



City of Tacoma City Council Study Session Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma WA 98402

Council Chambers

October 28, 2014

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Deputy Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:08 p.m.

Present: 7 - Boe, Campbell, Ibsen, Lonergan, Mello, Walker and Woodards

Absent: 2 - Thoms and Mayor Strickland

Council Member Thoms arrived at 12:16 p.m. and Mayor Strickland arrived at 12:28 p.m.

Briefing Items

1. 14-1045 Budget Work Session - Tacoma Public Library

City Manager T.C. Broadnax provided an overview of today's budget presentations.

Council Member Thoms arrived here, at 12:16 p.m.

Susan Odencrantz, Tacoma Public Library Director, reported on the structure of the organization, and 2013-2014 major accomplishments, including the 90-second Newbury Film competition, expansion and increased use of digital materials, the major upgrade of integrated library system software, roll-out of a library app for mobile services, and the Moore Branch renovation. She concluded by providing an overview of the the proposed 2015-2016 budget related to the General Fund by program and cost category.

Mayor Strickland arrived here, at 12:28 p.m.

Discussion ensued regarding employment reductions, other possible options, the importance of keeping services to the public, and what the Council could do about this situation.

Ms. Odencrantz concluded by reviewing the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Initiative, and 2015-2016 major initiatives related to library materials; expanded services to students in the Tacoma School District, Bates Technical

College, and Tacoma Community College; and the new website which includes a new platform for the Northwest Room archives. Discussion ensued regarding the updated website design, library material fines, and the ability to have library services available to school-aged children.

2. 14-1047 Budget Work Session - Community and Economic Development Department

Ricardo Noguera, Community and Economic Development Director, provided an overview of the department, including the mission statement; organizational structure; and 2013-2014 major accomplishments related to new and expanded development, residential and mixed-use development, the Local Employment and Apprenticeship program, the Small Business Enterprise program, support for arts and cultural events, and assistance for first time homebuyers. He then provided an overview of the proposed 2015-2016 budget, including all funds by program and cost category, the General Fund, and non-departmental funds; and General Fund reductions and efficiencies related to maintenance and operations, labor, arts maintenance, and professional services and travel.

Mr. Noguera then reviewed enhancements related to Neighborhood Council support and innovative grants, and special events; and economic development projects, including the Lincoln Business District, South Tacoma Business District, and catalytic economic development. He concluded by reviewing 2015-2016 major initiatives, and key performance measures. Discussion ensued regarding the tools utilized in correspondence to the Department of Housing and Urban Development program, program funding options, restoration of the buildings and requirements that must be met to become a tenant, and investing in economic development. Discussion continued on community events and key performance measures. Mayor Strickland requested a list of positive press the City has received over the last year.

3. 14-1046 Budget Work Session - Neighborhood and Community Services Department

Nadia Chandler Hardy, Neighborhood and Community Services Director, provided an overview of the department, including the mission statement, organization structure, and 2013-2014 major accomplishments related to community and human services. She then provided an overview of the proposed 2015-2016 budget, including all funds by program and cost category, the General Fund by cost category, non-departmental funds and structural changes, and community funding. Ms. Hardy provided updates to the community services competitive process and the mental health and substance use disorder competitive process, and reviewed non-competitive funding. She concluded by reviewing department reductions and efficiencies, enhancements, 2015-2016 major initiatives, and key performance measures. Discussion ensued regarding the interaction of programs, including Tacoma Cares and the Mental Health Substance Use Disorder Initiative, and competitive funding.

Deputy Mayor Woodards requested the total amount of competitive funds compared to last biennium.

Mr. Broadnax thanked staff for their hard work in preparing the presentations, and noted the next budget work session will be on Tuesday, November 4, 2014, at noon in the City Council chambers, and will include presentations from the Fire and Police departments.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

4. **14-1048** Weekly Report to the City Council, October 23, 2014

Mr. Broadnax stated there will be two proclamations, proclaiming November 14, 2014 as Hip-Hop History Month and November 1, 2014 as Job Carr Day. He noted there will also be a presentation from Tacoma Firefighters Local 31 at tonight's meeting, and there may be a request for further clarification on Resolution No. 39038 related to designating four properties as historic landmarks and placing them on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

Adjournment

There being no further business the study session was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

Victoria Woodards, Deputy Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk