

**City of Tacoma Civil Service Board
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Date and Time: February 23, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.
Location: Tacoma Municipal Building, Council Chambers
Chair: Beckie Summers
Coordinator: Karen Short

Call to Order:

The Civil Service Board meeting was called to order in Council Chambers of the Tacoma Municipal Building at 5:00PM by Chair Summers. Board Members Hansen, Heller and Andrews were present. Board Member Sexton arrived at 5:20PM.

Approval of Minutes:

Board Member Hansen motioned to approve the February 2, 2017 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Board Member Heller.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 3 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABS. THE MINUTES FOR February 2, 2017 WERE APPROVED AS WRITTEN.

Communication for Information:

The request for appeal in the Matter of Jeffory Haider has been withdrawn.

New Business:

Board Member Heller moved that the Board go into Executive Session stating that when acting as an appeal body, the Civil Service Board is acting in a quasi-judicial capacity and as such this portion of the Board's meeting is not strictly subject to the Open Public Meetings Act and the Board is going into the executive session to consult with our attorney before hearing this matter that is before. Board Member Heller further stated that despite the Board acting in a quasi-judicial capacity we also have the authority to convene in executive session per RCW 42.30.110, subsection F.

Board Member Heller moved that the Board go into executive session at this time for half an hour.

Board Member Hansen agreed that the Board should at some point convene in executive session but prefers to hear the arguments shared his preference to hear the arguments first and be able to ask questions prior to moving into executive session. Board Member Heller added she had a process issue that she would like to discuss prior to hearing the matter and that is why she motioned early.

Board Member Hansen seconded the motion to enter into executive session.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABS. THE MOTION PASSED AND THE BOARD ENTERED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 5:05PM

Chair Summers announced this meeting is back in order at 5:35PM and asked for comment from the Board. Board Member Heller moved that the Board stays this matter pending the resolution of the other administrative matter. The motion was seconded by Board Member Sexton.

A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABS. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED.

Page 2

Deputy City Paul Goulding introduced himself and asked what the basis for the stay is. He indicated he did not see any provision for that in the code and asked that the motion be heard. Board Member Hansen answered that at this time the Board does not know if Mr. Griffin is going to pursue a remedy through the courts and because we don't know at this point if that is going to happen we would like to stay until it is determined whether or not Mr. Griffin does pursue a remedy then we would dismiss the appeal but that hasn't happened yet. Mr. Goulding indicated that is not what the code says and that the code says upon filing with any agency or entity that can grant relief sharing that this process could take months and months while back wages are piling up. Board Member Hansen described the process of the EEOC charge in further detail.

Chair Summers asked that the discussion end at this time and that the matter be stayed as agreed by the Board in executive session.

Counsel to the Board Jennifer Taylor asked Chair Summers if she would like her to draft an order reflecting this Board's decision to stay and that way the parties can elect to do with that what they will. Chair Summers said yes. Chair Summers then invited Alice Phillips to introduce herself.

Comments from the Board:

Coordinator Karen Short asked Chair Summers to address the lack of items on the agenda for the March meeting next week. Chair Summers responded and added she has a list of things to cover. The Chair then shared she is saddened by the resignation of HR Director Joy St. Germain indicating that this comes at a very bad time when the Board faces hostility from the City on a larger scale from being bounced to a different room, to allowing a continuance of a scheduled hearing based on Rule 2 hearings dates and distribution of materials where our Coordinator is given authority without prior approval of the Board, we need to look at this rule as well as others; we need to look at how what this Board does is communicated to other departments, the City Council and the public; we have not been able to do this since the former City Manager made an arbitrary decision not to televise our meetings and we have not had technical staff available when the microphones have not been working which results in an incomplete set of minutes.

Chair Summers stated there are no action items for the agenda next week and asked for a motion to cancel the March 2, 2017 meeting. Board Member Heller motioned to cancel the meeting of March 2, 2017. The motion was seconded by Board Member Sexton.

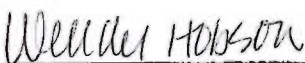
A VOICE VOTE WAS TAKEN: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, and 0 ABS. THE MOTION TO CANCEL THE MARCH 2, 2017 MEETING PASSED.

Well wishes and comments from Board Members to Director St. Germain followed.

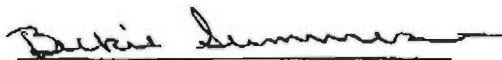
Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 5:47PM

ATTEST:



Wendy Hobson
Civil Service Coordinator



Beckie Summers
Chair