

1955

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7:42 P. M.

Tuesday, May 31, 1955.

Council met in regular session. Present 7; Battin, Bratrud, Hooker, Humiston, Perdue, Stojack, Tollefson. Absent 2; Goering (taking her seat at 7:47) and Jensen, (taking his seat at 8:07).

It was moved by Dr. Battin, seconded by Mr. Perdue, that the minutes of the previous meeting, copies of which had been mailed by the Clerk to each Councilman, be approved and the reading thereof be dispensed with. Motion carried on roll call: Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2; Goering, Jensen.

Mayor Tollefson read a letter from E. K. Murray, Chairman, Freeholders, advising they have organized and elected E. K. Murray, Chairman, Mrs. A. A. Price, Vice chairman, and Dawn Olson, Secretary; that tentatively they have decided to meet Monday and Thursday evening in Room 100, City Hall; that it will be necessary to incur certain expenses for office supplies, equipment and clerical help, and asking that the quarters in the City Hall and the sum of \$6,000 be made available to them. Mrs. Olson was present to answer any questions the Council might ask. Dr. Humiston advised that he had an ordinance for 1st reading, which is not on the agenda, appropriating this sum for the Freeholders' expenses, which he would submit later in the meeting. Mr. Backstrom reported that they are arranging to obtain tables, chairs and desks, which the Freeholders have asked be furnished.

RESOLUTIONS:

Initial Resolution No. 14267. L. I. D. 5249.

By HUMISTON:

Stating intention of Council to order installation of 6 inch cast iron water main in James Street from North 17th to a point approximately 335 feet south of the south line of North 11th Street, and in North 11th Street from Harmon Street to James Street; rescinding Resolution No. 14240; creating L. I. D. 5249 and fixing June 21st, 1955 as the date for hearing thereon. It was moved by Dr. Humiston to suspend Rule 9, seconded by Mr. Perdue and carried unanimously on voice vote. The resolution was then adopted without having been read in full.

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2; Goering, Jensen.

Resolution No. 14268.

By HUMISTON:

Approving expenditure from the 1955 annual budget Capital Outlay for the Light Division, Department of Public Utilities, for the items listed herein in total amount of \$179,114.00. It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Mr. Stojack to suspend Rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The resolution was then adopted without having been read in full.

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Jensen.

Resolution No. 14269.

By STOJACK:

Fixing Monday, June 27, 1955 as the date for hearing on petition to vacate the alley lying between Pacific Avenue and C Street from South 65th Street to South 67th Street. (Petition Calvary Baptist Church, et al - 4-14-55).

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Jensen.

Resolution No. 14270.By GOERING:

Directing the proper officers of the City to transfer the sum of \$25,000 from the City Street Fund to the Sidewalk Construction Fund for the purpose of paying the cost of City participation in sidewalks repairs.

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Jensen.

Resolution No. 14271.By BATTIN:

Authorizing a temporary loan from the General Fund in the sum of \$10,000 to the Employees' War Savings Bond Fund, and directing the proper officers of the City to make such transfers as are necessary to effectuate such loan.

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Jensen.

Resolution No. 14272.By Humiston:

Authorizing the expenditure of not in excess of \$400.00 for purchase for use by the Finance Department one used multigraph machine now owned by the Water Division, and the necessary supplies required to place said machine in operation and to purchase three ledger trays to be used in double entry accounting and budgetary accounting, payment to be made from Cumulative Reserve Fund for Capital Outlay for municipal purpose. It was moved by Dr. Battin to suspend Rule 9, seconded by Mr. Perdue and carried unanimously on voice vote. The resolution was then adopted without having been read in full.

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Jensen.

Resolution No. 14273.By HUMISTON:

Authorizing Investment Board of the City of Tacoma to invest the amounts of money now presently available from the funds hereinafter designated, in the amount set forth opposite said fund, in authorized United States Government securities.

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Jensen.

Initial Resolution No. 14274. L. I. D. 2235.By JENSEN:

Stating intention of Council to order grading to the established subgrade and placing thereon a gravel and crushed rock oil mat on James Street from North 17th Street to approximately 300 feet south of North 11th Street; creating L I D 2235 and fixing June 21, 1955 as the date for hearing thereon. It was moved by Col. Hooker, seconded by Dr. Humiston to suspend Rule 9, and carried unanimously on voice vote. The resolution was then adopted without having been read in full.

Adopted on roll call May 31, 1955.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Jensen.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15347.

Repealing Ordinance No. 12445 entitled: "An ordinance creating and establishing in the Treasury of the City of Tacoma a special fund to be known and designated as "Health, Fire and Police Aid Fund"; specifying the purposes for which said fund is created; repealing Ordinance No. 12429; directing that all moneys in the War Liquor Tax Fund created by said Ordinance No. 12429 be transferred to the special fund herein created; providing that the appropriation made from said War Liquor Tax Fund in and by Ordinance No. 12440 be paid out of the fund herein created; declaring a public emergency and that this ordinance shall take effect immediately after publication." Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 15348.

Amending Section 1 of Ordinance No. 14869 entitled: "An ordinance imposing a Gross Earnings Tax for the benefit of the General Fund upon the Sewer Utility, Department of Public Works and declaring the effective date hereof." (making gross earnings tax subordinate to the payment of principal and interest on any revenue bonds heretofore or hereafter issued by the City of Tacoma, for any utility of the City). Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

Dr. Humiston advised that he had in his possession an ordinance which had been completed too late to be placed on the agenda for tonight's meeting, but which should be given first reading. Mr. Perdue said he too had an ordinance which should be given first reading tonight. It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Mr. Perdue that Rule 7, relative to filing of new matter for Council's consideration, be suspended in order to give first reading to these two ordinances, and carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 15349.

Appropriating from the General Fund the sum of \$6,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the purpose of paying all necessary expenses incident to the deliberations and work of the fifteen freeholders elected May 10, 1955, for the purpose of altering, changing or revising the Charter of the City of Tacoma; declaring the emergency making necessary said appropriation; and authorizing the issuance of emergency warrants for said purposes. Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 15350.

Amending Section 26 of Ordinance No. 15106 entitled: "An ordinance adopting the pay or compensation plan as contemplated by Section 6.9 of the City Charter; prescribing the salaries to be paid to non-elective officers and employees of the City; establishing the positions of the various departments of the City Government; fixing the effective date of this ordinance, etc." (Pay or Compensation Plan add Statistician Health Department). Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15339. L. I. D. 4537.

Repealing Ordinance No. 15107, entitled: "An ordinance providing for the improvement of Bennett Street from North 26th Street to North 30th Street by grading and oil mat; creating L I D No. 4537, etc." Read in full and passed.

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

Ordinance No. 15340. L. I. D. 1924.

Approving and confirming assessment and assessment roll for cost of improvement in L. I. D. 1924. Read by title. It was moved by Mr. Bratrud, seconded by Dr. Battin to suspend Rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full.

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

Ordinance No. 15341. L. I. D. 5233.

Approving and confirming assessment and assessment roll for cost of improvement in L I D 5233. Read by title. It was moved by Dr. Battin, seconded by Mr. Perdue to suspend Rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full.

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

Ordinance No. 15342. L I D 5240.

Approving and confirming assessment and assessment roll for cost of improvement in L I D 5240. Read by title. It was moved by Dr. Battin, seconded by Mr. Perdue to suspend Rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full.

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

Ordinance No. 15343. L I D 2230.

Providing for the improvement of East I Street from East 36th Street to East 37th Street, by grading and oil mat; creating L I D 2230. Read by title. It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Dr. Battin to suspend Rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full.

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

Ordinance No. 15344. L. I. D. 4551.

Providing for the improvement of the alley between South D Street and Pacific Avenue from South 38th Street to South 40th Street by paving; creating L I D No. 4551. Read by title and it was moved by by Col. Hooker, seconded by Dr. Humiston to suspend Rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full.

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

Ordinance No. 15345. L I D 5246.

Providing for the construction of a 12-inch cast iron water main in South 72nd Street from L Street to Sheridan Avenue; an 8-inch cast iron water main in Sheridan Avenue from South 68th Street to South 72nd Street; and a 6-inch cast iron water main in M Street from South 68th Street to South 72nd Street, in South 68th Street from J Street to M Street, and in L Street from South 68th Street to a point approximately 814 feet north of the north line of South 68th Street; creating L I D 5246. Read by title. It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Mr. Perdue to suspend Rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full.

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

Authorizing the appropriation of the sum of \$8,750.00 from the Street and Bridge Construction Fund of 1955 to pay for the acquisition of right of way for the improvement of South 56th Street from South Junett to South Prospect Street. Read in full and passed.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Tollefson read a communication from Col. Robert G. Clem, State of Washington Military Department, relative to the Mayor of Tacoma making the presentation of the City of Tacoma Trophy in person to Headquarters & Headquarters Battery, 115th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade, Washington National Guard at the Annual Field Training Encampment, Yakima Firing Center, Yakima, Washington on June 21st. Mayor Tollefson said it would be impossible for him to do this as he is going to be away at that time, and he asked Mrs. Goering, Vice president of the Council, if she could take care of this duty. Mrs. Goering said she also was busy on that date with a prior engagement, so could not go to Yakima. The Mayor called for volunteers and Col. Hooker volunteered to represent the Mayor in the event no other Council member found it convenient to attend. The Mayor thanked Col. Hooker and said he would hold it open until next Monday to see if some one else would go, as Col. Hooker has substituted for him on similar occasions in the past.

Mayor Tollefson read a communication from Mayor Wm. B. Hartsfield of Atlanta, Ga., Chairman of Airport Sponsors Committee, American Municipal Association, requesting the Mayor of the City of Tacoma to write to the Senators from Washington, explaining the inadequacy of the present appropriation of twenty million dollars for grants-in-aid to airports and appealing for their support for an appropriation of at least \$100,000,000 to put the airport program back on its feet, in line with the assurances given the cities in years past. Although Tacoma does not have an airport, Mayor Tollefson said he felt the City of Tacoma should give some consideration to this request in our relationships with other cities in the United States which are vitally concerned with this problem. The matter was discussed and a number of the Council members felt it should be taken up at the convention of the Association of Washington Cities, which is being held on June 9th and 10th in Tacoma, and so the letter was referred to Marc Anderson to take up on the convention floor.

The Mayor read a letter of thanks he had received from Louis G. Tasker, et al, for the favorable action taken by Council relative to an alley between Mc Arthur and Meyers Streets from So. 8th to South 10th Street. Placed on file.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

On the matter of the two vacancies on the City Planning Commission, Mayor Tollefson reported he had two men in mind, but one of them decided he could not give the position the time required. However he is submitting the name of Gerald Longstreth for Council's consideration to fill the term ending June 30, 1960, left vacant by the resignation of Ken Roegner, he said. Mr. Longstreth has been recommended by the Real Estate Board, the Mayor added. Col. Hooker commended the Mayor on his fine choice. A formal resolution confirming the appointment of Mr. Longstreth will be submitted for adoption by the Council next Monday.

The Mayor reported that a vacancy will occur on the Civil Service Board on June 30th as the term of Wallace Burch expires on that date. In this connection he read a letter from Charles E. Morton, Chairman of the Civil Service Board, giving his unqualified endorsement of Wallace Burch for reappointment. Col. Hooker also endorsed Mr. Burch. The Mayor said he would have a resolution ready, confirming Mr. Burch's reappointment at the proper time. *(Made by motion 6/27/55)*

Mr. Bratrud asked if there was any report forthcoming on the ripping of Thompson Avenue. Mr. Backstrom reported that Thompson Avenue between 56th and 61st had a good base with relatively few holes and there was no necessity for ripping, while the portion between 61st and 64th Streets was a dust oil four years old in poor condition. W. H. Carden, street maintenance supervisor on the South side, had issued the notices as he thought it would be a good idea to have an oil seal put on to preserve the street for two or three years. It is a question of judgment on the part of the supervisor as to whether or not a street needs ripping, and in this particular case it did not, he added. The procedure followed by the City was explained in detail by the City Manager, who stated that the supervisor decides if the street needs ripping, and no notices are issued unless Mr. Henriot, Chief of the Maintenance Division, gives his approval. Fifteen days notice is given property owners and the City does not rip until property owners decide what they want to do about the street. Dr. Humiston said he had examined the leaflet the city is using and in his opinion we are our own worse enemies in the manner in which it is presented to the property owner, as he believed it should be referred to as regrading rather than ripping. Mr. Jensen said in his opinion the whole maintenance program should be reviewed, and available funds pro-rated over all types of streets on a fair and equitable basis and when all the money is spent, it should be announced that this is the end of the street maintenance work for the year. Mr. Backstrom referred to his communication filed with Council on March 21st, which set up a street maintenance program, and explained that this program allocated a certain amount to different types of streets.

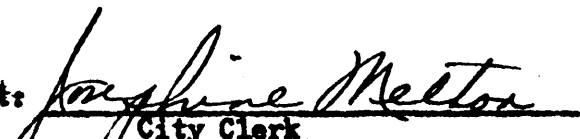
In relation to the City Street problems, Mr. Backstrom said he would like to make a comment on a recent Public Works hearing held in order to encourage consolidation of L I districts. He reported on the meeting held at Jones Hall, C. P. S., last Thursday for the purpose of discussing with property owners a proposed improvement between North 9th and North 14th from Alder to Anderson, which was attended by 125 out of 230 property owners, and the whole program was explained to them. The meeting was very successful as those present voted in favor of having the Council initiate the improvement. Similar meetings in other parts of the City will be held as the necessity arises, he added. It was pointed out by Mr. Backstrom that consolidating several small jobs into one big district results in a substantial saving to the property owners. The Council agreed that a continued program of informing the public of the City's participation in Local Improvement Districts is needed. Dr. Humiston said he felt it would be of benefit if the budget for 1956 could be broken down to show exactly where all street funds are being directed. Mr. Backstrom indicated a work program for next year would be set up for Council to approve. Mr. Backstrom said they now have one field man, who contacts the public relative to street problems, and they have found that this personal contact is the best method of handling the problem. Another field man is needed to properly cover the entire City, Mr. Backstrom said. Mayor Tollefson said he would like to see the City Manager set up public meetings in the East side and the South side of the City to give people an opportunity to become familiar with the City Street program.

Mayor Tollefson reported that the Freeholders had been sworn in last Thursday, and at that time each of them had been given a copy of a letter which he had prepared. Each Council member will be furnished a copy of this letter before the next Council meeting, and he will report on this matter next Monday, he added.

Upon motion duly seconded and carried, Council then adjourned at 9:15 P. M.


President of City Council.

Attest:


City Clerk.