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CITY COUNCIL BUDGET HEARING

Tuesday, October 5, 1965
City Council Chambers, 5:10 P. M.

Mrs. Ellen Price, Acting Mayor, stated the City Council will continue with the Budget hearing.

Mr. Murtland asked if the Budget provided for any additional patrolmen in the Police Department. 58-
19.13

Mr. Rowlands stated, there was no provision for additional patrolmen.

Mr. Murtland said he would be more in favor of adding patrolmen than for some of the salary increases.

Mr. Rowlands stated that ten more officers would cost the City approximately \$75,000.

Mr. Cvitanich stated that crime is increasing but the Police force is not. He added, the Police officers' work load has become too great to allow them to do an adequate job. He felt that a one-third cutback in the recommended wage increase might pay for 10 more patrolmen. He also felt the strengthening of the department should be given a higher priority than wage increases.

Mr. Finnigan agreed that more police manpower was a proven need and of supreme importance.

Deputy Police Chief R. E. Duppenhaler stated the department's primary need is adequate salaries to attract and keep good officers. He said they have about 240 officers which is eleven short of the complement provided for in the present budget. However, the City has had some difficulty in recruiting qualified men and stated he felt that increasing salaries would help.

Mr. Rowlands stated he would rather have a force of 1500 well paid City employees than 1600 unhappy City employees. He felt the force would survive another year, and he hoped that 20 more men would be added to the department if the voters approve the initiative next year giving cities their share of the sales tax.

Mr. Rowlands stated that a salary survey of the area noted that pay increases for City employees should be justified. This survey was asked for by the City Council a few months ago.

Deputy Chief Duppenhaler stated the Department would rather have better men, and if it takes more money to get them, then they would rather have the increase.

Mr. Haley stated that the Police Union has asked for a two-step salary increase so that the Tacoma Policemen can be on a par with Seattle and Portland.

Mr. Murtland asked to be informed of the amount of money that it will take for a one- range increase.

Deputy Chief Duppenhaler stated that within 18 months there will be a number of policemen who will be retiring on a 25-year basis with an escalator clause which will give them a raise in pension with the active men.

Mr. Sam Kinville, representing the Local chapter of the American Federation of County and City employees, felt that Mr. Cvitanich and Mr.

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Murtland, in effect, wished the other City employees to pay for the added patrolmen since they advocated such a small percentage for a wage increase.

Mr. Cvitanich asked that the salaries of a plumber in the Parks Dept. and a plumber in the Dept. of Public Utilities be submitted for Thursday night's meeting.

Mrs. Price, Acting Mayor, stated that the Council agreed that it was up to the Park Commission as to what salaries were paid in its departments.

It was moved by Mr. Cvitanich that the Budget hearing be recessed until Wednesday, October 6th at 7:00 P. M. Seconded by Mr. Haley. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

W. M. Kelly
Mayor of the City Council

Attest: *Josephine Melton*
City Clerk