

City of Tacoma Civil Service Board

MINUTES

Date and Time: March 7, 2013 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, Latch and Kielian were present.

Approval of Minutes:

BOARD MEMBER KIELIAN MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 7, 2013 MEETING MINUTES. BOARD MEMBER LATCH SECONDED THE MOTION.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MOTION PASSED APPROVING THE MINUTES AS READ.

Communication for Information/Action: Coordinator Wendy Hobson advised the Board of a complaint received on January 24, 2013 on behalf of Susan Perong.

Board Member Sexton asked for additional information on the complaint and whether or not the complaint had been denied. Martha Lantz, Counsel to the Board advised that the complaint received was not within the Board's jurisdiction and was for communication purposes only.

Board Member Latch asked for more particulars on the complaint as the Board has heard these in the past. Martha Lantz explained that the position of the terminated employee was not in classified service therefore the Board would not have jurisdiction.

Board Member Sexton added that this was good material to review in our study session after the meeting. Board Member Latch added that the charter is very clear on what we do have jurisdiction over. Board Member Sexton said the study session after tonight's meeting would be the best place to review this further.

Coordinator Wendy Hobson introduced Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant to the City Manager who is here to provide the Board with information from the City Council's discussion and decisions on the City's committees, boards and commissions.

Nadia introduced Katie Johnston of the City Manager's Office and advised she has put together a document to share with the Board outlining the recommendations made regarding the various committees, boards and commissions. Katie advised that board members and board support staff will be provided training in the future. The Board was also advised that the in kind support provided by TV Tacoma will no longer be providing television support for the Civil Service Board.

Board Member Kielian asked for clarification on whether or not they are asking the Board to act on recommendations made to the Civil Service Board. Nadia Chandler Hardy advised this was their outreach to the various boards, committees and commissions and that this was just a briefing and feedback period. This information will be combined and brought back to the City Council asking for them to approve the recommendations. Board Member Kielian added her appreciation in the findings in the report.

Board Member Latch voiced her concern for lack of TV Tacoma coverage and advised she will be taking this up with the City Council. She also is also disappointed in that there is no instruction for interaction of the Civil Service Board to convey advice to the City Council. She also stated that she has been on the Board for a little over a year now and except for communication that she has initiated with the City Council she has not had any communication with them about how the Board is to fulfill their mission. She would like to see a formal procedure in place.

Board Member Sexton concurred with Board Member Latch's comments and added that he too is very disappointed in TV Tacoma being cut.

Board Member McKenna added that he appreciates the need to be very selective of how the Board uses City staff and City resources, this is a very difficult time for all of us and it's going to get worse. We need to be mindful of scheduling study sessions and be very selective in what we request.

Chair Summers added her appreciation in this review and recommendations. She asked if it was possible that TV Tacoma with more funding there was any chance of getting the coverage back in the future. She again thanked Nadia and Katie for their presentation. Katie also added that the training for the Board would be coming up in May and more information would follow.

Action on Matters Still Pending/New Business: None

Consideration of Matters Set for Public Hearing: None

Civil Service Board Coordinator Report: None

Human Resources Director Report and Requests:

Human Resources Director, Joy St. Germain advised the Board that she had approved the abolishment of list number 5108-10 for the Water Plant Maintenance Worker. Rodney Croston, HR Analyst was introduced to present the Requests for Non Competitive Appointments for Line Electrician, 5255 and Wire Electrician, 5245.

BOARD MEMBER SEXTON MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE ABOLISHMENT OF LIST 5108 FOR WATER PLANT MAINTENANCE WORKER AND THE REQUESTS FOR NON COMPETITIVE APPOINTMENTS FOR LINE ELECTRICIAN, 5255S AND WIRE ELECTRICIAN, 5245.

BOARD MEMBER LATCH SECONDED THE MOTION.

Chair Summers asked for the members of the audience included in these waivers to come forward and introduce themselves. Employees Joe Birge, Chris Cournyer and Adam Brinkman came forward and expressed their thanks and appreciation for the opportunity.

Board Member Latch shared her delight with the City's / TPU's fostering and stewardship of their abilities and added that there is no substitute for the apprenticeship process.

Chair Summers invited Ms. Brown as their Supervisor to comment on these appointments. Sheryl Brown, Power Division Supervisor shared that TPU is proud to have these individuals and that they have worked very hard over the last three years to get through the program.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. The motion was approved.

Comments by the Public: (none)

Comments by Board Members: Board Member McKenna announced that he will not run for re-election that he is a strong believer in term limits and this being his 8th year it is time for someone else to have the opportunity.

Adjournment:

BOARD MEMBER KIELIAN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY BOARD MEMBER LATCH.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 5 AYES, 0 NAYS. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

ATTEST:



Beckie Summers
Civil Service Board Chair



Wendy Hobson
Civil Service Coordinator

