



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, First Floor, Tacoma WA 98402

Conference Room 16

March 20, 2018

12:00 PM

JOINT MEETING WITH THE PUBLIC UTILITY BOARD

Call to Order

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

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

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Public Utility Board Members:

Present: 5 - Flint, Jones, Larkin, Patterson, and Trudnowski

Council Member Thoms was absent due to military leave.

Joint City Council/Public Utility Board Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Ibsen moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 20 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 5 - Flint, Jones, Larkin, Patterson, and Trudnowski

The Council convened to Executive Session at 12:12 p.m. City Attorneys Bill Fosbre, Chris Bacha, and Tom Morrill were present.

The Executive Session was extended by 5 minutes at 12:32 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 12:37 p.m.

Joint City Council/Public Utility Board Briefing Items

1. [18-0262](#) CTC Energy and Technology Draft RFI/Q Alternative Click! Partnership Models Overview

At approximately 12:40 p.m., Chris Bacha, Chief Deputy City Attorney, made opening remarks and introduced Joanne Hovis, President, CTC Technology and Energy. Ms. Hovis presented the draft request for information and qualifications (RFI/Q) for partnership arrangements for Tacoma Power's Click! Network, including what it is designed for, whom it was created for, what the document is based on, and the approach for drafting the document.

Discussion ensued regarding the timeline, transition plan and timeframe, community engagement process, key drivers for companies interested in a partnership, process deadline regarding release of Appendix A, protection of non-disclosures, the difference between an RFI and an RFQ, the process, and public partnerships. Discussion continued on how many companies or public entities are interested in the proposal, finalization of the dates, and protection of the operation.

2. [18-0263](#) Power Undergrounding Pilot Program

At approximately 1:12 p.m., Linda McCrea, Interim Director, Tacoma Public Utilities, made opening remarks and introduced Rachel Allen, Assistant Manager, Tacoma Power. Ms. Allen made opening remarks and reviewed the Power Undergrounding Pilot Program, including the purpose; context, noting it is specific to underground distribution power lines; and recommended policy action, noting the geographical area, timeframe, and budget. Ms. Allen concluded on next steps and the customer service policy.

Discussion ensued regarding partnerships and rates with development sites, current project eligibility, business impact in the Brewery District, and recognizing the collaborative work of Public Utility Board and staff on the program.

3. [18-0264](#) Update on Recruitment for Director of Utilities

At approximately 1:37 p.m., Monique Trudnowski, Chair, Public Utility Board, introduced Gary Buchanan, Director, Human Resources.

Ms. Trudnowski provided an update on the recruitment for the Director of Utilities, noting the recruitment plan timeline, process, outreach, and feedback. She further reviewed agenda items of upcoming dates on the timeline. Mr. Buchanan described the hiring model and process, including the selection of criteria, assessment of the candidate pool, and selection of finalists.

Discussion ensued regarding the process, amount of applications received and narrowed down to, outreach, follow up information, feedback, equity used in the recruitment process, if candidates were screened before recruited, public engagement, and the type of director Tacoma Public Utilities is looking for. Discussion concluded on the role of the consultant, the Interim Director's contract end date, and City Council interaction.

The joint study session was adjourned at 2:14 p.m. and the regular study session convened at 2:16 p.m.

City Council Briefing Items

4. [18-0265](#) Sound Transit 3 - Tacoma Dome Link Extension, Project and Partnership

At approximately 2:16 p.m., Brian Boudet, Division Manager, Planning and Development Services, made opening remarks and introduced Curvie Hawkins, Project Development Director, Sound Transit, and Chelsea Levy, Government and Community Relations Manager, Sound Transit. Ms. Levy presented an overview of the Sound Transit Tacoma Dome Link Extension, including the Sound Transit District and the System Expansion Program. Mr. Hawkins provided a description of the Tacoma Dome Link Extension, noting length, stations, and daily projected riders; project timeline, including planning, design, and construction; the new approach to project development; and partnering agreements. Ms. Levy reviewed the community engagement; the early scoping process; the schedule; and notifications, including the postcard the community will receive with dates and times of meetings. Mr. Boudet concluded on next steps, early input outlined by the Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee and the Planning Commission; and potential station areas.

Discussion ensued regarding consideration of parking in Tacoma, business impact, and outreach.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

5. [18-0260](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, March 15, 2018

City Manager Pauli stated there are two changes to tonight's City Council meeting, including a proclamation, proclaiming Saturday, March 24, 2018 as March for Our Lives Day, and an amendment to Resolution No. 39948 for the appointment of the Interim City Council District No. 2 position potentially naming the candidate for the position and amending the effective date. She reminded Council Members if they have any questions on tonight's agenda to please let her know so staff can prepare.

Committee Reports

Council Member Ushka stated the Pierce County Regional Council (PCRC) typically puts aside ten percent of the total funding process for public transit. Mayor Ron Lucas made a motion to have it deferred during this funding cycle. She was informing the Council Members of this motion because it will come to the full City Council as an agenda item and a vote for the PCRC at the next meeting.

Joint City Council/Public Utility Board Executive Session - Pending Litigation

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

SECONDED BY: Council Member Ushka.

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

Ayes: 5 - Flint, Jones, Larkin, Patterson, and Trudnowski

The Council convened to Executive Session at 2:48 p.m. City Attorneys Bill Fosbre, Chris Bacha, and Tom Morrill were present.

The Executive Session was extended by 5 minutes at 3:03 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 3:08 p.m.

Executive Session - Evaluate Interim City Council Position No. 2 Finalists' Qualifications

MOTION: Mayor Woodards moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of Interim City Council District No. 2 finalists' qualifications, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Ibsen.

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 3:13 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded and the study session reconvened at 3:28 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk