



CITY OF SEATTLE

City Council

Agenda

Special Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

1:00 PM

Remote Meeting. Call 253-215-8782; Meeting ID: 586 416 9164; or
Seattle Channel online.

M. Lorena González, President

Lisa Herbold, Member

Debora Juarez, Member

Andrew J. Lewis, Member

Tammy J. Morales, Member

Teresa Mosqueda, Member

Alex Pedersen, Member

Kshama Sawant, Member

Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8809; Lorena.González@seattle.gov

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For accessibility information and for accommodation requests, please call
206-684-8888 (TTY Relay 7-1-1), email CouncilAgenda@Seattle.gov, or visit
<http://seattle.gov/cityclerk/accommodations>.



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September 15, 2020 - 1:00 PM

Meeting Location:

Remote Meeting. Call 253-215-8782; Meeting ID: 586 416 9164; or Seattle Channel online.

Committee Website:

<http://www.seattle.gov/council>

In-person attendance is currently prohibited per Washington State Governor's Proclamation No. 20-28.9 through October 1, 2020. Meeting participation is limited to access by telephone conference line and Seattle Channel online.

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

C. PRESENTATIONS

D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

E. CITY COUNCIL REPORT / FINAL VOTE ON LEGISLATION

1. [CB 119891](#) AN ORDINANCE relating to the legal representation of Councilmember Kshama Sawant in judicial proceedings concerning a recall charge; paying expenses necessary to defend Councilmember Sawant in those proceedings; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Supporting Documents:

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

F. ADJOURNMENT



Legislation Text

File #: CB 119891, Version: 1

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE _____

COUNCIL BILL _____

AN ORDINANCE relating to the legal representation of Councilmember Kshama Sawant in judicial proceedings concerning a recall charge; paying expenses necessary to defend Councilmember Sawant in those proceedings; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

WHEREAS, on August 18, 2020, a recall charge was filed with King County Elections against Councilmember Kshama Sawant; and

WHEREAS, on June 13, 2011, the City Council unanimously passed Council Bill 117195, relating to the legal representation of former Councilmember Richard Conlin in judicial proceedings concerning a recall charge, paying expenses necessary to defend former Councilmember Conlin; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Sawant has requested that The City of Seattle pay the necessary expenses of defending her in legal proceedings to determine the sufficiency of the charges; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it appropriate to pay those expenses; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Pursuant to RCW 4.96.041, the necessary expenses of defending Councilmember Kshama Sawant in any and all judicial hearings to determine the sufficiency of a recall charge shall be paid by The City of Seattle, including all costs associated with an appeal of the decision rendered by the Superior Court concerning the sufficiency of the recall charge.

Section 2. The representation of Councilmember Sawant shall be supervised by the Seattle City Attorney.

Section 3. Any act consistent with the authority of this ordinance taken prior to its effective date is

ratified and confirmed.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Passed by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 2020, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this ____ day of _____, 2020.

President _____ of the City Council

Approved by me this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor

Filed by me this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

(Seal)

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

| Department: | Dept. Contact/Phone: | CBO Contact/Phone: |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| LEG | | |

** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the legal representation of Councilmember Kshama Sawant in judicial proceedings concerning a recall charge; paying expenses necessary to defend Councilmember Sawant in those proceedings; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Summary and background of the Legislation:

On August 18, 2020, a recall charge was filed with King County Elections against Councilmember Kshama Sawant.

Pursuant to RCW 4.96.041, the necessary expenses of defending Councilmember Kshama Sawant in any and all judicial hearings to determine the sufficiency of a recall charge shall be paid by The City of Seattle, including all costs associated with an appeal of the decision rendered by the Superior Court concerning the sufficiency of the recall charge. The representation of Councilmember Sawant shall be supervised by the Seattle City Attorney.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ___ Yes No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? ___ Yes No

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?

If so, describe the nature of the impacts. This could include increased operating and maintenance costs, for example.

Legal expenses are estimated to be \$75,000. However, that estimate could change depending on the length of the legal proceedings and appeals.

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?

Estimate the costs to the City of not implementing the legislation, including estimated costs to maintain or expand an existing facility or the cost avoidance due to replacement of an existing facility, potential conflicts with regulatory requirements, or other potential costs or consequences.

No

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

a. Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

If so, please list the affected department(s) and the nature of the impact (financial, operational, etc.).

The City Attorney's Office

b. Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

If yes, what public hearing(s) have been held to date, and/or what public hearing(s) are planned/required in the future?

No.

c. Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?

If yes, please describe the measures taken to comply with RCW 64.06.080.

No

d. Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

For example, legislation related to sale of surplus property, condemnation, or certain capital projects with private partners may require publication of notice. If you aren't sure, please check with your lawyer. If publication of notice is required, describe any steps taken to comply with that requirement.

No

e. Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

If yes, and if a map or other visual representation of the property is not already included as an exhibit or attachment to the legislation itself, then you must include a map and/or other visual representation of the property and its location as an attachment to the fiscal note. Place a note on the map attached to the fiscal note that indicates the map is intended for illustrative or informational purposes only and is not intended to modify anything in the legislation.

No

f. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?

If yes, please explain how this legislation may impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities. Using the racial equity toolkit is one way to help determine the legislation's impact on certain communities. If any aspect of the legislation involves communication or outreach to the public, please describe the plan for communicating with non-English speakers.

The recall petition against Councilmember Sawant cites her participation in Black Lives Matter protests as grounds to recall her. The petition goes as far as accusing the Capitol Hill Organized Protest of having created a "violent criminal toxic environment." Defending against those charges is, therefore, also related to standing with the vulnerable communities who face racism and police violence, and the tens of thousands who have participated in Seattle's Black Lives Matter protests.

g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s).

This answer should highlight measurable outputs and outcomes.

No

List attachments/exhibits below: