



APPROVED 1-24-18

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
January 10, 2018
6:30 p.m.

Ms. Trudnowski called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium at Tacoma Public Utilities.

Present: Mark Patterson, Woodrow E. Jones, Jr., Monique Trudnowski, Bryan Flint, Karen Larkin

The meeting was quorate.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Mr. Jones moved that the minutes of the previous meetings be adopted; seconded by Ms. Larkin. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted.

Recognitions

There were no recognitions.

Comments from the Public

Mike Elliott made comments in support of legislative policies that propose the increase of crew staffing on trains transporting oil.

Consent Agenda

There were no items on the consent agenda.

Regular Agenda

- D-1 Resolution U-10982 – Award contracts and approve purchases:
1. Award contract to Massana Construction, Inc., for the replacement of the Mossyrock Park boat launch (\$517,161, plus applicable sales tax).

Mr. Jones moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Ms. Larkin.

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

- D-2 Resolution U-10983 – Authorize Tacoma Power to execute wireline, wireless, and street light master pole attachment agreements with various telecommunication service and infrastructure providers.

Mr. Jones moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Ms. Larkin.

Jarrold Fauver, Power Engineer, summarized the resolution. Telecommunication service and infrastructure providers desire to attach wires, cable, antennas, and other equipment onto Tacoma Power's distribution system for the purpose of providing telecommunications and other services. Tacoma Power desires to facilitate community access to telecommunication services that enable the best use of its distribution system by allowing access to its poles pursuant to the terms and conditions to each agreement.

Public comment was taken from Carol Tagayun, Director of Internal Affairs for AT&T, who provided information on the increase in use of wireless technology and decrease of landlines and reminded the Board of the letter submitted, which is on file with the Clerk of the Board, which outlines AT&T's stance on this topic.

Public comment was taken from Sunny Ausink, Director for Land Use Entitlements for AT&T. Ms. Ausink outlined common goals shared by AT&T and Tacoma Power in making investments to deploy small cell technology. Concerns about Tacoma Power's pole attachment fees based on market research were outlined.

In response to a Board inquiry regarding safety considerations for Power staff, Mr. Fauver answered that staff who may encounter radio frequency (RF) energy have been trained and certified in safety by Radio Frequency International. Also, potential for exposure is eliminated by disconnection during installation and staff wears RF detectors in their clothing. In response to a Board inquiry about the impacts on future undergrounding efforts, Mr. Fauver explained that the company with attachments on Tacoma Power poles must remove the attachments if undergrounding of infrastructure is done.

Mr. Patterson added that the Board has had two study sessions on this topic and staff described the process used to set fees. Mr. Fauver added that Tacoma Power is not required to accommodate wireless pole attachments, but has chosen to work with requesters. A consultant was hired to help with the establishment of wireless fees. Staff recommends reevaluating the market in two years and making adjustment to fees if necessary. Board Member Larkin requested that instead of reevaluating the market in two years, this be brought back to the Board in one year.

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

H. Reports of the Director

H-1 November cash projections for Power, Water, Rail

H-2 November financials for Power, Water, Rail, Fleet, Self-Insurance Fund

Public Hearing

Public comment was taken as the Public Utility Board, in coordination with the Tacoma City Council, is in the process of hiring a new Tacoma Public Utilities Director. The Board is interested in feedback to help inform the hiring process. The feedback will be used in the development of the candidate profile, interview questions, and selection process.

Jim Merritt, made public comment on the desired qualifications of the next Director of Utilities and left a copy of his remarks with the Clerk of the Board for the record.

I. Comments by the Board

Board Members made remarks encouraging the public to submit comments and feedback on the recruitment effort.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board was adjourned at 7:13 p.m. until Wednesday, January 24, 2018 for a study session beginning at 3:00 p.m. at Tacoma Public Utilities, followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Tacoma Public Utilities.

Approved:

Monique Trudnowski, Chair

Karen Larkin, Secretary