Terry Mensonides, Chair
Ronald Malm, Vice Chair
Robert Anderson
Dianne Conway
Karen Robinson
Richard Wilkinson
Joseph Zawacki

Tacoma City of Tacoma
Citizen Commission on Elected Salaries

MINUTES

TIME: Tuesday, August 18, 2015, 6:00 p.m.

PLACE: 733 Market Street, Room 12, Tacoma, WA 98402

PRESENT: Mensonides, Malm (arrived at 6:08 p.m.), Anderson (arrived 7:09 p.m.),
                 Conway, Robinson (via telephone), Wilkinson

ABSENT (EXCUSED): Zawacki

Call to Order
At approximately 6:04 p.m., Chair Mensonides, called the meeting to order.

Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of August 11, 2015
At approximately, 6:05 p.m., Commission Member Conway moved to approve the minutes of
the Meeting of August 11, 2015, seconded by Commission Member Wilkinson. Voice vote was
taken and carried, approving the minutes of the Meeting of August 11, 2015.

Public Comment
Public Comment was heard from Linda Rowling and Sherry Bockwinkle.

Former Mayor Bill Baarsma speak with Commission
At approximately 6:09 p.m., former Mayor Bill Baarsma spoke with the Commission regarding
why the Citizen Commission on Elected Salaries was created via the Charter Review
Committee and the authority that the Citizen Commission on Elected Salaries has over the
salaries for the City of Tacoma Mayor and City Council. Former Mayor Baarsma gave the
Commission information reagarding City Council and Mayor salaries in other parts of the
country.

At approximately 6:22 p.m., Commission member Conway asked former Mayor Baarsma if
there was an item on the ballot this November regarding changing Tacoma to a Strong Mayor
system. Discussion ensued regarding how the Commission would be affected if a Strong Mayor
system was voted in affect.

At approximately 6:25 p.m., Commission member Wilkinson asked former Mayor Baarsma what
the debate was at the Charter Review Committee regarding forming the Citizen Commission on
Elected Salaries. Also, what was the rationale behind the automatic 2.75% increase every year.
Former Mayor Baarsma spoke to both of the questions. Discussion ensued regarding the
authority that the Commission has regarding adjusting current sitting Mayor and Councilmember
salaries and compensation package. Former Mayor Baarsma referred to RCW 35.21.015
regarding when the decision on salaries by the Citizen Commisison on Elected Salaries would
go in to effect.

At approximately 6:37 p.m., Chair Mensonides asked a question given by absent Commission member Zawacki, was the 2.75% an equitable decision? Former Mayor Baarsma spoke regarding that question.

At approximately 6:38 p.m., Chair Mensonides asked for Former Mayor Baarsma's opinion regarding if there was any motivation behind have five Commisison Members picked via lottery and two Commission Members appointed by the Mayor. Discussion ensued regarding the selection and appointment of the Commission Members.

Discussion of Mayor and City Council Salaries, Announcement of next meeting and information as requested from Staff.
At approximately 6:45 p.m., Chair Mensonides spoke regarding information provided from City staff as requested. Discussion ensued regarding the Retirement contributions for the Tacoma Employee's Retirement System, the Commission's authority to set salaries and over other benefits for the current Mayor and Councilmembers, as well as Mayor and City Council salaries.

At approximately 7:09 p.m., Commission member Anderson arrived.

At approximately 7:13 p.m., Chair Mensonides introuduced questions for discussion to pose to the City Attorney with a request that she attend the next Commission meeting on August 25, 2015.

At approximately 7:19 p.m., Chair Mensonides requested information from the current Councilmembers regarding how many hours on average per month they spend doing work for the City of Tacoma. Discussion ensued regarding the Councilmembers responsibilities and requirements.

Commission Comments
No Commission comments.

Adjournment
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Terry Mensonides, Chair

Marisa Tetreault, HR Specialist, Human Resources