

Council Chambers, 4:00 P.M.  
Monday, January 4, 1960

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 8: Anderson, Bratrud, Easterday, Goering, Humiston, Perdue, Price and Mayor Hanson. Absent 1, Porter. Mr. Porter coming in at 4:10 P.M.

Mr. Anderson moved that the minutes of the meeting of December 28, 1959 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Voice Vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Porter.

Porter coming in at this time.

#### HEARINGS AND APPEALS:

388  
106  
This is the date set for hearing on the petition of Floyd Shiffer for the vacation of property on Whitworth Street between Mullen and Ferdinand Streets.

Mr. Buehler, Planning Director, explained that the Planning Commission at its meeting of November 17, 1959 approved the vacation of Whitman Street upon the condition that the abutting owner, Mr. Doan, assume ownership and maintenance of a trunk sewer line within the vacation; also that the petitioners join existing sidewalks at their own expense.

He also pointed out that this street has never been improved. Access to the surrounding residences is available by way of Ferdinand, Mullen, No. 41st and No. 42nd Streets.

Dr. Humiston moved that the proper Ordinance be drawn vacating Whitman St. between Mullen and Ferdinand subject to certain conditions. Seconded by Mr. Anderson. Voice vote was taken on the motion resulting as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

388  
106  
This is the date for hearing on the petition of Mason Halligan for the vacation of property on that portion of Norton Place between Vassault and Five Views Road.

Mr. Buehler explained that when Five Views Road in this Addition was revamped and planned it was found that Norton Place was not actually needed or used. This vacation of Norton Place will permit a more orderly development of Building and will place this land back on the tax rolls.

Mr. Buehler added that at the meeting of November 17, 1959, the Planning Commission approved the vacation subject to a deed<sup>to</sup> given for certain right of way for street purposes at the Five View Road intersection and that a sewer easement be given over the east 20 feet of Lot 10, Block 4.

Dr. Humiston then moved that an Ordinance be drawn vacating Norton Place between the easterly line of Five View Road and Vassault Street subject to certain conditions. Seconded by Mr. Perdue. Voice vote was taken on the motion resulting as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Mayor Hanson asked that the rules be suspended to take up a Resolution that does not appear on the agenda.

Dr. Humiston moved that the rules be suspended to take up Resolution No. 15994 which does not appear on the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Perdue. Voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 15994:

BY EASTERDAY:

Commending and congratulating the entire football squad of the University of Washington on their hard-fought and well-earned victory over the University of Wisconsin in the Rose Bowl on New Year's Day, 1960.

It was moved by Mr. Easterday that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Porter.

Mayor Hanson said this Resolution certainly sets forth the sentiment of the entire City of Tacoma.

Voice vote was then taken on the Resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.  
The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 15981 (Postponed from the meeting of December 28, 1959)

BY PERDUE

Awarding contract to LaVelle Construction Co. on their bid of \$16,740 plus sales tax for demolition and removal of dangerous building known as 1355-53-49 Broadway and 1356-54-50 Commerce Street. 427

Mayor Hanson explained that the Council had postponed this Resolution one week to allow Mr. Monroe Burnett an opportunity to obtain sufficient deeds in order for his clients to purchase the building. He asked Mr. Burnett to report on his progress.

Mr. Burnett explained that due to the busy holiday season he has made little progress the past week. However, he said, his clients have indicated no objections would be raised if the City proceeded with its plans for the demolition.

It was then moved by Easterday that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Bratrud.

Mr. Rowlands said Mr. Gillis, the Building Inspector and Mr. Schuster have bothchecked the building and said it was in a very dangerous condition.

Mr. Anderson said inasmuch as the winter season is upon us all necessary action should be taken to demolish the building at this time.

Mayor Hanson said he agreed and added that this was a historic occasion as the City has been attempting for many years to get rid of this building. It took special legislation to proceed on this project. It will be a step forward when the demolition of this building has begun.

Voice vote was then taken on the motion to adopt the Resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.  
The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.



JAN 4 1960

Resolution No. 15988:

BY BRATRUD:

Awarding contract to Sather Electric Distributors for the furnishing of 28 galvanized steel traffic signal poles in the sum of \$7,387.52 plus sales tax.

It was moved by Mr. Perdue that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Anderson.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 15989:

BY PORTER:

Awarding contract to Irwin Jones Motor Company for furnishing one dump truck together with optional tires for the sum of \$3,106.86 less trade-in, plus applicable sales tax.

It was moved by Mr. Perdue that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Anderson.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 15990:

BY PERDUE:

Appropriating an additional \$4,500 for the construction and equipping of the recreational and athletic field in the Snake Lake Area.

It was moved by Mr. Anderson that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Bratrud.

Mr. Rowlands explained that this additional amount will be necessary to complete the sodding as the initial funds were not sufficient. The funds contemplate in this Resolution were included in the information distributed to the City Council approximately two or three weeks ago which summarized the amount needed to complete the work to be done by the City. This amounted to \$182,982.00 which included these additional funds to complete the sodding of the field.

This additional work on the field has also been advertised in the January 4, 1960 paper in accordance with the State Statutes.

Mayor Hanson said this amount, then, does not exceed the sum already set aside for the completion of the Park.

Mr. Rowlands replied that was correct.

Dr. Humiston asked if the last force account was also advertised.

Mr. Rowlands said he did not believe the previous one was advertised.

Mr. Anderson said it was explained previously, inasmuch as this was such a special occasion it was legal to proceed in that manner.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, said when this matter of sodding the infield of the Ball Park originally came before the City Council, they were informed that the estimated cost thereof would be approximately \$2000. This was within the \$2500 limitation fixed by State Law on work done by City forces, therefore it was not necessary to comply with the requirements of State law in reference to the work estimated to be over \$2500. Thereafter the sodding of the outfield was begun and due to rain and this odd work, the City Council was asked to appropriate an additional \$3500. It was his understanding that the actual cost of work to be done would be under \$2500. The rest of the amount appropriated was for a cushion for unexpected delays, etc. This, therefore, came within the \$2500 limitation. However, it was his understanding that due to excessive rain and weather conditions the entire cost was expended. As to the last estimate which was over \$2500, the requirements of the State Statute are now being followed.

Mayor Hanson said as he understands, the first \$2000 was only to get the laying of the infield under way because that was the most essential part.

Mr. Rowlands explained that the first appropriation was for sodding the infield. After talking with Milt Anderson, it was decided that the outfield should also be prepared before the bad weather.

Dr. Humiston asked what were the requirements for advertising. As he recollects he thought they should advertise ten days before the passage of the Resolution.

Mr. McCormick explained there is a provision that in the event of an emergency as long as advertising is done within seven days after the work has begun, it will comply with the Act, providing that plans and specifications are on file in the Public Works Department. Mr. McCormick said he understands that this procedure has been followed.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 1, Goering; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 15991:

BY ANDERSON:

Fixing January 4, 1960 as the date for hearing on the removal and destruction of tall grass and debris on the vacant lot on the corner of So. 5th and J Sts. 452

It was moved by Mr. Anderson that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Bratrud.

Mr. Rowlands distributed pictures to the Council in reference to the area in question and explained that complaints have been received from the neighborhood on the unsightly condition of the lot.

Fire Chief Fisk said many complaints have been received on this piece of property which is located on a one-way street. Mr. Lee, the present owner of the property, was notified that the lot had to be cleaned up. When the proper papers were served on him, he refused to sign them saying he wanted to contact his lawyer.

Mr. Green, a property owner in the neighborhood, was present and said this has been a long standing situation and the neighborhood has been attempting to correct this eyesore for some time.

Dr. Humiston asked if this were just a normal growth of grass and ferns. He said he was not aware that such action was warranted unless there was an excessive amount of debris dumped, etc. His impression, after viewing the pictures, was that

JAN 4 1960

only the grass and fern situation existed. He asked if the City requires every owner of vacant property to keep the wild hay mowed?

Chief Fisk explained that this tall grass constitutes a fire hazard in the summer and that there was a statute requiring that grass of a certain height be cut.

Dr. Humiston said he would like to look at the property before voting on this Resolution. He then moved that the Resolution be set over for one week. Seconded by Mr. Anderson. Voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0. Motion carried.

Mr. Easterday asked how much would this cost the property owner.

Chief Fisk said if the Public Works Dept. is required to do this work it will be assessed against the property. He said it was a small piece of ground and could probably be taken care of in one-half a day. He said there no doubt is property in worse condition than this, but this is one of a number of lots that are being process to be brought before the Council.

Mr. Rowlands added that this piece of land is in a built-up area where there are many homes.

Resolution No. 15992:

BY REQUEST OF HUMISTON:

Authorizing a proposition to be placed upon the March 8, 1960 ballot, amending Sec. 9.1 of the City Charter authorizing the City to dispose of its dock and water front properties.

It was moved by Mr. Anderson that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Bratrud.

Mr. Rowlands said this constitutes enabling legislation and there will be reports submitted to the Council when certain properties are recommended for disposal if the voters approve this Charter amendment. Certain properties have limitations placed on them by the Charter and by State Statutes so the City would not be able to dispose of all of their property in any event, unless certain regulations were complied with. This merely provides that these properties be put up for sale at a later date.

Voice vote on the Resolution, resulted as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 15993:

BY HANSON:

Authorizing and directing as of Dec. 31, 1959/ to transfer the funds in unguaranteed local improvement district assessment rolls from the current accounting records to the General Fund

It was moved by Mrs. Price that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Perdue.

Mr. Rowlands explained that after checking the old records it has been found that these unguaranteed L I D's go back as far as 1927 and have been outlawed by the Statute of Limitations. Therefore it is desired that they be transferred from the current accounting records to the General Fund.

Mr. Gaisford, Finance Director, said there is approximately \$2,370.00 accumulated in these unguaranteed L I D's and condemnation districts.

Voice vote on the Resolution was taken and resulted as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 16493:

Amending Sec. 1.14.001 of the Official Code of the City by establishing a permanent registration office at 5448 So. Warner Street - (Fire Station No. 7) Read by title. 457

Mr. Rowlands explained there has been one Fire Station set aside in each Legislative District for residents living inside of the city limits to register. It has been suggested by some citizens that there be another Station established for registration and the No. 2 Station at 27th and Tacoma Avenue has been discussed. If there are no objections an amendment could be made to this Ordinance including that Station.

Dr. Humiston moved that the Ordinance be amended to include the No. 2 Fire Station at 2701 So. Tacoma Ave. Seconded by Mr. Anderson. Voice vote taken on the motion to amend resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 16485:

Amending Sec. 12.10.110 and 12.10.150 of the Official Code and adding Sec. 12.10.155 - relating to Water Service Connection fees. Read by title. 430

Mayor Hanson said he understands there are some amendments suggested by the Utility Dept. to be introduced today.

Mr. Benedetti, Water Supt., explained since the Ordinance was introduced last week it has come to their attention that there is a Superior Court ruling that might have some bearing on this Ordinance in regard to consumers living outside the City. Therefore, some of the language in the Ordinance, Sec. 3, should be changed. In summary, the word "fees" should be changed to "charges"; the word "installation" to "construction."

Specifically, Mr. Benedetti explained, this money is actually a contribution to aid the construction and to refer to the receipt of money as "charges" rather than "fees" will allow the Water Dept. to receive these funds without the same being taxed by the State as revenue.

Mr. Anderson then moved that the Ordinance be amended in all particulars to conform and be in accordance with the complete redraft of said Ordinance presented to the Council. Seconded by Dr. Humiston. Voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Roll call on the Ordinance as amended was taken and resulted as follows:

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

JAN 4 1960

Ordinance No. 16486:

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67

Amending the Official Code of the City in reference to fixing rates for the sale of Electric energy. Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands explained that this Ordinance contains the amendments which were suggested at last week's meeting changing Sec 12.06.250 so as to provide for the charge of .003 until January 1, 1961, and also that the figure "15%" be added in lieu of "appropriate."

Dr. Humiston moved that the Ordinance be amended to provide for the charge of .003 until January 1, 1961 and that the Figure "15%" be added in lieu of the "other appropriate charge" for overhead. Seconded by Mrs. Goering.

Mayor Hanson said although this Ordinance is worded "Thereafter beginning with January 1, 1961 all energy measured in kilowatt hours be increased to .006" he would like it understood that his intention in voting for the amendment was to postpone consideration of the increase until January 1, 1961 rather than an advance commitment to an increase to .006.

Dr. Humiston said he would not be here for the reconsideration but he agree with Mayor Hanson.

Mr. Porter said he would like to move that on paragraph 2 under "Rate" on page 23 be amended so that the word "with" in the third line be deleted and the words "not sooner than" be added. The sentence would then read "Thereafter and beginning not sooner than January 1, 1961 all energy measured in kilowatt hours --- \$.006 per kwh." Seconded by Mrs. Price.

Mr. Barline, Director of Utilities said the language of this amendment suggested by Dr. Humiston was not brought to his attention before today. Under the present system of rates there is this 3 mill rate which is actually less than cost inside the City and a 5 mill rate outside the City and would have the affect of reducing the 5 mills to 3 mills. He thought that language should be inserted to limit this 3 mill charge to energy used in the City and another Section be added to provide that all energy used outside the City should be raised to 6 mills.

Mayor Hanson said this would be consistent with their objective and since there will be a great deal of discussion on this Ordinance, he asked Mr. Barline if he would draw the proper wording so it could be considered before final action is taken.

Dr. Humiston said he would withdraw his amendment if Mr. Porter would consent to withdraw his amendment to the amendment so that it could be taken up later. He felt this could not be handled properly until the proper wording is submitted. This was agreeable with Mr. Porter and also to Mrs. Goering and Mrs. Price who seconded the amendments.

Mayor Hanson said since the two motions have been withdrawn this matter will be continued until the proper amendment is submitted. He said discussion will now resume on the Ordinance.

Mr. Bratrud said in the past three years there have been three separate bond issues for Five Million dollars each. One of them was to be used for hydro developments. It was his understanding, however, that \$5,000,000 of this was borrowed for the Cowlitz project. He asked if this \$5,000,000 would eventually go back into its original fund.

Mr. Barline said the first bond issue was in 1955 which went into the plant Funds. The second \$5,000,000, was for hydro use which went into the Cowlitz Project. The third, was used in the General Plant and System for the Light Division and took the place of monies generated by "Plant & System" which normally would have gone into "Plant & System" which monies were loaned to the Cowlitz Development Fund and used in the Cowlitz.

Mr. Bratrud said his question is then - Why not make the Cowlitz Bond Issue large enough to cover the \$5,000,000 borrowed from the plant Fund thus making the

light rate increase unnecessary for six or seven years.

Mr. Barline said that would mean we would have to post more bonds than we would otherwise. We don't like to bond ourselves any heavier than we have to. Furthermore the rates would still have to be raised because enough revenues are not received each year to pay for the normal increases necessary in the Distribution Plant to take care of renewals and replacements in the system. That is why a 7% increase is being asked - to keep the Department on an even keel.

Dr. Humiston said his own conviction is that this increase in rates is justified and is entirely proper to keep the Light Division in a sound financial position with the expectation that the City is going to proceed with the Mayfield development.

Mr. Porter asked what the minimum monthly charge was now on residential rates.

Mr. Barline said it was \$1.00 and the proposal was to increase this 20%. The average per customer in percentage would be 7.4%. That will mean for an average customer a raise of 50%. He added that for those having electric heat the end rate of 12 mills is not being changed so the seasonal rate will not be affected at all.

Mr. Porter asked how many persons would be affected by the 20% increase and into what classification would they fall.

Mr. Barline said he could not answer that exactly but out of a total of 52,270 residential customers, they show that 1,074 dwellings were for less than 30 kwh a month. He said those paying the minimum rate are mostly customers who are in the process of moving and who turn on or turn off electricity, during the month. Many low income families are large users of electricity and will receive increases between 7 and 8%, he added.

Mr. McEachron, representative of the Rumar Heating Inc., said the Tacoma Light Division has done a very fine job in providing the citizens of Tacoma with some of the finest electrical rates in the United States and yet are in the unique position of having more complaints from customers than practically any other single Utility doing any amount of electrical space heating. He felt this could be very readily remedied by a rate increase that is needed and which definitely includes an all electric rate. This past year all Utilities, whether public or private, who have submitted new rates have made provisions for an all electric rate and he does not feel Tacoma should be out of step with that trend.

He added his objection is not to a rate increase but on the Department basing rates on the seasonal low period. The City Light's "end rate" is a nuisance rate and puts undue strain on the heavy volume user. One of the basic rules of Industry is that the volume user gets a preferential rate because of lower unit cost of delivery and of billing. He believed that a rate increase while it is definitely desirable at the present time should do away with any increase on an "end rate" basis.

Dr. Humiston said the preparation of a rate is a very highly technical problem. No doubt there are several different formulas that could be used to obtain the same revenue, but according to the City Charter, the matter of fixing rates and charges is initiated by the Utility Board. Therefore Mr. McEachron's suggestion should be made to the Utility Board rather than to the Council.

Mayor Hanson said he agreed to a certain extent. However the points suggested here could result in the Council making a recommendation that the Utility Board explore this area and report back.

Mr. Warren Russell, representing a Tacoma electrical contractor, said he too was very close to this problem in selling appliances. He said the absence of an all electric rate in the new schedule ignores the competition and he predicted it might drive customers to gas appliances.

Mr. Ferguson, Light Supt., said in the Residential Rate form there is a provision which provides for the customer to set his own summer billing base so he



can level out his cost during the year. Also, if these rates are evaluated based on the consumption of some of the space heating customers the increase will be nominal. The Department recognizes they are in a competitive situation and the points raised by Mr. McEachron and Mr. Russell have been extensively discussed by the Department who is fully cognizant of the problem. However, it is felt that in equity this rate should be handled in the manner set forth.

Mayor Hanson asked Mr. Barline if he could arrange a meeting with the Utility Board members and Mr. McEachron and Mr. Russell and other interested parties to discuss this rate structure and report back to the Council at a later date.

Mr. Barline said he would be very pleased to arrange this meeting. He added that such a rate had been discussed at length by the Utility Board. The feeling is that Tacoma's one residential rate is already an all electric rate and if a differential is made it would mean a disproportionately large increase to customers without electric ranges or hot water heaters.

Mrs. Price asked Mr. Barline if any consideration had been given to a payment plan allowing electric heat customers to spread payments out evenly over the year. The fuel companies follow this plan, she added.

Mr. Barline promised to explore the suggestion and thought something might be worked out.

Mr. Anderson moved that action on this Ordinance be postponed to January 18 1960. Seconded by Mr. Bratrud. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 16487:

Amending Section 1.12.135 of the Official Code of the City relating to Clothing allowance for Police Officers. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Ordinance No. 16488:

Amending Sec. 1.84.120 of the Official Code of the City to increase the working fund advance of the Director of Health and Welfare from \$100.00 to \$125.00. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Mr. Perdue leaving at this time.

Mr. Easterday leaving at this time - temporarily.

Ordinance No. 16490:

Approving and confirming the Assessment roll for L I D 4649 for paving, concrete curbs and gutters on No. 8th from Mason to Stevens; No. 11th from Ferdinand to Orchard Street. Read by title.

Mr. Wallace J. Lisle of 4503 No. 11th Street, protested that he had been charged \$17.20 by the City for repair of a small portion of sidewalk which he had not authorized.

Mr. Schuster said this piece of sidewalk referred to is an existing walk that did not meet the grade of the new curb which was installed. Part of this sidewalk was taken out and replaced and the property owner was charged \$17.20 for the replacement of the walk.

Mr. Schuster said the persons concerned are usually contacted. In this case the Inspector was unable to reach either Mr. or Mrs. Lisle, so it was replaced assuming this would be agreeable with them.

It was the opinion of the Council that the charge of \$17.20 should be cancelled. Mr. Anderson then moved that the charge of \$17.20 for the replacement of a portion of this sidewalk be cancelled. Seconded by Mr. Bratrud. Voice vote was taken on the motion, resulting as follows: Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Easterday and Perdue.

Roll call on the Ordinance was then taken resulting as follows:

Roll call: Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Easterday and Perdue.

Ordinance No. 16491:

Approving and confirming the Assessment roll for L I D 5300 for cast iron water mains in the area bounded by McKinley Ave; Portland Ave; East 52nd and East 64th Street. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Easterday and Perdue.

Ordinance No. 16492:

Providing for the improvement of L I D 4661 for paving on the alley between No. 14th and No. 15th from Cedar to Alder; No. 21st and No. 22nd from Warner to Puget Sound; No. 29th to 30th from Alder to Lawrence; also in the vicinity of So. 14th to 16th between Tacoma Ave; and So. G; So. 48th to 50th from Pacific Ave. to C. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Easterday and Perdue.

Mr. Easterday returning at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Works presents the following assessment rolls for hearing:

L I D 1898 - sanitary sewers on No. 46th from Darien Drive to Lexington St; from No. 46th to 715 feet south; alley between No. 12th and No. 13th from Cheyenne to Mullen St.

L I D 1973 - Storm drainage in Pearl St. from 6th Ave. to So. 19th; in Woodlawn St. from So. 11th to So. 13th; from So. 17th to So. 19th Street.

It was moved by Dr. Humiston that February 9, 1960 be fixed as the date for hearing on the above assessment rolls. Motion seconded by Mr. Bratrud. Voice vote was taken on the motion, resulting as follows: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Perdue.

L I D 4445 - Grading and paving of alley between No. 22nd and No. 24th from Warner to Puget Sound Avenue.

L I D 4655 - Paving, curbs and gutters between Mullen and Gove from No. 46th to 48th; Washington and Union from No. 33rd to No. 34th; No. 36th and No. 37th from

51:31

Monroe to Mason; Pine and Anderson from So. 8th to So. 10th; No. 26th and No. 27th from Proctor to Adams; I and J from 6th Ave. to So. 5th.

L I D 4656 - Paving of the alley between Fawcett Ave. and So. D Street from So. 36th to So. 37th Street.

It was moved by Dr. Humiston that February 24, 1960 be fixed as the date for hearing on the above assessment rolls. Motion seconded by Mr. Bratrud. Voice vote was taken on the motion, resulting as follows: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Perdue

REPORTS:

Report from the City Planning Commission on the proposed Civic Auditorium.

56  
Mr. Paul Benson, senior planner, said the Planning Department has been working for some time on the questions involved in planning a Civic Auditorium for the City of Tacoma. This plan was considered more recently by the Planning Commission in preparing their recommendations for the overall Six Year Capital Improvement Program. This project has been listed in the program but no amount of money was listed since they feel the study necessary to arrive at a reasonable figure should be submitted by a firm well-qualified by experience in auditorium design and engineering. The Planning staff study is more in the area of need and in the site. They feel the auditorium is a worthy need and should be considered by the Council. The purpose of bringing this before the Council today is to show the need for this detailed engineering study so that the subject can go forward.

Mr. Bratrud asked how much would such a study cost.

Mr. Benson replied it would cost in the neighborhood of \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Mr. Morley Brotman, Chairman of the Civic Auditorium Study Committee displayed a sketch of the proposed auditorium to the Council and explained the work his committee has been doing. He thought that the City Council should, at this time, appropriate money for an engineering study of the center and predicted if the facts are gathered and presented to the voters next fall, they would approve a bond issue for the project.

Mr. Bratrud said he felt there were enough projects underway at the present time, one being the baseball proposition, and he thought some of these should be finished before another one is started. He said there is no doubt that Tacoma needs such an auditorium but this is not the proper time to undertake such a project.

Mr. Easterday asked about preliminary cost estimates on the project.

Mr. Buehler said they are in the neighborhood of \$8,000,000.

Mayor Hanson said the financial situation now is quite obvious. It would take a unanimous vote for an emergency appropriation in order to come up with the funds necessary for this study.

Mr. Porter said the conventions Tacoma could attract with an auditorium would be an economic boon to the City. He said he realizes there is very little money to spend but he felt it would be very well worth spending money for this if it can be managed.

Mr. Brotman recommended that the City Council endorse the work of the Planning Staff, the Planning Commission and the Civic Auditorium Study Committee to encourage them to continue the work and when the full presentation is made they will at that time consider making an appropriation to possibly verify the information submitted, also agree to put it on the ballot.

Mayor Hanson said he was certain the Council would be happy to take action thanking the committee for its past work and urging that it be continued. Perhaps

it would be best that a Resolution be drawn up to that effect.

Mr. Porter asked that such a Resolution be drafted.

The Council agreed such a Resolution would be appropriate but added that it would not be committing the City to any action.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Rowlands said a meeting will be held in Olympia, January 14th in connection with the B and O Tax. There has been much discussion throughout the State between Cities as to the most reasonable and equitable way to set this tax. Some believe it should be assessed on the basis of where the product is produced or manufactured. Others believe it should be where the product is utilized or consumed. Some antagonism has been aroused by these two different schools of thought. The purpose of these meetings is to try to examine the situation as to what the policy should be. He asked if some members of the Council would like to attend these meetings.

Mrs. Goering said she will be unable to attend but would appreciate a report on the meetings as she is very much interested in the subject.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly seconded and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

  
Mayor of the City Council

Attest:

  
City Clerk