



City of Tacoma

Government Performance and Finance Committee Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 827 5299 8740

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/82752998740 Passcode: 614650

February 16, 2021

10:00 AM

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

Call To Order

Chair Hunter called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call

Present: 4 - Hines, Hunter, Walker and Blocker

Absent: 1 - Thoms

All Council Members participated virtually.

Approval of Minutes

1. [21-0152](#) Approval of the minutes of the February 2, 2021, meeting

MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2021, meeting.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Blocker.

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

Ayes: 4 - Hines, Hunter, Walker and Blocker

Absent: 1 - Thoms

Briefing Items

2. [21-0148](#) Air Quality Monitoring Program Update
[James Parvey, Environmental Policy and Sustainability Division Manager, Environmental Services]

At approximately 10:06 a.m., James Parvey, Environmental Policy and Sustainability Division Manager, Environmental Services, presented the air quality monitoring program update, including an overview; relevant policy; a timeline and background; analysis, noting initial outreach and sensor deployment; PurpleAir sensors; the PurpleAir website and map; Microsoft's Project Eclipse air quality sensors; accomplishments; a proposed sensor placement map; lessons learned; and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding the City Council Contingency Funds originally approved to contract with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, who purchased the original sensors, the goal for utilizing the sensor data, community perception of sensor deployment, proposed sensor locations, integrating the program into the schools' science curriculum, and current status of the funds.
3. [21-0149](#) Utility Rates in University Place
[Christina Leinneweber, Senior Utilities Economist, and Lyna Vo, Utilities Economist, Tacoma Public Utilities]

At approximately 10:56 a.m., Christina Leinneweber, Senior Utilities Economist, Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) introduced Lyna Vo, Utilities Economist, TPU, and presented the proposed utility rate changes in University Place (UP), including an overview, case law and legal considerations, cost-of-service and rate design, and a comparison of the system average monthly power and water bill to UP rate adjustments. Ms. Vo further reviewed the average monthly power and water bill comparison, a billing invoice example, and next steps.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding approval of the tax increase by the City of UP, outreach to inform the community of the rate increases, reasons behind the tax, clarification of the City of Tacoma's recommendations, and utility providers for UP.

MOTION: Council Member Walker moved to recommend the proposed University Place rate adjustments to the full City Council for consideration.

SECONDED BY: Council Member Hines.

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

Ayes: 4 - Hines, Hunter, Walker and Blocker

Absent: 1 - Thoms

4. [21-0150](#) Limited Tax General Obligation and Unlimited Tax General Obligation Refunding
[Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance]

At approximately 11:21 a.m., Andy Cherullo, Director, Finance, reviewed a refunding opportunity for outstanding bonds issued in 2009 and 2010, including low interest rates; improvements and projects initially funded; the debt service savings to the City; and next steps, noting a bond ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding clarification of the refunding process, the bond ordinance, the structure of the bond, and costs associated with refinancing the bonds.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

5. [21-0151](#) March 2, 2021 - Insurance Briefing

Ted Richardson, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on March 2, 2021, and will include an insurance briefing.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.



Lillian Hunter, Chair



Mary Crabtree, City Clerk's Office