



City of Tacoma  
Citizen Commission on Elected Salaries

Richard Wilkinson, Chair  
Brandon Kindschy  
Klaus Nalley  
David Koenig  
Amanda Robison  
Patricia O'Connor  
Dalvin Yarbrough

**MINUTES**  
**CITIZEN COMMISSION ON ELECTED SALARIES**

Virtual via Zoom  
\*Special Meeting\*  
Monday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021  
6:00 P.M.

**I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:04pm**

**II. ROLL CALL: HR Liaison Olson**

**PRESENT:**

**Officers: Chair Wilkinson**

**Members: Klaus Nalley, Amanda Robison, Dalvin Yarbrough**

**Absent: Brandon Kindschy, David Koenig, Patricia O'Connor**

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 3, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING:**

**Motion to approve: Klaus Nalley**

**Second: Amanda Robison**

**Ayes: Richard Wilkinson, Klaus Nalley, Amanda Robison, Dalvin Yarbrough**

**Nays: 0**

**IV. 2022 DECISION BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION**

- **City Budget Overview**
  - i. Kathryn Johnson from the City budget office was unable to attend to give her overview. Chair Wilkinson asks Human Resources Manager Jen Peters to cooperate that the budget situation is not as dire as was originally thought in 2020. Human Resources Manager Jen Peters admits that while she is not the subject matter expert on the budget, there has been an uptick and she believes there are some funds that have become available through the relief act. In terms of hiring, the impact was minimal and we have operations that have not been as impacted.
  - ii. Chair Wilkinson points out that the budget for the City of Tacoma including the Utility is nearly 2 billion dollars.
- **Comparative Information**
  - i. Comparative handout of similar cities is displayed. Chair Wilkinson states having a committee that sets salaries for elected officials has become fairly common in Washington State. He believes there was a state legislative act some time ago and also states that this Commissions existence is a direct result of the last review of the city charter.



## Citizen Commission on Elected Salaries

that it is fair in relation to the other folks working and living in the City and region. The market rate spreadsheet was very helpful. I agree a raise is in line.

**Motion for a four percent payraise across the board: Klaus Nalley**

**Second: Dalvin Yarbrough**

**Ayes: Chair Wilkinson, Klaus Nalley, Amanda Robison, Dalvin Yarbrough**

**Nays: 0**

### **VI. REVIEW OF DECISION TRANSMITTAL MESSAGE**

- Chair Wilkinson states he will draft the memo with the new salaries to go to the City Clerk . He feels this is striking the balance of fairness and the workload. What would the Commission like to include in the memo what the decision was based on?
  - i. Commissioner Amanda Robison states the minimum hourly commitment along with the rising cost of living in the region.
  - ii. Commissioner Klaus Nalley states is is a cautious responsible procedure. We are still in covid, this four percent shows the Commission is acting in the best interest of these positions not only now but in the future as well.
  - iii. Chair Wilkinson adds that the future component is very important. Being fair to the current elected officials but also create a situation where people will be interested in the opportunity to run for office going forward. This definitely effects if someone can afford to serve the community.

### **VII. TOPIC FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2021 AGENDA**

- Commissioner Yarbrough asks to see numbers on median wages going forward vs cost of living in the City.
- More comparative numbers from jurisdictions nearby
- Chair Wilkinson suggests a survey of other Salary Commissions and what Criteria they use to make decisions.
- Staff Liaison states there will be a new Commission to introduce as Patricia O'Connors term is ending September 30, 2021.
- The Commissioners decide a meeting in November is not necessary and agree to add agenda items to February 2022 meeting including inviting the Mayor as well.

### **VIII. ADJORNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn: Klaus Nalley**

**Second: Dalvin Yarbrough**

**Ayes: Richard Wilkinson, Klaus Nalley, Amanda Robison, Dalvin Yarbrough**

**Nays: 0**