



Meeting Minutes

General Government Committee

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501
Information: 360.753.8244

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

5:00 PM

Council Chambers

Register to attend:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_r0JWA2LfStu8NOXhwVocAg

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rollins called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 3 - Chair Renata Rollins, Committee member Dani Madrone and Committee member Clark Gilman

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following people spoke: Jazmine Fox-Stern, Eleanor Steinhagen, Arisa Nogler, Mercy Kariuki-McGee and Milt Harper.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 5.A** [20-0664](#) Approval of July 22, 2020 General Government Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved.

6. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- 6.A** [20-0659](#) Briefing on the Armory Creative Campus Business Plan

Arts Program Specialist Angel Nava discussed how integral the arts are in Olympia and noted the long-time need for an arts facility. She highlighted the vision for using the Armory as a creative campus and outlined next steps toward potentially purchasing the facility.

Parks, Arts & Recreation Director Paul Simmons and Economic Development Director Mike Reid discussed funding sources and continuing research into the creative campus concept.

Committee members commented and asked clarifying questions. Following discussion the Committee supported holding a Study Session with the full Council for a larger discussion about the Armory facility/space.

The report was received.

6.B [20-0660](#) Economic Development Update

Mr. Reid gave a status update on the local economy.

Committee members commented and asked clarifying questions.

The discussion was completed.

6.C [20-0662](#) Discuss Best Practices When Interviewing Community Representatives

Human Resources Director Linnaea Jablonski reviewed best practices when interviewing community representatives.

Committee members commented and asked clarifying questions.

The discussion was completed.

7. REPORTS AND UPDATES

Assistant City Manager Debbie Sullivan reported on progress in the hiring of a police auditor.

Strategic Communications Director Kellie Purce Braseth reported on recruitment progress for the Police Use of Force Board.

Ms. Purce Braseth noted the Committee expressed interest at the July meeting of adding a standing item on each month's agenda regarding public safety beyond hearing from the Police Department. She suggested Code Enforcement, Fire Department, or Community Court as other public safety perspectives. Committee members discussed using the time to re-imagine public safety amongst themselves. Chair Rollins suggested holding a General Government Committee public hearing to allow the public to speak about their vision of what public safety looks like.

City Manager Jay Burney suggested the Committee check in with the full Council before scheduling a public hearing. Committee member Madrone suggested holding a work session of the full Council to assign work to the Committees. Committee member Gilman suggested the General Government Committee hold listening sessions to hear more fully the public's demands and input for re-imagining public safety.

Ms. Sullivan reported on progress with the Equity and Inclusion Coordinator work and gathering a work group to select a facilitator to guide the process of creating a human rights commission. Committee member Madrone noted the importance of compensating the work group members.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.