



City of Tacoma

Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 844 1669 0206

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84416690206 Passcode: 614650

August 02, 2022

10:00 AM

Chair John Hines, Vice Chair Kristina Walker, Joe Bushnell,
Sarah Rumbaugh, Kiara Daniels (alternate),
Christine Cooley (ex officio)

Call To Order

Chair Hines called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

Briefing Items

1. [22-0857](#)

Business License Fees

[Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager, Finance Department]

At approximately 10:04 a.m., Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager, Finance, provided opening remarks and presented an update on business license fees, including an overview; background; issues, noting proposed changes to license fees and gross income tiers, proposed license tiers, and examples of nearby cities and other cities that assess a Business and Occupation Tax, and their business license fees; the health, equity, and sustainability analysis; outreach; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding City of Tacoma business license requirements, franchise operators, how the fees are determined, allocation of extra money in the General Fund, community outreach, total anticipated costs, fee changes being passed before the next budget cycle, the impact on business owners and residents who own rental properties, timeline for reexamining fees, and businesses that gross over ten million dollars.

MOTION: Vice Chair Walker moved to forward staff recommendations regarding business license fees to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bushnell.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

2. [22-0859](#) Tacoma Public Utilities and Environmental Services Budget and Rates Outreach and Communications
[John Gaines, Community Relations Manager, Tacoma Public Utilities; Alan Aplin, Account Executive, Environmental Services]

At approximately 10:24 a.m., Jim Sant, Deputy Director, Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), provided opening remarks and introduced Alan Aplin, Account Executive, Environmental Services (ES), and John Gaines, Community Relations Manager, TPU. Together, they presented budget and rates community outreach, including an overview; stakeholder engagement; current outreach environment, noting virtual and hybrid engagement due to the COVID-19 pandemic; upcoming rates engagement, noting the planned virtual, hybrid, and in-person engagement plan, and completed community engagements; and communications and engagement tools, noting self-serve information and keeping customers informed.

Discussion ensued regarding language access and additional languages being added, how TPU utilizes social media, how public feedback is displayed in the rates, key themes from public feedback, and coordinating outreach with other agencies.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

3. [22-0860](#) August 16, 2022 - Environmental Services Preliminary Budget and Overall Revenue Increase; Monthly Budget Update; Council Rules; Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs); Purchasing Code Update
- September 6, 2022 - TPU Item; Audit Advisory Board Quarterly Meeting; Revenue Options and Fee Schedule Proposals; Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

Claire Goodwin, Committee Liaison, stated that the next meeting will be on August 16, 2022, and will include presentations on the ES preliminary budget and overall revenue increase, the monthly budget update, City Council Rules of Procedure, Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), and purchasing code updates; and that the September 6, 2022, meeting will include the TPU item, the Audit Advisory Board quarterly meeting, revenue options and fee schedule proposals, and ADUs; and that the September 20, 2022, meeting will include updates on the ES proposed budgets and rates, TPU's preliminary budget and rates, ADUs, and amendments to the Tacoma Municipal Code.

Other Items of Interest

Chair Hines stated that Washington Senate Bill 5755 will be coming to Government Performance and Finance (GPF) Committee in fall 2022, and further clarified that the TPU item for the September 6, 2022, meeting is for Ex Officio Member Chrissy Cooley's last GPF Committee meeting.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.



John Hines, Chair



for
Kiaira Thomas, City Clerk's Office