



City of Tacoma

Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

October 01, 2019

10:00 AM

Chair Anders Ibsen, Vice Chair Lillian Hunter, Keith Blocker,
Ryan Mello, Robert Thoms (alternate)

Call To Order

Chair Ibsen called the meeting to order at 10:12 a.m.

Present: 3 - Blocker, Ibsen and Mello

Absent: 1 - Hunter

Approval of Minutes

1. [19-1077](#) Approval of the minutes of the September 17, 2019 meeting

MOTION: Council Member Mello moved to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2019 meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.

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

Ayes: 3 - Blocker, Ibsen and Mello

Absent: 1 - Hunter

Briefing Items

2. [19-1078](#) Tacoma Employees' Retirement System Update
[Tim Allen, Director, Retirement Systems]

At approximately 10:12 a.m., Tim Allen, Director, Retirement Systems presented an update on the Tacoma Employees' Retirement System (TERS) related to the TERS investment portfolio, including the steps taken by the TERS Board of Administration. He outlined Environmental, Social,

and Governance (ESG) related actions, noting raising awareness; monthly meetings; meeting fiduciary responsibilities; the Investment Advisory Council; how existing managers incorporate ESG into investment process and business lines; ESG data scores; the Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark rating; investing in companies that reduce the demand of fossil fuels, companies that focus on energy efficient retrofit projects, and renewable energy projects; sustainability; local impacts of climate change; and next steps.

Discussion ensued regarding socially responsible investing, mutual funds, commingled structures, holdings in carbon intensive companies, where ESG is going, investments in renewable infrastructures, total amount of the TERS portfolio, long-range health and sustainability of the fund, principles of sustainability, and increasing volatility of fossil fuel companies.

3. [19-1079](#) Tacoma Municipal Code Title 18 - Minimum Wage and Paid Sick Leave Employment Standards
[Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager, Finance]

At approximately 10:34 a.m., Danielle Larson, Tax and License Manager, Finance, made opening remarks and presented the recommended repeal of Title 18 of the Tacoma Municipal Code, including an overview; background, noting the Tacoma Municipal Code adoption, Washington State Initiative 1433, new State laws, and employment standards enforcement data; issues regarding minimum wage and paid sick leave; next steps; and recommendations.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding whether complaints are anonymous at the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) level, punitive damages, retaliation being illegal, outreach prior to the recommended change, City and State minimum wage and cost of living adjustments, differences between State and City paid sick leave programs, accruing paid vacation, doctor's note requirements, bringing the appeal recommendation back to a later Government Performance and Finance Committee meeting, having a member of L&I's enforcement department join the next discussion, the City's cost of implementing enforcement of State law, and a process to ensure City employees have support to engage with L&I.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [19-1080](#) October 15, 2019 - TBD, Potential Audit Advisory Board Meeting
November 5, 2019 - Title 6 in response to HB 1403

Andy Cherullo, Executive Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on

October 15, 2019, and will be a quarterly audit advisory meeting.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Anders Ibsen, Chair

Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office