



City of Tacoma

Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248
Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 844 1669 0206
Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84416690206 Passcode: 614650
November 21, 2023
10:00 AM

Chair John Hines, Vice Chair Kristina Walker, Joe Bushnell,
Sarah Rumbaugh, Kiara Daniels (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Hines called the meeting to order at 10:01a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Briefing Items

1. [23-1135](#) Board of Ethics Interviews
[Nicole Emery, City Clerk]

At approximately 10:03 a.m., Nicole Emery, City Clerk, informed the Committee that they would be interviewing two applicants for the Board of Ethics to fill two positions, effective January 1, 2024, for a three-year term.

The Committee interviewed Chelsea McElroy and Nelson Rascon.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the Board of Ethics applicants.

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to recommend the reappointment of Chelsea McElroy to the Board of Ethics to serve a three-year term, effective January 1, 2024, to expire December 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bushnell.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to recommend the appointment of Nelson Rascon to the Board of Ethics to fill an unexpired term, to expire December 31, 2025.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bushnell.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Rumbaugh moved to recommend Jesus Carlos as the first person on the short list for the Board of Ethics, which will be effective until November 2024.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bushnell.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

2. [23-1136](#) Amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 6A.30 - Job Tax Credit [Danielle Larson, Tax & License Manager, Finance]

At approximately 10:26 a.m., Kris Oldenberg, Audit and Compliance Manager, Finance, presented on the proposed amendments to the Tacoma Municipal Code 6A.30 related to Job Tax Credits including an overview; background, noting four job credits available to offset the City Business and Occupation tax; issues, noting the Green Economic Development strategy; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding available tax credits, staff investment, job credits, hourly wage increase, and green businesses.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to forward the proposed amendments to Chapter 6A.30 of the Municipal Code relating to Tacoma’s Green Job Tax Credit to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Bushnell.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

3. [23-1138](#) Amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code Chapter 6A.30 - Business & Occupation Tax - New Job Credit - Work Opportunity
[Christina Caan, Policy Analyst, City Manager’s Office;
Kris Oldenburg, Audit & Compliance Manager, Finance]

At approximately 10:44 a.m., Christina Caan, Policy Analyst, City Manager’s Office and Oldenburg, presented on the proposed Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), including an overview; background, noting the definition of a disability; employment rates; and that the City of Tacoma was the first City in Washington to provide a credit against local businesses; tax for every new family wage job a business creates. Caan continued with the issues, noting that federal and state offices that work with individuals with disabilities agree that employment is the most direct and cost effective means to empowering these individuals; proposed amendment, noting the (WOTC) is a federal program that was launched in 1996; intended outcomes; fiscal impact; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding full time and part time positions, hourly wage criteria, qualifications of hiring, tax credit guidelines, and referrals.

MOTION: Council Member Bushnell moved to forward the proposed amendments to Chapter 6A.30 of the Municipal Code to create a new Work Opportunity Tax Credit to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Rumbaugh.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

4. [23-1139](#) Amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code Title 3 - Emergency Medical Services [Teresa Green, Senior Business Services Manager, Fire]

At approximately 11:00 a.m., Teresa Green, Senior Business Services Manager, Fire, presented on the proposed amendments to Tacoma Municipal Code Title 3 – Emergency Medical Services, to restore the emergency medical services levy and allow the levy to pay for medical transport charges incurred by qualified city residents, as passed by voters in Proposition 1 in the August 1, 2023, primary election.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the timeline to bring the proposed amendment forward, transportation costs, and staffing.

MOTION: Council Member Bushnell moved to forward the proposed amendments to Chapter 3.11 of the Municipal Code relating to Emergency Medical Transportation to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Rumbaugh.

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

Ayes: 4 - Bushnell, Hines, Rumbaugh and Walker

5. [23-1137](#) Clean Fuels Program [Breanna Chance, Principal Power Energy Conservation Analyst; Aimee Higby, Principal Power Energy Portfolio Analyst, Tacoma Power]

At approximately 11:05 a.m., Breanna Chance, Principal Power Conservation Analyst, Tacoma Power, presented on the clean fuels program including what the clean fuel program is, noting deficiencies and credits; registration and credit generation; reporting and receiving credits; base credit spending requirements; credits received date; key dates; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding dates for which credits are received; when to sell credits; how to spend credits; multimodal projects; credit limitations; multiple departments working together; incentives; who buys the credits; ownership of credits; base credits; new development of electric charging stations; credits generated through general government and Tacoma Public Utilities; possibility of tax incentives; equability and access to charging station development; and working with public institutions.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

6. [23-1140](#) December 5, 2023 - Charter Review Committee Interviews
December 19, 2023 - Monthly Budget Update

D'Angelo Baker, Committee Liaison, stated that the next meeting will be on December 5, 2023, and will include Charter Review Committee interviews; and the December 19, 2023, meeting will include a monthly budget update and the Multi-Family Tax Exemption (MFTE) 2023 recap.

Chair Hines noted that the December 5, 2023, meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m., and the December 19, 2023, MFTE meeting was put on the schedule due to the three year time frame.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

John Hines, Chair

Kimberly Kerby, City Clerk's Office