



City of Tacoma

City Council Study Session Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 848 0943 8889

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/84809438889

July 28, 2020

12:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Woodards called the study session to order at 12:03 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 8 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Walker and Mayor Woodards

Absent: 1 - Ushka

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Items

1. [20-0474](#) Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department Update

At approximately 12:04 p.m., Anthony Chen, Director of Health, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, presented a department update, including an overview, COVID-19 trends, record case numbers, next steps, face coverings, physical distancing, reopening plans and mask guidance, contact tracing, testing sites, and care centers.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the reason for the higher number of cases, the correlation between deaths and underlying health conditions, rates of infection among people of color, hospitalization and mortality rates, herd immunity, the spectrum of symptoms and outcomes, how officials can maintain the sense of urgency around safety practices, asymptomatic individuals, nationwide motivation, contact tracing, and the Mayor's Youth Commission and younger community members.

2. [20-0475](#) City Manager Update on Systems Transformation Work Plans; Chief of Police Recruitment Process

At approximately 1:00 p.m., City Manager Elizabeth Pauli provided an update on the systems transformation work plan, including an overview noting Resolution No. 40622, status of the resolution section plans, and a draft transformation timeline.

Discussion ensued regarding the police staffing study, resources, the police chief recruitment process, community engagement, racial equity, and law enforcement and community safety.

Other Items of Interest

Mayor Woodards stated that she worked with the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs on a resolution regarding the Northwest Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) processing center and that the revised resolution will be brought to the City Council next Tuesday.

Committee Reports

Council Member Hunter stated that the Government Performance and Finance Committee met on July 14, 2020, and had a presentation from Environmental Services on service rates and that it will be brought to the City Council at an upcoming meeting.

Mayor Woodards stated that the Pierce Transit Board of Commissioners composition review meeting was recently held, and a seat representing Tacoma was added to the board effective September 2020.

Agenda Review and City Manager's Weekly Report

3. [20-0470](#) Weekly Report to the City Council, July 23, 2020

City Manager Pauli stated that the Media and Communications Office has been working with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department to engage in community outreach on safety and health measures. She further stated there are no ceremonials on tonight's agenda, and three expected changes to the agenda, including extending the motion to keep City Council and Committees, Boards, and Commissions meeting locations virtual until September 30, 2020; the addition of a motion adding Local 6 to an agreement asking for Council authorization for letters of agreement; and a motion to substitute the ordinance related to eminent domain of certain properties along Portland Avenue.

Executive Session - Pending Litigation

MOTION: Council Member Blocker moved to convene to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(ii) to discuss pending litigation, not to exceed 15 minutes.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Ushka


The City Council convened to Executive Session at 2:18 p.m.
City Attorney Bill Fosbre was present.

The Executive Session was extended by 10 minutes at 2:33 p.m.

The Executive Session concluded, and the study session reconvened at 2:44 p.m.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the study session was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.


Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor


Doris Sorum, City Clerk