



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

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

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

March 21, 2023

5:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Daniels

Council Member Daniels arrived at 5:01 p.m.

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Council Member Daniels arrived here, at 5:01 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Rumbaugh 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 Council Member Rumbaugh.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [23-0275](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, November 22, 2022.
2. [23-0266](#) Minutes of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, June 8, 2022.
3. [23-0267](#) Minutes of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, June 22, 2022.
4. [23-0268](#) Minutes of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, August 10, 2022.

5. [23-0269](#) Minutes of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, August 24, 2022.
6. [23-0270](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, October 5, 2022.
7. [23-0271](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board study session, February 8, 2023.
8. [23-0272](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board study session, February 22, 2023.
9. [23-0273](#) Minutes of the Public Utility Board special meeting, February 22, 2023.
10. [23-0278](#) Minutes of the Tacoma Arts Commission, February 13, 2023.
11. [23-0274](#) Minutes of the Tacoma Creates Advisory Board, February 6, 2023.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to suspend the rules to add a letter to tonight’s agenda, under Unfinished Business, supporting the Tacoma Art Museum Workers United organizing efforts.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

CONSENT AGENDA

12. [23-0264](#) Minutes of the Committee of the Whole special meeting, September 13, 2022.
13. [23-0265](#) Minutes of the Committee of the Whole special meeting, September 27, 2022.

PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS

14. [RES41155](#) A resolution authorizing an increase to the contract with MultiCare Behavioral Health, in the amount of \$271,989.72, plus applicable taxes, for a cumulative total of \$887,081.00, budgeted from the Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Fund, for behavioral health crisis intervention for individuals who have contact with law enforcement - Direct Negotiation.
[Vicky McLaurin, Interim Assistant Director; Allyson Griffith, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services]

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

15. [ORD28875](#) An ordinance vacating a portion of South Madison Street, lying south of South 40th Street, and a portion of South 50th Street, lying west of South Madison Street, to facilitate development of an industrial park and associated storm ponds, utility extensions, and parking facilities.
(Bridge Point Tacoma, LLC; File Nos. 124.1432 and 124.1442)
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]
16. [ORD28876](#) An ordinance vacating a portion of South “L” Street, lying north of South 5th Street, and a portion of South 4th Street, lying west of South “L” Street, to facilitate a healthcare redevelopment project.
(MultiCare Health System; File No. 124.1426)
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]
17. [ORD28877](#) An ordinance vacating portions of South 23rd Street and South Cushman Avenue, to cure existing building encroachments.
(SoHo Properties Inc. dba SoHo Properties 2 Inc; File No. 124.1439)
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 41155 and first reading of Ordinance Nos. 28875 through 28877.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to accept the Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations of the Hearing Examiner for Ordinance Nos. 28875 through 28877.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 41155 and setting Ordinance Nos. 28875 through 28877 over to a date to be determined. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

18. [23-0280](#) Proclaiming Saturday, April 1, 2023, as Jerry Cantrell Day.

Mayor Woodards proclaimed Saturday, April 1, 2023, as Jerry Cantrell Day and presented the proclamation to Lynn Carlotto, General Manager, Tacoma City Theaters.

19. [23-0281](#) Compassionate Tacoma Recognition: Community Trauma Response Team.

Mayor Woodards recognized the Community Trauma Response Team and presented the Compassionate Tacoma recognition to Candace Wesley and James Watson, Co-Founders, Tacoma Ceasefire.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:16 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received one written comment for Public Comment on Resolution No. 41159, regarding the McKinley Hill Neighborhood Plan.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Michele Reich, speaking on Resolution No. 41160.
2. David Schroedel, speaking on Resolution No. 41158.
3. Andrea Haug, speaking on Resolution No. 41161.
4. Theresa Evans, speaking on Resolution No. 41159.
5. Dareth Pak, speaking on Resolution No. 41160.
6. April Smith, speaking on Resolution No. 41161.
7. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on Resolution No. 41155.

Public Comment ended at 5:30 p.m.

REGULAR AGENDA

APPOINTMENTS

20. [RES41156](#) A resolution appointing and reappointing individuals to the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities and the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board.
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41156.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS

21. [RES41157](#) A resolution awarding contracts to the following contractors:
- Salt Distributors, Inc., in the amount of \$1,701,840, plus applicable taxes;
 - EnviroTech Services, Inc., in the amount of \$612,000, plus applicable taxes;
- and
- LTI, Inc., in the amount of \$203,652, plus applicable taxes;
- for a cumulative total of \$2,517,492, budgeted from the Street Fund, for the purchase of road salt, for an initial contract period of two years, with the option to renew for four additional one-year periods, for a projected total of \$7,552,476 - Washington State Contract No. 11021.
[Rae Bailey, Street Operations Division Manager; Josh Diekmann, P.E. PTOE, Interim Director, Public Works]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41157.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

RESOLUTIONS

22. [RES41158](#) A resolution continuing the Downtown Tacoma Business Improvement Area (BIA), for the 36th year, providing for levy assessments and other income, in the amount of \$1,688,340; and approving the renewed BIA annual work plan and budget, and assessment of rates from May 1, 2023, through April 30, 2024.
[Debbie Bingham, Business and Economic Development Program Manager;
Jeff Robinson, Director, Community and Economic Development]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41158.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 9 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

23. [RES41159](#) A resolution adopting the McKinley Hill Neighborhood Plan, an implementation strategy of the Comprehensive Plan.
[Lauren Hoogkamer, Principal Planner; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41159.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

24. [RES41160](#) A resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$10,000, to support the first Khmer New Year celebration.
[Council Member Bushnell]

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to adopt Resolution No. 41160.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

25. [RES41161](#) A resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$12,500, to install wheelstops along the east side of South “D” Street, from South 72nd Street to South 74th Street.
[Council Member Bushnell]

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to adopt Resolution No. 41161.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

26. [RES41162](#) A resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$10,000, to support the creation and distribution of 500 care bags with essential hygiene items to youth and young adults in the City.

[Deputy Mayor Walker]

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to adopt Resolution No. 41162.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

27. [RES41163](#) A resolution authorizing the one-time use of Council Contingency Funds, in the amount of \$5,000, to sponsor the Mayor’s Youth Commission of Tacoma 2023 Youth Summit.

[Mayor Woodards]

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to adopt Resolution No. 41163.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

28. [ORD28874](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for employees represented by the Professional and Technical Employees, Local 17, Tacoma Police Department Non-Commissioned Management Unit. [Dylan Carlson, Labor Relations Division Manager; Bill Fosbre, City Attorney]

ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28874.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

29. [ORD28878](#) An ordinance amending Subtitle 6A of the Municipal Code, relating to the Tax Code, by amending Chapter 6A.130, entitled “Local Solid Waste Customer Excise Tax”, to create an exemption for charges to customers who take solid waste to private solid waste disposal facilities consistent with the existing exemption for customers who take solid waste to public solid waste disposal facilities, retroactive to April 1, 2023. [Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

ACTION: Ordinance No. 28878 was set over for final reading on April 4, 2023.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 29A. [23-0298](#) A letter from the City Council supporting the Tacoma Art Museum Workers United organizing efforts.

MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to approve the City Council’s letter supporting the Tacoma Art Museum Workers United organizing efforts.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

City Attorney Bill Fosbre announced that the City has received the Special Achievement in GIS Award from the Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), noting the City was selected for the development, maintenance, and on going use of the software in the City's Equity Index; there were 229 recipients across the world last year with no more than one being selected from any United States state; and the City will be receiving the award at the ESRI's international User Conference during the week of July 10, 2023.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee

Deputy Mayor Walker, Chair of the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee, reported at the March 8, 2023, meeting, the Committee received a presentation on the 2024 Comprehensive Plan; and that the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on March 22, 2023, at 4:30 p.m., and will include a presentation on the Home in Tacoma Project Phase 2.

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Deputy Mayor Walker sent love and best wishes to the City's Muslim community as they began the sacred fast of Ramadan this week. She further expressed appreciation to the Tacoma Fire Department and the Firefighters for their hard work in fighting the fire that was in a vacant building on South 7th Street and Fawcett Avenue today.

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MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to suspend rule 9.C of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma to hold Community Forum on the first Tuesday in the month of April.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 8 - Blocker, Bushnell, Daniels, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Ushka and Walker

Absent: 1 - Mayor Woodards

Deputy Mayor Walker reminded everyone that the March 28, 2023, City Council study session and business meeting have been cancelled, and Community Forum has been moved to the April 4, 2023, meeting.

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Council Member Bushnell recognized that the Bahá'í Faith community in Tacoma celebrated Naw Rúz today, noting the history and significance of the holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk