



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

City Council Chambers

October 25, 2016

12:00 PM

Change of Location - City Council Chambers

Call to Order

Mayor Strickland called the study session to order at 12:07 p.m.

Present: 8 - Blocker, Campbell, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Ibsen

Briefing Items

1. [16-1036](#) Budget Work Session - General Fund Revenues and Cost Drivers Presentation

At approximately 12:08 p.m., Tadd Wille, Director, Office of Management and Budget, provided an overview of General Fund revenues and cost drivers, including 2017-2018 General Fund revenues, revenue projection development, all General Fund revenues, property tax, business tax, major business tax declines and increases, sales tax, utility tax, other taxes, charges for services, and revenues, rate and fee updates, and General Fund reserves.

Discussion ensued regarding one time revenues, increases in tax revenues, implementation of fee updates, non-taxable data, utility and sales taxes, and the proposed increase in business license fees.

Joy St. Germain, Director, Human Resources, discussed salaries and benefits, including employee demographics, salaries and benefits as a percentage of the budget, average annual wage increases, employee health and welfare benefits, 2017-2018 healthcare expenses, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, health care cost continuum, health care goals, and next steps.

Tim Allen, Director, Retirement, provided an overview of the Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' and Tacoma Employees' Retirement Systems, including background information, contribution rates, recent action taken, and next steps.

2. [16-1037](#) Budget Work Session - Tacoma Police Presentation

At approximately 1:05 p.m., Chief Donald Ramsdell, Tacoma Police, provided an overview of the Tacoma Police Department, including the mission statement, organizational structure, 2015-2016 major accomplishments, the Project PEACE initiative, goals, diversity, positive relationship with youth, community safety, and public trust and community relationships. He reviewed the proposed 2017-2018 Biennial Budget, including patrol staffing, graveyard shift, crimes against persons and property, crimes against society, calls for service, citizen self service, budget enhancements, and equity in budgeting.

Discussion ensued regarding crimes against persons, proposed new positions, budget savings, typical amount of overtime cost for patrol officers, vacancies, and property crime prevention.

The study session recessed at 2:36 p.m., and reconvened at 2:45 p.m.

3. [16-1038](#) Budget Work Session - Tacoma Fire Presentation

At approximately 2:47 p.m., Chief James Duggan, Tacoma Fire, provided an overview of the Tacoma Fire Department, including the mission statement, organizational structure, 2015-2016 accomplishments, and goals. He reviewed the proposed 2017-2018 Biennial Budget, including revenue, response model, and enhancements.

Discussion ensued regarding accreditation, additional positions, vacancies, total number of calls in 2015, number of current budgeted positions, overtime analysis, reimbursable costs, and medical response times.

4. [16-1039](#) Council Consideration Request - Third Party Consultant for Click! Analysis and Audit

At approximately 4:07 p.m., Council Member McCarthy presented a Council Consideration Request relative to hiring a third party consultant to audit, analyze, and establish a reasonable methodology for cost allocation between Tacoma Power and Click!, and to evaluate the expansion of Click! Network in the context of an evolving telecommunications and cable industry.

Discussion ensued regarding policy direction.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [16-1041](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, October 20, 2016

T.C. Broadnax, City Manager, stated there is one proclamation on tonight's agenda, proclaiming October 24-28, 2016 as Code Compliance Staff Appreciation Week. He indicated that there is one expected motion to amend Resolution No. 39566, related to the Hilltop Community Engagement Group, striking the Tacoma Urban League and replacing it with the Center for Strong Families.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Mello moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Woodards.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Campbell, Lonergan, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Woodards and Mayor Strickland

Absent: 1 - Ibsen

The City Council convened to Executive Session at 4:25 p.m. City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli and Chief Deputy City Attorney Bill Fosbre were present.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 4:40 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk