



City of Tacoma

Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 844 1669 0206

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84416690206 Passcode: 614650

April 06, 2021

10:00 AM

Chair John Hines, Vice Chair Lillian Hunter, Robert Thoms,
Kristina Walker, Keith Blocker (alternate), Mark Patterson (ex officio)

Call To Order

Chair Hunter called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Hines, Hunter and Thoms

Absent: 1 - Walker

Ex Officio Bryan Flint was also present.

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [21-0331](#) Election of the Committee Chair and Vice Chair

Council Member Hunter resigned from her position as Chair of the Government Performance and Finance Committee for the year 2021.

MOTION: Council Member Hunter moved to elect Council Member Hines as Chair of the Government Performance and Finance Committee for the year 2021.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

Ayes: 3 - Hines, Hunter and Thoms

Absent: 1 - Walker

Council Member Hines resigned from his position as Vice Chair of the Government Performance and Finance Committee for the year 2021 and

accepted the position as Chair.

21-0331

Election of the Committee Chair and Vice Chair

MOTION: Council Member Thoms moved to elect Council Member Hunter as Vice Chair of the Government Performance and Finance Committee for the year 2021.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hunter.

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

Ayes: 3 - Hines, Hunter and Thoms

Absent: 1 - Walker

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Public Comment was heard from:

1. Kit Burns, speaking on Advanced Electric and Water Meters.

2. **21-0329**

Advanced Electric and Water Meters Program Update

[Joe Tellez, Chief Technology Officer; Andre Pedferri, Advanced Meter Program Manager; and Matt Hubbard, Advanced Meter Program Workstream and Change Management Lead, Tacoma Public Utilities]

At approximately 10:17 a.m., Joe Tellez, Chief Technology Officer, Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU), reviewed TPU's utility modernization strategy, noting the advanced metering deployment, digital engagement, advanced data analytics, workforce management, cybersecurity, energy imbalance market, and the Geospatial systems. Matt Hubbard, Advanced Meter Program Workstream and Change Management Lead, TPU, presented an overview of the advanced electric and water meters program, including the advanced meter infrastructure components; the advanced metering deployment budget, noting grant funding, total project cost, a rate impact analysis, and an opt-out policy; an advanced metering business case, noting return on investment evaluation and conclusions; and responses to community member questions. Mr. Hubbard further outlined customer and operational benefits, including utility benefits, noting meter upgrades, improved forecasting and modeling, improved asset management and resiliency, and improved operational efficiency and safety; customer benefits, noting monthly billing, budget billing, prepay options, selectable bill due dates, and enhanced outage detection; additional benefits as a TPU customer and as a TPU engineer; and target dates for 2021.

Discussion ensued regarding support from the Public Utility Board, having forward thinking and recognizing the benefits of advanced meters, 2016 study of customers with broadband access, the additional cost increase each year for the next ten years, when the original meters would need replacement if the program is halted, and real-time knowledge of usage.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

3. [21-0330](#) April 20, 2021 - Mental Health Tax Update
 May 4, 2021 - Power Financial Plan Review

Ted Richardson, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be held on April 20, 2021, and will include a presentation on the mental health tax; and the May 4, 2021, meeting will include a presentation on Tacoma Power's financial plan.

Other Items of Interest

Chair Hines requested information on how TPU is involved in the program to receive credits by selling carbon-free power for electric vehicle charging.

Public Comment

Public comment was heard earlier in the meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

John Hines, Chair

Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office