



City of Tacoma

Committee of the Whole Minutes

Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 894 9617 1192

Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/89496171192 Passcode: 896569

March 23, 2021

3:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

Call To Order

Mayor Woodards called the special meeting to order at 3:20 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 9 - Beale, Blocker, Hines, Hunter, McCarthy, Thoms, Ushka, Walker and Woodards

All Council Members participated virtually.

Briefing Item

1. [21-0293](#) Spending Plan for American Rescue Act Funding

At approximately 3:21 p.m., City Manager Elizabeth Pauli provided opening remarks and introduced Katie Johnston, Budget Officer, Finance, and Jacques Colon, Tacoma 2025 Strategic Manager, Media and Communications Office. Mr. Colon presented a summary from the February 26 and 27, 2021, City Council Strategic Planning Work Sessions, noting staff's action items related to communication, and Council Members' priorities for utilizing one-time funds.

Ms. Johnston presented a spending plan for the American Rescue Plan Act funding, including an agenda; the City's direct funding of \$63 million, noting uses, timing, and outstanding questions; considerations and opportunities; a funding approach and process, including an example structure for funding from 2021 to 2024, questions about timing, and how to divide funds; a high-level approach to identifying and designating funds; and next steps, noting designing the structure and approach, engagement, review of distribution proposals, and approval.

Discussion ensued regarding community safety funds that are already allocated for a fire engine; one-time versus ongoing costs; coordinating with the State, County, and Puyallup Tribe of Indians; additional expected funding streams; communication; priority areas, including homeless services, public health related to the ongoing pandemic, areas most impacted by the pandemic, services or programs that were cut in 2020, and areas where funding will make the most impact; a need for further discussion; heightened scrutiny and responsibility; and timelines for setting priorities and distributing funds.

Adjournment

On proper motion, the special meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.



Victoria R. Woodards, Mayor



Doris Sorum, City Clerk