



Charter Review Committee Minutes

February 24, 2014

Chair Baarsma called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Committee Members Present: 13 Baker, Brackett, Edmonds, Farrell, Hahn, Leighton, Martinez, Merritt, Messina, Miller, Talton, Ushka, and Chair Baarsma.

Committee Members Excused Absence: 2 Horne and Van Dyk

Approval of the February 19, 2014 Minutes

Committee Member Farrell moved that the minutes of February 19, 2014 meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Ushka. Voice vote was taken and carried.

Testimony from Tacoma Public Utilities

At approximately 7:04 p.m. David Nelson, Chair of the Tacoma Public Utility Board, made opening remarks.

At approximately 7:06 p.m., Woodrow Jones, Vice-Chair of the Tacoma Public Utility Board offered remarks.

At approximately 7:14 p.m., Bill Gaines, Director of Utilities/CEO introduced the Superintendents and staff from Tacoma Public Utilities (TPU) that were in attendance.

At approximately 7:16 p.m. Bill Gaines with Robert Mack, Deputy Director for Public Affairs, presented a PowerPoint presentation covering regional utility rate trends, the responsibilities of the utilities, types of utilities, bond ratings, governance and overall information regarding the Tacoma Public Utility lines of business. At approximately 7:55 p.m. questions and answers ensued.

At approximately 8:46 p.m., Bill Gaines introduced TPU Board members Bryan Flint and Mark Patterson for final remarks followed by comments from the Charter Review Committee Members.

Committee Comments

None

Subcommittees

At approximately 9:02 p.m., Chair Baarsma asked Martha Lantz, Deputy City Attorney, to present legal protocols.

At approximately 9:04 p.m. Committee Member Leighton moved to adopt the legal protocols, Seconded by Committee Member Farrell. A voice vote was taken and carried.

At approximately 9:06 p.m. Chair Baarsma asked that members of the committee finish getting signed up for subcommittees and announced that the Form of Government Subcommittee was full. He also announced the involvement of university students to help with subcommittee's research and asked that the City of Spokane Charter be put on the Charter Review website. Discussion ensued regarding quorum at subcommittees.

Chair Baarsma announced conveners for the subcommittees. The conveners are Committee Member Miller for Form of Government Subcommittee, Committee Member Leighton for the Legislative Subcommittee, Committee Member Ushka for the Administrative Subcommittee, Committee Member Martinez for the TPU Subcommittee and Committee Member Baker for the Human Resources Subcommittee.

Other Business/Unfinished Business

Committee Member Leighton reported on the communication outreach plan stating he has condensed the plan to reflect the March meetings of the Tacoma Neighborhood Councils with time and location. He said to let staff know if someone is interested in attending the meeting. Staff will work on talking points. A public hearing is scheduled for March 31, 2014 and a public town hall meeting?

Public Comment

At approximately 9:18 p.m. there was public comment.

Name	Address/Affiliation	
Gordon Howins	4818 N Waterview St Tacoma, Wa	Train noise
Dr. Joe Qua	4822 N Waterview St Tacoma, Wa	Train noise

It was suggested by Chair Baarsma that the speakers contact Congressman Gary Kilmer and let them know the second Tuesday of every month there is a Citizen’s Forum at the City Council meeting, the next one being March 11, 2014. He also mentioned to contact Council Member Thoms who had worked for Congresswoman Maria Cantwell and also that the North End Neighborhood Council has meetings once a month.

Committee Comments

No committee comments

Adjournment

Committee Member Leighton moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Committee Member Farrell. On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Bill Baarsma, Chair

Jeanne Harris, Charter Review Liaison