11, Section 1, changes to Governance Processes require two readings. This resolution was first heard on February 22 and this is the second reading.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The amended resolution was adopted.

D. Reports of the Director

Strategic Directive Twelve (SD12, Employee Relations, Annual Update

Subject matter experts on this SD highlighted the efforts undertaken the last year for the measurements of this SD. This involved a summary of this year's employee satisfaction survey, an overview of safety goals and key performance indicators for each of the operating divisions, and an overview of the year's employee recognition efforts.

E. Final comments by the Board

Mr. O'Loughlin expressed support for fairness and the Board's desire to influence the class and comp study with positivity.

F. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. until Wednesday, March 22, 2023 for a study session at 3:00 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved:



Carlos Watson, Chair



Holland Cohen, Secretary