



City of Tacoma

Board of Ethics Minutes

Tacoma Municipal Building North

733 Market Street

City Clerk's Conference Room 12

September 6, 2018

7:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

1. Call to Order

The special meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Board Members Present: 4 – Joseph Atkinson, Katie Baird, Ohad Lowy, and James McCarty

Board Members Absent: 1 – Linda Batway

Staff Members Present: 2 – Martha Lantz, Deputy City Attorney and Doris Sorum,
City Clerk

2. Public Hearings pursuant to Tacoma Municipal Code Section 1.46.045.F(3)(a)(ii)

a. **Complaint No. 2018-001 – Ibsen**

b. **Complaint No. 2018-002 – Ibsen**

The public hearing began at 7:07 p.m.

Chair Atkinson explained the purpose of the public hearings regarding Board of Ethics preliminary findings and conclusions in the matters of Complaint Nos. 2018-001 and 2018-002 against Deputy Mayor Anders Ibsen, who has timely requested this hearing for the purpose of presenting additional evidence in these matters.

Chair Atkinson noted that an issue of appearance of fairness has been brought forward related to his role as presiding officer of the Board, because he previously ran in a public election against Deputy Mayor Ibsen.

Deputy Mayor Ibsen requested that Mr. Atkinson recuse himself from the public hearing.

Chair Atkinson formally recused himself from the public hearing and future deliberations on the matters, after which Ms. Baird served as presiding officer.

Ms. Baird announced that the Board of Ethics received Complaint No. 2018-001 and Complaint No. 2018-002, and has issued preliminary findings in the matters, finding that the business and promotional communications that were the subjects of the complaints are in violation of the Code of Ethics 1.46.030(H), Improper Use of Position. She further stated that the Board received the following documents from Deputy Mayor Ibsen:

1. Letter dated August 30, 2018 from Lopez Law PLLC
2. Letter dated August 30, 2018 from Michael Handy Managing Broker
Windermere Professional Partners
3. August 2018 Newsletter
4. Ibsen online CV
5. Ibsen online Biography

Ms. Baird announced the order of the public hearing presentation, including an opening statement, calling witnesses, testifying, presenting documents, and Board questions.

Deputy Mayor Ibsen was sworn in, made an opening statement, testified on his own behalf, and presented the following witness:

1. Bill Fosbre, City Attorney, City of Tacoma.

Discussion ensued regarding Deputy Mayor Ibsen's documents; the relevance of the documents; and the process of the public hearing.

Speaking before the Board:

1. Claudia Riedener.

Deputy Mayor Ibsen concluded by providing a closing statement.

Discussion ensued regarding Deputy Mayor Ibsen's positions as a Council Member and a realtor, business relationships, communications and marketing materials, elements of the Ethics Code, and various Board questions and clarifications.

The public hearing ended at 7:54 p.m.

Ms. Baird stated the Board would convene to Closed Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(2), to deliberate Complaint Nos. 2018-001 and 2018-002.

Ms. Baird stated the Board would issue a written order and not announce its decision this evening.

The Board convened to Closed Session at 7:55 p.m.

Deputy City Attorney Lantz and City Clerk Doris Sorum were present.

The Closed Session concluded, and the special meeting reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business, the special meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Joseph Atkinson, Chair



Doris Sorum, City Clerk