

## League of Women Voters of Tacoma-Pierce County Observer Corps

*Name of Agency:* Tacoma City Council

*Date:* February 5, 2019

*Observer Reporting:* C Rikerd

*Length of Meeting:* 35 minutes

*Members Present/Absent:* Mr. Beale absent

*Others present (i.e. media, public):*

**Content (what is being discussed):** *Did they approve some action?*

*Does anything relate to League priorities or positions? If so, do you recommend local League action?*

*Was access to materials for certain agenda items limited or excluded from you? Was background material available to the public?*

19-0096 Disclosure of Remote Interest submitted by Mr. Thoms  
Proclamation honoring Toastmasters organization.

### Public Comment

Speaker had comments on multiple subjects. Council Member Hunter invited the speaker to talk with council members individually about any issues of concern.

Speaker would like a report on how the LEAP program is working in hiring local workers, specifically in RES40225 Wastewater Sewer Replacement Project. Mayor Woodards asked a staff member to speak with the commentator about specific details in his questions.

RES40225 – Increasing the contract amount for Wastewater Sere Replacement Project by \$280,000.

Adopted

RES40226 – designating a Special Project of limited Duration, and general salary classifications for the person employed through 12/31/2020.

IT Director spoke in support of development of this IT improvement. Adopted

RES40227 - A resolution requiring any penalties the City receives pursuant to Chapter 1.95 of the Municipal Code, relating to the Rental Housing Code, be used only, for the first three years the Code is in effect, for providing tenant relocation assistance as authorized in the Code, and after such time, the use of the funds may be reviewed by the City Council.

Linda Stewart, Director of Neighborhood and community Services, said the collection of fines, from landlords who do not comply with the new tenant rights rules in the municipal code, be used to relocate displaced persons. This money is in addition to the \$200,000 already allocated by the council for relocation. This corrects an omission in how the fines would be used. Council members asked clarifying questions. Current funding would only relocate about 200 families or individual. Mr. McCarthy asked to be kept informed as to the funds available for relocation over the biennium. Ms. Hunter stated the idea is to educate landlords so there are no fines collected. Adopted

RES40228 –First reading amending the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma with a new Rule 16, defining how a vacant city council seat is filled. The City Attorney read the new rule and explained that this resolution required an initial and final reading. The resolution was set over to next week for a second reading. This matter was discussed in depth at a study session.

RES40229 - First reading amending the Rules of Procedure of the Council of the City of Tacoma with a new Rule 17, to establish a standard procedure for City Council confirmations of Department Director

Appointments. Same rationale as above, final reading and vote will be Feb 12. This matter was discussed in depth at a study session.

ORD28570- final reading for cancellation of uncollectible debts under \$25,000. Adopted

ORD28571 – final reading of amendment to pay rates introduced Feb 5. Roll call vote – adopted.

Report Economic Development Committee

Mr. Thoms reports the committee met January 29 to hear presentation on Economic Development Strategic Plan, which hopes to engage the community and other government agencies, and perhaps involving King County. Plan should take shape in mid-May.

Work Force presentation at the next meeting.

Mayor thanked street clearing crews for good work – the Streets Operations Crew.

Mr. Beale was excused from this meeting by council motion.

***Public Meetings of interest to League*** – i.e., were there any public meetings announced that you think League members may be interested in attending and/or becoming involved with the issue?

The subjects of meetings are available a few days in advance at the City of Tacoma website.

***Process & Protocol (Observations about participants, conduct, and procedures of the meeting, and appropriate accommodations for disabled in sight hearing and physical):***

*i.e., did the members appear to have done their “homework”? Were members courteous to each other and the public? How does the group respond to your presence?*

Yes and Yes.

This report is a review of the videotaped meeting.