



City of Tacoma

Committee of the Whole Minutes

733 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 16

April 03, 2018

3:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

Call To Order

Mayor Woodards called the special meeting to order at 3:14 p.m.

Present: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Camarata, Hunter, Ibsen, Mello, Ushka and Woodards

Absent: 1 - McCarthy

Briefing Items

1. [18-0330](#) City Council Strategic Priority - Homelessness Discussion

At approximately 3:15 p.m., Mayor Woodards stated the purpose of the meeting. City Manager Elizabeth Pauli made introductory remarks and introduced Tanisha Jumper, Media and Communications Director. Ms. Jumper provided background information on the 2018 City Council Workshop, and recapped where the Council placed priority on policies, alignment, tools, timing, and the impact of the priority. She reviewed the packet, including homelessness in the current state and homelessness in the future state.

Linda Stewart, Neighborhood and Community Services Director, provided an overview on the current state of homelessness, noting the number of individuals that sleep outside in the City, the impacts on residential safety and health, the State of Public Health Emergency, and current efforts to address these impacts. She continued to describe the current state of homelessness, including the long term strategy, current programs and policies, current budget allocated, and funding sources. She then further reviewed the long term strategy component, including approach, policy outlook, implementation steps, alternatives and cost for full implementation, the impact by 2020, and long term impacts. Ms. Stewart concluded on encampments, reviewing the description of current programs and policies, encampment removal and human services contracts, the strategy to eliminate

unauthorized encampments, policy implications, implementation steps, alternatives and costs for full implementation, the impact by 2020, and long term impacts.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding how many individuals are homeless, including sheltered and non-sheltered residents; timeline involved for a long term strategy; the root causes of homelessness; the prevention of homelessness; education training resources; community dialogue; and a regional strategic plan. Discussion continued on how the components are intertwined with one another, the difference between the implementation steps and alternatives, a suggestion to identify the packet as a draft for purposes of discussion, and the involvement of cleaning the encampments with Washington State Department of Transportation.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the special meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor

Doris Sorum, City Clerk