



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 20, 2024

10:00 AM

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

Due to technical difficulties, the video recording of the meeting is not available for the first eight minutes.

Call To Order

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

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Bushnell, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Hines

Public Comment

Public comment was heard from:

1. April Smith, speaking on tiered recycling reduction.

Approval of Minutes

1. [24-0899](#) Minutes of the Government Performance and Finance Committee, April 2, 2024.
2. [24-0900](#) Minutes of the Government Performance and Finance Committee special meeting, April 23, 2024.

MOTION: Vice Chair Bushnell moved to approve the minutes of the April 2, and April 23, 2024, meetings.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Rumbaugh.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Hines

Briefing Items

3. [24-0922](#) Unite Private Networks, LLC Telecommunication Franchise Agreement
[Jeff Lueders, Cable and Franchise Services Division Manager,
Media and Communications Office]

At approximately 10:05 a.m., Jeff Lueders, Cable and Franchise Service Division Manager, Media and Communications Office, presented the Unite Private Networks, LLC telecommunication franchise agreement including an overview, noting a request for an ordinance; next steps; and recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding explanation of limited franchise agreements.

MOTION: Vice Chair Bushnell moved to forward the proposed telecommunications franchise agreement ordinance with Unite Private Networks, LLC, to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Rumbaugh.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Daniels, Rumbaugh and Hines

4. [24-0923](#) Environmental Services 2025-2026 Proposed Budget and Rate Revenues
[Geoffrey M. Smyth, P.E., Interim Director; Christina Curran,
Assistant Division Manager, Environmental Services]

At approximately 10:11 a.m., Geoffrey Smyth, P.E., Interim Director, and Christina Curran, Assistant Division Manager, Environmental Services (ES), presented the ES 2025-2026 proposed budget and rate revenue requirements, including an overview; rate principles, noting legal, industry standards, and City principles; rate making process, noting revenue requirement, cost of service analysis, and rate design; baseline budget, noting ES solid waste, wastewater and stormwater, and capital; cost drivers, noting cumulative increases since 2019; capital cost drivers, noting better data, increased costs, timing, and growth; budget strategy; 2024 six-year revenue plan for solid waste, wastewater, and stormwater; 2024 residential bill comparison to other cities; average residential customer bill, noting bill credit assistance program (BCAP) credits and discounts, and percentage of customers eligible and enrolled; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding solid waste long range plan for landfill

comparisons, aging of the system, building out for Home in Tacoma, decrease in budget for stormwater revenue in 2025 and 2026, preparation for density and maintaining services, replacement fund, current six-year rate comparison to previous years, impact fees, and BCAP.

5. [24-0924](#) Proposed Amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code - Electricity Tax, Utilities Tax, and Special Permits
[Lewis Griffith, P.E., Division Manager; John Henderson, Business Services Analyst, Solid Waste Management]

At approximately 11:04 a.m., Lewis Griffith, P.E., Division Manager, ES, provided opening remarks and introduced John Henderson, Business Services Analyst, ES. Henderson presented the proposed amendments to the Tacoma Municipal Code regarding electricity and utility taxes, and special permits, including an overview; background; issues, noting environmental impacts; outreach, noting stakeholder meetings in 2024; recommendations, noting the tiered recycling tax deduction structure; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding tiered recycling tax deduction structure and percentage, enforcement, types of recyclers, special permitting, data collection and usage, landfill alternative daily cover, weighing of recycled material, and preparation for the end of the contract in 2030.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

6. [24-0925](#) September 3, 2024 - Cancelled
September 17, 2024 - Monthly Budget Update; Joint Audit Advisory Board Quarterly Meeting; Cost of Services Analysis and Rates for Tacoma Power, Tacoma Rail, and Tacoma Water
October 1, 2024 - Fee Schedule Update; Preliminary Budget Review; Tacoma Public Utilities 2024-2025 Budget and Rates Presentation

D'Angelo Baker, Committee Liaison, stated the September 3, 2024, meeting is cancelled; the September 17, 2024, meeting will be a joint meeting with the Audit Advisory Board, including a monthly budget update, and a cost of service analysis and rates for Tacoma Power, Tacoma Rail, and Tacoma Water; and the October 1, 2024, meeting will include a fee schedule update, preliminary budget review, and Tacoma Public Utilities 2024-2025 budget and rates presentation.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

John Hines, Chair

Kimberly Kerby, City Clerk's Office