



City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

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

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84834233126 Passcode: 349099

February 23, 2021

6:00 PM

VIRTUAL FORUM

Virtual Forum will begin at 6:00 p.m., or in the event the regular meeting of the City Council adjourns after 6:00 p.m., promptly following such adjournment.

The purpose of the Virtual Forum is to give community members an additional opportunity to share their thoughts and views to assist the Council in making policy decisions; therefore, items of discussion shall be limited to matters over which the City Council has jurisdiction. No action shall be taken by the City Council during the Virtual Forum.

Attendance for this Forum is available by phone by dialing 253-215-8782 or through Zoom at www.zoom.us/j/84834233126 and entering the Meeting ID 848 3423 3126 and Passcode 349099, when prompted. To sign up to speak during Community Member Comments, press the Raise Hand button near the bottom of your Zoom window or *9 on your phone. Your name or the last four digits of your phone number will be called out when it is your turn to speak. All speakers will have up to 90 seconds to speak. Where necessary, due to the number of persons who want to address the Council, the presiding officer shall retain authority to limit all persons' remarks to an equal period of less than 90 seconds.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the Virtual Forum to order at 6:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 2 - Beale and McCarthy

Council Member Beale arrived at 6:10 p.m.

All Council Members participated virtually.

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Council Member Beale arrived here, at 6:10 p.m.

COMMUNITY MEMBER COMMENTS

Community Member Comments began at 6:11 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received five written comments for Community Member Comments, regarding employee hazard pay.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Michael Whalen Jr., regarding employee hazard pay.
2. Alyssa Pierce, regarding employee hazard pay.
3. Les Pogue Jr., regarding the Tacoma Police Department (TPD).
4. Clara, regarding the Affordable Housing Action Strategy.
5. Stefan Agyemang, regarding representation and compensation for Committee, Board, and Commission members.
6. Amanda T., regarding employee hazard pay.
7. Jessa, regarding Manuel Ellis and the TPD.
8. Eva, regarding employee hazard pay.
9. Theresa Evans, regarding employee hazard pay, the opioid crisis, and the TPD.
10. Kathy Lawhon, regarding employee hazard pay, the TPD, protests, and COVID-19 vaccines.
11. Renee, regarding employee hazard pay.
12. Christopher Bower, regarding employee hazard pay.
13. Laurie Arnold, regarding the TPD and the mental health crisis.

Community Member Comments ended at 6:34 p.m.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Council Member Thoms addressed comments relating to the TPD.

Council Member Beale addressed comments relating to employee hazard pay.

Mayor Woodards announced a draft ordinance regarding employee hazard pay will be on the study session agenda next week for review.

Council Member Hunter expressed appreciation for the draft ordinance regarding employee hazard pay and addressed a comment relating to COVID-19 vaccines.

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MOTION: Deputy Mayor Blocker moved to excuse Council Member McCarthy from the meeting.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

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Mayor Woodards expressed appreciation for the speakers who attended, and reminded everyone that COVID-19 still exists and to wear their masks, wash their hands, and social distance. She concluded by inviting everyone to a COVID-19 memorial in the parking lot of the Tacoma Dome, on Monday, March 1, 2021, to designate that day as COVID-19 Memorial Day.

ADJOURNMENT

On proper motion, the Virtual Forum was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk