



APPROVED 2-10-16

MINUTES  
City of Tacoma  
Public Utility Board Meeting  
January 27, 2016  
6:30 p.m.

Mr. Flint called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Public Utilities Administration Building.

**Present:** Woodrow Jones, Mark Patterson, Bryan Flint, Karen Larkin, Monique Trudnowski

The meeting was quorate.

**Minutes of the Previous Meetings**

Mr. Patterson moved that the minutes of the previous meetings be adopted; seconded by Ms. Trudnowski. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted and made part of the record.

**Recognitions**

Jane More, Director of Forever Green Trails, presented the Board with an award given to TPU, under the category of 'outstanding project', for phase 3 and 4 of the Cushman Trail.

**Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

**Consent Agenda**

There were no items on the consent agenda.

**Regular Agenda**

- D-1 Resolution U-10840 – Award contracts and approve purchases:
1. Award contract to the Skokomish Indian Tribe to provide professional fisheries assistance at the Cushman Hydroelectric Project (\$980,000, sales tax not applicable).

Mr. Patterson moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Trudnowski.

Mr. Jones made positive remarks about and expressed his appreciation for Tacoma Power's positive working relationship with the Skokomish Tribe.

In response to a Board inquiry regarding how many members of the Skokomish Tribe would be employed by this agreement, Florian Leischner, Fisheries Biologist, stated that two to three Tribal members would be employed for five years.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was declared adopted.

D-2 Motion 16-02 – Approve settlement of a claim from Farmers Insurance, on behalf of Ammar’s Mediterranean Grill, with Tacoma Power in the amount of \$55,523.45.

Mr. Patterson moved to approve the motion; seconded by Mrs. Trudnowski.

Bill Fosbre, Chief Deputy City Attorney, summarized the motion, details of which were provided to the Board in advance in a confidential memorandum. In response to a Board inquiry, Mr. Fosbre stated that even though the incident happened approximately a year ago, the business owner has already been reimbursed through its insurance company and this settlement is with the insurance company.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was approved.

D-3 Resolution U-10841 – Authorize execution of a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the City of Tacoma and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Water Unit.

Mr. Patterson moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Trudnowski.

Tara Schaak, Labor Negotiator, summarized the resolution. This collective bargaining agreement is from 2015 – 2018 and covers approximately 121 budgeted, full-time positions. The agreement provides for a wage increase in each year of two percent retroactive to January 1, 2015; 1.1 percent effective January 1, 2016; and two percent effective January 1, 2017, and 2.5 percent effective January 1, 2018. The agreement will be considered by the City Council on February 9, 2016.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D-4 Resolution U-10842 – Authorize execution of a collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the City of Tacoma and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Click! Unit.

Mr. Patterson moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Trudnowski.

Tara Schaak, Labor Negotiator, summarized the resolution. This collective bargaining agreement covers approximately 60 budgeted, full-time positions. This agreement extends provisions of the current agreement for one year and either party may reopen the contract with 30 days’ notice. It provides a wage increase of 1.1 percent effective January 1, 2016; and a one-time, lump-sum payment for all employees of \$1,000.00. Employees in classifications that remain redlined after January 1 will receive an additional lump sum of \$500.00. The agreement will be considered by the City Council on February 9, 2016.

In response to a Board request, Ms. Schaak stated that this agreement was negotiated in contemplation of the possible outcomes of the Click! Engagement Committee meetings and confirmed that if the Click! Engagement Committee develops a new business plan that would include modifying conditions of this contract within the timeframe of the agreement, revisions would be allowed.

In response to a Board inquiry, Ms. Schaak stated that the \$500 and \$1,000 lump sums are not added to base pay and are one-time payments.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D-5 Resolution U-10843 - Authorize execution of a collective bargaining agreement and letter of agreement negotiated between the City of Tacoma and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Supervisors Unit.

Mr. Patterson moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Trudnowski.

Tara Schaak, Labor Negotiator, summarized the resolution. This agreement covers approximately 13 budgeted, full-time positions. The agreement is for one year and provides a wage increase of 1.1 percent retroactive to January 1, 2016. The letter of agreement provides a one-time, lump sum payment of \$1,000 for three employees in the classification of Assistant Telecommunications Supervisor. The agreement will be considered by the City Council on February 9, 2016.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

Resolution U-10844 – Authorize the retention of Sitecrafting, Inc., as the TPU website vendor for mytpu.org and ClickCableTV.com, TPU's two customer-facing websites.

Mr. Patterson moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Trudnowski.

Chris Gleason, Community and Media Services Manager, summarized the resolution. Sitecrafting developed the proprietary content management system used to run mytpu.org and ClickcableTV.com. We seek to extend the operating and maintenance contract for ongoing support, emerging technology enhancements, maintenance, and the continued redesign of both websites. A mobile responsive design is also included. Ongoing maintenance includes items such as usability research, functionality, security features, integration and help with digital market campaign elements.

In response to a Board inquiry regarding what flexibility exists in the contract if there was a change in the Click! business plan involving a different range of services and pricing, Ms. Gleason stated that the contract was written to accommodate changes that may occur with Click!'s business model. Bill Fosbre, Chief Deputy City Attorney, added that the contract terms are broad enough to take new kinds of work and that additional funding is a different issue.

In response to a Board inquiry regarding what type of work staff is able to do with a proprietary content management system, Ms. Gleason stated that TPU has the flexibility with content management so we can be self-supporting. We can't hire another

contractor to work within their proprietary codes, but we can make updates and changes to our own web site.

In response to a Board inquiry, Ms. Gleason clarified that at one time Click! had a separate contract for web site development, but the contracts have since been merged.

In response to Board comments and concerns regarding the length of time that has passed since this contract has been competitively bid and whether or not the proprietary nature of the vendor makes it difficult to re-bid, Director Gaines stated that the Board has approved each of the contracts and extensions. Ms. Gleason answered that if new bids were to be obtained, TPU would have to start at ground zero with a new vendor and cost savings aren't guaranteed. There is also a benefit in continuity with a vendor.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

Resolution U-10845 – Authorize execution of an agreement between Tacoma Water and the City of University Place for the replacement of acquired asbestos cement water main during the Bridgeport Way West Sidewalk Improvement Project.

Mr. Patterson moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mrs. Trudnowski.

Ryan Flynn, Sr. Principal Engineer summarized the resolution. As part of the Bridgeport Way West sidewalk improvement project, Tacoma Water will construct approximately 3,232 linear feet of 8-inch ductile iron water main replacing the existing acquired asbestos cement water main located beneath the improvements to be constructed as part of the project. The estimated project cost for Tacoma Water is \$640,000, inclusive of sales tax and administrative costs, plus a 15 percent contingency for an aggregate total of \$736,000.

In response to a Board inquiry regarding what is covered by the 15 percent contingency, Mr. Flynn stated that the contingency is designed to provide the City of University Place certainty as to what TPU believes is a reasonable range for the estimate in case the bid comes back to over the 15 percent. If the bid comes back above 15 percent, staff would have to come back to the Board for additional funding or elect to make modifications to keep the existing main in place.

In response to a Board inquiry regarding whether or not the contingency covers change orders, Mr. Flynn stated that the \$736,000 is inclusive of any change orders.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

#### **H. Reports of the Director**

There were no reports of the Director

#### **I. Comments by the Board**

Mr. Jones made positive remarks about the annual TPU executive forum meeting, the purpose of which is to meet with TPU's business customers.

Mr. Patterson echoed Mr. Jones' positive remarks about the executive forum breakfast and added that he is pleased that TPU's business customers are well informed about TPU issues.

Mr. Flint stated he attend the methanol meeting on January 21 and stated that TPU is required by law to provide service to all legally permitted entities.

Mr. Flint stated that the Community Solar program will run from April 2016 through July 2020. Participants must be a Tacoma Power customer and be pre-registered. One 28.5-watt solar unit costs \$100.00 and estimated payments over the life of the program are \$156.00. Energization of the program is expected to be April 15, 2016. Additional information can be found on the TPU website.

**J. Adjournment**

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board was adjourned at 7:08 p.m. until Wednesday, February 10, 2016, for a study session beginning at 3:00 p.m., followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved:

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Bryan Flint, Chair

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Monique Trudnowski, Secretary