

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

600 Fourth Ave. 2nd Floor
Seattle, WA 98104



Journal of the Proceedings of the Seattle City Council

Thursday, July 14, 2022

2:00 PM

Special Meeting

Council Chamber, City Hall

600 4th Avenue

Seattle, WA 98104

City Council

Debora Juarez, Council President

Lisa Herbold, Member

Andrew J. Lewis, Member

Tammy J. Morales, Member

Teresa Mosqueda, Member

Sara Nelson, Member

Alex Pedersen, Member

Kshama Sawant, Member

Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8805; Debora.Juarez@seattle.gov

A. CALL TO ORDER

The City Council of The City of Seattle met in Special Session on July 14, 2022, pursuant to the provisions of the City Charter. The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m., with Council President Juarez presiding.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: 9 - Juarez, Herbold, Lewis, Morales, Mosqueda, Nelson, Pedersen, Sawant, Strauss

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

By unanimous consent, the Council Rules were suspended to provide a 30 minute Public Comment period.

The following individuals addressed the City Council:

Kody Zalewski
Dan Eisenberg
Sara Poore
Kelsey Hamlin
Zachary McCauley
Chris Walford
Jacob Yent
Diane Douglas
John Montgomery
Diane Panagiotopoulos
Heather Kelly
Wendy Williams
Kathy Sakahara
Grant Slatton
Zachary Collins
David Reeves
Troy Davis
Erik Nielsen
Kamau Chege
Logan Bowers
Andrew Hong
Hannah Sabio-Howell
Sarah Ward
Scott Berkley
Pamela Ng
Mary Fox

D. PRESENTATIONS

[Inf 2088](#) Initiative 134 “Approval Voting” and Council Bill 120369 “Ranked Voting.”

The Information Item (Inf) was heard in Council.

E. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion was made, duly seconded and carried, to adopt the Agenda.

F. ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. [CF 314495](#) Report of the City Clerk on the Certificate of Sufficiency for Initiative No. 134, concerning approval voting for Mayor, City Attorney, and City Councilmember primary elections.

Motion was made and duly seconded to file Clerk File 314495.

The Motion carried, and the Clerk File (CF) was filed by the following vote:

In Favor: 9 - Juarez, Herbold, Lewis, Morales, Mosqueda, Nelson, Pedersen, Sawant, Strauss

Opposed: None

2. [CF 314498](#) City Council motion and declaration of City Council intent to reject Initiative No. 134, relating to voting in city primary elections and placing Initiative No. 134 on the November 8, 2022 ballot in conjunction with the Ranked Choice Voting measure (Council Bill 120369), a proposed alternative measure on the same matter.

Motion was made and duly seconded to approve and file Clerk File 314498.

The Motion carried, the Clerk File (CF) was approved and filed by the following vote, and the President signed the Declaration:

In Favor: 7 - Herbold, Lewis, Morales, Mosqueda, Pedersen, Sawant, Strauss

Opposed: 2 - Juarez, Nelson

3. [CB 120369](#) **AN ORDINANCE relating to ranked choice voting; requesting that a special election be held concurrent with the November 8, 2022 general election for submission to the qualified electors of the City of a proposition to institute ranked choice voting for primary elections for City of Seattle elected offices; adding a new Chapter 2.18 to the Seattle Municipal Code; proposing a ballot title; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.**

ACTION 1:

Motion was made and duly seconded to pass Council Bill 120369.

ACTION 2:

Motion was made by Councilmember Lewis and duly seconded, to amend Council Bill 120369, Section 1., Seattle Municipal Code Section 2.18.020. A and C, as shown in the underlined and strike through language below:

2.18.020 Ranked choice voting

Ranked choice voting shall be used in City of Seattle primary elections as soon as practicable for King County Elections. The City Council requests that King County Elections implement the provisions of this Chapter 2.18 no later than 2027 to select the top two candidates for elective offices of The City of Seattle as those offices are designated in City Charter Article XIX.

A. Nominating primaries shall be conducted using the bottoms-up method of ranked choice voting. Voters shall receive ballots that enable them to rank candidates in order of preference. Each voter's ballot shall count as a single vote for whichever candidate the voter has ranked the highest. King County Elections shall count votes in rounds. In each round, the candidate who received the fewest ~~((first choices))~~ top rankings shall be eliminated. ~~((and the ballot with each))~~ When a candidate is eliminated, a vote cast for ((the eliminated)) that candidate shall be transferred to that ballot's next-highest ranked remaining candidate and a new round of counting shall begin. Counting of top-ranked candidates and elimination of the ~~((lowest ranked))~~ candidate with the fewest top rankings shall continue until two candidates remain. ~~((Each voter's ballot shall count as a single vote for whichever of the two remaining candidates the voter has ranked higher.))~~ The final two remaining candidates shall be certified as qualified to appear on the general election ballot.

* * *

C. The King County Director of Elections may limit the number of candidates that voters are able to rank, provided that voters are allowed to rank at least five candidates, ~~((excluding any write-in candidates.))~~ if at

least five candidates have filed.

* * *

The Motion carried by the following vote:

In favor: 7 - Herbold, Lewis, Morales, Mosqueda, Pedersen, Sawant,
Strauss

Opposed: 2 - Juarez, Nelson

ACTION 3:

Motion was made and duly seconded to pass Council Bill 120369 as amended.

The Motion carried, the Council Bill (CB) passed as amended by the following vote, and the President signed the Council Bill (CB):

In Favor: 8 - Juarez, Herbold, Lewis, Morales, Mosqueda, Pedersen, Sawant,
Strauss

Opposed: 1 - Nelson

4. [Res 32057](#) **A RESOLUTION regarding Initiative 134 concerning allowing voters to vote for multiple candidates in primary elections (rejected by the City Council on July 14, 2022); authorizing the City Clerk and the Executive Director of the Ethics and Elections Commission to take those actions necessary to enable proposed Initiative 134 to appear on the November 8, 2022, ballot and the local voters' pamphlet in conjunction with the Ranked Choice Voting proposal (City Council Bill 120369), which is a proposed alternative measure on the same subject matter in accordance with Charter Article IV; requesting the King County Elections Director to place the proposed Initiative 134 and its alternate on the November 8, 2022, election ballot in accordance with applicable law; and providing for the publication of such proposed Initiative Measure and its alternate.**

ACTION 1:

Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 32057.

ACTION 2:

Motion was made by Councilmember Lewis, duly seconded and carried, to amend Resolution 32057, by substituting version 2 for version 1.

ACTION 3:

Motion was made and duly seconded to adopt Resolution 32057 as amended.

The Motion carried, and the Resolution (Res) was adopted as amended by the following vote, and the President signed the Resolution (Res):

In Favor: 9 - Juarez, Herbold, Lewis, Morales, Mosqueda, Nelson, Pedersen, Sawant, Strauss

Opposed: None

G. OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Linda Barron, Deputy City Clerk

Signed by me in Open Session, upon approval of the Council, on July 19, 2022

Debora Juarez, Council President of the City Council

Elizabeth M. Adkisson, Interim City Clerk