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## CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers, 7:00 P. M.  
Tuesday, April 25, 1961

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 8: Bott, Cvitanich, Easterday, Murtland, Olson, Porter, Price, Steele. Absent 1, Mayor Hanson.

In the absence of Mayor Hanson, Mr. Porter, Deputy Mayor, presided as Chairman.

Mr. Porter said he has not had an opportunity to check the minutes of April 11th against the tape recording, as he has been out of Iowa, but he added, in scanning through them last evening he noticed several omissions which he thought are important. Therefore, at this time he would entertain a motion to continue action on the approval until next week.

Mr. Easterday moved that the approval of the minutes of April 11, 1961 be postponed until May 2, 1961. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Voice vote was then taken. Motion carried.

### HEARINGS AND APPEALS:

This is the date to which the hearing has been continued on the disposition of the Old City Hall Building.

Mr. Robert Evans, President of Allied Arts, was present and explained they have just completed six months of study in regard to the disposition of the Old City Hall. He said their report is on the disposition of the entire building and also particularly on the tower and clock which has been a separate project for study.

Mr. Evans continued, they have attempted to put the clock and the chimes in working order and also have tried to retain the beauty of the tower.

He said they have been working for several months on the operation of the clock, the structurability of the tower, the clock mechanism and the cost of operation. Mr. Evans distributed a letter to the Council from Mr. Karl H. Kaiser, an authority on clocks, pointing out the problems in the operation of the clock and chimes, and also some possible solutions. Mr. Kaiser, stated that Mr. Lindstrom, a retired City Light employee and himself who had worked on the clock, would be willing to give of their knowledge, time and ingenuity to try to make the clock and chimes operative with the minimum of expense if the proper City officials would give them the authority to do so, and provided the City carries the liabilities related to the operation.

Mr. Evans further explained that the Allied Arts have consulted with the Light Department in reference to the cost of operating the clock and floodlighting the tower. The Light Department stated they would study the cost of floodlighting the tower and that the cost of running the clock would almost be negligible. He said they have also checked with the occupants of the nearby

hotels to ascertain if the residents would have any objections to the chimes if they stopped ringing at 8:00 P. M.

Dr. Anderson, who also is working on the project, said as an engineer, he has been devoting almost the limits of his capacity to break with tradition and create new concepts of structure and engineer ideas that are reaching the point of automation. He said he has learned to admire the craftsmanship and the excellent detail shown in early building, and feels that unless some of these fine examples are preserved, we will deny our future generations something of very fine historical value. He felt the Old City Hall could become a Cultural Center and should make a very fine contribution to our community. The study that has been made suggests that it could become a very fine high school of Arts and Sciences. The preliminary design study which has been made from the surveys of this building indicate that there is a potential here for 32 classrooms, a library, 2 science laboratories, 2 lecture theatres and an auditorium on the top floor of the building; it could house approximately 800 students. The sentiment seems to be in favor of having a school of this type open to students of the County with a curriculum that would compare with some of the more famous academic type high schools, such as the one in the Bronx, New York.

Dr. Anderson said he feels they should proceed to establish a committee to work out the problem of determining the method of the rehabilitation of the building. The drawings distributed to the Council members show that it is feasible to remove the whole interior of the building. On the other hand, the exterior and masonry of the building is in excellent condition. If the interior were replaced with reinforced concrete construction, and each one of the floors were anchored into the masonry wall, the building could be put in first-class condition which would then meet the building code requirements.

Dr. Anderson, added, with this in mind they respectfully request that the City Council allow them more time to work on this problem.

Mr. Easterday asked how much time would they require.

Dr. Anderson replied that another year would be desirable.

Mr. Easterday then moved that this matter be continued for another year. Seconded by Mr. Steele. Voice vote taken and motion carried.

Mr. Bott asked Dr. Anderson if he had discussed this matter with the School Board.

Dr. Anderson said he thought the School Board could become interested in this. However, the problem is that the philosophy in education expounded by the School Board now is that all schools should be a comprehensive type high school and should offer all types of courses, and that it should be the decision of the student himself to decide what he wants to take. A school such as one in the Bronx, the High School of Arts and Sciences, is predicated on the assumption that the teachers and the grown-ups had a better hind-sight than the child's foresight, and that the school should specify what is good for the student. It would be his hope that Tacoma can have such a school which would train young people to develop into the future and assume the kind of leadership that this Country so desperately needs.

Mr. Bott asked Mr. Anderson if he thought it was within the province of the Council to decide if there should be a school there.

Mr. Anderson said the request, that is being made of the Council, is merely for an extension of time. The details of the organization, etc. would be a problem of the Committee assigned to this project.

Mrs. Price asked if Allied Arts has been working with the local School Board on this at all.

Dr. Anderson said he has had a great number of discussions with the School Board and has done his very best to try to get them to raise the academic standards of the schools and to encourage them to improve our schools.

Mrs. Price asked what has been their reaction to this proposed school.

Dr. Anderson said their reaction as of now is that it does not fulfill the present concept of the comprehensive high school.

Mr. Steele asked if there was some motion desired to sanction Allied Arts proceeding in their exploration of putting back into operation the City Hall clock and chimes as outlined by Mr. Evans. He said he felt they should be encouraged to proceed as long as it is inexpensive.

Mrs. Olson moved that the Allied Arts be encouraged to proceed along the lines they have outlined, and at any time if further help or assistance is needed, they should feel free to ask for help. Seconded by Mr. Steele. Voice vote was taken and motion carried.

Mr. Easterday commended Mr. Anderson for his efforts in this matter.

Mr. Bott also commended Mr. Anderson, Mr. Evans and Mr. Kaiser for all the work and time devoted to this project.

Mr. Porter said he was certain that the entire Council agreed with Mr. Bott.

#### COMMUNICATION:

Communication from the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc., requesting that the City Council pursue L I D procedures which will have the effect of encouraging investment in construction.

Mr. Porter said he did not believe that this communication required any discussion at the present time. Placed on file.

#### PETITION:

Petition from William M. Busch requesting the rezoning of the property located on the South side of So. 7th St. between Shirley and Orchard from an "R-2" District to a "C-2" District.

Referred to the Planning Commission.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 16537

Rescinding Resolutions Nos. 16505, 16518 & 16519, in reference to submission of applications to the HHFA for advanced planning funds for Municipal Projects.

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

Mr. Rowlands explained that there are (4) Resolutions this evening which involve these various applications. Several months ago a Resolution was submitted to the Housing and Home Finance Agency for a planning advance in connection with the Airport and that particular form was acceptable. However, since then the Attorneys for the HHFA wanted the form of the Resolution changed which is the reason for these new Resolutions being introduced. This is merely a reconsideration of what the Council has acted upon previously.

Mr. Porter said this Resolution then is rescinding the ones already approved by the Council.

Mr. Rowlands said that was correct.

Voice vote was taken.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16538

Amending Resolution No. 16095 which sets up the rules for the government of the City Council.

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

Voice vote was taken.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16539

Authorizing the filing of an application with the U. S. of America for an advance to provide for the reconstruction of the 15th St. Bridge over the City Waterway in the vicinity of So. 15th Street.

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

Mr. Rowlands said this is the same request that was made previously for a \$25,000 planning advance.

Mr. Cvitanich asked Mr. Buehler if the Planning Commission has taken this under advisement.

Mr. Buehler said this has been cleared by the Planning Commission.

Mrs. Olson asked if the Planning Commission was in agreement that a

revision of the 15th Street Bridge is good for the City of Tacoma.

Mr. Buehler said the Planning Commission is very much in agreement with this request and have asked that a full study be made as to whether or not the relocation should be at that point or elsewhere.

Voice vote was taken.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16540:

Authorizing the filing of an application with the U. S. of America for an advance to provide for the construction of a new Public Works Department Maintenance Division Center.

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

Mr. Rowlands said this Resolution is the same as the previous Resolution and is a request for an advance of \$25,000 in order that studies can be made for a new public works maintenance center.

Mr. Bott asked if any consideration was given on the feasibility of using the bus depot.

Mr. Rowlands said this will be a study of the feasibility of consolidating all three of these operations.

Mr. Bott said the one phase discussed during the acquisition of the Bus Company was, that this property could be utilized for this purpose. This Resolution makes it appear that it is a new construction entirely.

Mr. Rowlands explained that part of the study will be to ascertain if this can be utilized.

Mrs. Olson said in the event that no new facilities are built, then the City will owe the Federal Government \$25,000.

Mr. Rowlands explained that the money is repaid only if there is construction. He added, inevitably, there will have to be additional facilities constructed. It is a question of whether or not they will be constructed in conjunction with the existing Transit Garage or whether there will be another garage entirely combining the refuse utility and the maintenance section, as there is not sufficient room to put all the equipment in the Transit Garage. There would have to be an addition to the garage or another one would have to be constructed.

Mrs. Olson asked if the City had to indicate that they are going to construct a building in order to qualify for the advance.

Mr. Rowlands replied that they would.

Mrs. Olson said, then this advance is actually for the construction.

Mr. Schuster, Public Works Dept. Director, said the indication by Council action is that the Council is considering some type of construction.

Mr. Bott said it is a fact that the City is going to lose its Refuse Dept. Garage to the Freeway, so that some construction is going to have to be undertaken.

Mr. Easterday remarked that \$25,000 seemed quite a considerable sum of money to spend on a study which wouldn't include detailed plans and specifications

Mr. Rowlands said the Resolution makes it very clear that the advance was not to exceed \$25,000. It may be that only \$10,000 or \$12,000 may be spent

Mr. Bott asked if the Garbage Dept. was the only building under concern at the present time

Mr. Rowlands said it was the entire Maintenance Barn, which is in a very deplorable situation, as there is not sufficient storage capacity nor proper facilities in the Maintenance Shops. He added, he hoped by consolidating the maintenance operation, further savings can be realized.

Mr. Bott said, he agrees with Mr. Easterday and questions the advisability of asking for \$25,000 just to make a study.

Mr. Schuster advised that no one would be hired for this study without the approval of the Council. By that time the Dept. will have more accurate figures as to what this study would cost and at that time the Council will have an opportunity, if they felt the figure to high, to reject the project.

Mr. Porter asked if the Resolution could be postponed for one week or is it imperative that this pass tonight.

Mr. Rowlands said this Resolution is in line with what has been discussed by the City Council previously and based on national policy of trying to get moving on the plans for construction. He added, they would also like to know how it ties in with the upgrading of the 6-year Capital Improvement Program, and how it will affect the bonding program, whether the City will have to go out for additional General Obligation Bonds this fall or next year.

Mr. Cvitanich said, the manner in which the Resolution was drawn, indicates the City is committed to go ahead and start the construction.

Mr. Hamilton replied that the Resolution does not constitute a definite committment. Assuming the feasibility report is negative, the City would not be obligated to go ahead with construction. The only requisite as far as the H H F A has at the present time, is a bonafide intention on the part of the legislative authority of the application to at least consider construction in good faith

Mr. Steele said it seems odd the Council should belabor this, as this has been discussed and reviewed on several occasions. In fact, the Council passed a Resolution to this effect a few weeks ago. He added, this is merely rescinding the previous Resolution and adopting the same subject matter in language as approved and recommended by the legal staff of the H. H. F. A.

Mr. Bott asked if there were sufficient personnel available in City employment, capable of handling this feasibility study.

Mr. Rowlands said there probably would be, but then, something else would have to be relaxed. There are only so many men to do the work in the City government, he added

Mr. Cvitanich said he felt although notification was received from the President that we expand on our Urban Renewal area, he feels that because of the economic condition of the country as a whole, that we should approach the passage of this type of Resolution with a little more caution. He added, \$25,000 may not seem like much to some people, but to others it is a tremendous amount of money.

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

Ayes 2; Nays 6, Bott, Cvitanich, Easterday, Olson, Steele and Deputy Mayor Porter; Absent 1, Mayor Hanson.

The Resolution was declared lost by the Chairman.

Mr. Steele said he voted on the prevailing side so that he could move for reconsideration at the next meeting.

Resolution No. 16541

Authorizing the filing of an application with the U. S. of America for an advance to provide for the construction of a Civic Auditorium and related offstreet parking facilities.

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

Mr. Rowlands said this Resolution is the same as the one discussed several months ago which involved a request for an advance not to exceed \$40,000 to study the site location and related problems of a Civic Auditorium.

Mr. Porter said before the proposition for the Civic Auditorium was put on the ballot, the Planning Commission discussed this matter and hoped the Council would provide funds for a study of this type but knowing the financial condition of the City this was not done at that time. He said he felt that the Commission would now unanimously wish that this be done.

Mrs. Olson said, in this event again, the Council would vote on all expenditures.

Mr. Rowlands said that was correct.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16542:

Authorizing the proper officers to deliver to Nick and Magdalena Ehit a local improvement assessment deed upon payment of \$22.00 for property located on So. L between So. 70th & 72nd Streets.

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

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman

Resolution No. 16543:

Awarding contract to International Harvester Co., for the furnishing of one Cab and Chassis for the sum of \$4,184.34 plus tax, and for one Dump Truck for the sum of \$5,439.20 plus tax

It was moved by Mr. Bott that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Olson.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16544:

Awarding contract to Walker Chevrolet Co. for the furnishing of one Cab and Chassis for the sum of \$2,137.68 plus tax and the furnishing of six Dump Trucks, for the sum of \$18,526.08 plus sales tax.

It was moved by Mr. Bott that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Murtland.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16545:

Awarding contract to Stevens Motor Company for the furnishing of (8) Police cars for the sum of \$18,167.80 plus tax.

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

Mr. Cvitanich asked Mr. Hamilton if it would be proper for him to vote on this Resolution.

Mr. Hamilton answered that it would be proper.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16546:

Approving the Claremont at Westgate Plat, Division No. 1 in the area on the West side of Pearl between No. 31st and No. 35th Street.

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

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.



FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 16786:

Amending the Official Code of the City relating to zoning by adding two new sections 13.06.120-(21) and 13.06.130-(10) to include property on both sides of Center St. between Huson & Gove Streets in a "C-1" and "C-2" Commercial District. (petition of Joseph A. Iverson) Read by title.

Mrs. Olson explained that the map distributed with this Ordinance shows three red lines running through this area. She asked if these were designated proposed streets.

Mr. Buehler replied, there is a possibility that a highway will be going through this area, and the tentative locations were designated on the map to inform the Council.

Mrs. Olson asked if the rezoning was discussed with the County Planners.

Mr. Buehler said it was not discussed with the County as it was felt if the highway did materialize, this rezoning would not interfere.

Mrs. Olson said frequently when the City is asked to consider a zoning change, any future proposed street alignment is taken into consideration. Inasmuch as this is such an important area of the City, where there are such excellent access roads, and Center Street is such a main thoroughfare, she was surprised to see strip zoning.

Mr. Buehler said he could discuss this with the County Planners before final reading of the Ordinance next week to determine if there is anything further along these lines.

Mrs. Olson said the Council has spent a great deal of time talking about the undesirability of strip zoning, and wondered if there is an explanation as to why this strip zoning on Center Street is being recommended.

Mr. Steele explained that the letter from the Planning Commission points out that the area does not lend itself to much development, as it is characterized by an extreme topography, contrasted between swampy low lands and rugged hogback ridges. He said he understands that the officials of Fircrest, Mr. Ramsdell, Mayor, and Mr. Gago, felt this was a good move because there is a "C-1" Zone east of Orchard Street and this would take in the balance of the area between Orchard and Gove. He understood that the Fircrest Planning Commission and the Mayor of Fircrest were urging that the City approve this.

Mrs. Olson said she can understand that from the standpoint of the topography of the land, but, she was looking at it from the traffic problem that might ensue on a main connecting roadway and especially in the area of the Ball Park where there are considerable traffic problems.

Mr. Porter remarked that Mr. Riconosciuto, a member of the Planning Commission is present, and asked if he would comment on Mrs. Olson's questions and asked that she repeat her question.

Mrs. Olson said she asked about strip zoning on this particular street in view of the fact that there is quite a good deal of traffic, and that this would increase the traffic by the construction of a recreational facility such as a bowling alley.

Mr. Riconosciuto said that he has not seen enough of a study as to what the impact of strip zoning on that particular tract would do, and he would not be able to answer that question personally.

Mr. Porter asked Mr. Buehler if the Traffic Engineer had made any study on the matter.

Mr. Buehler said the procedure has been, when the request comes in for straight commercial zoning, it is not customary to refer this to the Traffic Dept. This is controlled under the driveway traffic ordinance, and the requirements of the various driveway ordinances.

Mr. Morley Brotman said he had no objection to the rezoning but in this instance he was sure that the Planning Commission has not had the proper information to study the matter thoroughly, and it was his suggestion that this be sent back to the Planning Commission for further study and consideration of a "C-P-N" District rather than "C-2" or "C-1".

He explained that (4) years ago he planned to petition for a "C-2" zone in the area northwest of South 19th and Stevens Streets. The Planning Commission at that time asked him to wait until an Ordinance was written which would effect the overall picture for the City of Tacoma's future planning. He said he complied with their request and consequently ended up with the "C-P-N" zoning. He added, this "C-P-N" would cost him considerable money as he would have to put in off-street improvements. Now these petitioners have applied for a "C-2" District in this nearby area, and this zoning is absolutely contrary to good planning advocated by the Commission in the overall picture for the City.

He said he recently sent a letter to the Planning Commission and the City Council in which he has requested that his property at 19th and Stevens be rezoned to a "C-2" District by action initiated by the City Council. His request resulted from the action taken by the Planning Commission in recommending that the City Council pass an Ordinance granting a "C-2" zone to Mr. Iverson. If Mr. Iverson is granted a "C-2" zone he felt his property should be zoned a "C-2" also.

Mrs. Price asked, in the event Mr. Iverson does not build a bowling alley at this location, could he build anything else that conforms to the "C-2" zoning.

Mr. Buehler advised that he could.

Mr. Murtland said as he understands it, if this area along Center Street were rezoned a "C-2", the petitioner could put in a shopping center if he wished, as it is a broader more liberal zoning.

Mr. Buehler said that they could have a community shopping center under this zoning.

Mrs. Price remarked that there were not the restrictions in a "C-2" zone as there are in a "C-P-N" zone.

Mr. Iverson, the petitioner, said the developers are not interested in a shopping center, they are only interested in a bowling alley which they feel will be an asset to this area.

Mr. Norm Strom, a building contractor, said this particular area is one of the most heavily travelled in the City of Tacoma. He thought that a problem would be created by constructing a facility of this type at this location. He suggested that a survey be made to see exactly what business is going in and if it would be economically feasible.

Mr. Steele said he did not see by referring this petition to the Planning Commission how it would benefit Mr. Brotman with his problem on 19th and Stevens Streets. He said he felt it would only hinder the petitioner who has construction deadlines to meet, etc.

Mr. Porter pointed out, inasmuch as this is the first reading of the Ordinance, the Council can take no action at this time. If the Council should desire to refer it back to the Planning Commission, it would have to be done at the next meeting during the final reading.

Mr. Cvitanich remarked that reference has been made for a study to be conducted in this area. Under the summary of the recommendation from the Planning Commission, it is stated, that a land use study has been initiated by the Commission to investigate the whole general area involved.

After further discussion Mr. Porter said he felt that the questions had been fairly well exhausted and would suggest that every member of the Council give a good deal of thought and investigation in the next week to this, so that they can determine what would be the better action to take.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 16787:

Amending Sec. 11.24.010 of the Official Code of the City in reference to Parking Meter Zones-to include a parking meter on the north side of So. 7th; on Fawcett to St. Helens Ave. Read by title.

Mr. Murtland said this Ordinance does not specify the type of meter or the length of parking time, and asked if this was determined.

Mr. Rowlands said the area has been studied by the Traffic Engineer and it was determined that it be a two-hour limit.

Mr. Easterday said it was his suggestion that these meters be placed in this area as the City needs this revenue.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 16788:

Amending Section 1.30.585 of the Official Code of the City by inserting the words "on service or survivor retirement". Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands explained that when this section of the Code was amended a few months ago these words were inadvertently omitted from the Ordinance.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Mr. Steele moved that the rules be suspended in order that Ordinance No. 16789 which does not appear on the agenda be considered at this time. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 16789:

Amending Chapter 8.44 of the Official Code of the City and adding two new sections. Sec. 8.44 056 and 065 in reference to Property Damage. Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands said the Baseball Park Committee met several days ago and reviewed various regulations in connection with the Ball Park. In a desire to eliminate the difficulty experienced last year with rock and stone throwing, which injured several persons, it was suggested by the City Attorney, that although, there are Ordinances in effect of a rather general nature, it would be much better to spell this out more specifically in a separate Ordinance in the event of any injury or damage.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 16784:

Amending the Official Code of the City by adding three new sections 13.06.402, 404 and 406 in reference to the Temporary use of premises. Read by title.

Mr. Bott asked if any communications had been received from any of the Crafts in reference to this Ordinance.

Mr. Rowlands said they have not received any communications from them. This Ordinance pertains principally to the Board of Adjustment.

Mrs. Olson asked if this is an Ordinance creating a Board of Adjustments.

Mr. Rowlands replied that there is an Ordinance already setting up a Board of Adjustments. This Ordinance is simply making some changes. One section in the Code was so long, encompassing 7 or 8 pages, that it was divided into 3 sections. Section 13.06.406 is a new section.

Mrs. Olson said the reason she raised the question was that she has a list of all the Boards and Commissions prepared for her by Mr. McCormick which consisted of a total of 20 Boards, Commissions or Committees for which no authority is listed. This probably does not mean there isn't one, but if there is, it was not clear to her. The Board of Adjustment is one of the Boards for which no authority is shown.

Mr. Rowlands said the Board of Adjustment is normally included in the zoning ordinance that is probably why it was not noted on the list provided for her.

Mr. Porter asked Mr. Buehler if this Ordinance changed the powers of the Board of Adjustment as far as the temporary use of premises which primarily applies to construction.

Mr. Buehler said it clarifies that aspect and extends broader bonding powers, raises the posting of the bond, and also allows that the Building Inspector, if the permittee is not fulfilling these conditions, to revoke these permits for which they did not have the power before.

Mrs. Olson asked if this Board met regularly and if there was a specified term for the members to serve.

Mr. Buehler replied that they met on the second Thursday of every month and they serve 5 years with the exception of the member from the Planning Commission who is designated each year.

Mr. Bott asked if gravel pits are under these separate use permits.

Mr. Rowlands replied that they were.

Mr. Bott referred to Page 9 of the Ordinance, where it states that a fence at least 6 feet in height shall be maintained around all open excavations, to protect the health and welfare of the neighborhood. He asked about the gravel pit owned by the City on 84th Street. He said there is a big pool there, and the children ride around it on rafts. He asked if the City was obligated to level that off and do away with that pit.

Mr. Rowlands said the City is still using part of the pit and there is a fence around it at present.

Mr. Bott said it was not an exclusive fence, however.

Mr. Rowlands said it was true that the children get in through the fence but the Patrol has been alerted to watch the area.

Mr. Bott asked that this be checked into as he felt this was a dangerous situation.

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

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Mayor Hanson.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 16785:

Authorizing and appropriating the sum of \$35,000 or so much as may be necessary from the Cumulative Reserve Belt Line Railway Cash & Investment Fund and from the Belt Line Railway Current Fund for the purpose of paying the purchase of one used 1950 ALCP-GE 100 Ton 660-HP Diesel Electric Locomotive. Read by title and passed.

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

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Mayor Hanson.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Works presents the following assessments for hearing:

L I D 1992-for sanitary sewers in Ea. D from Ea. 11th to Ea. 3rd and in Ea. 7th from Ea. D to Ea. F Street.

L I D 3504-for sanitary sewers in various streets and alleys from Ea. 50th to Ea. 72nd between Ea. K and Ea. N Streets.

Mr. Easterday moved that Monday, June 12, 1961 be set as the date for hearing on the assessment rolls for L I D 1992 and L I D 3504. Seconded by Mr. Murtland. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

**MC-344-Sanitary Sewer Financing**

Mr. Rowlands said it is difficult to make a brief report in bringing this program up to date. The report sets up how much is being spent out of the bond funds and how much out of the sewer rental charge.

Mr. Easterday said he thought the City was making a very good showing with the sewer tax imposed upon the citizens sometime ago.

Mr. Rowlands explained that one of the big programs will be the treatment plant on the Western Slope. He asked Mr. Schuster when the specifications would be ready for a call for bids on this project.

Mr. Schuster said the plans and specifications have been completed and are in Olympia for approval by the State Health Dept., and also for the approval by the Federal Health people in San Francisco which is necessary because of the \$250,000 grant awarded the City.

Mr. Rowlands said this is only one phase of the overall program and, the Council should think in terms of obtaining another \$250,000 grant next year.

**MC -345-Advertising Benches.**

Mr. Rowlands said the Ordinance pertaining to this subject matter will be up for final reading on May 2, 1961. This information was submitted at the request of a Council member last week. Any further letters will be distributed with the Agenda for next week, he added.

ITEMS FOR FILING IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

- a. Report from the Finance Director for the month of March 1961
- b. Report from the Tacoma Police Dept. for the month of March 1961.
- c. Report from the Tacoma Police D pt. - Traffic Div. for the month of March 1961.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Rowlands said he prepared an MC in connection with the Urban Renewal Project progress in the Center Street area. In talking this over with the Urban Renewal Staff it was decided that it would be well to provide the Council with a similar report every month or two on the different areas.

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Mr. Rowlands reminded the Council of the 8:00 A. M. breakfast meeting to be held Wednesday morning with Mr. Halaby, the F. A. A. Administrator, in Seattle at the New Washington Hotel.

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Mr. Easterday said he has noticed that in the area by the escalade at So. 12th and Broadway there have been several cars parked. He wondered if any arrangements had been made for anyone to use this area.

Mr. Rowlands said there are no definite plans for this area. The Beautification Committee has mentioned using the area for a sidewalk cafeteria in the summertime.

Mr. Bott said it seemed to him that this was hazardous to have cars parking in that area.

Mr. Murtland asked if the City owned this property, and if they did, the cars parking here should be given notice and then the cars impounded if the notices are ignored.

Mr. Porter said he thought the situation should be investigated.

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Mr. Bott said it seemed to him that there was a request from the Association of Washington Cities relative to some participation.

Mr. Rowlands said he had been contacted regarding the Council taking action by next Tuesday on several spots that have to be filled with connection with the Association of Washington Cities Conventions and Conferences. He said evidently the Mayor received a letter but since he is out of town, it will be brought up at the next Council meeting.

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Mrs. Olson said she has a clipping from the Seattle P. I. dated April 21st, in which our City Manager is quoted as having written a letter to Mr. Yelle stating that the City of Tacoma definitely believes that the present arrangement is better for everyone concerned. This is in reference to Referendum No. 33 on which officials and employees are trying to obtain signatures regarding the bill which was passed by the Legislature which does away, or at least permits on a local option basis, with the State Audit.

She said, she did not recall the Council taking any specific action on that as a body, or determining any policy with regard to it. She thought there were some individuals on the Council who have probably expressed an opinion. In connection with this Mr. Sites, a State Auditor, did come by her home on Saturday night with some petitions as he was concerned in getting as many signatures as he could for the Referendum. She had an opportunity to sit down and talk with Mr. Sites relative to exactly what does happen under this system of State Auditing. She had been under an erroneous impression

that the State was doing a complete audit of the City's financial affairs, but he informed her that because he is one single individual he is not able to audit all receipts and expenditures, and does only a spot check. He also informed her that he is in the process of filing the 1959 audit. She said this would certainly indicate that we are somewhat behind in keeping up to date with the auditing of our City finances. She requested that Mr. Sites appear before the Council next week so that the Council could get some further information. Mr. Sites indicated that he would be very happy to have any of the Council members come to his office and talk with him at any time, but he also stated that he could not discuss any accounts which he is currently auditing and will not discuss anything he is currently doing until after he has submitted it to the Attorney General. He did, however, indicate that he would occasionally discuss current accounts with the City Manager. The question that comes to her mind, is how long has it been since the books of the City of Tacoma have been audited, because she knows that the running audit which is provided for in the Charter is not in fact an audit at all since we use it as was done last year to determine whether or not automatic equipment should be used in the City Hall, and it was determined as the result, to install I. B. M. machines. She felt that, while talking of great sums of money, as she knows that the City's books are not audited without great expenditure. She would like to have some information as to when the last complete audit was done for the City of Tacoma, and thought it might be well if members of the City Council would give some serious thought to, perhaps, requesting an audit of the books. In connection with that, she said, she would like to ask that Mr. Sites be invited to appear at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Porter said he would like to suggest also that in that report there be included when the last complete audit was made and at what cost.

Mr. Cvitanich said he believed the Council discussed this several months ago and the interpretation by the various freeholders on the Council at that time in regard to Section 7.14 in the Charter, which specifically spells out that the Council "shall", and it is not directory, it is mandatory, that the "Council shall provide for a running audit" by a firm of bookkeepers, etc. At this time he would like to request that an Ordinance or Resolution be drafted that the Council comply with Section 7.14 of the City Charter.

Mr. Rowlands said he would like to make a brief explanation to Mrs. Olson's remark as to what happened. He was as surprised as Mrs. Olson was to see this statement in the paper about a letter he had written to Mr. Yelle. Principally, he added, what prompted the letter was that as the Council knows, one of the most important bills passed by the Legislature "SB 125" which does make a change in the budgetary procedures affecting all the cities in the State. Mr. Bob Graham who is head of the Municipal section of the State Auditing Dept. and Mr. Yelle, together, did comprise a letter to determine what the Municipal auditing section of the State Auditors felt of this particular proposal. The Association of Washington Cities had worked with Mr. Graham and others in developing this legislation which was approved by the auditing section. In writing this letter to them, Mr. Rowlands explained he



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also thanked them for the cooperation given in promoting this piece of legislation. He said, from his point of view, if he were to make a recommendation at this time, he would not, under the circumstances, make any change, in view of the fact that in the State of Washington the Cities can only do those things that are expressly permitted. Mr. Rowlands said it isn't uncommon for discussions to be held between the Finance Director and the City Attorney every day on some aspect of the State Law to see if the expenditures are being made properly. Whereas in a good many other States, the cities can do anything not expressly prohibited which left the door wide open with no particular restriction.

Mr. Rowlands said as far as the complete audit is concerned, it is true that Mr. Sites cannot completely audit all the books each year, but they do make a fairly thorough check of various areas. He said he would obtain the information requested by Mrs. Olson.

Mr. Steele said it may be true that there was no Council action taken on this matter, but it was considered by the Legislative Committee and the policy was to oppose it so far as Tacoma was concerned. Therefore, Mr. Steele felt that Mr. Rowlands did express the policy that had been established.

Mr. Cvitanich said he believed in the Council's discussions at a prior date the cost of the audit was mentioned at approximately \$70,000 to \$80,000, although he would like a legal opinion from the Legal Staff in regard to Section 7.14 in relation to the City Council, as well as the Resolution.

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Mrs. Price briefly reported on the Puget Sound Governmental Conference that she attended in Seattle, April 19th, 1961.

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Mrs. Price said she also attended the Daffodil Dinner Friday evening, and received the Grand Winner award for the City which she brought this evening for presentation to the Council.

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Mr. Ron Pretti, a private citizen, asked about the flower pots being placed on the City's sidewalks and if this required Council action.

Mr. Porter said he believed Council action was taken and asked the City Manager to check if this was approved by Ordinance.

Mr. Rowlands said General Rules and Regulations were outlined, but the administration of the program was the responsibility of the Traffic Engineer working with the Public Works Department to make certain there was a public liability bond posted. He said there was an Ordinance passed and he would check on the matter.

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There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 P. M.

Attest:

*Josephine Melton*  
City Clerk

*James A. Porter*  
Deputy Mayor of the City Council