



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 3423 3126

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84834233126 Passcode: 349099

November 17, 2020

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

All Council Members participated virtually.

FLAG SALUTE

Deputy Mayor Blocker 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 Deputy Mayor Blocker.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

In honor of those who have lost their lives to or have been impacted by COVID-19 and systemic racism.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [20-0849](#) Minutes of the Community's Police Advisory Committee, October 12, 2020.
2. [20-0847](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, September 29, 2020.
3. [20-0848](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, October 13, 2020.
4. [20-0837](#) Minutes of the Tacoma Arts Commission, October 12, 2020.
5. [20-0851](#) List of names and informal petition regarding justice for Manuel Ellis and defunding the police.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS

6. [RES40686](#) A resolution setting Monday, December 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., as the date for a hearing by the Hearing Examiner to consider Local Improvement District No. 8667, for placement of permanent street pavement with a structural section, concrete curbs, gutters, surface water mains, and catch basins at the following locations: Ruby Street from Baltimore Street to Shirley Street and Mullen Street from North 46th Street to North 47th Street.
[Ralph Rodriguez, LID Administrator; Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Director, Public Works; Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

7. [RES40687](#) A resolution setting Monday, December 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., as the date for a hearing by the Hearing Examiner to consider Local Improvement District No. 8669, for placement of permanent street pavement with a structural section, concrete curbs, gutters, sidewalks, surface water mains, and catch basins, at Fir Street from North 13th Street to North 15th Street.
[Ralph Rodriguez, LID Administrator; Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Director, Public Works; Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

8. [RES40688](#) A resolution setting Monday, December 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., as the date for a hearing by the Hearing Examiner to consider Local Improvement District No. 8670, for placement of permanent street pavement with a structural section, concrete curbs, gutters, surface water mains, and catch basins, at Ferry Street from South 12th Street to South 14th Street.
[Ralph Rodriguez, LID Administrator; Kurtis D. Kingsolver, P.E., Director, Public Works; Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution Nos. 40686 through 40688.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution Nos. 40686 through 40688. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 9. [20-0853](#) Proclaiming November 16-22, 2020, as National Drone Safety Awareness Week.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed November 16-22, 2020, as National Drone Safety Awareness Week and presented the proclamation to Ms. Jackie Beckwith, Manager of Advocacy and Government Relations, Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International.

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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to suspend the rules to consider Item No. 11, Ordinance No. 28699, at this time.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

- 11. [ORD28699](#) An ordinance authorizing Tacoma Rail to update the Rail Rate Policy to include a Volume Incentive Fund.
[Dan McCabe, Rail Chief Information and Financial Officer; Dale King, Rail Superintendent]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to remove Ordinance No. 28699 from the agenda.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:13 p.m.

The City Clerk’s Office received nine written comments for Public Comment on Ordinance No. 28717, adopting the Capital Facilities Program and Capital Budget; and Ordinance No. 28718, adopting the Biennial Operating Budget.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Kit Burns, speaking on Ordinance Nos. 28710 and 28711.
2. Megan Capes, speaking on Ordinance No. 28718.
3. Anique Zimmer, speaking on Ordinance No. 28718.
4. Jonathan Pottle, speaking on Ordinance No. 28718.
5. Lukas, speaking on Ordinance No. 28718.
6. Devin Rydel Kelly, speaking on Ordinance No. 28718.
7. Barb Shivers, speaking on Ordinance No. 28718.
8. Josh Strong, speaking on Ordinance No. 28718.

Public Comment ended at 5:29 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to confirm the Mayor’s Emergency Rule No. 4, capping the commission fee to a maximum of 15 percent of the purchase price on delivery or pick-up orders while restaurants are unable to provide unrestricted dine-in service, issued pursuant to the City of Tacoma’s November 15, 2020, Proclamation of Emergency.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

RESOLUTIONS

10. [RES40689](#) A resolution stating a finding of substantial need, and authorizing an increase to the 2021 Ad Valorem property tax revenue collection for the General Fund property tax levy and Emergency Medical Services levy to 1 percent, as the implicit price deflator is less than 1 percent.
[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40689.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

11. [ORD28699](#) An ordinance authorizing Tacoma Rail to update the Rail Rate Policy to include a Volume Incentive Fund.
[Dan McCabe, Rail Chief Information and Financial Officer; Dale King, Rail Superintendent]

Ordinance No. 28699 was removed from the agenda earlier in the meeting.

12. [ORD28700](#) An ordinance authorizing the reissuance of Tacoma Municipal Belt Line 8807 series freight switching tariff, effective January 1, 2021, and a tariff supplement, effective January 1, 2022.
[Dan McCabe, Rail Chief Information and Financial Officer; Dale King, Rail Superintendent]

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28700. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

13. [ORD28701](#) An ordinance amending Title 2 of the Municipal Code, relating to Buildings, to change the name to “Building and Development Code,” to streamline administration for fees and to update language for expanded use, increased flexibility, and other assistance in strategic permit services advancements, and by adding a new Chapter 2.22, entitled “Right-of-Way Development Code,” to provide guidance for permitting construction and maintenance activities with the City right-of-way and other administrative provisions.
[Corey Newton, P.E., Site and Building Manager; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to amend Ordinance No. 28701, Exhibit “A”, Section 2.02.015, to insert the words “with input from the Tacoma Permit Advisory Task Force or any other City Council-appointed permitting advisory body then in existence,” in the first paragraph after the word “Services”, to read as follows:

"The Director of Planning and Development Services, with input from the Tacoma Permit Advisory Task Force or any other City Council-appointed permitting advisory body then in existence, shall have the authority to develop rules, policies, and administrative procedures for, but not limited to, the following items:"

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

The amendment had substantive changes and public comment was taken.

No individuals addressed the City Council.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28701, as amended. The Ordinance, as amended, was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

14. [ORD28702](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Administration; repealing Chapter 6B.50, relating to Ambulances, and reenacting as a new Chapter 3.11; renaming Title 3 from “Fire” to “Fire and Emergency Medical Services”, and adding, amending, and repealing various chapters in Title 3, to modify outdated fee requirements, clarify and add language regarding emergency medical transport, and other administrative updates.
[Teresa Green, Fire Department Manager; Toryono Green, Fire Chief]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28702 was set over for final reading next week.

15. [ORD28703](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.09 of the Municipal Code, relating to Solid Waste, Recycling, and Hazardous Waste, to adjust the 2021 and 2022 rates and charges to include a 1.5 percent increase, effective January 1, 2021, a 2 percent increase, effective January 1, 2022, and a 5 percent increase in low income elderly and low income disabled discount, effective January 1, 2021.
[Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28703 was set over for final reading next week.

16. [ORD28704](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.08 of the Municipal Code, relating to Wastewater and Surface Water Management - Regulation and Rates, to adjust the 2021 and 2022 rates and charges to include a 1.5 percent increase, effective January 1, 2021, a 2 percent increase, effective January 1, 2022, and a 5 percent increase in the low income elderly and low income disabled discount, effective January 1, 2021.
[Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28704 was set over for final reading next week.

17. [ORD28705](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, to add a new Section 12.06.166, entitled “Prepaid residential service - Schedule PR”, to allow for payment of electric service in advance of usage, effective January 1, 2021.

[Bill Berry, Rates, Planning, and Analysis Manager; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28705 was set over for final reading next week.

18. [ORD28706](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, to add a new Section 12.06.373, entitled “Electrofuel service pilot - Schedule EF”, to allow for electrochemical production of low carbon-content fuels usable for transportation or electrical energy storage, effective April 1, 2021.

[Bill Berry, Rates, Planning, and Analysis Manager; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28706 was set over for final reading next week.

19. [ORD28707](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, to add a new Section 12.06.265, entitled “New large load service - Schedule NLL”, to codify the rate to be charged to new large loads to be consistent with other rates, effective April 1, 2021, and April 1, 2022.

[Bill Berry, Rates, Planning, and Analysis Manager; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28707 was set over for final reading next week.

20. [ORD28708](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, to add a new Section 12.06.372, entitled “Shore power - Schedule SP”, to allow ships at the Port of Tacoma to use electric power instead of burning bunker fuel while in port, effective April 1, 2021, and April 1, 2022.

[Bill Berry, Rates, Planning, and Analysis Manager; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28708 was set over for final reading next week.

21. [ORD28709](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, to add a new subsection “E”, entitled “Customer-Owned Generation”, to Section 12.06.215, entitled “General service - Schedule G”, to compensate large customer-owned generators for the value of their excess energy, effective January 1, 2021.
[Bill Berry, Rates, Planning, and Analysis Manager; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28709 was set over for final reading next week.

22. [ORD28710](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.06 of the Municipal Code, relating to Electric Energy - Regulations and Rates, for two rate adjustments of 1.5 percent, effective April 1, 2021, and 2 percent, effective April 1, 2022; and amending Section 12.06.165, to adjust the definition for the threshold of maximum annual household income to qualify for the low-income senior and and/or low-income disabled discount residential service, and increase the amount of discount available for customers who qualify for that service, effective January 1, 2021.
[Bill Berry, Rates, Planning, and Analysis Manager; Chris Robinson, Power Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28710 was set over for final reading next week.

23. [ORD28711](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 12.10 of the Municipal Code, relating to Water - Regulations and Rates, for two rate adjustments of 1.5 percent, effective January 1, 2021, and 2 percent, effective January 1, 2022.
[Jodi Collins, Assistant Water Division Manager; Scott Dewhirst, Water Superintendent]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28711 was set over for final reading next week.

24. [ORD28712](#) An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 20367, to redirect franchise fee revenues from the Special Revenue Fund, previously the Municipal Cable Television Program Fund, to the General Fund, to allow more flexibility in the use of private cable franchise fees.
[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28712 was set over for final reading next week.

25. [ORD28713](#) An ordinance authorizing an increase in the 2020 Ad Valorem general property tax revenue collection in terms of both dollars and percentage for the general property tax levy in 2021.

[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28713 was set over for final reading next week.

26. [ORD28714](#) An ordinance fixing the amount of the Ad Valorem tax levies necessary to identify the amount of the estimated revenues from property tax levies to match estimated expenditures for debt service and other funding requirements.

[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28714 was set over for final reading next week.

27. [ORD28715](#) An ordinance authorizing an increase for the 2021 Emergency Medical Services property tax levy in terms of both dollars and percentage.

[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28715 was set over for final reading next week.

28. [ORD28716](#) An ordinance fixing the amount of the Emergency Medical Services levy necessary to identify the amount of the estimated revenues from the property tax levy to match estimated expenditures for debt service and other funding requirements.

[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28716 was set over for final reading next week.

29. [ORD28717](#) An ordinance adopting the 2021-2026 Capital Facilities Program of the Comprehensive Plan, and adopting the 2021-2022 Capital Budget.

[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28717 was set over for final reading next week.

30. [ORD28718](#) An ordinance adopting the 2021-2022 Biennial Operating Budget.
[Katie Johnston, Budget Officer; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

MOTION: Mayor Woodards moved to amend Exhibit “A” of Ordinance No. 28718, to add \$1,000,000 to the General Fund for the purpose of increasing library funding.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Blocker.

The amendment had substantive changes and public comment was taken.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Jonathan Pottle.
2. Chelsea McElroy.
3. Alexa.
4. Lexi Brewer.
5. Les Pogue, Jr.
6. Devin Rydel Kelly.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to amend Exhibit “A” of Amended Ordinance No. 28718, to add \$480,000 to the General Fund for the purpose of funding Neighborhood Planning.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Blocker.

The amendment had substantive changes and public comment was taken.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Chelsea McElroy.
2. Devin Rydel Kelly.
3. Helen Edwards.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

MOTION: Council Member McCarthy moved to amend Exhibit “A” of Amended Ordinance No. 28718, to add \$120,000 to the General Fund for the purpose of funding opioid services, in partnership with Pierce County.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Blocker.

The amendment had substantive changes and public comment was taken.

Speaking before the City Council:

- 1. Chelsea McElroy.**
- 2. Lukas.**
- 3. Jonathan Pottle.**

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to amend Exhibit “A” of Amended Ordinance No. 28718, to add \$100,000 to the General Fund for the purpose of increasing funding for the Downtown Retail Advocate.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Blocker.

The amendment had substantive changes and public comment was taken.

No individuals addressed the City Council.

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

Ayes: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

ACTION: Amended Ordinance No. 28718, as amended, was set over for final reading next week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Manager Elizabeth Pauli stated that the Proposed Budget Book can be found at cityoftacoma.org/budgetdevelopment and updates regarding homeless shelter expenses and revenue sources will be available at cityoftacoma.org/authorizedencampments. She further stated that the City's Rental Assistance Program has served 493 households and applications are still being awarded. She concluded by reminding the City Council and community that homeless stabilization, mental health, and substance use disorder services are available at shelter sites and encampments.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Community Vitality and Safety Committee

Deputy Mayor Blocker, Chair of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, reported at the November 12, 2020, meeting, the Committee conducted interviews for the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities, and received an update on the Neighborhood and Community Services provider funding approaches for 2021-2022; and stated the next meeting will be a special meeting held on November 19, 2020, at 3:30 p.m., through Zoom, and will include a presentation on 2021-2022 provider funding approaches, and interviews for the Core Coordinating Team for the Heal the Heart of Tacoma initiative.

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Council Member Ushka stated that 258 new COVID-19 cases and one new death were reported in Pierce County today, that cases are rising rapidly across the United States, and encouraged everyone to take precautions.

Mayor Woodards addressed Washington State initiatives to combat COVID-19 and their impacts on small businesses, and encouraged everyone to take personal actions to curb the pandemic, including avoiding gatherings with anyone outside of their households, wearing masks, washing hands, and socially distancing.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk