

City of Tacoma Civil Service Board MINUTES

Date and Time: October 4, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.
Location: Tacoma Municipal Building Council Chambers
Chair: Beckie Summers
Coordinator: Wendy Hobson

Call to Order:

The Civil Service Board meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers of the Tacoma Municipal Building. Board Members Summers, McKenna, Sexton, and Latch were present. Board Member Kielian was absent.

Approval of Minutes:

BOARD MEMBER MCKENNA MOVED FOR THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2012. BOARD MEMBER SEXTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION PASSED APPROVING THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

Board Member Sexton expressed concern about a document provided prior to the start of the meeting that appeared to be regarding an appeal on the agenda. The question was raised as to whether or not it was appropriate for the Board to receive this material in advance of the item on the agenda. The Coordinator indicated that she had been given the material from the Deputy City Attorney representing the City, and inadvertently distributed the information on the day of the meeting. Chair Summers asked that the Board put aside the material until the request for appeal is considered later.

BOARD MEMBER MCKENNA MOVED TO EXCUSE BOARD MEMBER DIANNA KIELIAN FROM THIS MEETING. BOARD MEMBER SEXTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION PASSED EXCUSING BOARD MEMBER KIELIAN FROM THE MEETING.

Communication for Information/Action: (none)

Action on Matters Still Pending/New Business:

Election of Vice-Chair for the Board:

BOARD MEMBER LATCH NOMINATED BOARD MEMBER SEXTON TO THE POSITION OF VICE-CHAIR OF THE BOARD. BOARD MEMBER MCKENNA SECONDED THE MOTION. NOMINATIONS WERE CLOSED.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION PASSED ELECTING BOARD MEMBER SEXTON TO THE VICE-CHAIR POSITION.

Request for Appeal received dated July 27, 2012, of behalf of John Micheal Nelson of Tacoma Water:

Chair Summers asked if all parties were present, and for the parties to introduce themselves.

Board Member Sexton mentioned the material that was given earlier to the Board, and Chair Summers asked if all parties had received the information. Paul Goulding, Deputy City Attorney stated that he had provided the document to all Board members and to counsel as a one page summary outline of his argument and offered to read the document into the record, at the Board's request.

Chair Summers asked for direction in the proceedings and who should begin. Jennifer Taylor, Legal Advisor to the Board, reminded the Board since this item is not on the agenda as a hearing, that the attorney for the appellant can make the request to the Board and then the City may respond. She provided further clarification that this item is only to determine whether or not the Board is going to set the matter as a hearing.

Michael Davis, Attorney was present for the appellant John Micheal Nelson. Mr. Davis presented his request for appeal, and that this does fall within the jurisdiction of the Board, and requested that the matter be set for a hearing at a later date.

Paul Goulding, Deputy City Attorney was present to represent Tacoma Water. Mr. Goulding presented that this matter is a collective bargaining agreement issue, and is not an issue under the Tacoma Municipal Code, or a disciplinary action, and therefore the Civil Service Board does not have jurisdiction in this matter.

BOARD MEMBER SEXTON MOVED THAT THE BOARD APPROVE MR. JOHN MICHEAL NELSON'S REQUEST FOR AN APPEAL. BOARD MEMBER LATCH SECONDED.

Discussion and questions followed between members of the Board, the Board's legal advisor and the attorneys present for both sides. Chair Summers requested that both attorneys provide information to the Board's legal advisor, and that the legal advisor to the Board review all material, memos, notes, etc. and provide an independent opinion prior to the next meeting. The item will be rescheduled under action on matters still pending / new business at the November 1, 2012 board meeting.

BOARD MEMBER SEXTON WITHDREW HIS MOTION, WITH JURISDICTION TO BE DETERMINED AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Consideration of Matters Set for Public Hearing: (none)

Coordinator Report: (none)

Human Resources Director Report and Request:

Human Resources Director Joy St. Germain reported on two approved list extensions for the positions of Senior Sewer Worker and Senior Real Estate Specialist, and the abolishment of the list for the position of Assistant Water Pumps and Storage Supervisor.

Board member Sexton made a recommendation that the City consider City of Tacoma experience in the minimum qualifications for Senior Real Estate Specialist.

Requests for non-competitive appointment: Nicholas Wilson, Firefighter/Paramedic and Thomas Spoonemore, Firefighter/Paramedic. Bob Paz, Human Resources Analyst and Tory Green, Assistant Fire Chief from Tacoma Fire presented information regarding these requests.

BOARD MEMBER MCKENNA MOVED FOR THE BOARD TO GRANT THE REQUEST FOR NON-COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENTS FOR NICHOLAS WILSON. BOARD MEMBER SEXTON SECONDED THE MOTION.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION PASSED APPROVING THE NON-COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENTS AS PRESENTED.

Comments by the Public: (none)

Comments by Board Members: (none)

Board member Sexton expressed his appreciation for the Firefighter/Paramedics with Tacoma Fire and his gratefulness for their professionalism.

Adjournment:

As there were no objections, Chair Summers adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:



Beckie Summers
Civil Service Board Chair



Wendy Hobson
Civil Service Coordinator