

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers, 4:00 P. M.  
Tuesday, Jan. 31, 1967

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 8: Bott, Finnigan, Haley, Herrmann, Johnson, Murtland, Price and Mayor Tollefson. Absent 1, Cvitanich. Mr. Cvitanich arriving at 4:35 P. M.

Mrs. Price moved that the minutes of the meeting of Jan. 17, 1967 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Murtland. Voice vote taken, Motion carried.

HEARINGS & APPEALS:

a. This is the date set for hearing on the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for Laundries in a "C-2" Commercial District.

Mr. Buehler, Director of Planning, explained that the cleaning and pressing establishments and self-service laundries are presently permitted as outright uses in the "C-2" District. The Planning Commission felt, since laundries are comparable to such uses, those establishments should also be included in the "C-2" permitted use regulations.

No one appeared to protest the rezoning.

Mr. Murtland moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the above zoning Ordinance Text Amendment relative to Laundries. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

b. The City Planning Commission recommending denial of the request by Lester E. Schneider for the rezoning of property located on the east side of Vassault and between No. 22nd and Transmission Line R/W from an "R-1 and R-2" to an "R-3-PRD" District.

Appeal was filed by Mr. Lester E. Schneider and the suggested date of hearing is March 7, 1967.

Mrs. Price moved that March 7, 1967 be set as the date for hearing on the appeal by Lester E. Schneider. Seconded by Mr. Murtland. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

PETITIONS:

a. The Mall Corporation requesting rezoning of property located on the east side of So. Alder St. between So. 45th & 47th Sts. from an "R-3" to an "R-4-L" District.

b. Richard L. Johnston requesting rezoning of property located on the N. W. corner of So. 88th & Pacific Ave. from an "R-2" to an "R-4-L" District.

c. Leo B. Seiwerath requesting rezoning of property located on the north side of Ruston Way between Junett & Oakes St. from an "M-2" to an "R-4" District.

d. Charles P. Gordon et al requesting rezoning of property located on the S. E. corner of So. 10th & Pearl St. from an "R-2" to an "R-4-L" District.

e. H. A. Briggs Company requesting rezoning of property on the west side of Pearl St. in the vicinity of No. 11th St. from an "R-2" and "R-3" PRD and "R-4-L" to an "R-5" and "C-1" and "R-4-L" District.

Referred to the Planning Commission.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 19022 (postponed from Jan. 17, 1967)

Adopting a policy relative to placing all public utility services underground in undeveloped properties presently platted and new plats of undeveloped properties.

Amendment submitted, and a report from C. A. Erdahl-Director of Utilities.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Murtland.

Mr. Johnson stated in his opinion the rates that the Utilities Department is now charging for underground installations are out of line and too high, and suggested that the policy statement set forth in this resolution be held up until these charges are modified and reduced.

Mayor Tollefson pointed out that this resolution does not establish the cost of underground service but sets up a policy of the Council for installation of placing underground all public utilities and CATV service, and particularly underground wiring. He added that the rates of installation will be taken up later by the Council.

Mr. Erdahl, the Director of Public Utilities, explained that his staff had computed and averaged out the cost for overhead and underground construction with the result that the cost of the underground construction to the Utility Department is approximately \$298.00 more for underground, per lot, than the cost of overhead wiring. He further stated he could not see how the charges for installation could be reduced below that figure until the costs were reduced sufficiently to warrant a reduction in the rates. He further stated that at the present time the basic charge of installation is \$300.00 per lot for underground services in newly developed areas. Homes wired for electric hot water heat are charged an installation charge of \$200.00 and those with electric space heating are not charged any installation cost. If the premises are not wired for either hot water heat or electric space heating, then the full charge of \$300.00 is assessed. He added that the cost study has not produced any justification for change in this schedule which is presently followed.

Mr. Murtland stated that he did not agree with the proviso which was added to the resolution on paragraph 1, page 1, which would allow the placing of wires across the streets to connect homes with poles already existing. He stated he had hoped that the resolution as finally adopted by the Council would not permit the placing of wires across the streets under such circumstances. He felt that the street should be the dividing line and wires should not cross the street.

Mr. Erdahl agreed with Mr. Murtland but added that if lines were not placed across the street it would then require the installation of more poles on the other side of the street for the servicing of these homes.

Mr. Haley then asked for an explanation in respect to the suggested amendments to the resolution presented by the Utilities Department. Mr. McCormick was asked to explain the reasons for these suggested amendments. He stated that these suggestions were submitted by Mr. Ferguson, Superintendent of the Light Division. He recommended that the proposed amendment in respect to CATV facilities be included in the resolution for the reason that up to the present time there is no official determination that a CATV system is a public utility. For this reason, the general term "public utilities" might not cover such a system and, therefore, should be specifically included. He further stated that Mr. Ferguson also felt that all underground wiring should be installed in accordance with the present charges which were explained by Mr. Erdahl. For this reason he had suggested that the word "charges" be added to the present wording so that all installations would be charged at the present schedule.

Mr. McCormick further stated that Mr. Ferguson had suggested that in both Sections 1 and 2 of the resolution "electric services" should be defined to mean only "primary and secondary conductors". This would mean that the policy of placing such installations underground would only be applicable to primary and secondary distribution lines and not heavy transmission lines, which would still be placed on poles.

Mr. Haley asked why the electric services should be confined only to primary and secondary conductors.

Mr. Erdahl stated that he did not know why Mr. Ferguson had used that particular phraseology but he felt that the Council's objective was to formulate a set of rules and regulations for the placing of wiring underground wherever this was possible but to still make the rules flexible enough so that if they could not be followed, there could be some deviations from a rigid policy of placing all electric wires underground, regardless of the type or kind. He further stated that he felt that some flexibility had to be established in formulating this policy as there would be in some cases problems which would make it impracticable or impossible to place all wires and facilities underground.

Mr. Cvitanich felt that there must be some leeway in respect to installation charges, particularly in the undeveloped properties presently platted.

Mr. Erdahl said that this is what his staff was trying to determine and that in connection with this a definite policy set by the Council would certainly help in meeting future problems.

Dr. Herrmann remarked that this resolution is merely an expression of a policy of the Council and that it would obviously be impossible to write into this resolution rules and regulations which would solve all problems that might arise in the future in respect to underground installation of public utilities. Consequently, since the Council does have control over these matters, the fewer the words used in setting out the general policy in respect thereto, the better off everyone would be.

Mayor Tollefson asked that a definition of primary and secondary conductors be explained in detail or an interpretation given as to what this meant. He stated he would not mind inserting some language of explanation in the resolution in respect thereto. However, he stated he believed that it was not the intention of the Council that the high transmission lines were to mandatorily be placed underground at this time under any policy set forth in the resolution. He asked Mr. McCormick for the language regarding the primary and secondary conductors to have been included in the resolution at this time.

Mr. McCormick stated that while it was not necessary to have such restrictive wording in the resolution itself, he felt that the Council in determining the policy, should know and understand that in the opinion of the Utilities

Department primary and secondary conductors only would be placed mandatorily underground under the policy set forth in the resolution, but that transmission lines would still be placed on and carried on poles; particularly, where placing such transmission lines underground would not be feasible or practicable. He further stated to the Council, however, that this was a matter which was entirely up to the Council as to what wording they wanted to put in the resolution.

Mayor Tollefson then asked, if the wording was left as it now is in the resolution without changes so far as CATV is concerned, could the City Council say that under the resolution they did not mean to include transmission lines in that particular case being considered by the City Council if the question of going underground with transmission lines came up.

Mr. McCormick stated that that was his opinion and further explained, that is why in Section 3 of the resolution there is contained a provision which gives to the Council the right to vary from the policies generally laid down in the resolution, depending upon the facts and circumstances of the particular case which they might be considering.

Mr. Finnigan stated that he thought Mr. Ferguson, Superintendent of the Light Division, should be at a Council meeting to define what was meant by primary and secondary conductors before such wording was placed in the resolution.

Mr. Erdahl stated to the Council that he wished it understood that if the resolution is left as it is, this does not necessarily mean that in all cases high voltage transmission lines should be placed underground as a general policy of the Council.

Mr. Johnson stated that if this present resolution is passed they are, in effect, eliminating all further overhead distribution power to homes, except in the areas where the overhead already exists. The Council would thereby be enforcing everyone else to go underground and forcing owners to pay the rates that the City is charging. He again stated that he felt the present rates were too high.

After some discussion Mr. Murtland moved that in Section 1 and Section 2 second line, and after the word "services" there be added the words "and CATV facilities". Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Clarence Wilson, representing the Home Builders Association, stated that the Home Builders Association does not agree with, nor understand why, there is such a difference in cost between overhead and underground wiring. The Home Builders Association feels that it is the Utilities Department's duty to supply power to users within the City as they have a monopoly in the City for such services. He further stated that the assessment of the present charges of the Utilities for installation costs will force people to build in the County rather than on undeveloped property within the City. The building industry needs relief from added costs and this is one area, he stated, in which they believe that could and should receive some relief.

Mr. Erdahl explained that the difference in cost for underground wiring is \$298.00.

Mr. Tollefson stated a compromise might be agreed upon relative to the charges.

Mr. Erdahl thought this certainly calls for a continuing study and it was hoped that the charges could be revised.

Mayor Tollefson thought a study should be made in regard to particular developments, because it seemed to him, that by reason of the terrain, the actual cost of installing lines underground rather than overhead does not amount to \$300.00 per building site.

Mr. Erdahl remarked that he had raised that identical question to his staff time and time again but the work orders disagree with that suggestion.

Mayor Tollefson stated that surveys indicate that there will be over two million family units built in the United States per year in the future, and it is hoped that something can be resolved that will tend to decrease the maximum charges now being charged for underground installation.

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The Resolution as amended was passed unanimously by voice vote. Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19024

Approving the resolution of the Public Utility Board providing terms for the issuance and sale of Light and Power Revenue Bonds, Series "A" of 1967, in the principal amount of \$33,900,000 and the Light & Power Revenue Bonds, Series "B" of 1967 in the principal amount of \$5,000,000 and approving the form of Notice of Sale.

Mr. Bott moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote. Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19036

Authorizing the filing of an application for an Urban Beautification grant.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

Mr. Finnigan requested that more information be submitted to the Council before this resolution was voted upon. He felt this application for an Urban Beautification grant should take a back seat to a good many other parts of the program which are more important. He noted if this resolution were adopted it would be a five-year beautification program. The initial outlay or maintenance costs are not defined. He wondered if the City should embark upon such a project at this time. He felt there had not been enough thought given as to how this program would be intergrated with the City's other programs.

Mayor Tollefson stated the City's contribution for this program would be only \$2500.

Mr. Rowlands explained this was a continuation of the program instituted last year and it was recognized as one of the finest examples of intergovernmental cooperation to any of the United States, since the City was able to get together with four other units of government in a collective effort to try to beautify the general surroundings. The \$2500 would be spent in the current year anyway for landscaping the grounds at the new fire headquarters building to be constructed at 9th and Fawcett Ave. Any projects to be undertaken in future years would be brought before the Council for approval, he added.

Mr. Buehler, Director of Planning, said the application is being filed jointly by the City, Port, Park and School districts for \$371,000 in federal matching money to go toward a \$750,000 program. The largest project involved is the Park District's proposal for \$571,848 for improvement of Titlow Park.

Mr. Rowlands stated he hoped to discuss Open Space with members of the Metropolitan Park Board at a study session on Monday. This is part of the overall plan to develop a proper urban environment and a quality city. It was felt the Council would be pleased that such a program was set up on a cooperative basis.

Mr. Finnigan said this was a fine example of cooperation among units of government bodies, but it needs a federal grant, and he felt more information should be obtained to determine what the initial outlay or maintenance costs would be.

Mayor Tollefson stated the City could not inform the other participants in this program that the City would not go ahead with the program because the City did not know how much it is going to cost to maintain it later on. The Council has to presume that the Port, Park and School districts did consider what the future costs would be.

The Resolution was passed by voice vote.  
Ayes 8; Nays 1, Finnigan; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19037

Adopting the 1967 Beautification Program of the City of Tacoma.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Dr. Herrmann.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19038

Fixing Tuesday, February 28, 1967 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing for the vacation of South 4th St. from "L" St. to the alley west and east of "L". (Petition of Mary Bridge Children's Hospital)

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19039

Fixing Tuesday, February 28, 1967 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing for the vacation of the alley located between K and L Sts. from So. 18th to So. 19th Streets. (Petition of the Hardman Company.)

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

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Resolution No. 19040

Fixing Monday March 13, 1967 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing on L I D 4807 for paving on No. 10th from Huson to Mullen and other nearby streets.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19041

Fixing Monday March 13, 1967 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing on L I D 4810 for widening and paving 6th Ave. from Orchard to Shirley Streets.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19042

Authorizing a temporary loan in the amount of \$68,042.37 from the General Fund to the Transit System and \$8,273.83 to the Neighborhood Youth Corps Fund.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19043

Authorizing the transfer of funds from certain categories to other categories at the close of the year 1966.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19044

Awarding contract to George Madsen Co., on its bid of \$4,138.40 for L I D 2382.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19045

Amending Resolution No. 19031 to correct in omission in the legal description.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19046

Appropriating funds from various departments of the City Government for the payment of actual expenditures required during the year 1966.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19047

Settling the claim of Ina W. Shipley in the amount of \$781.68.

Mr. Haley moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 18221

Amending Sections 1.12, 210 & 625 of the Compensation Plan reflecting changes in holiday pay for certain Belt Line Employees.

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 18222

Appropriating the sum of \$7,305.48 from the General Fund to the Airport Fund and the sum of \$42,584.91 from the General Fund to the Police Relief and Pension Fund.

Mr. Rowlands explained that the Airport fund was short due to various improvements that had to be made because of more activity and also due to the raise in insurance premiums. The Police Relief and Pension Fund amount is substantial, however, later in the year adjustments will have to be made due to a number of patrolmen who will be retiring.

Mr. Bott suggested that a longevity pay be set up for policemen as many years of experience is being lost when a number of men with 25 years of service retire.



Mayor Tollefson stated that the Legislature suggested, in the form of a new pension system, that would give a policeman an increase of 2% each year over and above his salary after 25 years of service, with the intent they would retire with a 75% pension, hoping this would induce the men to work longer. However, the policemen fought that on the basis that their pension system is nothing but deferred pay. They want that deferred pay at the end of 25 years when they have earned it. They did not want any system whereby they could continue on as active policemen.

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

**FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:**

**Ordinance No. 18212**

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code of the City by adding a new section 13.06.050-15 to include property on the S.E. corner of So. 56th and J Sts. in an "R-3" District. (petition of Jehanie Babnick)

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

**Ordinance No. 18213**

Providing for the improvement of L I D 4796 for arterial paving on Mildred St. from 6th Ave. to So. 19th Street.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

**Ordinance No. 18214**

Providing for the improvement of L I D 6886 for street lighting between So. 12th and So. 19th from Stevens to Proctor and other streets.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

**Ordinance No. 18215**

Providing for the improvement of L I D 5431 for water mains on So. I St. from So. 80th to So. 84th Street.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

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Ordinance No. 18216

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 4773 for paving on Clement St. from So. 66th to So. 68th and other streets.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18217

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 4781 for paving and sections of concrete sidewalks on Sprague Ave. from So. 66th to So. 72nd Street.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18218

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 6853 for street lighting between So. Union Ave. & Tyler St. and between So. 28th and Center Street.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18219

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 5409 for water mains in McKinley Ave. from East 82nd northerly 1086 feet and in East 80th from McKinley Ave. to East F Street.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18220

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 5415 for water mains in the right-of-way from East 19th and J St. to East 18th and in East 19th from 640 feet east of East D.

Roll call was taken on the ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

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ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

Report from the Police Dept. for the month of Dec. 1966.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Rowlands mentioned that a number of men from the Utilities Dept. will be attending the Water Conservation Congress on March 6th and 7th, 1967 in Wenatchee. He asked if any of the Council members could attend.

Mayor Tollefson stated that anyone going should inform his secretary and she would make immediate arrangements for their stay.

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Mr. Rowlands stated that on Monday, Feb. 7th at a study session there will be a discussion of Open Space with members of the Metropolitan Park Board.

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Mr. Rowlands stated that last week when he was in Washington, D. C. he met with Mr. Yoffe and prospects look bleak for any immediate federal contribution toward Tacoma's proposed air pollution control program. The federal agency involved is more than a million dollars short of matching funds necessary for prior requests for pollution control aid. He noted that the federal program may be expanded during the next fiscal year, which starts this summer, but a new appropriation will be required and the money probably would not become available until October or November 1967.

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Mr. Rowlands said the City will proceed with a limited air testing program as the Council had budgeted \$28,000 for air pollution control. Any money the City spends on its own will reduce the amount which will qualify for matching funds. The County Commissioners have indicated they would contribute approximately \$7,000 toward the project this year, which makes the joint program eligible for 3 to 1 federal matching funds.

Mr. Cvitanich noted that the City of Seattle is requiring that all new cars sold within the city be equipped with an anti-smog device. He asked that the City of Tacoma require such a device on new cars sold in the future.

Mr. Rowlands stated he would check out this report. He was hopeful that the Legislature would pass a bill which will aid the regional approach to the problem.

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Mr. Rowlands reported on the proposed settlement negotiated with the Public Health Nurses on Friday, Jan. 27, 1967, which averted a threatened walkout by 26 members of the nursing staff.

He said that the starting pay for nurses would be increased. A new classification for nurses with some supervisory duties would be created under the proposal. The present ceiling would remain on the top pay step.

Mr. Cvitanich left at 6:30 P. M.

Mayor Tollefson asked how the Council would justify these increases with all the other departments of the City.

Mr. Rowlands felt the circumstances would not be the same, as the Personnel Dept. conducted a survey of pay received by other nurses in the area and found the pay has dramatically increased in the nursing profession. By this raise the nurses will have experienced a 22 1/2% increase in 13 months. It is believed this is a fair increase.

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Mr. Haley felt the Council should have anticipated this during the October hearings on the 1967 budget.

Mr. Rowlands stated the Council had directed the staff to review the classification for Public Health Nurse II but the other problem concerning wages was not anticipated for the near future. An ordinance should be submitted next week for the raises in pay agreed upon at the meeting last Friday.

Mr. Haley felt there had been a discussion in October about the within grade range in pay.

Mr. Rowlands said that may have been true, but the proposition submitted by the City was not acceptable and the nurses were holding out positively for at least a 2-range increase. Therefore, it was a matter again of negotiations because if they did not receive the 2-range increase, they would not have continued in the service.

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Mr. Haley wished the Council to give consideration in establishing the policy to appoint a Technical Advisory Committee for the air pollution problem. The committee could be comprised of local engineers knowledgeable in the field to aid the City's efforts.

Mr. Finnigan said the Los Angeles area has a code for elimination of air pollution. An air pollution control commission has been set up in the San Francisco Bay area. It is one of the leaders in the United States in this problem. They examine every field and take constant readings and these are published every week. It would be worthwhile for our representatives to become better acquainted with these people in San Francisco as they could certainly utilize information from their experiences.

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Mrs. Price stated that Portland, Oregon has done a good job in this connection on a regional basis.

Mr. Rowlands stated one has to be prepared to have the legislative authority, that allows the City to stand pat on their decisions.

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There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 P. M.

*W. M. J. Tolleson*  
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Mayor of the City Council

Attest: *Josephine Melton*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk