Tax Review Commission

Meeting Minutes, November 18, 2020

Virtual Zoom Meeting
Due to Covid-19 Stay at Home Ordinance
Meeting was held virtually

Video Recording

Wednesday, November 18, 2020
12:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Members:
Elizabeth Giesting, Alton Miyashiro, Murray Clay,
Sayle Hirashima, Katharine Lloyd, Scott Teruya

Staff Members:
Department of Taxation (DOTAX): Isaac Choy, Seth Colby, Baybars Karacaovali, Yvonne Chow, Roderick Tuliao

CALL TO ORDER

Director Choy called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

Roll Call

Mr. Murray Clay Present
Ms. Elizabeth Giesting Present
Mr. Sayle Hirashima Present
Ms. Katharine Lloyd Present
Mr. Alton Miyashiro Present
Mr. Scott Teruya Present

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE COMMISSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT

None
PRESENTATION BY DR. SETH COLBY, TAX RESEARCH & PLANNING OFFICER ON OVERVIEW OF SUNSHINE LAW

Dr. Colby discussed the responsibilities and behavior expected of Commission members serving on a public committee subject to the Sunshine Law.

DISCUSSION OF THE COMMISSION’S STATUTORY DUTIES AND AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Dr. Colby discussed the duties of Tax Review Commission and offered educational resources for the Members.

REVIEW OF THE 2015-2017 COMMISSION’S RECOMMENDATIONS

Key Findings:
- Revenue Shortfall for Unfunded Liabilities
- Income Tax Rates are Progressive
- Do Not Eliminate the Corporate Income Tax
- Personal Exemption and Standard Deduction Should Be Adjusted

Recommendations:
- Increase Personal Exemption and Standard Deduction Rates
- Tax Retirement Income
- Allow Corporations to Expense New Investments
- Tax Remote Sales
- Tax E-Cigarettes
- Establish a Fiscal Commission to look at Revenue and Spending
- Commission a Study on Carbon Taxation
- Commission a Study on HARPTA refunds
- Commission a Study on the Education and its effects on Compliance

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION

A motion was made by Director Choy to elect Ms. Elizabeth Giesting as Chair for the 2020-2022 Tax Review Commission. Commission member Scott Teruya 2nd the motion. The call for vote and the motion passed with the following votes:

   Elizabeth Giesting  Yes
Alton Miyashiro    Yes
Murray Clay        Yes
Sayle Hirashima   Yes
Katharine Lloyd   Yes
Scott Teruya      Yes

A motion was made by Chair Ms. Elizabeth Giesting to have Alton Miyashiro as Vice Chair for Tax Review Commission. Commission member Scott Teruya 2nd the motion. The Chair called for the vote and the motion passed with the following votes:

Elizabeth Giesting  Yes
Alton Miyashiro     Yes
Murray Clay         Yes
Sayle Hirashima     Yes
Katharine Lloyd     Yes
Scott Teruya        Yes

NEXT MEETING:

The Tax Review Commission tentatively agreed to meet on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, at 12 p.m. It will be a virtual meeting. The Chair adjourned the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.