



# 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](https://www.zoom.us/j/84834233126) Passcode: 349099

**January 03, 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, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker  
Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

Deputy Mayor Ushka and Council Member Bushnell participated virtually.

## FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Hines 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 Hines.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

## ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [23-0010](#) Minutes of the Government Performance and Finance Committee, September 6, 2022.

## CONSENT AGENDA

2. [22-1421](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, August 30, 2022.
3. [22-1420](#) Minutes of the Virtual Forum, August 23, 2022.

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.**

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

**PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 4. [23-0008](#) Proclaiming Saturday, January 7, 2023, as Cambodian Educational and Cultural Exchange Heritage Day.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed Saturday, January 7, 2023, as Cambodian Educational and Cultural Exchange Heritage Day and presented the proclamation to Rady Mey Oum, Founder and Master Dance instructor, Cambodian Classical and Folk Dance Northwest.

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**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to suspend the rules to consider Item 6, Resolution No. 41111, regarding the Deputy Mayor election, at this time.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

6. [RES41111](#) (Continued from the meeting of January 3, 2023) A resolution nominating and electing Council Member Kristina Walker to the office of Deputy Mayor to serve a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023.  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to continue Resolution No. 41111 to the meeting of January 10, 2023.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public Comment began at 5:16 p.m.

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

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on the Cambodian Educational and Cultural Exchange Heritage Day proclamation and Resolution Nos. 41113 and 41114.
2. Theresa Evans, speaking on Resolution Nos. 41113 and 41114 and the Cambodian Educational and Cultural Exchange Heritage Day proclamation.

Public Comment ended at 5:20 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

5. [23-0011](#) A motion may be considered to authorize the City's full and final settlement of all personal injury claims against the City by Tony Palas in the matter of Tony Palas v. City of Tacoma Police Department, Pierce County Superior Court Cause No. 21-2-06606-4, relating to an automobile accident, upon payment by the City in the amount of \$1,250,000.

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to authorize the City's full and final settlement of all personal injury claims against the City by Tony Palas in the matter of Tony Palas v. City of Tacoma Police Department, Pierce County Superior Court Cause No. 21-2-06606-4, relating to an automobile accident, upon payment by the City in the amount of \$1,250,000.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

## APPOINTMENTS

6. [RES41111](#) A resolution nominating and electing Council Member Kristina Walker to the office of Deputy Mayor to serve a one-year term to expire December 31, 2023. [Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

Resolution No. 41111 was continued to the meeting of January 10, 2023, earlier in the meeting.

## RESOLUTIONS

7. [RES41112](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of a Letter of Agreement with the Professional Public Safety Management Association, regarding deposits made to a Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association account upon an employee's retirement or death.  
[Dylan Carlson, Senior Labor Relations Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41112.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

8. [RES41113](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment to the contract with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Affairs, LLC, in the amount of \$187,800, plus applicable taxes, for a cumulative total of \$563,400, budgeted from the General Fund, for continued legislative lobbying services for the years 2023 and 2024.  
[Sonja Hallum, Government Relations Officer; Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager]

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41113.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to amend Resolution No. 41113, on page 1, line 3, and page 2, lines 3 and 12, to strike the words "General Fund," and insert the words "General Government Internal Services Fund".**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

Public comment was taken.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Eric Musica.

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

9. [RES41114](#)

A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment to the contract with Simon and Company Incorporated, in the amount of \$173,006, plus applicable taxes, for a cumulative total of \$516,790, budgeted from the General Fund, for continued legislative lobbying services for the years 2023 and 2024.

[Sonja Hallum, Government Relations Officer; Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager]

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41114.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to amend Resolution No. 41114, on page 1, lines 3 and 25, and page 3, line 9, to strike the words “General Fund,” and insert the words “General Government Internal Services Fund”.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

Public comment was taken.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Kathy Lawhon.

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Pauli reported that the Public Works Department (PW) has received grants for multiple projects, noting the Puget Sound Regional Council awarded \$2.7 million in grants for the East Portland Avenue Overlay project, the McKinley Avenue Intelligent Transportation System and Signal Coordination project, and the South 11th Street and Earnest South Brazill Protected Bike Lane Couplet project; and that the Transportation Improvement Board awarded \$3.8 million in grants for the Sheridan Avenue 64th Street to 72nd Street Arterial Street Improvements Phase 1 and the Whitman Elementary School Safe Routes to School project.

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

Economic Development Committee

Council Member Blocker, Chair of the Economic Development Committee, reported that the December 13, 2022, meeting was cancelled; and that the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on January 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., and will include a presentation on Tacoma Creates' annual report.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mayor Woodards expressed appreciation for PW staff, first responders, and Tacoma Public Utilities staff for their continued work through the holidays and inclement weather.

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**MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to excuse Council Members Daniels and Diaz from the meeting.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

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

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Diaz

**ADJOURNMENT**

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk