



City of Tacoma

Committee of the Whole Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

9th Floor Visibility Center

October 21, 2014

3:00 PM

Call To Order

Mayor Strickland called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Present: 7 - Boe, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Thoms, Walker and Strickland

Absent: 2 - Campbell and Woodards

Deputy Mayor Woodards arrived at 3:05 p.m. Council Member Campbell arrived at 3:19 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. **14-1009**

Charter Section 4.17 - Consolidation of Government Services Discussion

Mayor Strickland noted there was conversation at study session last week regarding Section 4.17 of the City Charter related to the consolidation of government services, specifically the public affairs component. Council Members Ibsen and Mello stated the request is to look for efficiencies and ways to streamline the process, noting several other departments in the City provide services to both General Government and Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU).

Deputy Mayor Woodards arrived here, at 3:05 p.m.

City Manager T.C. Broadnax provided a handout with high-level information regarding TPU's Public Affairs Office and Community and Media Services. Utility Director Bill Gaines stated both departments are working at full capacity, and briefly discussed the issues faced by each group. Discussion ensued regarding federal and state lobbying contracts, the differences between public affairs and government relations, and TPU's legislative agenda.

2. **14-0996**

Seaport Alliance

Mayor Strickland called upon Dick Marzano, Port of Tacoma Commissioner; John Wolfe, Port of Tacoma Chief Executive Officer (CEO); and Kurt Beckett, Port of Seattle Deputy CEO. Commissioner Marzano briefly discussed the need for the Ports of Tacoma and Seattle to work together to better compete in the region. He stated the Commissions from both ports are pursuing federal

regulatory approval of the Seaport Alliance. Mr. Wolfe then provided background information on the Seaport Alliance, noting it unifies the marine terminal operation for both the Port of Tacoma and the Port of Seattle.

Council Member Campbell arrived here, at 3:19 p.m.

Mr. Wolf continued discussing the business objective, strategic marine terminal investments, financial returns, performance metrics, organization structure, and communication. Discussion followed regarding the importance of having the ports work together, harbor maintenance, and public outreach. Mr. Beckett provided a handout showing the economic impacts of marine cargo at the Ports of Tacoma and Seattle, noting the ports partnered to fund a joint economic impact study of the tow seaports. He stated the draft interlocal agreement and other information is posted on the Port of Tacoma's website, noting the commissions intend to submit the detailed agreement to the Federal Maritime Commission by the end of March 2015. Discussion ensued regarding the need to look forward and continue to be good regional partners, and the Federal Maritime Commission function.

Council Consideration Requests

There were no Council consideration requests.

Committee Reports

Council Member Mello stated the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency will have a meeting on Thursday to discuss environmental justice initiatives. He then stated the Puget Sound Regional Council is looking at making University Place a regional growth center along with other potential designation areas.

Council Member Walker stated, as a member of the Association of Washington Cities, she and four other board members met with the Governor Jay Inslee to talk about the need for cities to be partners in revenue discussions. She then stated the Pierce County Regional Council has set February 19, 2015 as the date for the 2015 General Assembly in Puyallup.

Council Member Boe invited everyone to the ForeverGreen Trails Conference on October 29, 2014, at the Point Defiance Pagoda.

Council Member Lonergan stated there is a South Sound 9-1-1 Policy Board meeting tomorrow.

Deputy Mayor Woodards stated the Foundation for Tacoma Students will meet on Thursday; noting she just returned from the National Strata Conference.

Council Member Ibsen stated the Joint Municipal Action Committee heard quarterly reviews from their CEOs and the next meeting will be at the Point Defiance Pagoda.

Mayor Strickland discussed Workforce Central and their review of Workforce Development Councils. She stated they will be looking at composition of the groups and ways to better align them with the strategic objectives of each region, efficiencies, and federal funding for Workforce Central.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Marilyn Strickland, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk