



City of Tacoma Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

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

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

June 01, 2021

10:00 AM

Chair John Hines, Vice Chair Lillian Hunter, Robert Thoms,
Kristina Walker, Keith Blocker (alternate), Mark Patterson (ex officio)

Call To Order

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

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Hines, Thoms and Walker

Absent: 1 - Hunter

All Council Members participated virtually.

Approval of Minutes

1. [21-0541](#) Approval of the minutes of the February 16, 2021, meeting

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021, meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

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

Ayes: 3 - Hines, Thoms and Walker

Absent: 1 - Hunter

Briefing Items

2. [21-0542](#) Interviews for the Public Utility Board
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 10:04 a.m., Doris Sorum, City Clerk, informed the Committee they would be interviewing one applicant who was unable to attend the Public Utility Board (PUB) interviews at the May 18, 2021, meeting where the other two applicants, Elly Claus-McGahan and Shawna Grambo, were interviewed. She concluded by stating that there is one position available, to serve a five-year term.

The committee interviewed Holland Cohen.

Discussion ensued regarding applicant qualifications, importance of the PUB, the Vice Chair's absence and potentially waiting to hold the vote until she is present, consequences of waiting, the on-boarding process for new members, and the preference to recommend an appointment today.

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to recommend the appointment of Holland Cohen to the Public Utility Board to serve a five-year term, effective July 1, 2021, to expire June 30, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Walker.

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

Ayes: 3 - Hines, Thoms and Walker

Absent: 1 - Hunter

Discussion continued regarding applicant's qualifications for other boards and commissions, efficiencies of utility delivery and services, the housing market, development costs, integrating economic development, if there is a list of prior applicants and reaching out to them when openings occur.

3. [21-0543](#) Environmental Services Commission
[Mike Slevin, Director, Environmental Services]

At approximately 10:31 a.m., Mike Slevin, Director, Environmental Services, introduced Frankie Johnson, Chair, and Deanna Seamen, Vice Chair, Environmental Services Commission (ESC), and provided an overview of the ESC, including an agenda; the department mission statement; purpose of the

ESC; member composition, noting the classes and interests of utility customers; key points of the ESC charter; and examples of work done by ESC members.

Discussion ensued regarding a request for more information on how rates are developed, commission terms and open positions, recruitment process, rate classes, commission work outside of the rate cycle, presenting how rates are developed to the City Council, and diversity of the ESC.

4. [21-0544](#)

Tacoma Creates

[Amy McBride, Arts Administrator, Tacoma Venues and Events;
Lisa Jaret, Program Manager, Tacoma Venues and Events]

At approximately 10:53 a.m., Amy McBride, Arts Administrator, and Lisa Jaret, Program Manager, Tacoma Venues and Events, gave a presentation on Tacoma Creates sales tax revenue, including an overview, Tacoma Creates legislation and primary funding goals, 2019 startup phase, 2020 inaugural funding, a tour of the Tacoma Creates website, the upcoming 2021 to 2022 funding cycle, cultural access tax dollars; and expenses.

Discussion ensued regarding the participatory budget, equity index, funding for groups without non-profit status, transit and transportation funding, transportation funding options for downtown specific organizations for areas not accessed by transit, budget drops over the next fiscal year, increased personnel and employee related costs, partnership with Tacoma Public Library, the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board and funding approvals, and sales taxes.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [21-0545](#)

June 15, 2021 - Tacoma Public Utilities Bond Issuance; City Facilities and
Deferred Maintenance; Internship Program

July 6, 2021 - Cancelled

Ted Richardson, Committee Liaison, stated that the next meeting will be on June 15, 2021, and will include presentations on Tacoma Public Utilities bond issuance, City facilities and deferred maintenance, and the Human Resources internship program. He concluded by stating the July 6, 2021, meeting is cancelled.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

John Hines, Chair

Jered Lobban, City Clerk's Office