



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 890 2715 0863

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89027150863

August 25, 2020

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: 1 - Hunter

Council Member Hunter arrived at 5:06 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Council Member Walker.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

In honor of Tacoma Police K9 Ronja as well as 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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

There were no Consent Agenda items.

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to suspend the rules to add a recognition to tonight's agenda, recognizing Tacoma Police K9 Ronja.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Hunter

20-0543

Recognizing Tacoma Police K9 Ronja.

Mayor Woodards recognized Tacoma Police K9 Ronja and presented the recognition to Police Chief Don Ramsdell.

Council Member Hunter arrived here, at 5:06 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:09 p.m.

Public Comment ended at 5:12 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received two written comments for Public Comment on Resolution No. 40641, regarding the Multi-Family Housing Agreement with Primero Courtyards LLC, and Resolution No. 40642, regarding a feasibility study for sustainable and accessible taxi options in Tacoma; and two additional written comments regarding the Tacoma Police Department and large events and gatherings in public parks.

REGULAR AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS

1. [RES40640](#) A resolution revising the appointments of City Council Members to various national, state, regional, and local committees, boards, and commissions, including the City Council's Standing Committees, for the year 2020.
[Mayor Woodards]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40640.

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

RESOLUTIONS

2. [RES40641](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment to the Multi-Family Housing Eight-Year Limited Property Tax Exemption Agreement with Primero Courtyards LLC, for the development of 20 multi-family market-rate rental housing units, located at 3715 McKinley Avenue, in the McKinley Mixed-Use Center, to a Multi-Family Housing 12-Year Limited Property Tax Exemption.
[Debbie Bingham, Project Manager; Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40641.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

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

Abstain: 1 - McCarthy

3. [RES40642](#) A resolution directing the City Manager to conduct a feasibility study to determine the best methods to support sustainable and accessible taxi options for residents with disabilities living in Tacoma.
[Deputy Mayor Blocker]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40642.

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

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

4. [ORD28687](#) An ordinance adopting the Six-Year Comprehensive Transportation Improvement Program amended for the years 2020 and 2021-2026.
[Jennifer Kammerzell, Principal Engineer; Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Director, Public Works]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28687 was set over for final reading next week.

5. [ORD28688](#) An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 23295, relating to the Department of Public Utilities Fleet Services Fund, to transfer operating division fleet assets to the divisions for funding flexibility while maintaining the purchasing and maintenance responsibilities within Tacoma Public Utilities Fleet Services.
[Travis Metcalfe, Assistant Power Section Manager; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28688 was set over for final reading next week.

6. [ORD28689](#) An ordinance amending Title 12 of the Municipal Code, relating to Utilities, by amending various chapters, to support the implementation of the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project.
[Matt Hubbard, Power Engineer; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28689 was set over for final reading next week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli invited the community to view the transformation webpage at cityoftacoma.org/transform, and stated the weekly updates on the City's transformation efforts can be found on this webpage.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

There were no standing committee reports given.

Council Member Thoms addressed the community's request to have more time for Public Comment amidst the COVID-19 related changes to how local governments engage their community, and stated that this is a reasonable request and that he supports looking for options.

Mayor Woodards further addressed the request to have more time for Public Comment and stated that this has been a topic of discussion to offer more opportunity for engagement. She reminded everyone that Community Forum is a time for Council Members to hear from the community and not a time to engage in a back and forth dialogue and stated that if members of the community were interested in having one-on-one dialogue with the Council Members, they can do so by contacting them or their assistants to schedule a Zoom meeting. She concluded by stating Community Forum will be on September 15, 2020, due to the cancelled September 8, 2020, City Council meeting, and to look for something to be rolled out on what the new format for community dialogue may look like moving forward.

Council Member Ushka reiterated Mayor Woodards's comments and reminded the community that they can reach out and meet with the Council Members. She further stated she was impressed with how well the City Clerk's staff and City Manager's staff prepared the Council Members for a virtual standing committee meeting and thanked them for their hard work and innovation in making the meeting run smoothly.

Council Member McCarthy provided comments regarding Community Forum's dialogue and stated that during his time as a Council Member the City Council has acknowledged the limitations of dialogue that are possible when it is a listening venue for the Council Members, he understands the community's concern in feeling like they are not receiving a back and forth dialogue or hearing specific responses to comments or questions they make

as Community Forum is not set up for that, and further stated that the opportunity for engagement with the community and Council Members is open and that he is committed to participating in one-on-one dialogues independent of City Council meetings.

Mayor Woodards informed the community that they can dial 311 to be connected with their respective Council Member or representative at times when there is no internet access or they cannot find a Council Member's phone number.

Mayor Woodards concluded by stating that the number of COVID-19 cases are getting better, and asked everyone to wear their mask, wash their hands, and social distance.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk