



Meeting Minutes

City Council

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8244

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

7:00 PM

Online and Via Phone

Register to Attend:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Od9KQgYLSQK2P7BdhXKCwQ

1. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Cheryl Selby, Mayor Pro Tem Clark Gilman, Councilmember Jim Cooper, Councilmember Yến Huỳnh, Councilmember Dani Madrone, Councilmember Lisa Parshley and Councilmember Renata Rollins

1.A ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

1.B APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

2. SPECIAL RECOGNITION - NONE

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Timothy Leadingham spoke.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4.A [21-1078](#) Approval of November 1, 2021 City Council Study Session Meeting Minutes

The minutes were adopted.

4.B [21-1081](#) Approval of November 1, 2021 City Council Special Meeting Minutes

The minutes were adopted.

4. SECOND READINGS (Ordinances)

4.C [21-1015](#) Approval of an Ordinance modifying the Boundaries of the Parking and Business Improvement Area (PBIA) correcting a Scrivener's Error; changing the number of PBIA Advisory Board Members from 15 to 11; and providing for PRIDE Programs and Events in Downtown

The ordinance was adopted on second reading.

4. FIRST READINGS (Ordinances)

- 4.D** [21-1070](#) Approval of an Ordinance Assuming the Olympia Transportation Benefit District

The ordinance was approved on first reading and moved to second reading.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Councilmember Parshley moved, seconded by Councilmember Cooper, to adopt the Consent Calendar. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Selby, Mayor Pro Tem Gilman, Councilmember Cooper, Councilmember Huynh, Councilmember Madrone, Councilmember Parshley and Councilmember Rollins

5. PUBLIC HEARING

- 5.A** [21-1052](#) Public Hearing on Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2020 Annual Report

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Manager Darian Lightfoot gave an overview of the draft Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The public comment period began October 22 and will end November 22 at 12:00 p.m. to allow the public to review the CAPER.

Mayor Selby opened the public hearing at 7:15 p.m. No one spoke. She closed the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

The public hearing was held and closed.

- 5.B** [21-1053](#) Public Hearing to Consider a Substantial Amendment to the Program Year 2021 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan

Ms. Lightfoot gave an overview of the proposed amendment to the program year 2021 CDBG to reallocate existing funds from program year 2015 and program year 2016 to a program year 2021 activity. The proposal would award funds to Olympia Community Solar to install a 73-kW rooftop solar energy system at Quixote Village providing long-term stability from an estimated \$551,330 in energy savings over 40 years.

The public comment period began October 22 and will end November 22 at 12:00 p.m. The amendment will be brought to the City Council for approval on November 23 with the new activity starting shortly after.

Mayor Selby opened the public hearing at 7:19 p.m. No one spoke. The public hearing closed at 7:19 p.m.

The public hearing was held and closed.

5.C [21-1067](#) Public Hearing on an Ordinance Setting the 2022 Ad Valorem Tax

Finance Director Aaron BeMiller gave an overview of the ordinance setting the 2022 Ad Valorem Tax.

Mayor Selby opened the public hearing at 7:34 p.m. No one spoke. The public hearing closed at 7:35 p.m.

The public hearing was held and closed.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.A [21-1086](#) Approval of the General Government Committee Recommendation to Establish a New Social Justice and Equity Commission

Equity & Inclusion Coordinator Olivia Salazar de Breaux gave an overview of the agenda for the discussion. She discussed the purpose, approach and outcome for establishing an advisory commission to support the City in dismantling institutional racism and all forms of oppression. Ms. Salazar de Breaux introduced the Founding Members Work Group: Anthony Markland, Megan Matthews, Joslyn Nelson and Rusty Shekha.

The Founding Members Work Group gave an overview of their recommendation to the City Council regarding the formation and duties of a Social Justice and Equity Commission.

Assistant City Manager Debbie Sullivan discussed the City staff and budget support recommendation and the phasing to full implementation. Ms. Salazar de Breaux highlighted the recruitment and appointment process. The Founding Member Work Group shared their reflections and words of wisdom regarding the process.

Councilmembers read the following statement:

The City Council commits Olympia to becoming an anti-racist city, which encompasses not only the removal of barriers that impact Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), but also repairing the harm that has been done. Institutional and systemic barriers remain prevalent and have resulted in a lack of equitable access to resources and opportunities. We are dedicated to rebuilding trust through reconciliation and making ongoing efforts to remove these barriers.

We will support the work of the Social Justice and Equity Commission as our guide in both process and action. We will work alongside BIPOC residents, community groups, and staff to directly shape our anti-racism strategy. We will use our resources to actively dismantle racist structures and challenge racial inequity.

Olympia is becoming more diverse. We value and respect the identities, lived experiences, and diverse perspectives of our growing community. We believe that embracing racial equity enhances the livability and vibrancy of our beautiful city for all residents. Providing everyone an opportunity to participate in the civic, economic, and cultural life of the city leads to greater quality of life and a sustainable local economy. The Council acknowledges the commitments and efforts towards anti-racism made by others in the community. We call on all organizations, businesses, and people to support Olympia in becoming an anti-racist city.

Councilmembers asked clarifying questions and shared their thanks to the Work Group and staff involved in the process.

Councilmember Parshley moved, seconded by Councilmember Cooper, to approve the General Government Committee's recommendation to establish a new Social Justice and Equity Commission as recommended by the Founding Members Work Group. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Selby, Mayor Pro Tem Gilman, Councilmember Cooper, Councilmember Huynh, Councilmember Madrone, Councilmember Parshley and Councilmember Rollins

- 6.D** [21-1059](#) Approval of an Ordinance Establishing a Social Justice and Equity Commission and Amending Olympia Municipal Code Chapter 2.100

Assistant City Manager Sullivan gave an overview of the amendment to Ordinance 2.100 to establish the Social Justice and Equity Commission.

Councilmember Parshley moved, seconded by Councilmember Cooper, to approve the ordinance establishing a Social Justice and Equity Commission, amending Olympia Municipal Code Chapter 2.100 on first reading and forward to second reading. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Selby, Mayor Pro Tem Gilman, Councilmember Cooper, Councilmember Huynh, Councilmember Madrone, Councilmember Parshley and Councilmember Rollins

- 6.B** [21-1068](#) Approval of an Ordinance Setting the 2022 Ad Valorem Tax

Finance Director BeMiller noted he gave a previous presentation on this topic and asked if there were any additional questions.

Councilmember Cooper moved, seconded by Councilmember Parshley, to approve an ordinance setting the 2022 Ad Valorem tax in the amount \$19,914,982.67 for the City's Regular Levy (including add-ons) and \$1,052,820.14 for the Excess Levy on the Fire bonds (including refunds). The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Mayor Selby, Mayor Pro Tem Gilman, Councilmember Cooper, Councilmember Huynh, Councilmember Madrone, Councilmember Parshley and Councilmember Rollins

- 6.C** [21-1076](#) Discussion of Budget Special Topics - Utility Rates, General Facility Charges, Impact Fees, Parking Business Improvement Area, and Lodging Tax

Staff reviewed 2022 Operating Budget topics and recommendations including the Utility Advisory Committee 2022 recommended Utility Rates and General Facility Charges; Parks, Transportation, and Olympia School District Impact Fees; Parking & Business Improvement Area Board (PBIA) budget; and Lodging Tax.

Councilmembers asked clarifying questions.

The discussion was completed.

- 7. CONTINUED PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

- 8. REPORTS AND REFERRALS**

- 8.A COUNCIL INTERGOVERNMENTAL/COMMITTEE REPORTS AND REFERRALS**

Councilmembers reported on meetings and events attended.

- 8.B CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AND REFERRALS**

City Manager Burney thanked Cary Retlin for his service to the City and noted he has taken a new position with the Washington State Department of Commerce.

- 9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.