



Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

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Tacoma Municipal Building, 9th Floor Visibility Center, 747 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

July 16, 2013

Mayor Strickland called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.

Council Members Present: 5 – Boe, Lonergan, Mello, Thoms, and Mayor Strickland.

Council Members Absent: 4 – Campbell, Ibsen, and Walker (arrived at 2:11 p.m.); and Woodards.

Sustainable Transportation Funding

City Manager T.C. Broadnax introduced Kurtis Kingsolver, Interim Director Public Works, to discuss how to proceed.

Council Members Ibsen and Walker, and Deputy Mayor Campbell arrived here, at 2:11 p.m.

Mr. Broadnax noted a source of revenue has been identified and Mr. Kingsolver will review next steps. Mr. Kingsolver provided background information on the Mobility Stakeholder Funding Task Force and the Neighborhood Streets Improvement and Safety Task Force. He stated that staff is recommending dedicated, sustainable funding through a 2 percent Earnings Tax on utility companies for street maintenance, safety, and new construction. He then reviewed the proposed draft language for Proposition No. 1 - 2 percent Earnings Tax on Utility Companies for Tacoma street improvements, and next steps to bring this proposition forward to Tacoma voters.

Discussion ensued regarding what could be accomplished with this funding, support for the proposition, and the potential for state grant match funding.

Mayor Strickland left here, at 2:38 p.m.

Initiative 502 – Recreational Cannabis Legislation Discussion

City Attorney Elizabeth Pauli reviewed highlights from the official draft rules from the Washington State Liquor Control Board (LBC) regarding recreational cannabis. She discussed recommended response options relating to licensing, land use, and enforcement. She then reviewed next steps, including coming back to the Committee of the Whole on August 6, 2013, with a process to forward to the Planning Commission. Discussion followed regarding the distance/buffer from areas zoned as sensitive use,

security requirements, the maximum number of locations within the city, and outdoor production.

Council Consideration Requests

Mr. Broadnax stated Council Member Thoms had requested staff research possible enhancement to the City's School Speed Zone Policy to create safer walking routes around schools. Council Member Thoms briefly discussed his request, noting concerns about safety on North 12th and North I Streets. Mr. Kingsolver provided an overview of the existing and background information on state law relating to school walking routes and speed zones. He then discussed the proposed policy which would provide increased flexibility in the way school speed zone boundaries are established. He stated staff are proposing school speed zones up to 300 feet from the school property line; he then discussed the use of a phased approach to fund this project. Discussion followed regarding timing the signals, the responsibility of the Tacoma School District, and the potential of expanding this to both middle and high schools.

Mr. Broadnax stated Council Members Ibsen and Mello had previously requested staff and the Planning Commission research the possible modifications to the number, location, and types of designated mixed-use centers. Peter Huffman, Interim Director Planning and Development Services, provided background information on the City's mixed-use centers, noting there are currently 17 in the city. He stated staff recommends a comprehensive review of the City's mixed-use centers to occur in two phases; he then reviewed each phase. Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of either combining or eliminating certain mixed-use centers, impacts to property owners in mixed-use centers, the need for equity, mixed-use center regulations, and development.

Boards and Commission Reports/Updates

Council Member Mello stated the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee conducted interviews for the newly established Transportation Commission and is forwarding recommendations to the full Council for consideration.

Council Member Lonergan stated the Public Safety, Human Services, and Education Committee received an update on the jail services contract with the City of Fife.

Council Member Boe stated ForeverGreen Trails has several new members; then noted the Trails Conference is on August 30, 2013. He stated the Cross-District Association will have an auction on August 19, 2013.

Deputy Mayor Campbell stated the Crystal Judson Family Justice Center has approved their budget, and the Economic Development Committee received presentations on car dealerships and wayfinding downtown.

Other Items of Interest

Mr. Broadnax noted the Transportation Commission is looking for a representative from Council District No. 4.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

MARILYN STRICKLAND, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
DORIS SORUM, CITY CLERK