



# City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

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

Webinar Link: [www.zoom.us/j/84834233126](https://www.zoom.us/j/84834233126) Passcode: 349099

**June 29, 2021**

**5:00 PM**

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

All Council Members participated virtually.

## **FLAG SALUTE**

Council Member McCarthy 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 McCarthy.

## **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. [21-0606](#) Minutes of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, April 28, 2021.
2. [21-0607](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, March 3, 2021.
3. [21-0608](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, March 17, 2021.
4. [21-0609](#) Minutes of the Planning Commission, April 7, 2021.

## CONSENT AGENDA

5. [21-0630](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, March 23, 2021.
6. [21-0631](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, March 30, 2021.
7. [21-0633](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, April 6, 2021.
8. [21-0634](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, April 13, 2021.
9. [21-0635](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, April 20, 2021.

## RESOLUTIONS

10. [RES40807](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fircrest to provide access to the Leach Creek Holding Basin for maintenance and operations of the Fircrest outfalls.  
[John Burk, P.E., Division Manager, Science & Engineering Division;  
Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

## FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES

11. [ORD28732](#) An ordinance vacating that portion of East “K” Street, and an adjoining alley, lying between East 26th Street and East Wiley Avenue and westerly of East “L” Street, for business development and expansion.  
(Nielsen Pacific, LTD.; File No. 124.1421)  
[Jeff H. Capell, Hearing Examiner]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40807 and final reading of Ordinance No. 28732.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution No. 40807 and final reading of Ordinance No. 28732. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.**

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

## PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.     [21-0637](#)     Recognizing Michael Mirra, Executive Director, Tacoma Housing Authority.
- Mayor Woodards recognized Michael Mirra, Executive Director, Tacoma Housing Authority, and presented the recognition to Mr. Mirra.
13.     [21-0639](#)     Proclaiming Wednesday, June 30, 2021, as “Welcome Back, Tacoma!” Day.
- Mayor Woodards proclaimed Wednesday, June 30, 2021, as “Welcome Back, Tacoma!” Day and presented the proclamation to Bruce Kendall, President and CEO, Tacoma-Pierce County Economic Development Board, and Tom Pierson, President and CEO, Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber.
14.     [21-0640](#)     Proclaiming July 12-16, 2021, as Summer Learning Week.
- Mayor Woodards proclaimed July 12-16, 2021, as Summer Learning Week and presented the proclamation to Leandra Shelton, Expanded Learning and Community Engagement Manager, Foundation for Tacoma Students.
15.     [21-0636](#)     Proclaiming July 2021 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month.
- Mayor Woodards proclaimed July 2021 as LGBTQIA+ Pride Month and presented the proclamation to Troy Christensen, Executive Director, and Marshall Samuela, Celebration Manager, Rainbow Center; and Chris Larsen, President, Queer City Collective.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment began at 5:58 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received one written comment for Public Comment on Ordinance No. 28770, regarding eliminating the eight-year Multi-Family Property Tax Exemption in mixed-use centers designated "very high" opportunity based on the City's Equity Index.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Kathy Lawhon, speaking on the recognition of Michael Mirra.
2. Megan Capes, speaking on Ordinance No. 28770.

Public Comment ended at 6:02 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### RESOLUTIONS

16.     [RES40808](#)     A resolution rescinding the designation of the Tacoma Totem Pole, located at Firefighters' Park, from the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.  
[Reuben McKnight, Historic Preservation Officer; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to adopt Resolution No. 40808.**

**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

17.     [ORD28770](#)     (Continued from the meeting of September 28, 2021) An ordinance amending Chapter 6A.110 of the Municipal Code, entitled “Property Tax Exemptions for Multi-Family Housing”, to eliminate the eight-year Multi-Family Property Tax Exemption in mixed-use centers designated “very high” opportunity, based on the City’s Equity Index, effective 90 days after passage of this ordinance.  
[Council Member Hines]

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to refer Ordinance No. 28770 to a Council Committee to be determined by a committee of the chairs of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, Economic Development Committee, Government Performance and Finance Committee, and Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee. Committee chairs will report the assigned committee to the Mayor who will inform the Council. The assigned committee will review and propose recommendations to Ordinance No. 28770 to the City Council at a Study Session or Committee of the Whole meeting no later than October 1, 2021. This will allow us to correlate this with Home in Tacoma Phase I as well as with the roll-out of the affordable housing tax usage.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**Mayor Woodards made a friendly amendment to send Ordinance No. 28770 to the Government Performance and Finance Committee, and that all three Chairs working on housing, meet once a month with staff to discuss all the housing issues that are within all three Committees.**

**The friendly amendment was accepted by Council Member Ushka.**

**ACTION: Roll call vote was requested and taken. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes: 7 - Beale, Blocker, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka and Mayor Woodards**

**Nays: 2 - Hines and Walker**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER

Deputy City Manager Tadd Willie informed everyone that the City has activated the Lighthouse Activity Center as a cooling center.

## COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

### Community Vitality and Safety Committee

This item was not addressed.

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Mayor Woodards expressed appreciation to staff from Tacoma Public Utilities, Niagara Bottling Company, Catholic Community Services, and the Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness, for their work delivering and distributing bottled water to individuals at various encampments over the weekend. She concluded by reviewing the timeline for returning to in-person meetings, and reminded everyone that June 30, 2021, is "Welcome Back, Tacoma!" Day, at 11:00 a.m., at Wright Park.

Council Member Hunter reminded everyone that personal fireworks are illegal within the City limits, the July 6, 2021, City Council study session and business meeting have been cancelled, and wished everyone a happy and safe Fourth of July.

## ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

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Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

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Doris Sorum, City Clerk