



# City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 3423 3126

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/84834233126](http://www.zoom.us/j/84834233126) Passcode: 349099

**July 25, 2023**

**5:00 PM**

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## CALL TO ORDER

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

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

## FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Daniels stated that we gratefully honor and acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Lushootseed language.

The flag salute was led by Council Member Daniels.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

## ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [23-0751](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board study session, June 14, 2023.
2. [23-0752](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board meeting, June 14, 2023.
3. [23-0758](#) Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma Annual Report, 2022-2023.
4. [23-0757](#) Tacoma Employees' Retirement System, Annual Comprehensive Financial Report 2022.

## AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no modifications to the agenda.

## CONSENT AGENDA

There were no Consent Agenda items.

## PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. [23-0761](#) Proclaiming Wednesday, July 26, 2023, as National Disability Independence Day.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed Wednesday, July 26, 2023, as National Disability Independence Day and presented the proclamation to Tony Hester, Chair of the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities and the Pierce County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee.

6. [23-0760](#) Proclaiming July 24-31, 2023, as Summer Meals Week.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed July 24-31, 2023, as Summer Meals Week and presented the proclamation to Dona Ponepinto, President and CEO, United Way of Pierce County.

7. [23-0759](#) Presentation of the Mayor's Youth Commission Annual Report for 2022-2023.

Tara Zolfaghari, Vice Chair, Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma, and Cathy Satava, Management Fellow, City of Tacoma, presented the Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma annual report for 2022-2023.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:29 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received no written comment for Public Comment.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Michele Reich, speaking on Resolution No. 41249.
2. Eric Musica, speaking on Resolution No. 41249.

Public Comment ended at 5:33 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

8. [23-0763](#) A motion may be considered to authorize the City’s full and final settlement of all personal injury claims against the City in the matter of Linn Lucas v. City of Tacoma, et al., Pierce County Superior Court Cause No. 21-2-07241-2, related to a sidewalk trip and fall accident, upon payment by the City in the amount of \$75,000.

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to authorize the City’s full and final settlement of all personal injury claims against the City in the matter of Linn Lucas v. City of Tacoma, et al., Pierce County Superior Court Cause No. 21-2-07241-2, related to a sidewalk trip and fall accident, upon payment by the City in the amount of \$75,000.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

## APPOINTMENTS

9. [RES41247](#) A resolution appointing John Doherty to the Sustainable Tacoma Commission. [Susan Haigh, Interim City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41247.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

10. [RES41248](#) A resolution appointing individuals to committees to prepare statements “For” and “Against” Measure No. 1, concerning the Landlord Fairness Code, and Measure No. 2, concerning Rental Housing Code amendments in Chapter 1.95 of the Municipal Code, which will appear in the Voters’ Pamphlet for the November 7, 2023, General Election.  
[Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41248.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

## **PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS**

11. [RES41249](#) A resolution authorizing an increase to the contract with Sentinel Offender Services, LLC, in the amount of \$1,670,900, plus applicable taxes, for a cumulative total of \$3,522,804, budgeted from the General Fund, for electronic home monitoring - Direct Negotiation.  
[Nora Blakeslee, Criminal Justice Analyst; Chris Bacha, Chief Deputy City Attorney, City Attorney’s Office]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41249.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

## RESOLUTIONS

12. [RES41250](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Professional and Technical Employees, Local 17, consisting of 281 budgeted full-time equivalent positions, retroactive to January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2026. [Dylan Carlson, Labor Relations Division Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41250.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

13. [RES41251](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Letter of Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Clerical Unit, regarding overtime pay for clerical employees in the Public Works Street Operations Division during a snow and/or ice event. [Dylan Carlson, Labor Relations Division Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41251.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

## FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

14. [ORD28896](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for employees represented by the Teamsters Local Union No. 117, General Unit.  
[Dylan Carlson, Labor Relations Division Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28896.**

**The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

## FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

15. [ORD28897](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for employees represented by the Professional and Technical Employees, Local 17, and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Supervisors' Unit.  
[Dylan Carlson, Labor Relations Division Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28897 was set over for final reading next week.**

16. [ORD28898](#) An ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of Regional Water Supply System revenue refunding bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$40,850,000, to provide funds to defease and/or refund all or a portion of the City's Regional Water Supply System Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2013; fixing or setting parameters with respect to certain terms and covenants of the bonds, and appointing the City's designated representatives to approve the final terms of the sale of the bonds; and approving an amendment to the Repayment Agreement.  
[Lyna Vo, Senior Economist; Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28898 was set over for final reading next week.**

17. [ORD28899](#) An ordinance providing for the issuance and sale of water system revenue refunding bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$75,000,000, to provide funds to defease and/or refund all or a portion of the City’s Water System Revenue and Refunding Bonds, 2005 and Water System Revenue and Refunding Bonds, 2013; and fixing or setting parameters with respect to certain terms and covenants of the bonds, and appointing the City’s designated representatives to approve the final terms of the sale of the bonds.

[Lyna Vo, Senior Economist; Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28899 was set over for final reading next week.**

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

### COMMUNITY FORUM

Community Forum began at 5:46 p.m.

The City Clerk’s Office received three written comments for Community Forum regarding Resolution No. 41237 and Amended Resolution No. 41238, regarding the rental housing ballot measures; the Office of Community Safety; and Native American war veterans.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Mark Slater, regarding the 2023 Annual Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Regulatory Code.
2. Eric Musica, regarding public government programs and funding.
3. Michele Reich, regarding Native American war veterans.
4. Carole Sue Braaten, regarding Rainier Connect, liquefied natural gas, and the wastewater treatment plant near the Puyallup River.
5. April Smith, regarding homeless encampments and crime at Charlotte’s Blueberry Park.
6. Kathy Lawhon, regarding facism, traffic safety and crashes, the Tacoma Police Department, politics, and public comment formats.

Community Forum ended at 5:58 p.m.

**REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

There was no report.

**COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Economic Development Committee

Council Member Blocker, Chair of the Economic Development Committee, reported at the May 23, 2023, meeting, the Committee conducted interviews for the City Events and Recognitions Committee; the May 30, 2023, meeting was cancelled; on June 13, 2023, the Committee engaged in a business and industry panel with small business leaders and the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce to discuss community involvement and a 2023 business survey; on June 27, 2023, the Committee received a presentation on federal and state business funding with outcomes from 2022 federal American Rescue Plan Act funding and Department of Commerce Small Business Innovation Fund grants; on July 11, 2023, the Committee received a presentation on small business technical assistance funding outcomes; and at today's meeting, the Committee received presentations on the Tacoma Farmers Market 2022 annual report and business incubation impact, and the potential expansion of Business Improvement Areas. He concluded by stating that the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on August 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., and will include interviews for the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board and a presentation on the Green Jobs Tax Credit.

Government Performance and Finance Committee

Council Member Hines, Chair of the Government Performance and Finance Committee, reported at the July 18, 2023, meeting, the Committee reviewed letters of interest for the "For" and "Against" Committees for measures on the November 7, 2023, General Election ballot, and received a presentation on the classification and compensation overview. He concluded by stating that the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on August 1, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., and will include presentations on the Comcast Cable telecommunications franchise agreement, the Open Data Portal, and two proposed amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code Title 6.

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Mayor Woodards announced that last week the City hosted nearly 300 elected officials from across the country as part of the National League of Cities Leadership Meeting, noting topics of the discussions, and expressing appreciation for the locations that hosted the group and City staff; reminded everyone that Tacoma teens have 12 new locations to spend time, noting there are locations available throughout the week



and weekend; and reported that the City was selected to participate in the Good Jobs, Great Cities Academy, noting the focus on expanding job pathways that support green jobs. She concluded by reminding everyone that Tuesday, August 1, 2023, is National Night Out and Primary Election Day.

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**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to excuse Council Members Diaz and Ushka from the meeting.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Diaz and Ushka

**ADJOURNMENT**

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

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Susan Haigh, Interim City Clerk