

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers, 4:00 P. M.
Tuesday, October 16, 1962

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 7: Borf, Finnigan, Herrmann, Murtland, Price, Steele and Mayor Tollefson. Absent 2: Cvitanich and Haley. Mr. Cvitanich coming in at 4:05 P. M. and Mr. Haley at 4:10 P. M.

Dr. Herrmann moved that the minutes of the Budget hearing of October 1, 1962 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mrs. Price moved that the minutes of the City Council of October 2, 1962 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Dr. Herrman. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

PETITION:

Petition submitted by H. E. Thaden requesting the rezoning of property 491 at 46th and McKinley Avenue from an "R-2" to an "R-3" District.

Referred to the Planning Commission.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 17224:

Establishing a Community Development Advisory Committee.

Mrs. Price moved 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.

Resolution No. 17225:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute an easement with School District #10 for right-of-way purposes in the area between East 56th and Portland Avenue. (Harry McIlvaigh Junior High School)

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Mrs. Price moved 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. 17226:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute a (5) year lease with Elmer T. Erickson for certain lands owned by the City located near Kapowsin for the annual rental of \$100.00 a year terminating on Sept. 30, 1967.

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

Mr. Benedetti, Water Supt., explained there are approximately 30 acres involved under this lease with no buildings. This land is used as a pasture for cattle.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 17227:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute an easement to the Sound Power & Light Co. to construct transmission lines in the Green River Watershed.

Mr. Steele moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.
Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Mr. Steele moved that the Rules be suspended to consider Resolution No. 17228. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 17228:

Commending James P. Mocerri for his many years of service he has devoted to the welfare of the City of Tacoma as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Tacoma Public Library.

Mr. Steele moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.
Voice vote was taken on the Resolution.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Mr. Steele said a hearing was held at last week's meeting on the proposed vacation of a portion of No. 34th lying between Union Ave. and the alley between Union and Puget Sound Avenue, and at that time it was voted down to bring in an Ordinance for the proposed vacation. He stated, he voted on the prevailing side

so as to bring it up for reconsideration at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Steele then moved to reconsider the action taken on the vote to bring in an Ordinance on the proposed vacation. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Roll call was taken. Ayes 7; Nays 2; Cvitanich and Haley. Motion carried. 415 439

Mr. Steele then moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission that a proper Ordinance be drawn for the vacation of a portion of No. 34th St. lying between Union Ave. and the alley between Union and Puget Sd. Avenue. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

Mr. Bott moved for a two week's postponement on the matter in order to allow the property owners an opportunity to get together and find a solution to their problem concerning the walkway. Seconded by Mr. Haley.

Mr. Steele said this property is not a dedicated street and has never been used as such and he could see no purpose for continuing the matter. He said if the City maintained a walkway it would necessitate construction, and he had suggested to some of the residents in the area a possibility of working out some method for a private walkway, which would resolve the matter.

Mayor Tollefson said he would be in favor of setting this matter over as he was not present at last week's meeting, and he did not hear all of the arguments. Voice vote was taken on the motion to postpone for two weeks. Motion carried.

Mr. Bott suggested that the proper department contact the people involved and arrange a meeting to explain to them what could be done in the way of easements so they could come to an understanding prior to the two weeks.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 17192:

Approving & confirming the assessment roll for SCF No. 61 for construction, reconstruction of sidewalks, curbs & gutters in various parts of the City.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 17193:

Amending Section 10.18.030 of the Official Code of the City relating to Authority to make Improvement.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, stated under the old Ordinance it stated, "if the Council found it desirable then, sidewalk improvements could be requested." The Court has questioned if the wording "desirable" was sufficient, and suggested that stronger language be used; therefore, this Ordinance will clear up any mis-interpretation, as it clearly states "by necessity the City Council can order sidewalks."

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 17194:

Authorizing the City Attorney to prosecute an action in the Superior Court of the State of Washington for the purpose of acquiring property in order to protect the water supply of the City of Tacoma. (property situated in King Co.)

Mr. Benedetti explained the Green River Watershed has been the City's principal source of water supply for over 50 years. He pointed out on the map the properties presently owned by the City and property of private ownerships which are located on or contiguous to the Green River, and also the land which is being negotiated for acquisition in the Howard Hanson Basin area. He stated, the Water Division over the past 25 to 30 years has acquired properties as they have become available. This Ordinance would allow acquisition of privately owned properties consisting of approximately 1450 acres, in the name of some 38 individuals. These properties are needed in order to exercise the proper control of the main river. He thought this was in the best interests of the Department that they be allowed to acquire these lands at this time. He added, that amounts have been budgeted each year for acquisition of the properties and although the Water Dept. has acquired minimal amounts of properties, the budget amounts have not been expended, so there are available funds, together with current funds with which to acquire these properties. The estimated cost for these properties is \$400,000, however, there is approximately \$250,000 worth of merchantable timber on the properties. The Green River source of water has proven to be a wonderful asset to the City of Tacoma and is capable of development of three times its capacity that it is now producing.

Mayor Tollefson said that Mr. Homer King had asked to be given permission to speak on this matter.

Mr. King said he had discussed this purchase of property along the Green River with many people and they did not favor this purchase. They think it just a real estate deal, and it was not a good thing for the City to do. He suggested the City develop the wells in South Tacoma and get their supply of water from the Glacier as there is an unlimited supply.

Mr. Murtland asked what percentage of water is received from the Green River to supply Tacoma.

Mr. Benedetti said 90% of the water used by Tacoma is from Green River and the balance is from the wells.

Commenting on Mr. King's remarks, Mr. Benedetti stated he did not think Mr. King was representing the majority of the people as the Chamber of Commerce Industrial Bureau has endorsed this purchase of property on the Green River, as they realize, it will further industry in the City. It will allow them to produce at a more economical rate and they are also interested in keeping water prices down.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 17171:

Authorizing the renewal of the franchise with the Northern Pacific Railway Co. for the continued maintenance and operation of a spur track along Winthrop Ave. and across East 22nd and East 23rd Streets.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17183:

Adopting the Annual Budget for the fiscal year 1963. 418

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 1, Cvitanich; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17184:

Fixing the amount of tax levies necessary to raise the amount of the estimated expenditures for the General Fund for the fiscal year 1963.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 1; Cvitanich; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17185:

Vacating a portion of Pearl St. between So. 19th & So. 18th St. (petition 418 of Cornelius P. Kelly, etal)

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17186:

Amending Sec. 13.04.190 of the Official Code of the City relating to subdivision Ordinance Text Change . (as amended)

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Haley and Mayor Tollefson

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17187:

Amending Sec. 1.30.300 of the Official Code of the City relating to membership in the Retirement System.

Mr. Cvitanich asked Mr. McCormick , City Attorney, if it would be proper for him to vote on this Ordinance.

Mr. McCormick indicated it would be proper.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Haley and Mayor Tollefson
The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17188:

Providing for the improvement of L I D 3543 for sanitary sewers in
Freemont St. from Harmon to No. 23rd; View Ridge Dr. from Whitman west
450 feet; No. 45th from Whitman west 100 feet.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Haley
The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17189:

Approving and confirming the Assessment roll for L I D 4663 for paving
on So. 55th from Fawcett to Park; McGhee from East 58th to approximately
390 feet south.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Haley
The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17190:

Approving and confirming the Assessment roll for L I D 5334 for cast
iron water mains in 58th Ave. N. E. from 29th St. N. E. to 25th St. N. E.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Haley
The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 17191:

Approving and confirming the Assessment roll for L I D 6786 for street
lights in the area between Adams & Washington from So. 12th to So. 19th Streets.

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8, Nays 0; Absent 1, Haley

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

REPORTS:

Report from the City Clerk advising that L I D 5359 for water mains in the area of Mason Ave. from So 56th to 62nd St. has been abandoned since there was a 76% protest filed against the improvement.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK :

Report from the Municipal Court for the month of Sept 1962.

COMMENTS:

John T. Sankovich, Acting City Manager, gave a report on the emergency conditions created by the violent wind storm of Friday, October 12, 1962. He pointed out that more than 500 trees were blown down within the City and most of the major arterial streets and sidewalks were covered with debris and blocked by fallen trees which created a serious menace to the public using the streets and sidewalks. This extenuating circumstance caused the Light Dept to be confronted with the destruction or damage by the storm of its power lines and facilities. He further reported that the right-of-ways were being cleared, and the program of cleaning up the City would take at least 10 days. He stated that the storm had created a very serious emergency and that by reason, thereof, Mr. Schuster, Director of Public Works, had extra crews working Friday, Saturday and Sunday on an overtime basis, costing the City at least \$3100.00 for the clean up on some of the main streets where trees had fallen.

Mr. Schuster said that they had begun picking up the debris, Tuesday, October 16th and were cutting and clearing the roadways. Due to this emergency the normal work performed by the City crews would have to be curtailed.

It was further pointed out by Mr Sankovich and other members of the Council that the Light Dept. had suffered enormous damages. It was necessary due to the emergent conditions that all available men be hired in an attempt to repair the damage and restore the facilities.

Mayor Tollefson said, on behalf of the Council, he would publicly like to commend the Light Dept. for its prompt service in restoring electricity; the Police Dept. for patrolling while there was a blackout; the Fire Dept. for its volunteer service and, in addition to that, the people as a whole in the City of Tacoma for their fine spirit.

Mayor Tollefson further added, the responsibility for trees that had fallen

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on private property was the responsibility of the property owner. But it was further pointed out, however, that the City was responsible for trees that were blocking City streets and sidewalks, but, there still remained the problem of the repairing and replacing of sidewalks where trees had up-rooted them. Mayor Tollefson then stated, that the policy has not yet been determined in that respect.

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Mayor Tollefson said it should also be made a public record that all Radio and T. V. stations be commended on their reporting.

The Council unanimously recognized the emergency that was created and existed, and approved of the acts and doings as reported by Mr. Sankovich, Mr. Schuster and the Light Dept.

Mayor Tollefson said the Utility Board wished to meet with the Council ⁴⁵⁵ to discuss the sale of the Belt Line and also to discuss the re-organization plan.

It was decided that the Council would meet with the Utility Board at 7:00 P. M. on October 25, 1962.

Mayor Tollefson stated his office had received some correspondence from citizens regarding the bookmobile, leash Law, the Ordinance raising dog fees and the sale of hard liquor on the premises at Lake Cushman. If anyone wished to see the letters they will be placed on file in the City Clerk's office.

Mayor Tollefson thanked Dr. Herrmann for presiding at the meeting of October 9, 1962.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 P. M.

AAA Tollefson
Mayor of the City Council

Attest: *Josephine Melton*
City Clerk