

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7:30 P. M.

Monday, October 21, 1957

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 8: Battin, Bratrud, Goering, Humiston, Perdue, Stojack, Tollefson and Mayor Anderson. Mr. Jensen taking his seat at 7:45 P. M. Absent 0.

It was moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Tollefson that the minutes of the October 8th meeting be approved and the reading thereof be dispensed with. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

It was moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Tollefson that the minutes of the October 9th meeting be approved and the reading thereof be dispensed with. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Mr. Stojack called attention to an error in the October 10th minutes which listed him as being absent. He advised that he was present during roll call, but left the meeting shortly thereafter. It was moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Tollefson that the minutes of the October 10th meeting be approved as corrected. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

It was moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Tollefson that the minutes of the October 14th meeting be approved and the reading thereof be dispensed with. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

#### RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 15132:

By BRATRUD:

Authorizing private sale and execution of a local improvement assessment deed to Robert J. Wood and Irma B. Wood, covering property located at North 45th and Bristol Street, for the sum of \$10.00.

Adopted on roll call October 21, 1957  
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Resolution No. 15133:

By BATTIN:

Authorizing settlement of claim of Fred Wheeler and Pearl Wheeler in amount of \$771.52 for injuries sustained by Mrs. Wheeler when she fell on a defective sidewalk; and authorizing payment from the Sundry Injuries and Damages Fund.

Adopted on roll call October 21, 1957  
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Resolution No. 15134:

By STOJACK:

Authorizing a new lease with the Tacoma Housing Authority for premises for a Well Child Clinic at Salishan.

Adopted on roll call October 21, 1957  
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Resolutions, Numbers 14914 and 14915:

Providing for special Municipal Elections to amend the City Charter.

As Mr. Jensen was not present at this time, it was requested by Mayor Anderson that Resolutions Numbers 14914 and 14915 be considered at the end of the Agenda.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15967:      W. O. 7707 - Units 301 to 336.

Ordering the construction, reconstruction and repair of sidewalks, etc. W. O. 7707 - Units # 301 to 336 - Court C Street from South 6th Street to South 13th Street. Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15960:

Abolishing the Municipal Shops Revolving Fund; transferring all moneys, assets and liabilities in said fund to the Equipment Rental Fund; and repealing Ordinance No. 15476. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Ordinance No. 15961:      L. I. D. 2231.

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 2231 - crushed rock and oil mat surface on South 10th Street from Winnifred Street to Bennett Street and on Shirley Street from South 11th Street to South 9th Street. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Ordinance No. 15962:      L. I. D. 2232.

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 2232 - concrete sidewalks on both sides of Shirley Street from South 11th Street to

South 9th Street; both sides of South 10th Street from Winnifred Street to Shirley Street and the north side of South 10th Street from Shirley Street to Bennett Street. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen

Ordinance No. 15963: L. I. D. 2264.

Approving and confirming assessment roll for L I D 2264 - two applications of MC-3 cutback asphalt and crushed rock on South Thompson Avenue from South 56th Street to South 59th Street. Read by title and passed. 360

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Ordinance No. 15964: L. I. D. 4580 .

Approving and confirming assessment roll for L I D 4580 - asphalt paving on Hawthorne Street from North 11th Street to Lenore Drive, Rose Lane from North 11th to North 13th Street, Lenore Drive from North 11th Street to North 17th Street, Bridgeview Drive from Skyline Drive to North 17th Street, Heatherwood East from North 13th Street to Bridgeview Drive, Heatherwood West from North 13th Street to Bridgeview Drive, Heatherwood Circle and North 13th Street from Hawthorne Street to Skyline Drive. Read by title and passed. 360

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

Ordinance No. 15965: L. I. D. 4582.

Approving and confirming assessment roll for L I D 4582 - asphalt paving on Fife Street from South 17th to South 19th Streets. Read by title and passed. 360

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen

Ordinance No. 15966: L. I. D. 4603.

Approving and confirming assessment roll for L I D. 4603 - asphalt paving on Cedar Street from North 29th Street to North 30th Street, North 39th Street from Monroe Street to Tyler Street, Shirley Street from North 26th Street to the north line of Nelson's Second Addition. Read by title and passed. 360

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Jensen.

ITEMS RECEIVED FOR FILING IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

1. \* Monthly report of the Fire Department, Fire Prevention Bureau, Fire Alarm and Radio for the month of September, 1957.
2. X Tacoma Transit System - Report for September 1957 and 9 months of 1956 and 9 months of 1957.
3. X Harbormaster - Report of Harbor Commerce, Waterborne, Foreign and Domestic Statistics for August, 1957. 452

NEW BUSINESS: X

Mayor Anderson reported that many complaints have been received by his office concerning the hull of the "Pacific Queen" which exploded at the Old Town Dock. He asked City Attorney, Mr. Marshall McCormick, what can be done to remove it from the Dock.

Mr. McCormick said they are checking into this matter to ascertain what jurisdiction the City has. They have not determined whether it is on a City Street or in navigable waters, in which event, it would be under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government, he stated. The City could order it removed and charge the cost against the property involved, he said. It is estimated it will cost from \$40,000 to \$50,000 to remove the ship, and the City does not have that kind of money to advance right now, unless there was some assurance of being reimbursed. It is his understanding that the owners have filed a petition for a decree of "Limited Liability" in the Federal Government, which would limit the liability to the salvage, Mr. McCormick said.

The Coast Guard is having hearings and interested parties are in the process of taking bids on the salvage, he stated. Mayor Anderson asked Mr. McCormick to investigate the case and report back to Council next Monday on just what jurisdiction the City has in this matter.

Mayor Anderson stated that Resolutions 14914 and 14915 which had been laid over for consideration until later in the meeting would be considered at this time.

Resolution No. 14914:

Submitting to qualified voters at a Special Municipal Election of a proposition to amend Sections 2.1 and 2.4 of the City Charter (to provide for direct election of Mayor for four-year term). It was moved by Mr. Stojack to adopt, seconded by Mr. Bratrud.

Mr. Bratrud stated that at the last City Charter Election, one of the objections was that the City should have an elected Mayor, and some Council members also were of the same opinion, and for this reason the above Resolution was presented.

Mr. Perdue pointed out that this Resolution calls for a special election in May, 1957, and asked if it should be adopted under these circumstances.

Mr. McCormick replied that if it is adopted it should be with the understanding that proper changes would be made. He also stated that Resolution No. 14914 and 14915 are in conflict with each other as both provide for the election of a Mayor, and in view of this fact both Resolutions should not be adopted by Council in this form. If both propositions were placed on the ballot and passed, there might be some difficulty in carrying out their provisions, he added.

Mr. Tollefson said he did not feel that any propositions which are opposed to each other should be put on the ballot. He pointed out that the Council held several hearings at the Public Utilities Auditorium, for the purpose of receiving suggestions from the public, but none had been offered.

Mr. Jensen said, although the position of Mayor was presumably to be a part time job, it is actually full time. He feels a City the size of Tacoma need a full time Mayor, as the many functions and meetings he is required to attend takes up his full time. The voters should have an opportunity to decide this matter

at an election, and he was in favor of placing the proposition on the ballot, Mr. Jensen stated.

Mrs. Goering asked if this Resolution meant that the Mayor would have to give up all other business interests in order to fill the office of Mayor.

Mayor Anderson, at whose request the Resolution was drawn, said he wanted it understood that he was not a candidate for the position of Mayor in the future. He felt he could have taken care of many matters which came up, if he had more time, and that an injustice is done the Mayor under the present set-up, Mayor Anderson said. It was his understanding that under the provisions of this resolution, it would mean the Mayor would have to give up his private business, he added. Mrs. Goering said she felt that by forcing a Mayor to give up his business, we might lose a lot of good Mayor material. It might be a danger clause, to add to the duties of the Mayor from time to time by Ordinance, as provided in this Resolution, and she felt it would be a step toward a puppet Council and a strong Mayor form, she stated.

Mr. Bratrud said he believed in the City Manager form of Government, but he felt the City should have a full time Mayor, elected by the people as this would strengthen the form of government. A full time Mayor would in no way infringe on the duties of the City Manager, he claimed.

Mr. Stojack pointed out that the discussion was whether or not this matter should be put on the ballot, and he feels the people should have the opportunity of voting on this. Mrs. Goering claimed that the citizens would not be voting on all the implications contained in the Resolution.

Dr. Humiston said he felt changes should be put on the ballot by Council which (1) are things which the Council members believe are desirable, or (2) are changes for which there is a strong public demand. These amendments do not meet this criterion, and for this reason he is going to vote against them.

Dr. Battin said he felt the same as Dr. Humiston, at the hearings at the Public Utility Building last spring, he was surprised at the decided indifference shown on the part of the public on these matters, and this would indicate that the public is satisfied with the way things are going. He fears this may be a wedge for reaching out for more authority, and weakening the form of government, Dr. Battin stated. If there was evidence of a wide spread demand for the change, his attitude would be different, but most of the support has been from the Council and not from the outside, Dr. Battin stated. He is opposed to the Resolution on these grounds, he added.

Mr. Tollefson said he felt the way to solve this problem is to give the Mayor more adequate compensation, as a Mayor certainly serves more than 40 hours a week. This adjustment does not require a Charter Amendment as the State Law has been changed to allow a City to fix the salary of the Mayor and Council by Ordinance, even though it is specifically set out in the City Charter, Mr. Tollefson advised. He felt that any salary adjustment should be made before the next election, he added.

Mayor Anderson asked about postponing the action on the Resolution. At this time, Mr. Stojack withdrew his motion to adopt the Resolution. This action was not sanctioned by Mr. Bratrud who had seconded the motion, nor was it recognized by the Chair.

Mr. Perdue said he felt the matter should be decided tonight rather than postponing it again as there is a 100% attendance of Council Members at tonight's meeting. The only thing that should be changed is the date of the election, he pointed out. Mr. McCormick advised there are actually two points involved: (1) Whether the Mayor should be elected by the people and (2) whether provisions should be made giving him added duties. The resolution can be drawn anyway the Council desires, he stated.

Mr. Tollefson said he thought the Council should pass on this matter tonight. There is nothing to prevent any Council member from bringing in any other amendment, he pointed out.

Mr. Otto H. Dunayski said he had been present at the meetings at the Utility Building and had made several suggestions for Charter Changes, among them the full-time Mayor. He felt the salary should be set out in the Charter, as this was the only way the public would have anything to say about the amount to be paid for the position.

The Roll was called on the Resolution, resulting as follows: Ayes 4, Bratrud, Jensen, Stojack and Mayor Anderson. Nays 5; Battin, Goering, Humiston, Perdue and Mr. Tollefson. Absent 0. The Resolution was lost on roll call.

Resolution No. 14915:

By BRATRUD:

Submitting to qualified voters at a Special Municipal Election of a proposition to amend Sections 2.1 and 2.4 of the City Charter (to provide for the election of Mayor, to provide his compensation and to reduce the Council to seven members).

Mr. Bratrud, who sponsored this Resolution said he feels that a nine-member Council is too large. He had no ulterior motive in presenting this amendment and should it be adopted, he was willing to resign immediately. Mr. Bratrud said. He said he believes in the City Manager form of Government, but feels it might need some improvements, as it is too far removed from the people.

Dr. Battin said he was afraid of the danger in this amendment and claimed it was a backward step. An organized group could fix up a slate and elect it, he added.

Mr. Bratrud said he was not aiming criticism at any member of the present Council in suggesting a reduction in the number of Council members, as he felt they had all worked faithfully and hard.

Roll was called on the Resolution, resulting as follows: Ayes 4; Bratrud, Jensen, Stojack and Mayor Anderson. Nays 5; Battin, Goering, Humiston, Perdue and Mr. Tollefson. The Resolution was declared lost on roll call.

Mr. Bratrud called attention to the "Harbormasters Monthly Report" which he had received with his agenda this week. He never read this voluminous report, and did not believe other Council members read it either. As far as he was concerned it is a waste of time and money to compile this report, and asked if this was just being compiled primarily for the Council,

Mayor Anderson asked George Smith, Assistant City Manager to check into the matter and ascertain if the Harbor Master's report is necessary.

Mr. Bratrud asked what the status was on the proposed Airport on the Peninsula, of which there has been numerous rumors. Mr. Smith advised that has been some discussion of an Airport site for Tacoma which is a part of the Six-year Capital Improvement Program, and this is one of the locations suggested by the City Planning Commission. Nothing officially has been done, and there has been no application filed with the Civil Aeronautics Administration, he said.

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Mayor Anderson explained that so far, it is just a matter of investigation and obtaining information from the C. A. A. and that the matter has been discussed with the County Commissioners and Port Commission.

Mr. Frank Southwell protested locating an airport on the Peninsula, saying it would cut the area in two and take valuable property off the tax rolls. He asked if the Council was promoting this, as he understands that the County Commissioners are opposed to it. Mayor Anderson advised that there has been some demand for an Airport for Tacoma, and it is up to the Council to investigate the matter. Mr. Southwell asked if the Council was in favor of the location if it met the approval of the C. A. A. Mayor Anderson said he did not believe the Council could take a position on the matter until they have more information. Mr. Rowlands, who is in Washington D. C. attending a City Managers' Convention, is discussing the Airport situation with the C. A. A. and will report back to Council, Mayor Anderson stated. Another resident of the Peninsula area also spoke against the possibility of an Airport in that locality and asked if surveys had been made. Mayor Anderson replied that to his knowledge no surveys had been made.

X Dr. Humiston advised that the Utility Board would like to meet with the Council at noon on Tuesday, October 29th in the Cafeteria at the Public Utilities Building. Mr. Dixon, of the firm of Arundel-Dixon is coming up from California to discuss ways and means of handling his company's contract on the Cowlitz. Dr. Humiston said that he would notify each Council member by letter of this meeting. 4/23

X Mr. Tollefson asked about the proposed Metropolitan Area Program of Seattle and King County and to what extent it might invade the natural areas served by the City of Tacoma. He wondered what position Tacoma should take or whether we should meet with the Seattle group, Mr. Tollefson said. Mayor Anderson said he was going to meet with the Mayor of Seattle this week and he would bring it up for discussion at this meeting and report back to Council.

Upon motion, duly seconded and carried, Council adjourned at 9:18 P. M.

  
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President of City Council

Attest:

  
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City Clerk