



# City of Tacoma City Council Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Council Chambers

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

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

**December 12, 2023**

**5:00 PM**

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## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Woodards called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

## ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

## FLAG SALUTE

Council Member Bushnell 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 Bushnell.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE

## ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

1. [23-1208](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, February 28, 2023.
2. [23-1209](#) Minutes of the Economic Development Committee, April 25, 2023.
3. [23-1205](#) Minutes of the Government Performance and Finance Committee, May 2, 2023.

## AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no modifications to the agenda.

## CONSENT AGENDA

4. [23-1191](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, May 2, 2023.
5. [23-1202](#) Minutes of the City Council study session, May 9, 2023.
6. [23-1163](#) Minutes of the City Council meeting, May 16, 2023.
7. [23-1222](#) A letter from the City Council supporting Mi Centro's request for funding in the Washington State Operating Budget.

## PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS

8. [RES41312](#) A resolution authorizing an increase to and extending the contract with Franke Tobey Jones, in the amount of \$400,000, plus applicable taxes, not to exceed \$632,960, budgeted from the General Fund, for senior services at the Beacon and Lighthouse Senior Activity Centers, through December 31, 2024 - Contract No. CW2259250.  
[Vicky McLaurin, Interim Assistant Director; Allyson Griffith, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services]
9. [RES41313](#) A resolution awarding a contract to Valeo Vocation, in the amount of \$968,625, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the Human Rights and Human Services Fund and General Fund, for services at the young adult day and night shelter at Beacon Senior Activity Center - Specification No. NC23-0177F.  
[Vicky McLaurin, Interim Assistant Director; Allyson Griffith, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services]

## RESOLUTIONS

10. [RES41314](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, to accept up to an additional \$50,000, for the piloting and installation of traffic gardens and safety events, and to extend the agreement through June 30, 2025.  
[Cailin Henley, Safe Routes to School Coordinator;  
Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E. PgMP, Director, Public Works]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution Nos. 41312 through 41314.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried to adopt the Consent Agenda, including Resolution Nos. 41312 through 41314. The Consent Agenda was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

## **PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITIONS/PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

11. [23-1212](#) Compassionate Tacoma Recognition: Patricia Albuquerque, Marina Marconi, and Pedro Moura.

Mayor Woodards presented the Compassionate Tacoma recognition to Patricia Albuquerque, Marina Marconi, and Pedro Moura.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public comment began at 5:11 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received five written comments for public comment, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Kenzie Knapp, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.
2. Theresa Evans, regarding Ordinance No. 28924.
3. April Smith, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.
4. Willie Stewart, regarding Resolution No. 41319.
5. Elizabeth Bonbright, regarding Resolution No. 41319.
6. Tom Giske, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.
7. Courtney Davis, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.
8. Michele Reich, regarding Resolution No. 41316.
9. Sean Arent, regarding Resolution No. 41317.
10. Lowell Wyse, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.
11. Michael Sein-Ryan, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.
12. Kit Burns, speaking on Ordinance No. 28926.
13. Michael Yadrick, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.
14. Tony Ivey, regarding Ordinance No. 28926.

Public comment ended at 5:33 p.m.

## REGULAR AGENDA

### APPOINTMENTS

12. [RES41315](#) A resolution appointing and reappointing individuals to the Board of Ethics.  
[Nicole Emery, City Clerk; Chris Bacha, Interim City Attorney]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41315.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

### PURCHASE RESOLUTIONS

13. [RES41316](#) A resolution increasing and extending the contract with Comprehensive Mental Health Center of Tacoma-Pierce County d.b.a. Comprehensive Life Resources, in the amount of \$400,000.00, plus applicable taxes, for a cumulative total of \$2,147,312.82, budgeted from the Human Rights and Human Services Fund, to extend the performance and termination date of the New Beginnings program scope of work for one year, through December 31, 2024, for services at the Park Place Residential Treatment Facility - Specification No. NC22-0106F.  
[Vicky McLaurin, Interim Assistant Director; Allyson Griffith, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41316.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

## RESOLUTIONS

14. [RES41317](#) A resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with Harold LeMay Enterprises, Incorporated, d.b.a. Pierce County Refuse, in the amount of \$325,000, budgeted from the Solid Waste Fund, to purchase the franchise rights for solid waste collection in the Manitou Potential Annexation Area, effective April 1, 2024.  
[Lewis Griffith, P.E., Solid Waste Management Division Manager;  
Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director; Environmental Services]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41317.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

15. [RES41318](#) A resolution approving the cancellation of the following seven regular City Council meetings in 2024: January 2, January 16, March 12, May 28, September 3, December 24, and December 31.  
[Mayor Woodards]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to amend Resolution No. 41318 by striking references to January 16 and adding November 26 to the listed dates.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The Resolution, as amended, was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

- 16.     [RES41319](#)     A resolution expressing support for the passage of Proposition No. 1, submitted by Tacoma School District No. 10 at the February 13, 2024, Special Election, which reads as follows:

TACOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10  
 SPECIAL ELECTION - PROPOSITION NO. 1  
 BONDS FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS  
 AND SAFETY UPGRADES

The Board of Directors of Tacoma School District No. 10 adopted Resolution No. 2130, concerning neighborhood school improvements and safety upgrades districtwide. If approved, Proposition No. 1 would authorize the District to: replace or renovate eleven aging neighborhood schools; make districtwide K-12 classroom and learning environment improvements; repair deteriorating roofs; implement health, security and seismic upgrades; improve ADA accessibility, playgrounds/athletic facilities; repair plumbing/HVAC systems for clean water and safe air; make other capital improvements; issue \$650,000,000 of general obligation bonds maturing within 25 years; and levy annual excess property taxes to repay the bonds, all as provided in Resolution No. 2130.

Should Proposition No. 1 be:

Approved..... [ ]  
 Rejected..... [ ]

[Mayor Woodards]

**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to adopt Resolution No. 41319.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**

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

**Ayes:** 6 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

**Abstain:** 1 - Hines

**FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

17. [ORD28924](#) An ordinance authorizing the annexation of the Manitou Potential Annexation Area, located near Lakewood Drive West and 66th Street West, to the City of Tacoma, effective April 1, 2024, as set forth in the Interlocal Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with Pierce County executed on December 15, 2021.  
[Wesley Rhodes, Senior Planner; Peter Huffman, Director, Planning and Development Services]

**ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28924. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

18. [ORD28925](#) A substitute ordinance amending Chapter 1.12 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Compensation Plan, to implement rates of pay and compensation for certain represented and nonrepresented employees; and changes in classifications to reflect the organizational structure.  
[Kari L. Louie, Assistant Director; Shelby Fritz, Director, Human Resources]

**ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28925. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

19. [ORD28926](#) An ordinance amending Title 9 of the Municipal Code, relating to Public Ways, by repealing Chapters 9.18, 9.19, and 9.20 in their entirety and replacing Chapter 9.20 with a new chapter entitled “Urban Forestry”, to establish permit requirements and related regulations for pruning, removal, and planting of street trees, establish policies and procedures for discretionary review of requests to prune trees on public property, establish a heritage tree program, and provide for enforcement and penalties for violations; amending Title 1 of the Municipal Code, relating to Administration and Personnel, by amending Chapter 1.23 of the Municipal Code, entitled “Hearing Examiner”, to provide for administrative appeals; and establishing effective dates.  
[Michael Carey, Urban Forest Program Manager; Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services]

**ACTION: Roll call vote was taken on Ordinance No. 28926. The Ordinance was declared passed by the following vote:**

**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

## FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

20. [ORD28927](#) An ordinance amending Ordinance No. 28910, relating to the Tax and License Code, to include an additional exhibit amending Municipal Code Chapter 6B.10 and 6B.20, effective November 13, 2023.

[Danielle Larson, Tax and License Division Manager; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28927 was set over for final reading next week.**

21. [ORD28928](#) An ordinance amending Subtitle 6B of the Municipal Code, relating to the License Code, by amending Section 6B.10.030, entitled “License definitions”, and Section 6B.10.190, entitled “Investigations and background checks”, to meet Federal Bureau of Investigation requirements to allow the City to conduct nationwide background checks for certain license applicants.

[Danielle Larson, Tax and License Division Manager; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28928 was set over for final reading next week.**

22. [ORD28929](#) An ordinance amending Subtitle 6A of the Municipal Code, relating to the Tax Code, by amending Section 6A.30.065, entitled “Job credits”, to narrow the definition of a green job and increase the value of the green job tax credit from \$250 to \$1,000 per year; and amending various sections throughout Chapter 6A.30, to update language, address areas of inconsistency, and comply with state law.

[Danielle Larson, Tax and License Division Manager; Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28929 was set over for final reading next week.**



23. [ORD28930](#) An ordinance amending Chapter 6A.30 of the Municipal Code, relating to Business and Occupation Tax, by adding a new Section 6A.30.067, entitled "Job Credit - Work Opportunity", to provide a new \$1,000 job tax credit for employers adding a new position and filling the position with an individual with a disability, as identified through the vocational referral in the federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit.  
[Council Member Blocker]

**ACTION: Ordinance No. 28930 was set over for final reading next week.**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

## COMMUNITY FORUM

Community forum began at 6:11 p.m.

The City Clerk's Office received 28 written comments for community forum, regarding virtual participation, public safety, cat declawing, microchipping pets, and permitting.

Speaking before the City Council:

1. Michelle Mood, regarding permitting.
2. Andrea Haug, regarding the South End Coalition.
3. Theresa Evans, regarding comment periods.
4. April Smith, regarding stormwater funding.
5. Stacy Oaks, regarding permitting.
6. Oneida Arnold, regarding permitting.
7. Mandeera, regarding permitting.
8. T, regarding bus routes.
9. Victoria Leistman, regarding permitting.
10. Morgan Vanderpool, regarding permitting.
11. Michelle Reich, regarding comment periods.
12. Reverend AC Churchill, regarding permitting.
13. Tim Fairley, regarding homelessness.
14. Sean Arent, regarding permitting.
15. Carole Sue Braaton, regarding permitting.
16. Ivonne McCarty, regarding permitting.
17. Barb Church, regarding permitting.
18. Gemini, regarding permitting.
19. Alton McDonald, regarding the police department.
20. Richard Love Reing, regarding permitting.
21. Aife Pasquale, regarding permitting.

- 22. Haze Leviathan, regarding permitting.
- 23. John Staub, regarding permitting.
- 24. Dakota Case, regarding permitting.

Community forum ended at 6:51 p.m.

**REPORTS BY THE CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Pauli reported that Tacoma Power's Income Qualified Rental program was awarded the Leadership in Energy Efficiency Award by the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance for its innovative approach to reducing energy burdens to income qualified customers. She concluded by addressing public safety issues regarding the theft of vehicles, reckless driving, cyclist incidents, and threats with weapons; sharing her most recent task force update from the Tacoma Police Department who worked overtime to process vehicles. Pauli stated several vehicles were recovered, multiple phones were processed as evidence, a felony warrant was issued, and several arrests were made in connection to the Task Force.

**COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

Economic Development Committee

Council Member Blocker, Chair of the Economic Development Committee, reported at the October 24, 2023, meeting, the Committee received a presentation on the 2023 BIPOC Alliance feasibility study recommendations; at the October 31, 2023, meeting, the Committee received a combined report out from the five committees assigned to the Committee, each provided a brief overview of their activities, future goals, and objectives for the coming year; at the November 14, 2023, meeting, the Committee held interviews to fill vacant positions on the Tacoma Arts Commission and Tacoma Creates Advisory Board; at the November 28, 2023, meeting, the Committee was updated on the Tacoma Creates 2022-2023 funding cycle, including the \$4.5 million distribution to 56 cultural organizations during the funding cycle; and at the December 12, 2023, meeting, the Committee conducted Equity in Contracting Advisory Committee interviews. He concluded by stating the next meeting will be held in a hybrid format on January 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., and they will elect the 2024 Committee Chair and Vice Chair.

\* \* \* \* \*

Council Member Bushnell thanked Council Member Blocker for his leadership on the City Council, he noted that Council Member Blocker was a mentor to him, and how his work in the past eight years with the City Council has significantly impacted the community. He concluded by addressing the comments made in regards to the time allotted for

community forum and he encouraged individuals to reach out to Council outside of the business meeting to schedule individual meetings, and to attend committee meetings.

Council Member Diaz announced that she will be holding her first Town Hall on Saturday, December 16, 2023, at the University of Washington Tacoma, Milgard Hall, at 11 a.m. She concluded by stating the Town Hall will be interactive where the community can help shape the vision of the City for the next four years.

Council Member Hines invited the public to a coffee chat on Saturday, December 16, 2023, at the Wheelock Library, at 10:30 a.m.

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**MOTION: Deputy Mayor Walker moved to excuse Council Members Daniels and Ushka from the meeting.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Blocker.**


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


**Ayes:** 7 - Blocker, Bushnell, Diaz, Hines, Rumbaugh, Walker and Mayor Woodards

**Absent:** 2 - Daniels and Ushka

**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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Nicole Emery, City Clerk