



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 838 0605 1736

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/83806051736 Passcode: 621131

February 26, 2021

8:00 AM

Special Meeting - Strategic Planning Work Session

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the special meeting to order at 8:09 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Beale

Council Member Beale arrived at 8:11 a.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

WELCOME/OPENING REMARKS

Mayor Woodards provided opening remarks and introduced Tanisha Jumper, Director, and Jacques Colon, Tacoma 2025 Strategic Manager, Media and Communications Office (MCO). Ms. Jumper outlined the format for the two-day strategic planning work session.

Council Member Beale arrived here, at 8:11 a.m.

Ms. Jumper continued with a review of ground rules and the agenda.

BRIEFING ITEMS

1. [21-0201](#) 2020 Year in Review

At approximately 8:13 a.m., Kenny Coble, Community Engagement Manager, MCO, facilitated a game focused on department accomplishments during 2020.

The City Council special meeting recessed at 9:04 a.m.

The City Council special meeting reconvened at 9:08 a.m.

2. [21-0202](#) 2020 Council Reflections

At approximately 9:08 a.m., Mr. Colon facilitated a discussion regarding City Council reflections about 2020, focusing on the following questions:

1. What were the best and worst parts of 2020 for you?

Discussion ensued regarding personal and professional highlights and challenges during 2020, including loss of lives locally and internationally, in-person interaction, challenges of division and lack of shared vision and values, impacts of people experiencing homelessness, the strain of remote work and caring for family, and finding stronger connections with family and friends.

2. What lesson will you take from 2020 into 2021 with you?

Discussion continued regarding lessons learned, including seeking innovation, focusing on areas and actions within your control, recognizing that some work and conversations can be successful in remote and virtual settings, the need for proactive outreach, having difficult conversations, the value of productive conflict, and being willing to give and receive grace.

The City Council special meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m.

The City Council special meeting reconvened at 10:21 a.m.

3. [21-0203](#) 2021 Focus on the Future

At approximately 10:21 a.m., Ms. Jumper introduced discussion about what Council Members need from each other, the community, and City staff and leaders for the year ahead.

Discussion ensued regarding community participation, delegation between Council Members, policy development, information and resources provided by Council support staff, a request for additional Committee of the Whole meetings, access and virtual meeting options, offering language support, trust and accountability, and public outreach and communications.

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli concluded by reviewing comments related to staff support, type of feedback requested, and the need to communicate

constraints; the request for increased informal interactions; expanded use of talking points; increasing Council access to information; and increasing language services.

CLOSING

Mr. Colon provided closing remarks and highlighted topics for the Strategic Planning Work Session on Saturday, February 27, 2021.

Mayor Woodards expressed appreciation for Council Members' open dialogue, and staff's efforts to arrange the special meetings.

Discussion ensued regarding expectations for future discussions, opportunities for Council Members to connect with staff outside the meetings, and topics and activities for tomorrow's meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the special meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk