



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

Telephonic

Dial: 1-855-747-8824 Passcode: 8215373

March 31, 2020

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

All Council Members participated telephonically.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Council Member Hunter.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

[20-0271](#)

Update on the COVID-19 virus in the Tacoma-Pierce County area.

Dr. Anthony Chen, Director of Health, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, provided an update on the COVID-19 virus in the Tacoma-Pierce County area.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

There were no items filed in the City Clerk's Office.

* * * * *

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to support the Human Resources Department’s request that the Civil Service Board approve a temporary blanket waiver to cover all requests for residency waivers and waivers of non-competitive examination for the City’s civil service until the Proclamation of Emergency is terminated.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

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

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to suspend the rules to add a Resolution, Resolution No. 40578 to tonight’s agenda, as the first item under the Regular Agenda, regarding the City of Tacoma employees “Families First Coronavirus Response Act Policy”.

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

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to suspend the rules to consider Item 2, regarding the public hearing on the declaration of surplus and sale of Tacoma Water property, at this time.

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

2. [20-0248](#) This is the date set for a public hearing by the City Council on the declaration of surplus and sale of approximately 4.74 acres of Tacoma Water property, located in the Bonney Lake vicinity of unincorporated Pierce County, to Nash Cascadia Verde LLC, for the amount of \$125,000.
[Greg Muller, Real Estate Officer; Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to continue the public hearing to a date to be determined.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

There were no Consent Agenda items.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no proclamations, recognitions, presentations, or announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 6:13 p.m.

Public Comment ended at 6:14 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

[RES40578](#) A resolution approving the City’s “Families First Coronavirus Response Act Policy” which describes emergency relief for City of Tacoma personnel impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.
[Kari L. Louie, Senior Compensation and Benefits Manager; Gary Buchanan, Director, Human Resources]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40578.

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

1. [ORD28665](#) (First and Final Reading) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, and amending Ordinance No. 28551, to delay a scheduled increase to electric rates due to the COVID-19 related state of emergency; and declaring an emergency, making necessary the passage of this ordinance, and it’s taking effect immediately.
[Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent; Jackie Flowers, Director, Tacoma Public Utilities]

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28665. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:

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

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPEALS

2. [20-0248](#) This is the date set for a public hearing by the City Council on the declaration of surplus and sale of approximately 4.74 acres of Tacoma Water property, located in the Bonney Lake vicinity of unincorporated Pierce County, to Nash Cascadia Verde LLC, for the amount of \$125,000.
[Greg Muller, Real Estate Officer; Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent]

The public hearing was continued to a date to be determined, earlier in the meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli reported that the City Council will be receiving communications from Jackie Flowers, Director, Tacoma Public Utilities, regarding the Click! transition process, and from Deputy City Manager Tadd Wille regarding the status of the City's recycle and recovery center and efforts made at the Solid Waste facility. She further provided an update on the technology efforts used for the virtual City Council meetings, Police Department staffing, questions about police response, and crime statistics during the pandemic.

Discussion ensued regarding the total number of positions funded, how many of those are filled and how many are patrol, crime statistics, and police patrols.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Deputy Mayor Blocker suggested the inclusion of provisions around late fees for those who are unable to pay their rent in the letter to the Governor that will be brought forward at the City Council special meeting.

Council Member Beale brought forward the issue of race-based discrimination occurrences in the community and inquired about how the crimes can be reported.

Council Member Thoms brought forward matters regarding COVID-19 virus testing.

Mayor Woodards reminded all to complete the Census survey.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk