

SEP 19 1955

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7:36 P. M.

Monday, September 19, 1955.

Council met in regular session. Present 9; Battin, Bratrud, Goering, Hooker, Humiston, Jensen, Perdue, Stojack, Tollefson. Absent 0.

It was moved by Col. Hooker, seconded by Dr. Battin that the minutes of the previous meeting, copies of which had been mailed by the Clerk to each Council member, be approved and the reading thereof be dispensed with. Motion carried unanimously.

PETITIONS:

Roy L. Matchett, et al, stating that they are not in favor of the proposed location of channeling markers and devices on Highway 99 at South 38th and South Tacoma Way; and requesting that they be located in accordance with the suggestions of surrounding property owners or lessees as set forth herein, and stating that they will present a drawing of same at the Council meeting on September 19th, 1955. Mr. Staman called upon Robert Colpitts, Assistant Traffic Engineer, who presented maps and sketches of the intersection and gave statistics of the flow of traffic from the north and south and from 38th Street and from Union Avenue during a 24 hour period and at the peak hour from 4:30 to 5:30 P. M., at which time 15% of the entire load crosses this intersection. The channelization at the intersection of South 38th and South Tacoma Way was removed for resurfacing South Tacoma Way and it is the intention to replace it almost as it originally was, with a few minor changes, he said. The most important change will be a longer storage lane, but the opening in the channelization will be exactly as they have been for the past seven years; the curbing will be put in 2-1/2 feet as it was off-center and the width of the island will be reduced. These changes will provide a wider left turn channel, he said. Rex Still, State Highway Engineer, has advised him that the State is opposed to any additional holes in the channelization, he added. Numerous accident statistics were given for the information of the Council, which showed that this intersection has for a number of years been critical and still is. Mr. Backstrom advised the Council that the petitioners had met with the Traffic Engineer in his office last Thursday and it was at that time decided to leave the channeling as it was before the resurfacing but add a longer storage lane.

At this time Mr. E. K. Murray, Chairman of the Board of Freeholders, asked permission to present a letter from that Body, replying to Mayor Tollefson's letter of September 8th, concerning date for special election for voting on proposed new City Charter, stating that he was making this request so that he might answer any questions and then be free to return to the Freeholder's meeting, which was also in session at this time. With the consent of the petitioners for a change in channelization, who were about to be heard by the Council, Mr. Murray was granted this permission. He filed a letter with the City Clerk, which was read in full by the Clerk. This letter concluded with the recommendation and request that an early December election be held on the proposed new City Charter, and that if possible they be advised of Council's decision on this matter in the next ten days, so that proper provision can be made in the proposed new charter for the time of holding the first primary and general elections thereunder. The matter was discussed and Mr. Murray advised that the Freeholders felt less confusion would result to the voters if the Charter question was settled prior to the City election of Council members in the Spring, and that for this reason they would prefer to have it submitted at a special election rather than at the regular spring election, when candidates for City office will be on the ballot also. Mr. Murray said they would like to have an indication from the Council as to when the election will be held, so that they can complete the Charter by citing the time of holding the first primary and general elections under the new set-up, and that it would be better to have this information before October 10th, which is the date they plan to file the proposed Charter with the City Council. The Clerk was directed to furnish each Council member with a copy of the Freeholders letter and Mr. Murray was advised that the Council would make a decision and give them a reply in the near future.

The discussion on the channelization at South 38th and South Tacoma Way was resumed at this time. Attorney Warren Peterson, spokesman for the group stated that the original channelization had been installed seven years ago and at that time business men and property owners had no chance to be heard, and therefore the fact that it is being put back the same as it was, did not mean it was satisfactory to them. He commended the present city government for allowing them to be heard in the matter. At the time the curbing was installed, business houses were harmed by the limiting of egress and ingress to their property, and in some cases he had been informed business had decreased as much as 50% after the channelization was installed. As a substitute they offered the plan that a 60 foot opening be placed in the center line curbing at a point 240' south of the intersection of Highway 99 with South 38th Street to provide access to business houses. They suggested that overhead signs be installed indicating left hand, right hand, and through traffic and also that no left hand turn into the opening from South bound traffic be allowed at any time and that no left hand turns into same be permitted in north bound traffic during peak hours from 4 P. M. to 6 P. M. Mr. Stojack raised the question as to whether or not the City of Tacoma had any voice in the location of the curbing, as this is a State Highway, and Mr. Staman informed him that the City is paying for the curbing and has assigned the intersection and he felt the City would have something to say, but the plan would have to be submitted to the State Highway Department for approval. The Mayor pointed out that the primary purpose of a highway is to move traffic but on a practical basis the well being of abutting property owners should also be considered. He asked Mr. Staman if the petitioners' suggestions could be put into effect on a trial and error basis and if it didn't work out they could then go back to the original plan, and he also asked about the added cost. Mr. Staman replied that this could be done, but they would have to take it up with the State to amend the contract, and that the increase in the cost would be relatively small if the suggested changes were made. The Mayor said he would like to see a trial given to the proposed plan with the understanding that if it didn't work after a reasonable length of time, they would go back to the former plan. The majority of the Council members were favorable to this suggestion. Mr. Bratrud moved that the recommendation of the property owners as set forth in their petition be given further consideration and study by the Traffic Department. Motion seconded by Dr. Battin. Mr. Backstrom pointed out that there was no time to give further study, as the matter had to be decided tomorrow and he thought it could be handled by a directive from his office. Mr. Bratrud, with the consent of his second, amended his motion to read, "That the City Manager be directed to request the State Highway Department to change the channeling at 38th and South Tacoma Way to conform with the recommendations of the property owners. Motion carried unanimously. The petitioners thanked the Council for their courtesy in listening to their side of the controversy and for giving their plan a trial.

#### RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 14391.

By HUMISTON:

Approving the actions of the Public Utility Board in authorizing the sale of Series "C" and "D" of Water Bonds of 1954, upon the terms and conditions and on the dates as set forth in the notice of sale attached hereto and incorporated herein, in sum of one million dollars each for use in construction of betterments and additions to the water system.

Adopted on roll call September 19, 1955.

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 14392.

By HUMISTON:

Authorizing and directing the proper officers of the City of Tacoma to sign and execute an agreement with the United States of America, acting by and through the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, in substantially the same form as the

SEP 19 1955

agreement attached hereto and by this reference incorporated herein (relative to terms and conditions of compensation because of a flood control project located in Eagle Gorge, a short distance above the headworks of the Green River Water Supply.) It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Col. Hooker, 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 September 19, 1955.  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15431.      L. I. D. 2225

Providing for grading, graveling and oil mat on Frace Street from North 38th Street to North 46th Street; creating L I D 2225. Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 15432.

Authorizing and directing the City Attorney of the City of Tacoma to purchase certain property for the protection of the water supply of the City of Tacoma in the Green River Watershed. Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15425.      L. I. D. 5230.

Approving and confirming the assessment and assessment roll for cost of improvement in L I D No. 5230. Read by title. It was moved by Dr. Humiston to suspend Rule 9, seconded by Mr. Perdue and carried unanimously on vice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full.

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

Ordinance No. 15426.      L. I. D. 5228.

Approving and confirming the assessment and assessment roll for cost of the improvement in L I D No. 5228. 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. 15427.      L. I. D. 5255.

Providing for the construction of a 6-inch cast iron water main in East 55th Street and East 57th Street from McKinley Avenue to East L Street; and an 8-inch cast iron water main in East L Street from East 55th Street to East 57th Street; creating L I D 5255. Read by title. It was moved by Mr. Perdue, 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. 15428.      L. I. D. 2240.

Providing for improvement of Verde Street from South 12th Street to South 16th Street by grading and placing thereon a gravel and crushed rock oil mat; creating L I D No. 2240. 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.

Ordinance No. 15429. L. I. D. 2237.

Providing for the improvement of the following streets; East 57th Street, East I to East K Street; East 58th Street, East I to East K Street; East 57th Street (north side) McKinley Avenue to East I Street; East 58th Street (south side) McKinley Avenue to East I, by grading and constructing cement concrete sidewalks thereon; creating L. I. D. 2237. Read by title. It was moved by Mr. Perdue to suspend Rule 9, seconded by Dr. Battin and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full. 126  
48.67

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

Ordinance No. 15430. L. I. D. 4568.

Providing for improvement of Cedar Street from North 28th Street to North 29th Street by grading and construction of asphaltic concrete pavement, with cement concrete curbs and gutters together with storm drainage; creating L I D 4568. Read by title. It was moved by Col. Hooker, seconded by Mr. Bratrud to suspend rule 9 and carried unanimously on voice vote. The ordinance was then passed without having been read in full. 126  
48.58

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Utilities submits assessment and assessment roll for cost of the improvement in L I D 5217, water main in Mason Avenue from South 12th to South line of Pentecost and Lawler Addition; in Stevens Street from South 12th to South 19th; and in South 19th from Mason to Stevens. It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Dr. Battin that October 18th, 1955 be fixed as the date for hearing and carried on roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0. 13  
216

The Director of Public Works submits assessment and assessment rolls for the cost of the improvements in the following districts: L I D 2219- oil mat surface on Prospect Street from South 8th to South 12th; L I D 2222- concrete sidewalks on west side of South J Street from 70 feet south of south boundary line of South 64th Street for approximately 430.5 feet south. It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Dr. Battin that October 18th, 1955 be fixed as the date for hearing of the above rolls. Motion carried on roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0. -46-436  
216  
-46-444  
216

Mayor Tollefson reported that he had requested Robert C. Weaver, Manager of the Retirement System, to appear before the Council to brief that body on Social Security for City Employees.

Moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Mr. Jensen to suspend Rule 7, relative to filing of new matter for Council's consideration, in order to hear from Mr. Weaver. Carried unanimously on voice vote.

Mr. Weaver presented each Council member with an outline entitled "Employee Plan for Social Security Coverage", which he had compiled for their information. He explained the plan under consideration by the Finance Committee and which has the approval of Employee groups. This briefly provided that there will be no increase in the contribution rate to either the City or employee, as it is contemplated that 2% of the money now going into the present retirement plan will be diverted to Social Security. The increased cost to the City will not amount to a great deal under the present social security rate, but over the years as the rate is increased every five years by 1/2% it will mean an increase to both

100 SEP 19 1955


the employee and the City, Mr. Weaver said. The plan is retroactive to January 1, 1955, and the back contributions will be deducted from the Retirement fund, he added. Employees nearing retirement age should be permitted to work long enough to derive the benefits of Social Security and it will mean a substantial increase in income to them. The plan must be approved by the governing body and also receive a favorable vote of the majority of the members of the present retirement system. Mrs. Goering stated that this matter has been under consideration by the Finance Committee who feel the plan is reasonable, and the purpose tonight is to get the consensus of the Council on the plan to be adopted. After further discussion and the answering of numerous questions by Mr. Weaver, several members of Council felt a vote on the matter should be delayed for one week, as there is no particular rush to adopt Social Security, in order to give them an opportunity to study the outline presented by Mr. Weaver tonight. The mayor then referred the matter of Social Security to the Finance Committee for final study and recommendation to the Council.

As this is the date the Preliminary Budget must be adopted by Council, it was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Dr. Battin to suspend Rule 7 and carried unanimously on voice vote.

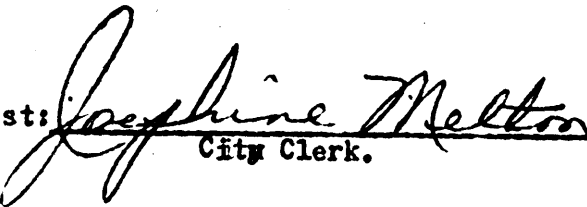
It was moved by Dr. Humiston, seconded by Mr. Jensen to adopt the Preliminary Budget for the year 1956, in amount of \$28,628,730.00, and that the City Clerk be directed to give proper notice of hearing on October 3rd, 1955. Carried on roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Mrs. Goering inquired if any copies of minutes of the meetings of the Park Board and Library Board were received by any Council member and all replied in the negative. She said she would like to have these records for a source of information, as she felt they would prove as valuable to her as the minutes of the City Planning Commission and Utility Board which she now receives. It was moved by Mrs. Goering, seconded by Col. Hooker, that the Library Board and Park Board be requested to furnish each member of the City Council with a copy of their minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon motion, duly seconded and carried, Council then adjourned at 10:35 P. M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the City Council.

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk.