



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

733 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

January 02, 2018

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:09 p.m.

Present: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hunter, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

Briefing Items

1. [17-1369](#) Overview of the City's Government Structure, Legislative Process and Tacoma 2025

At approximately 12:09 p.m., Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager, made opening remarks and provided an overview of the 2018 new City Council orientation, including the form of government; Tacoma City Charter and legislative process; Council Standing Committees; Committees, Boards, and Commissions (CBCs); and the Tacoma 2025 program. Bill Fosbre, City Attorney, reviewed the form of government, including first-class cities, Council-Manager form of government, and duties of the City Manager. He then reviewed the City Charter, including the structure and duties of the City Council, legislative process, citizens' rights, a review of the City Charter, other City positions under the Charter, CBCs under the Charter, a list of other articles, and sale and lease of City properties. He continued by reviewing the Council's relationship with Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), including utility systems, its departments, the Public Utility Board (PUB) and its duties, utility rates, use of revenues/properties and taxes, budget process, matters requiring the vote of PUB and City Council, grants, general government services, stand-alone services, and the Director of TPU.

Tadd Wille, Assistant City Manager, provided information on the City Council meetings and the purpose and compositions of Council Standing Committees, including the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, Economic Development Committee, Government Performance and Finance Committee, and Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee. He then provided information on the duties of CBCs and relations to Council Standing Committees. He concluded his presentation by

reviewing the legislative process, including policy-related and administrative-related legislation; the utilization of Council Consideration Requests, Council Standing Committees, and CBCs; and other options, which includes bringing forward an item directly to the City Council meeting.

Tanisha Jumper, Acting Director, Media and Communications, provided information on the Tacoma 2025 strategic plan, including an overview, priorities, seven vision statements, and the Advisory Committee. She then reviewed the Tacoma 2025 framework and its goals, including livability, noting the Livable City Year program and other feature programs, economy and workforce, education, civic engagement, and equity and accessibility. She concluded by reviewing the Tacoma 2025 alignment and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding Tacoma 2025’s relations to each Council Standing Committee, the strategic planning retreat, Committee of the Whole, and Citizens’ Forum.

2. [17-1371](#) 2018 Community Survey

Katie Johnston, Budget Manager, provided background information on the 2018 community survey and Jared Eyer, Senior Budget Analyst, provided information on its purpose, the City’s contractor MDB Insight, views and collection of data, survey format, and timeline.

Other Items of Interest

3. [18-0005](#) A Letter to Senator and State Representatives

Council Member Mello presented a draft letter to Tacoma’s legislative delegations, asking for support in a legislation to improve in permitting the Point Ruston project and allowing Point Ruston property owners to annex into the City of Tacoma, and encouraged the City Council to sign onto the letter.

Discussion ensued regarding the support and concerns for permitting the Point Ruston project and signature due date.

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Mayor Woodards welcomed the new Council Members and asked other Council Members to let her know of their interests in various Committees, Boards, and Commissions.

Committee Reports

There were no Committee reports given.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

4. [17-1370](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, December 28, 2017

City Manager Pauli stated there are no ceremonials, and no expected changes to tonight's agenda. She then reminded if Council Members have any questions or concerns on any items on tonight's agenda between now and 5:00 p.m., then please let her know, so staff can prepare accordingly.

Closed Session - Labor Negotiations

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Thoms moved to convene to Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a and b) to discuss labor negotiations, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ibsen.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hunter, Ibsen, McCarthy, Mello, Thoms, Ushka and Mayor Woodards

The Council convened to Closed Session at 1:57 p.m.

The Closed Session was extended by 15 minutes at 2:12 p.m.

The Closed Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 2:27 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk