

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND ROLL CALL

Mayor George called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers David M. Viafore, Shannon Reynolds, Brett Wittner, Denny Waltier, and Marc Rieke were present. Councilmember Joe Barrentine was absent and excused.

PRESIDING OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Community Center Project Update

Grover reported that the flooring was polished today, the exterior siding is being installed, and the solar panels will start being installed next week. The project is running into supply chain issues as they are having trouble securing lighting and a flagpole. Lastly, Grover has ordered the furniture and it will be delivered in November.

There was discussion regarding the completion timeframe for the new facility and Grover reported that staff plans to be at substantial completion sometime in November or December and the target date to open is the second week of December. After a discussion, Grover reported that the basketball court is high school size, and the bricks will be installed at the plaza in late October.

Mayor George briefed the Council on a letter he received from a group of seven young people advocating for a skate park at Whittier Park. Mayor George intends on writing a response to the children.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

A. Tacoma Fire BLS Transport Services

City Manager Pingel reported that he met with Tacoma Fire, and they are looking into offering basic life support (BLS) transport in-house rather than contracting with American Medical Response. (AMR) The City would need to amend the municipal code to allow for the City of Tacoma to bill our community members for BLS transport. The cost to the residents will be lower and the level of service will increase using Tacoma Fire rather than AMR. There was a discussion regarding the difference between BLS and ALS (advanced life support), which Tacoma Fire already has at the station. BLS frees up resources by triaging emergency calls.

Councilmember Barrentine joined the meeting at 7:13 P.M.

B. Christmas Tree Options

Pingel reported that the current tree at Alice Peers Park is in decline and staff have looked to find options to either move the long-standing tradition to the new Community Center or replace the current tree. Viafore requested the arborist report. There was a Council Consensus to move the agenda item to next week's Study Session meeting.

C. I.T. Services Contract Amendment

Pingel reported that the staff would like to adjust the contract with Right Systems to assign one dedicated technician to be on-site 4 days a week. The cost will be \$500 per month or \$6,000 per year. The staff intends to bring the contract amendment to the Council at an upcoming Council meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS

- Police Chief Cheesman reported the Officers have received defibrillators and our officers will be a part of the pilot program with Tacoma Fire.
- Public Works Director Bemis reported that the pipe bursting project has started and the paving project along Farallone will be starting soon. Viafore requested the bid documents for the paving project. Lastly, Bemis thanked Arlette Burkhart for her service to the Public Works department. Mayor George asked if the department was affected by the power outage and Bemis reported that the generator turned on.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

- Rieke hopes to connect with the youth in the community who wrote the letter to the Mayor and use the public engagement process as a teaching moment. Rieke thanked Pingel and Bemis for their efforts in addressing the parking area along Electron Way.
- Barrentine thanked the Parks & Recreation staff for the events and gave thanks to all the volunteers who commit to helping their community.
- Wittner commented that there are many maintenance needs at Wainwright and the trees have not been replaced. Wittner reported that drivers are attempting to turn left on Alameda Ave from Wainwright, and it is hazardous. He asked if Tacoma Schools could remove the left turn lane.
- Reynolds read a passage from the Washington State Department of Health regarding the importance of mask-wearing.
- Viafore commented the tree code is not being enforced at both schools and asked about where in the process staff is regarding amending the design guidelines for schools. George reported that the School District has been open to City input regarding the Whittier replacement.
- George thanked the five members of the public attending remotely for joining and reported that he met with a resident concerning the speeding along Columbia Ave.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

George invited public comment. The following individuals provided public comment:

- Brian Rybolt, 1036 Daniels Drive, commented that he is concerned about drivers tailgating along Electron Way and Regents Blvd creating an unsafe situation.

Chief Cheesman reported that the emphasis for patrols has been our schools, parks, and increased traffic patrol.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND LIAISON REPORTS

A. Administration

Viafore encouraged Council participation with the 2022 budget.

B. Environmental, Planning, and Building

Rieke reported that the Planning & Building department has made excellent progress towards their goals and major permits are being accepted online. Online submittals provide better and more efficient service to our community members.

C. Finance, IT, Facilities

Wittner reported that the Finance Department is well into the budget season and the new front desk person will start on Monday, September 27, 2021.

D. Other Liaison Reports

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

George requested the City Clerk read the Consent Calendar: approval of Voucher No. 216924 through Voucher Check No. 216924 in the amount of \$131,596.00; approval of Payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$136,899.00; approval of Voucher No. 14082 through Voucher Check No. 14084 in the amount of \$8,184.78; approval of Payroll Check No. 14085 through Payroll Check No. 14090 in the amount of \$55,607.04; approval of Payroll electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$134,496.77; Setting special meetings of the City Council on October 4th, October 11th, October 18, and October 25th, 2021, at 6 p.m. at Fircrest City Hall for the sole purpose of discussing the 2022 preliminary budget; Setting a public hearing on September 28, 2021, at 7:15 p.m. or shortly thereafter to receive comment on amending the accessory building setbacks for through-lots; and approval of August 24, 2021, Regular Meeting minutes; **Wittner MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar as read; seconded by Barrentine. The Motion Carried (7-0).**

PUBLIC HEARING

No Public Hearing was scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Motion: Confirmation of Municipal Court Judge Appointment

Pingel reported that Judge John Miller has served the community well over the past 26-plus years and recommends that he gets reappointed to another 4-year term, **Viafore MOVED to confirm the City Manager's appointment of John A. Miller as Municipal Court Judge for a four-year term; seconded by Wittner.** George invited council member comments; There was a council discussion thanking the Judge for his commitment to the City and compassionately leading the Court. The Council appreciates the dedication and hard work throughout the years. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).** Judge Miller thanked the Council and gave kudos to the Court staff as they run the day-to-day operations.

B. Resolution No. 1724: Agreement with City of Tacoma for the Holding Basin

Bemis briefed the Council on the proposed Resolution and reported that the contract addresses maintenance needs at the holding basin and will help the department meet compliance expectations. **Wittner MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 1724, authorizing the City Manager to execute an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Tacoma for future maintenance needs within the Tacoma Holding Basin; seconded by Barrentine.** George invited councilmember comments; none were provided. George invited public comment; none were provided. **The Motion Carried (7-0).**

CALL FOR FINAL COMMENTS

Viafore welcomed City Attorney Evans and looks forward to working with her in the future.

Waltier thanked Community Events Coordinator Schmidtke for the great events and for reporting the event details in the P-1 updates.

Councilmember Wittner left the meeting at 8:07 P.M. and did not return.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. At 8:07 P.M. George reported that the Council would take a five-minute recess and convene into Executive Session, not to exceed 30 minutes, to review the performance of a public employee per RCW 42.30.110(g). George invited City Manager Pingel to join the Executive Session.

At 8:30 P.M., the Council reconvened into regular session.

ADJOURNMENT

Viafore MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 P.M., seconded by Waltier. The Motion Carried (6-0).



Hunter T. George, Mayor



Jayne Westman, City Clerk