



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

February 20, 2018

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:12 p.m.

Present: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hunter, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Briefing Items

1. [18-0154](#) Legislative Session Updates and Washington DC Federal Government Consultant Len Simon

At approximately 12:12 p.m., Randall Lewis, Government Relations Officer, provided a Legislative update, including the status of City bills of interest, budget issues, and a calendar. He further reviewed the City bills of interest, including House Bill (HB) 2813 / Senate Bill (SB) 6418, which offered commercial office incentives; HB 1114 / SB 6320, regarding leasehold excise tax, noting Tacoma Dome requirements; SB 6408, regarding police officer body worn cameras; HB 2201 / SB 5955, noting a new fee schedule for Sound Transit Motor Vehicle Excise Tax; HB 2057, referencing abandoned homes, noting cost recovery increase and a new process for foreclosed homes; HB 2006, which creates flexible revenue for mental health tax and levy lid lifts; HB 2592 / SB 5935, describing two approaches to small cells; SB 6002, regarding the Voting Rights Act, noting changes to local elections; and HB 1570, which increases document recording fees. He discussed the budget, including details of the supplemental operating budget and supplemental capital budget and reviewed upcoming dates. Mr. Lewis concluded with introducing Len Simon, President, Simon and Company.

Discussion ensued regarding updates on the Kilduff Covenant Bill, Point Ruston Bills, and Capital Gains Bill in the Senate. Discussion continued on funding of school districts in the budget and SB 6002 Voting Rights Act.

Mr. Simon made opening remarks and introduced Jennifer Covino,

Vice President, Simon and Company. He provided an overall assessment of President Donald Trump's administration, noting less involvement of local government officials in key jobs in the White House Cabinet and sub-Cabinet, no systematic method for involving local officials, and fiscal budget.

Mr. Simon described key issues, including budget, immigration policy, infrastructure, tax reform, and the environment. Ms. Covino discussed grant opportunities of interest for the City, including the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program, homeless veterans programs, substance abuse and mental health services, early diversion grants, Community Economic Development grant program, federal grants, and the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant program. She informed Council Members if they have any special projects or programs happening within their districts to inform her and she will work to identify any federal resources that are available. Mr. Simon concluded on recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding the list of opportunities, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services grant funding, and the Federal Highway Administration program funding.

2. [18-0155](#) Tacoma Housing Authority Overview and Options to Respond to the Rising Rental Market

At approximately 1:23 p.m., Michael Mirra, Executive Director, Tacoma Housing Authority (THA), made opening remarks and provided an overview of THA, including the partnership with the City, source of funding, and described what THA does and how. Mr. Mirra provided examples of THA projects, including a narrative summary of the education project and real estate developments, noting the rising rental market especially in West Tacoma, a map of recent purchases, and provided a list of proposals that will either maintain, increase, or decrease the number of households served and staff's recommended choices.

Discussion ensued regarding work around the 6th Avenue corridor and Tacoma Community College and the unstated needs that are a result of the presentation.

Other Items of Interest

City Manager Pauli reminded Council Members of the upcoming City Council strategic planning work session this Friday, February 23, 2018 at Titlow Lodge, noting encouragement to have the DiSC assessment completed, and informed Council Members of the City's inclement weather process and protocols.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [18-0156](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, February 15, 2018

City Manager Pauli stated there is one recognition, recognizing Tacoma Urban League, and there are no expected changes to tonight's agenda. She informed the Council Members that the motions requested by the Council are in the packets and in the published agenda for the option to make motions to move the amendments forward or not. She further reminded Council Members if they have any questions or changes on tonight's agenda to please let her know so staff can be prepared in time for the meeting, and the Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for today at 3:00 p.m.

Executive Session - Potential Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Ibsen moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Mello.

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

Ayes: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hunter, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Thoms

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:02 p.m. City Attorney Bill Fosbre and Deputy City Attorney Steve Victor were present.

The Executive Session was extended by 5 minutes at 2:17 p.m., 2:22 p.m., and 2:27 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:32 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk