

CITY COUNCIL BUDGET HEARING

City Council Chambers  
Tuesday, October 8th, 1968

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rasmussen at 7:30 P. M.

Present on roll call 7: Banfield, Bott, Cvitanich, Finnigan, Johnson, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen. Absent 2: Herrmann and Murtland. Dr. Herrmann arriving at 8:00 P. M.

Mayor Rasmussen said, this is the continuation of the budget hearing from October 7th, 1968. Mayor Rasmussen called on the various representatives who wished to speak.

Mr. Herrick K. Allen, 509 No. Tacoma Ave., spoke on behalf of the Society of Professional Engineers. He pointed out that the City must attract and retain competent engineers in its employ. Their society believed that the recommendations made by the Professional Engineers, that the median salary offered graduating engineers should be between \$770 and \$800 per month. He emphasized that the City could not at the present time recruit engineers to replace those promoted or leaving the City Service at the present salary.

Mr. Allen stated, their specific recommendation is a two and one-half step salary range for the Engineers, starting at \$800. a month; a three-step range increase for Professional Engineers; a four-step range increase for Principal Professional Engineers. He urged the Council to equate these salaries on the present scales which are based according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

A communication from the Utility Board was read by Clif Erdahl, Director of Public Utilities, which stated in part that the Utility Board has carefully reviewed the salary and wage recommendations which were made based upon survey information of prevailing salaries and wages, and upon negotiations with employee representatives. The Board unanimously recommended that these salaries and wages insofar as they relate to the Utilities' operation be adopted for inclusion in the 1969 budget.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, suggested that the City Council and Management Team meet with the Joint Labor Committee in a session for about twenty minutes.

Mayor Rasmussen announced that the hearing will recess for approximately forty minutes to hold a meeting with the Joint Labor Committee.

The meeting reconvened at 10:30 P. M.

Mr. Cvitanich suggested that the Council review the budget page by page and make suggestions.

Mr. Worell, Laborers' International #1239, representing the trackmen at the Belt Line, explained that the trackmen are not being paid wages comparable to the Port of Tacoma's trackmen, who are receiving \$4.30 an hour for doing the same type of work.

Mr. Cvitanich thought this situation was rectified at a previous meeting.

Mr. Erdahl, Director of Utilities, said he would confer with the Belt Line representatives and bring back a report to the Council.

Mr. Rowlands said, since the budget has been prepared many important programs were deleted to balance the budget.

Mr. Cvitanich called attention to Page 20 of the budget where the Sister City program has been allotted \$1,000.

Mr. Rowlands explained that this is merely the membership in the Sister City program.

Mr. Gaisford, Director of Finance, explained that this particular budget was prepared by the Finance Department in conjunction with the same activities as in the year of 1968. He added, this is a preliminary budget and any changes should be recommended at this time.

Mayor Rasmussen explained that on Page 20 he has already requested that the Puget Sound Transportation Study, the Puget Sound Governmental Conference and the Puget Sound Air Pollution Agency appropriation be transferred from the Legislative budget to the General Non-Departmental Budget.

Mr. Zatkovich suggested that the \$6500 for the Puget Sound Transportation Study be eliminated.

Mayor Rasmussen asked if the figure, for the Association of Washington Cities dues, is the same as last year.

Mayor Rasmussen questioned the dues listed under the Association dues on Page 20 relative to the International Union of Local Authorities dues, in the amount of \$100; the International American Municipal Association dues of \$100; Town Affiliation Association dues of \$200; Sister City of \$1,000 and donation to U. P. S. Symphony of \$3,500 and Band Concerts of \$3,000.

Mr. Rowlands explained, the International Union of Local Authorities is an organization of municipalities around the world with headquarters at The Hague. The International American Municipal Association is an organization to promote better relations between North, Central and South America. The Town Affiliation Association and the Sister City organizations will in all probability be amalgamated into one Association in the near future.

Mr. Cvitanich felt the Council should establish a policy, as each year more and more donations for worthy projects, are requested by various groups.

Mr. Johnson moved that the \$100 dues for the International Union of Local Authorities and the \$100 dues for the International American Municipal Association be deleted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen moved that the category of Expert Services be placed under Non-Departmental General Government, rather than under the Legislative Budget. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen moved that the Sister City amount of \$1,000 be deleted from the budget. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Roll call was taken on the motion, resulting as follows: Ayes 4: Banfield, Cvitanich, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen. Nays 4: Bott, Finnigan, Herrmann and Johnson. Absent 1: Murtland. Motion Lost.

After some discussion, Mr. Cvitanich moved to amend the \$1,000 for the Sister City Program to the figure of \$500. Seconded by M. Johnson. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to reduce the Allied Arts contribution of \$3,000 to \$2500. Voice vote taken. Motion Lost.

Mayor Rasmussen moved to reduce the Travel & Subsistence item from \$10,000 to \$5,000. Seconded by Mrs. Banfield. Roll call was taken on the motion, resulting as follows: Ayes 4: Banfield, Cvitanich, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen. Nays 4: Bott, Finnigan, Herrmann and Johnson. Absent 1: Murtland. Motion Lost.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to reduce the UPS Symphony and the Band Concert category from \$6500 to \$5500. Seconded by Mrs. Banfield. Voice vote taken. Motion Lost.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to delete the item on Page 21, under contractual services in regard to Building Repairs & Maintenance in the amount of \$8,000. Seconded by Mrs.

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Banfield. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Zatkovich moved to delete under Capital Outlay on Page 22, the item Furniture and Fixtures for City Council Chambers in the amount of \$2,000. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Cvitanich asked that the consolidation of the Photo Reproduction Facilities into the Department of Public Information and General Services be discussed.

Mr. Rowlands said that a report would be forthcoming in a few days.

Mrs. Banfield referred to Page 29 under the City Manager's budget, and remarked that the City Manager's salary is too high for a City of Tacoma's size and suggested a decrease for the year 1969.


Dr. Herrmann moved that the budget hearing be adjourned. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Roll call was taken on the motion. Ayes 4: Bott, Finnigan, Herrmann and Johnson. Nays 4: Banfield, Cvitanich, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen. Absent 1: Murtland. Motion Lost.

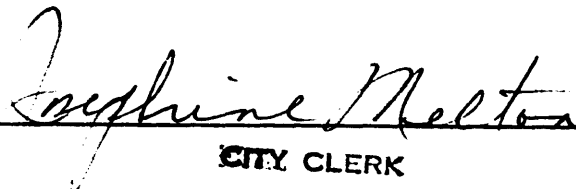
Dr. Herrmann, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Finnigan and Mr. Bott left the meeting.

Mayor Rasmussen explained, there is not a quorum present for the Council to act on any business.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the budget hearings be recessed until 4 P. M., Wednesday Oct. 9th, 1968. Seconded by Mrs. Banfield, Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 12:30 A. M.

  
R. L. RASMUSSEN, MAYOR

TEST:   
CITY CLERK