



Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

<http://www.cityoftacoma.org/GPF>

Tacoma Municipal Building, Room 248, 747 Market Street, Tacoma, Washington 98402

October 2, 2013

Chair Lonergan called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Council Committee Members Present: Campbell, Lonergan, and Mayor Strickland.

Council Committee Members Absent: Thoms (arrived at 4:34 p.m.)

Approval of September 4, 2013 Minutes

Mayor Strickland moved to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2013 meeting. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Campbell. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were approved.

Limited Area Franchise Agreement

At approximately 4:32 p.m., Jeff Lueders, Media and Communications Office, introduced Robin Smith, LightSpeed Networks, Inc. (LSN). He then reviewed the limited area franchise agreement with LSN, including background information, the proposed ordinance, next steps, and recommendations.

Council Member Thoms arrived here, at 4:34 p.m.

Ms. Smith provided an overview of LSN, including shareholders, services offered in Oregon State and Washington State, goals, franchise regulations in Washington State, and the installation process. Discussion ensued regarding network and broadband coverage, and installation impacts to surrounding streets and traffic.

Mayor Strickland moved to forward the limited area franchise agreement with LightSpeed Networks, Inc. to the full council for consideration and adoption. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Campbell. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was adopted.

August Monthly Budget Report

At approximately 4:41 p.m., Tadd Wille, Budget Officer, provided a General Fund update for the 2013-2014 Biennium through August 2013, including revenues, expenditures, supported funds, variances, and next steps. Discussion ensued regarding revenue and expenditure variances, vacancies in the Police and Fire Departments, Police and Fire grants, Lease Hold Tax projections, and business license revenues.

Multi-City Tax Portal

At approximately 4:56 p.m., Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager, provided an overview of the multi-city business license and tax portal, including highlights in 2013. She then reviewed the proposed structure for the portal agency, including legal, governance, decision, costs, and staff;

the scope of services; and next steps. Discussion ensued regarding the domain name, and Business and Occupation (B&O) Taxes, including who is required to pay them, how they are collected, the difference between the multi-city business license and tax portal and Washington State's system, and cost savings from using the new portal. Randy Lewis, Government Relations, reviewed the history and process of collecting B&O taxes at the state level. Council Member Thoms requested information regarding how many full-time employees are needed to collect B&O taxes for the City.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

Christina Watts, City Manager's Office, stated the October 16, 2013 meeting will be a joint meeting with the Audit Advisory Board and topics will include the Federal Program Audit, an update from the Fiscal Sustainability Task Force, and permitting software. Chair Lonergan requested staff add a topic relating to the Committees, Boards, and Commissions that report to this Committee.

Other Items of Interest

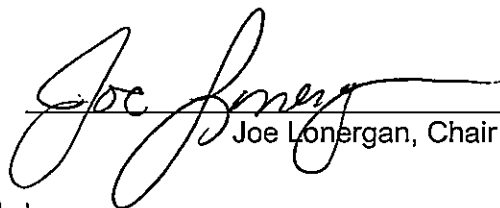
Mr. Lueders stated LSN will be booring on Court E and D; noting South 9th Street will not be affected. Discussion ensued regarding whether LSN is responsible for repairs to roads that may be damaged during the project.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.



Joe Lonergan, Chair



Linnea Meredith, Office Assistant, City Clerk's Office