

OCT : 1960

City Council Chambers 7:00 P.M.
Tuesday, October 4, 1960

Council reconvened from the meeting of October 3, 1960. Present on roll call 9: Bott, Cvitanich, Easterday, Murtland, Olson, Porter, Price, Steele, and Mayor Hanson.

Mrs. Price moved that the minutes of September 20, 1960 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Steele. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Mr. Steele moved that the minutes of September 27, 1960 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Price.

Mr. Cvitanich said a remark was omitted on page 10 during a discussion with Mr. Schuster regarding telephone calls received in reference to the creation of L I D's. A suggestion was made of logging telephone calls to avoid any confusion as to who had called requesting improvements, and thought it would save the City some embarrassment if these calls were logged. He asked that the Clerk search the records and insert that portion of the discussion regarding the logging of the calls.

Mayor Hanson asked that the minutes be set over until next week so that the Council could see the insertion as it will appear.

Mrs. Price said she would like to make one correction, that the figure of \$2000 in the fourth paragraph on page 10 be changed to \$1100.

Mr. Steele then moved that the approval of the Minutes of September 27, 1960 be set over for one week. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 16297:

Authorizing Off-Street Parking Garages and directing the City Attorney to prepare and submit to the City Council all necessary Ordinances and Resolutions necessary therefor.

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

Marshall McCormick, City Attorney, explained that this Resolution authorizes the City Attorney to prepare and submit to the City Council all ordinances, resolutions etc., to construct, equip, finance and offer the same for lease for the two Off-Street Parking Garages and facilities set forth, pursuant to State Law.

He said a companion ordinance authorizing issuance of \$2,450,000 in City revenue bonds for the project will be prepared for introduction in the next couple of weeks if this Resolution passes tonight.

Mrs. Price said it has been brought out since the last hearing that the Retail Trade Bureau has announced they would support a validation plan to provide free parking for their customers in the new garages. She added, she thought the professional offices downtown should also be approached with this program. If the Businessmen downtown are willing to participate in a validation program and the people will take advantage of the parking downtown, she feels this will also benefit the entire City.

She pointed out that the City received from the downtown merchants the sum of \$305,042.38 in B & O taxes in 1959 and felt that the downtown business

should be protected, and support given in building these garages downtown which she thought would be self supporting.

She added there are a number of points which will have to be cleared up before these garages can be built. If there is to be a test case, this will clear the way for other Cities in the State desiring to know the legality of such a project. She said she has given much thought and feels that these garages would be for the best interest of the entire City.

Mr. Cvitanich asked what legal recourse would the opponents have if this Resolution were adopted. What would be necessary for them to do in order to put this up for a vote of the people?

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, said if the Council passes this Resolution, a companion Ordinance authorizing issuance of City revenue bonds for the project will come before the Council for passage within a couple of weeks. If the Council approves the Ordinance the opponents will then have the opportunity to refer the Ordinance to a vote of the people in accordance with the procedure set up in the City Charter.

Mr. Easterday asked what percentage of the votes cast at the last election would be necessary on the referendum.

Mr. McCormick replied that it would take ten per cent of the last election.

Mayor Hanson asked if this would permit the City to proceed from the legal standpoint even if this referendum matter arises.

Mr. McCormick said the referendum would have to be decided first. The Charter states that "If, prior to the date when any ordinance shall take effect, a petition signed by qualified electors equal in number to at least ten per cent of the total vote cast in the last preceding councilmanic election shall be filed with the City Clerk and certified as to sufficiency of signatures, as in the case of an initiative ordinance, such ordinance shall be suspended from taking effect." This would effectively stop any Court test on the matter until this was submitted to the electors.

Mr. Steele said it should be pointed out there is a time limit on referendums opposing an Ordinance.

Mr. McCormick quoted the Charter as follows: "Any proposed Ordinance or amendment to an existing Ordinance may be submitted to the Council by petition signed by registered voters equal in number to at least ten per cent of the total vote cast in the last preceding councilmanic election. All petitions circulated with respect to any proposed Ordinance shall be uniform in character, shall contain the proposed Ordinance in full, shall set forth the address and precinct number of residence of each person signing, shall be in form prescribed by the City Clerk, and shall be filed with the City Clerk."

"Upon the filing of such petitions the City Clerk shall forthwith verify the sufficiency of the signatures thereto. If he finds them insufficient, he shall forthwith notify the person filing the same, and twenty days shall be allowed for completion thereof. If he finds them sufficient he shall forthwith transmit the same with his report to the Council, which shall take final action thereon within thirty days."

"The Council may enact or reject any initiative Ordinance, but shall not amend or modify the same. If it shall reject any such Ordinance, or shall within thirty days fail to take final action thereon, the same shall be submitted to the qualified electors for their approval or rejection at the next general municipal election occurring not less than fifty days thereafter, under a ballot title prepared therefor by the City Attorney."

Mr. McCormick said it further states that "If, prior to the date when any Ordinance shall take effect, a petition signed by qualified electors equal in number to at least ten per cent of the total vote cast in the last preceding councilmanic election shall be filed with the City Clerk," etc. The effective date of

OCT 4 1960

an Ordinance is ten days after the date of its publication. Therefore the referendum would have to be filed within this 10 days prior to the effective date. Usually the Ordinance is published the first or second day after its passage.

Mrs. Olson asked if the proposed pledge of parking meter revenues as bond collateral meant the City would be unable to budget these revenues during the 30 year life of the bonds.

Mr. McCormick said the Council could budget all except those amounts it felt might be needed to make up any garage deficits. He added the present plan is to set up a \$200,000 buffer fund between any deficits and the meter revenues.

Mrs. Olson asked if the Resolution would forever bind the Council to the plan.

Mr. McCormick said the Ordinance would be the final word in this respect. He said the Council would be bound providing certain conditions come to pass; that the legality of the plan is upheld in court, that the downtown merchants and property owners come through with the promised \$700,000 gift, and that the interest rate on the bonds does not exceed a specified level.

Mr. McCormick explained that the State Law provides that the City operate the garages only in the event no private operators submit satisfactory bids for their operation. He said new bids must be called for every three years.

Mr. Porter added that this would mean the City, by building garages, isn't going into the parking business any more than it went into the baseball business by building a ball park and leasing it to the Giants.

Mr. Bott asked if the bonds are paid off before the 30 year period, would the parking group be out of the program.

Mr. McCormick advised that they would no longer be in the program.

Mrs. Price asked Mr. McCormick to explain some of the provisions of the law set up by the Legislature pertinent to this matter.

Mr. McCormick explained the last Legislature passed a new law which authorized the Cities under 800,000 population of the First Class and the Second and Third Class to provide for off-street parking. Prior to this time there was no direct legislative authority for any city to engage in off-street parking activities. This is a new law, he added, and has not been tested. This is the first time it has been before any City. The Statute sets up the procedure that must be followed in order to establish an off-street parking facility. This provides specifically that in the establishment of an off-street parking space facilities a City shall proceed with the development of the plan therefor by making such economic and physical surveys as are necessary, shall prepare comprehensive plans therefor and shall hold a public hearing thereon prior to the adoption of any Ordinance relating to the leasing or acquisition of property and providing for the financing thereof for this purpose.

The provision then provides that the off-street parking facilities, the Cities as the lease must pay to the County Treasurer and to the State Treasurer monies in lieu of real property taxes.

It further provides that after these facilities have been established no City with a population of more than 100,000 shall operate any such off-street parking space and/or facilities until after it has called for sealed bids from responsible experienced private operators of such facilities for the operation thereof. The call for bids shall specify the terms and conditions under which the facilities will be leased for private operators and shall specify a minimum rental upon which such lease shall be made by the City. The minimum rental may be on a weekly or monthly flat fee basis or may be based on a weekly or monthly percentage of gross income. But it shall in any event be sufficient to cover all the City's cost in acquiring and/or constructing or improving the facilities to be leased, including interest charges, debt retirement and payment in lieu of the taxes lost by the removal of the property from the tax rolls. The call for bids shall specify the time and place at which the bids will be received and opened, and such call shall be ad-

vertised once a week for two successive weeks before the time fixed for the filing of bids in a newspaper of general circulation in the City. The competitive bid requirements of this section shall not apply in any case where such a City shall grant a long term negotiated lease of any such facilities to a private operation on the condition that the private operator shall construct a substantial portion of the facilities.

If no bid is received for the operation of such an off-street parking facility or none of the bids received meet the minimum rental specified, the City may reject all bids and re-advertise the facilities for lease, or may operate the facility themselves. If the City wishes to operate the facilities, it shall at least every three years again advertise for bids in the same manner as described above.

Mrs. Olson said there have been those who have attempted to line the proponents and opponents of the Downtown Parking Garages as being either for or against the development of the City of Tacoma. She said she felt this was an unfair allegation. She was sure that the people who were planning to vote, against the garages tonight are as much for the development of downtown Tacoma as those who favor the garages. Speaking for herself, she added, she could not in good conscience support this program as she does not think the garages are financially feasible. She cannot see that the revenue is there. She said she thought it is a fine gesture that the merchants are willing to have a validation program and she was sure this would help tremendously, but it seemed to her that in re-evaluating the survey which was taken in 1957 that sufficient cognizance was not given to the fact that Rhodes Department store was adding 400 additional stalls. Perhaps there is still a need for one parking garage but that is not the issue here. She said she failed to see how the Council could justify the need for two.

Mr. Bott said the City is not going into the parking business as such, but the guarantee of any deficiency is being made by the on-street parking funds which could be the full revenue from the parking meters if the worst came to pass.

He said a letter has been received from the merchants agreeing to a validation program which is a very fine thought on their part. However, as Mr. Barr, the private parking owners Consultant, said at a meeting last week; these studies that show a need for parking can be drawn up to suit the needs. As far as validation is concerned, he wondered why the merchants chose to validate only at these two parking garages, and not at all the garages. He thought it would be well worth the time to try a complete validation program before going ahead and obligating the City to what can be a \$5,000,000 project. Inasmuch as it is apparent there has been much disagreement on the parking garages, he felt the Council should put it up to the vote of the people.

Mr. Murtland said the need for these off-street garages is steadily increasing and felt there will be a sudden climb in the next five years also. He said a few people might be hurt by the new garages but thought more would benefit by them.

Mr. Cvitanich said he agreed much capital outlay was needed by the City, but said he felt the City was proceeding too rapidly with such projects at the sacrifice of basic City services.

Mr. John Long, representing the private parking association, said it would be "a human impossibility" for the proposed garages to produce enough revenue to pay for themselves.

Mr. Homer King, a downtown businessman also spoke in opposition to the garages saying they were not feasible.

Mr. Charles T. Battin, former councilman, said he represented the Board of Directors of the Municipal League, an organization which is nation wide and is interested in the development of cities. He said the membership in Tacoma consists of between one and two thousand members. This organization is on record in favor of the proposal of parking garages.

A letter was read at the direction of the Mayor, from the McKinley Business Association, opposing the plan.

Mayor Hanson said he was satisfied the garages are definitely needed and will be feasible. The Council should not sit back and watch downtown "go downhill" but should remove the decay and put it back into production through Urban Renewal. The answer to the City's one-third share of the cost of an \$8,000,000 or \$9,000,000 Downtown Urban Renewal Program he said, is the credit the City could get on the \$2,500,000 garages. Such a program would be feasible immediately with the garages, he added. These garages would provide the City with millions of dollars in credits to bring in millions in Federal funds to make it possible for Tacoma to reach its "destiny."

Mr. Easterday said he believed that each council member had made up his mind on this proposition and he called for the vote on the Resolution.

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

Ayes 5; Nays 4; Bott, Cvitanich, Easterday and Olson; Absent 0.
The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16303:

BY REQUEST OF BOTT:

Amending the rules of the City Council to provide that the regular meetings be held at 8:00 P.M. on Tuesday of each week, instead of 7:00 P.M.

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

Mr. Bott said the reason he suggested the change in the time for the Council meeting was to give the Council an opportunity to meet in a Study Session at 7:00 P.M. before the regular meeting to be held at 8:00 P.M. He said he thought it would be more convenient for the public to attend an 8:00 P/M. meeting also.

Mr. Murtland said he felt this would only mean a later hour for the Council meetings to adjourn, therefore he would be opposed to the Resolution.

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

Ayes 2, Nays 7, Cvitanich, Easterday, Murtland, Olson, Price, Steele and Mayor Hanson; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared lost by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16304:

Awarding contract to Pacific Mechanical Contractors, Inc., in the amount of \$62,900 and for Alternate "A" in the amount of \$9,600.00 for the contract for prefilling the Western Slope Sewage Treatment Plant site, which was determined to be the lowest and best responsible bid.

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

Mr. Rowlands explained that an error had been made in this Resolution and the improper name has been inserted. Tucci and Sons were determined to be the lowest and best bid as the Pacific Mechanical Constructors, Inc. were excluded because of a substantial and acknowledgeable error made in their bid. Therefore it has been recommended that it be awarded to Tucci & Sons.

Mr. Steele moved to amend the Resolution to award the contract to Tucci and Sons. Seconded by Mr. Bott. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16305:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute a quitclaim deed conveying any interest of the City in the property located at the S. E. corner of No 19th and Shirley Streets to Petrus Sellin.

Mr. Steele moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Murtland.

Mr. Rowlands explained that the replatting of this particular area took care of the vacation of this five-foot strip. However, since this strip had been given to the City by deed, the title company felt that a quit claim deed should be given to this individual in order that there be no cloud on the title.

Mr. Cvitanich asked what the City is paying a year to the title Company.

Mr. McCormick answered that it depends on the type of title. For condemnation purposes the City has an agreement with the Title Company for a \$25.00 fee which entails the checking of the correct description of the property, the owners, etc. If the City is buying property there is a standard fee based on the evaluation which starts at \$25.00.

Mr. Cvitanich asked if it would be possible to obtain the figure paid to them last year.

Mr. Rowlands said he would provide that figure.

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16306:

Authorizing the employment of consulting engineers for the necessary engineering design for the proposed Tacoma Industrial Airport located on the Peninsula site.

Mr. Porter moved that this Resolution be postponed for one week until October 11, 1960. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes; Nay 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 16307:

Requesting the City Council to endorse the adoption of Senate Joint Resolution No. 4 which would repeal the so called Anti-Alien Land Law provision of the constitution.

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

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

407
483

OCT 4 1960

Resolution No. 16308:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute an easement to Mason County Public Utility District No. 1 for the right of way to cross the City of Tacoma's Cushman Transmission Line located in Mason County.

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

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

FIRST READING OR ORDINANCES:Ordinance No. 16650:

Amending the Official Code of the City relating to Parking meter stalls and Parking meter control by amending Sec. 11.24.180. Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands said this particular Ordinance merely sets up the various parking meter stalls and the various time limits which have been previously reviewed with the Council. He said this also includes some areas outside of the Central Business District.

Mr. Bott inquired why a 30 minute parking limit was put on A Street from 21st to 22nd?

Mr. Rowlands said this was the recommendation of Mr. Kosai, the Traffic Engineer. Since Mr. Kosai is not present tonight this would be checked into and the information presented to the Council next week at the Final Reading of this Ordinance, he added.

Mr. Cvitanich said in going over the list he is concerned about the percentage of meters to be 5 cents. When negotiating for the new meters it was stated in an MC that 70 per cent of the meters would remain 5 cents in the downtown area. This list doesn't appear to fulfill that statement, he added.

Mr. Rowlands said it was pretty close to 70% - it was about 66 2/3% because only 400 units have been ordered. However, he said he would check into this further.

Mr. Cvitanich said he voted for the new meters on the basis that 70% of the meters downtown would remain 5 cents.

Mr. Bott asked Mr. Rowlands to explain why So. 7th to So. 9th on Broadway is designated as one hour parking while Broadway farther down is two hour parking.

Mr. Rowlands said this was based on the proposal presented previously to the Council. However more data would be prepared for the Council's information also on this matter.

Mr. Bott said another item he questioned was on page 8 wherein it states that parking is regulated all of the time - 24 hours.

Mr. Rowlands explained that this pertained only to the area from So. 11th A Street to Court A on the south side of the street.

Mr. Cvitanich said there were a number of items in the Ordinance which he questioned to some degree and he would like to see a report on this and also would like to see that 70% of the meters remain 5 cents in the downtown area.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 16651:

Adopting by reference a Uniform Building Code, as amended and repealing

Ordinance No. 14734. Read by title.

Mr. Cvitanich asked that ample copies of this Ordinance be sent to the Labor Council since it did affect many trades.

Mr. Rowlands said it should be pointed out to the Council that this is the combination of several years of research by the staff and also by the Building Code Board of Appeals which helped to develop the last uniform building code in 1958.

Mr. Porter said as he understands, this Ordinance contains amendments by deletion or addition to the 1958 Code and in order to understand the entire Code, the 1958 Code would have to be studied with these amendments.

Mr. Gillis, Building Inspector, said this Code is based on the 1958 edition of the Uniform Building Code. Chapter 51 has been supplemented with a bulletin from the National Board of Fire Underwriters with the hope that this incorporation will remove some of the deficiency points received in the recent survey. The extension of the fire zones is also at their request. A copy has been sent to the National Board of Fire Underwriters, he added.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 16636:

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the Official Code of the City by adding a new section known as Sec. 13.06.273 in reference to zoning of "C-F" Districts. Read by title.

412
480

Mrs. Price said she felt the City Council should meet with the Planning Commission to discuss this zoning thoroughly so that a complete understanding is had between the two groups before a decision is made. Therefore she thought it should be postponed for two weeks and a meeting set up in the meantime.

Mayor Hanson said prior to any motion for continuance, however, he felt the interested parties present this evening should be given an opportunity to be heard.

Mr. Feist, Planning Commission member, said it would be agreeable to the Planning Commission members to meet with the Council to discuss this matter further.

Mr. Jack Sleavin, representing Oscar Hokild, said originally his client petitioned for a "C-1" zoning in this area as well as the "C-P-N" zoning also being considered tonight under Ordinance No. 16641. The Planning Commission requested that Mr. Hokild replace his "C-1" request with the new proposed "C-F-V" which was agreed to as Mr. Hokild felt the "C-F-V" zoning is an improvement over the old "C-1" zoning even though it is much more restrictive and costly to the developer.

Mr. Jacques, an attorney representing Mr. Bart Payne, spoke in favor of the new type zoning also. He said his client feels that the Planning Commission has done an excellent job in coming up with this proposal after much study and research. He said he felt sure that after the City Council has looked into this matter in more detail they will go along with the proposition.

Mayor Hanson said he believed the suggestion of a joint meeting was a good one, and would save a great deal of time.

Mr. Steele moved that the Ordinance be postponed for three weeks to October 25th, Seconded by Mrs. Olson. Voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Ordinance No. 16641:

Amending the Official Code of the City in reference to zoning by add-

422

OCT 4 1960

ing a new section known as Sec. 13.06.115 (2) to include property adjacent to the southeast corner of So 72nd and the East Sprague Frontage Road in a "C-P-N" Planned neighborhood Shopping Center District. (Oscar Hokold, Inc.) Read by title.

Mr. Bott moved that this Ordinance be postponed for 3 weeks until October 25th. Seconded by Mr. Porter. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Ordinance No. 16645:

Vacating that portion of the southeast corner of No. Alder and Ruston Way where the No. 36th Street extension intersects with Ruston Way. (John Wiborg petition) Read by title.

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. 16646:

Authorizing and directing the proper officers of the City to modify Appendix "A" to the Lease and Agreement of Occupancy of County-City Building authorized by Ordinance No. 16133, and repealing Ordinance No. 16546. Read by title.

Mr. Cvitanich asked that an Mo be submitted on the amount of funds spent in moving the Urban Renewal Department to the 11th floor.

Mr. Rowlands said this would be provided.

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

Ayes 9, Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 16647:

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 3501 for sanitary sewers in various locations south and southeast in Tacoma. Read by title. and passed,

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. 16648:

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 3507 for sanitary sewers in Alaska to Wilkeson; So 73rd to 80th Street; also So. 80th from Alaska to Sprague. Read by title and passed.

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. 16649:

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 6766 for modern street lighting on ornamental steel and concrete standards on So. Yakima Avenue from 6th Avenue south to So. 27th Street. Read by title and passed. 347

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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Works presents the assessment roll for the cost of improvement SCF No. 60 for the construction, reconstruction and repair of sidewalks, gutters and curbs. 490

Mr. Easterday moved that Tuesday, November 1, 1960 at 7:00 P.M. be fixed as the date for hearing. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote was then taken on the motion resulting as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

REPORTS:

The Public Works Department reported back on the petition filed at last week's City Council meeting on the petition filed by Hugo Metsler, Attorney for Rev. Durham, in regard to Ordinance No. 16631 and L I D 2314. 426

Mayor Hanson explained that the Council had continued the reconsideration of Ordinance No. 16631 from last Council meeting in order to check new protests filed against the L I D. This report has been submitted that the protests now amount to 24%.

Rev. Durham said since it would be impossible to obtain 60% protests because the school owns the majority of the property in the area, he would still request that the property around the Parkside Church at 4211 So. Pine be deleted on the basis of his complaint at the last week's meeting indicating that the block wherein he is situated constituted a particular unit and his objection represented 100% remonstrance. He said he would make arrangements to put the sidewalks in according to City specifications at a later date.

Several Council members said they had looked at the area and felt that the deletion of this property from the L I D would not be a proper action.

***** Amended as requested by Mr. Murtland—Insertion of statement he made during the discussion on L I D 2314.

Mr. Murtland said one matter that bothers him on this question is that not too long ago the Council was faced with a similar problem on L I D 2301 and deleted Huson Street from the improvement. At the time he felt that problem was just as serious and was the only member who voted against the deletion. Now he was a little disturbed on the basis of the inequity involved and wondered if the Council was doing Rev. Durham an injustice merely because there is one large property owner, the School District, who is neutral on the matter.

He said he thought this was a similar situation to the Huson Street question. If the school were to take a position on this matter it could very well result in a 60% protest. Therefore, he thought the School District should be excluded from consideration entirely. If this were done there would almost be a 100% remonstrance.

OCT 4 1960

He said he was not actually in favor of the deletion but he was concerned about the equity of the matter.

Roll call was then taken on the Ordinance No. 16631 resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 1, Murtland; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Rowlands said on October 17th there would be a Legislative Regional meeting at Sumner. The Association of Washington Cities staff, the Mayors, Councilmen and Officials from other cities in this area will be in attendance.

Mr. Cvitanich presented a map to the Council of the fire station district showing the location of fire fatalities that have occurred in the City of Tacoma in the past 8 years. The largest number - almost 52 deaths - have occurred in the outlying districts and this is where we are having a reduction in personnel, he said. He asked if more personnel is to be placed in the downtown area or are they going to place more on the factor of the human life in the outlying districts by way of reduction of fire personnel.

Mr. Murtland asked Mr. Cvitanich if he had any reports or facts as to there being a correlation between the number of men in a company and fire facilities.

Mr. Cvitanich said the National Board of Fire Underwriters state that a minimum is four men in any fire station. He very definitely thought there was a correlation. The three man companies which remain are inadequate to mount proper rescue operations. One man must catch the hydrant, the driver or pump man takes the hose to the scene, and one man must take the line into the fire. Under no circumstances should one man enter a burning building alone. This reduction is something which he feels is tragic.

Mr. Cvitanich also said, originally in regards to the fire training tower the City was to pay \$5000 an acre for the property. Matching Civilian Defense Funds were supposed to be available for this. Because of either "negligence or mismanagement" that report was not sent to Olympia on time and the City lost those participating funds.

Mr. Rowlands said the Council and the City Officials did everything possible to secure the funds. The application was made but funds were not available by the Federal Government. When this matter came before the City Council two or three months ago it was made clear that Tacoma was going to try to get additional funds but there was no assurance that these funds would be available.

Mayor Hanson asked if there were another appropriation, would there be a possibility of getting these funds.

Mr. Rowlands said it does not look as if there is going to be any funds available a year from now.

Mr. Rowlands also said that in some instances if there had been fifty men on duty at a fire, there would still have been loss of life, as the situation was beyond control. He said the National Board of Fire Underwriters state that there should be five men in the Central Business District and in the high value district and four men, if possible, in the Residential Districts. The problem is, Tacoma does not have sufficient man power to man all of these stations. He said he agrees with Mr. Cvitanich in trying to pick up more man power by rearranging some vacations next year so that they can spread the man power over the 12 month period and in doing so can pick up more men.

Mr. Cvitanich said actually he felt the vacation issue has no concrete basis at all and is a very poor argument.

Mr. Rowlands asked Chief Fisk to show the breakdown of man power now based on what they can afford.

Chief Fisk said he had before him a National Board of Fire Underwriters Report which states that recommendations "starred" are deemed the most important and their early adoption is urged. One such point is that sufficient members be added immediately to provide at least five men on duty at all times with high value companies and four men with other companies. In the City of Tacoma we have what the National Board has rated as nine high value companies. A survey was made and changes resulted. There are three shifts on the Fire Department. He cited Engine Company No. 1 located on So. 5th and Tacoma Avenue - For 28 days there were four men and for 3 days there were five men. In the change there are 28 days with five men and 3 days with four men. However, he said they are taking men out of the outlying districts.

He said in the Number One Truck which is a high value district there was previously 23 days with four men and 8 days with five men. With the new arrangement there are 28 days with five men and 3 days with four men.

At the 16 Engine Company at 6th and Meyer there were 27 days with three men and four days with four men. Now, he said, they have 31 days with three men. At the 13 Engine Company there were 15 days with three men and 16 days with four men. Now there is 31 days with three men. This is how it has been broken down in an attempt to keep the high value companies covered. Chief Fisk said this is not a new method. Seattle put this into effect before Tacoma and the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau has approved their plan; this is why Tacoma has adopted it also. He said he realizes many of the outlying stations have only three men. However 3 companies with a total of eleven men respond to each alarm.

*****Amended as requested by Mr. Bott — Mr. Steele requested that Mr. Donald Horsman speak.

Mr. Donald Horsman, a fireman, spoke on the equipment now being used in the Fire Department. He said much of the equipment was too old to be used and a lot of money is being spent to repair this antiquated equipment which could be better spent on new equipment.

He said the Underwriters state in this literature that life comes first. "What is being done in Tacoma - are we protecting the people or the businesses." He added that firemen are instructed that lives are more important than property.

Chief Fisk agreed that the City could use more firemen and better equipment, but the best is being done with the amount of money available. He said no lives have been lost in Tacoma since the personnel transfers.

Mayor Hanson said he would suggest that they all have an opportunity to analyze this entire fire fighting area and perhaps have a study session where it can be discussed more fully. There seems to be a difference of opinion — some think too many men are being put downtown. We all agree that there are not enough men to go around or enough money for equipment. There are a number of points of disagreement but it seemed to him that the Board of Fire Underwriters would be the area to turn to in order to find out if the City is going in the right direction in its fire fighting program.

Mr. Rowlands said he thought this discussion was a little out of order as the Chief and Staff did not have the opportunity to go into this in detail and he would welcome going over this more fully with the Council at a Study Session.

Mr. Bott asked that no disciplinary action be taken against Mr. Horsman for his appearance here tonight, since he had spoken at a Councilman's request.

Mayor Hanson said he was certain the entire Council agreed with this.

446


OCT 4 1960

Mr. Steele then moved that the Council be recessed until Wednesday evening, October 5, 1960 at 7:00 P.M. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Voice vote resulted as follows:
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Meeting recessed at 10:00 P.M.


Mayor of the City Council

Attest:


City Clerk