

City of Tacoma Civil Service Board MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time: May 5, 2016 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 by Chair Summers. Board Members Sexton, Hansen and Heller were present.

Approval of Minutes:

Board Member Sexton motioned to approve the minutes of April 7, 2016. The motion to approve was seconded by Board Member Hansen.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN TO APPROVE THE APRIL 7, 2016 MINUTES: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABS. THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

Communication for Information: Chair Summers read a letter of resignation received from Board Member Kielian.

Board Member Sexton motioned to approve the resignation of Board Member Kielian. The motion was seconded by Board Member Hansen.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN TO APPROVE THE RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER DIANA KIELIAN: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABS. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESIGNATION PASSED.

Chair Summers advised that she will send out an official letter of thanks and that the City will need to find a replacement for Ms. Kielian as she served as the Management Appointee.

Action on Matters Still Pending / New Business:

Deputy City Attorney Cheryl Comer presented the City's motion to dismiss in the matter of Aaron Setunsky and Sean O'Brien. Board Member Hansen stated he did not see any evidence that would indicate that something was wrong with the initial review board. Ms. Comer explained the process further and the information that lead Ms. St. Germain to question the integrity of the initial review board. Board Member Sexton questioned a complaint and why it was not filed as an appeal.

Chair Summers asked that Board Members wait until both sides have presented their materials prior to asking questions.

Ms. Comer cited portions of the Tacoma Municipal Code which supports the authority of the HR Director to make decisions to ensure a fair and credible process in the Civil Service System. She explained the basis of the motion to dismiss and reasons why there is no basis for appeal.

Terrence Costello of Schwerin Campbell Barnard Iglitzin and Lavitt introduced himself and his partner Michael Robinson as counsel representing the Appellants. Mr. Costello urged the board to allow the

opportunity to present the merits in this case before the board in a hearing and stated the ruling of the first review board was appropriate.

Board Member Sexton questioned Director St. Germain's authority to convene a second review board and wanted to know where in the code it states she has this authority. Board Member Hansen questioned if there was an appeal filed after the first review board. Ms. Comer advised that the review board makes a recommendation but that the final decision is the Human Resources Director's decision.

A discussion followed regarding the test process.

Board Member Sexton motioned to deny the City's motion to dismiss the appeal. The motion was second by Board Member Hansen.

Board Member Heller shared that she would like more information on the history of the rules stating that would give them the best framework to make decisions.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABS. THE MOTION TO GRANT THE DISMISSAL WAS DENIED.

Chair asked Board Members not to leave until they can discuss a date for the hearing.

Consideration of Matters Set For Public Hearing: *None*

Civil Service Coordinator Report: *None*

Human Resources Director Report / Requests:

Human Resources Director, Joy St. Germain presented a list extension for Senior Sewer Worker and a list abolishment for IT Analyst, Senior.

Comments by Board Members:

A date for the appeal was set for June 2, 2016.

Comments by the public: *None*

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Board Member Sexton. The motion was seconded by Board Member Heller. Meeting adjourned at 5:47 PM

ATTEST:



Wendy Hobson
Civil Service Coordinator



Beckie Summers
Chair