

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers
Tuesday, February 23, 1971

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gordon Johnston at 7:10 P. M.

Present on roll call 8: Corsi, Egan, Herrmann, Jarstad, Maule, Moss, Schroeder and Mayor Johnston. Absent 1: Finnigan.

Dr. Herrmann moved that Mr. Finnigan be excused due to illness. Seconded by Mayor Johnston.

The Flag Salute was led by Dr. Herrmann.

Mayor Johnston read a proclamation designating February 28, 1971, as "Canadian Soccer Exchange Day."

Mayor Johnston asked if there were any corrections or omissions to the minutes being submitted for February 2nd, 1971.

Mr. Schroeder moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Moss. Voice vote was taken and motion carried.

HEARINGS & APPEALS:

This is the date set for hearing for the rezoning of the west side of Puget Sound Avenue between South 62nd and 64th Streets from an "R-3" and "R-3-T" to a "C-2" District. (Mallon Investment Company)

Mr. Buehler, Planning Director, explained the petitioner plans to expand his present business and desires the property behind his present building in order to develop two used and new car lots. The petitioner plans to sub-lease one lot for an office. A hearing was held by the Planning Commission in December, 1970, and at that time there had been several objectors. Objections were made regarding closing of the alley and a laurel hedge being planned by the Mallon Company. Also the value of the property was questioned if the zoning were changed to "C-2". Mr. Buehler said these objections have now been solved or overcome at another hearing held before the Planning Commission in February.

Mr. Robert Mallon, vice-president of Mallon Motors and Investment Company, stated that dealerships for automobiles are enlarging all over the country and inasmuch as they have been using this part of their property for a service department since early 1950, they now wish to expand and grow with the industry and thereby contribute more to the City of Tacoma.

Mr. Russell Peters, Chairman of the Planning Commission, said the Commission had felt the entire block should be considered in the rezone and inasmuch as a number of companies have moved out of the City in order to obtain additional land for their own use, the Commission had recommended the approval of the zoning in order to retain more industries in the City.

Mr. Moss asked if a resident is required to make the request to the Planning Commission, before the Commission tries to determine the direction which a neighborhood mixed with industrial and residential ownerships will take, or if the Commission can initiate or function in any capacity to encourage a change in one direction or the other.

Mr. Buehler explained there are three methods: The Council, Planning Commission or the residents can initiate the petitions and actions. Most of them have been initiated by the Planning Commission, but the property owner initiated this petition and the Commission and the Council is allowed to consider it in part or in whole. The residents are all notified of what is taking place.

Dr. Herrmann moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the request for rezoning. Seconded by Mrs. Egan. Voice vote was taken and carried unanimously.

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PETITIONS:

Hillcrest Properties, Inc. requesting rezoning of the west side of Sprague Ave. & 70th Street extended from an "R5-PRD" to an "R4LT" District.

Mayor Johnston asked that this petition be referred to the Planning Commission.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 21057

Endorsing Propositions A and B of School District No. 10 to be submitted to the electorate at the special election on March 9, 1971.

Mayor Johnston moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Dr. Herrmann.

Mr. Maule stated that he did not believe this matter was within the area of concern for the City Council. He felt that every citizen should be provided with the facts and then allowed an opportunity to decide for themselves.

Mayor Johnston pointed out that the Council had previously passed many motions relative to school millage and bond issues and this was not a departure from past practices.

Mr. Jarstad did not feel the Council's consideration would be out of line, especially since they had even passed resolutions and even voted on international and foreign issues previously.

Mr. Schroeder said the Council should certainly be concerned with the welfare of the entire community and the schools are an important part. He felt Council's consideration on the matter would be in order and it should be acted on favorably.

Voice vote was taken on the resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 7: Corsi, Egan, Herrmann, Jarstad, Moss, Schroeder and Mayor Johnston.
Nays 0. Abstaining 1: Maule. Absent 1: Finnigan (excused).
The Resolution was declared passed by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 21058

Accepting the sealed bid of Minnesota Mining & Mfg. Co. for 5,000 lbs. of Striping Powder and waiving the formal bidding requirements.

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

Mr. Gib Schuster, Director of Public Works commented that Minnesota Mining & Mfg. Company is the only firm that makes this particular material and the bidding had been waived because this product has many advantages, for instances when the paint comes out of the machine it applies easily. Time and costs are saved because the entire walkway can be painted at one time rather than having to paint only one side at a time. He explained there are other products and methods of striping, but they are more expensive.

Mr. Moss asked how long this supply would last.

Mr. Schuster replied it would normally last one year. The department would be painting approximately 1,000 crosswalks and approximately 140 stop-light sections which would be the one-year's operation as the stripes normally last about a year.

Voice vote was taken on the resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 8: Corsi, Egan, Herrmann, Jarstad, Maule, Moss, Schroeder and Mayor Johnston.

Nays 0. Absent 1: Finnigan (excused).

The Resolution was declared passed by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 21059

Appropriating the sum of \$173,000 from the 1958 and 1963 Construction Fund to be expended for City participation in the cost of local improvement district projects.

Dr. Herrmann moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Egan.

Mr. Schuster explained this resolution would authorize the use of funds remaining from the 1958 and 1963 Street and Bridge Construction Fund to be spent for the local improvement district projects. He said there are approximately 100 petitions from property owners throughout the City for improvements on paving and the 1969 funds for this purpose are nearly depleted. There is approximately \$14,000 remaining in the 1958 bond fund and approximately \$159,000 in the 1963 bond fund and the projects are completed for which commitments were made. Therefore, the balance remaining could be used for local improvement district projects.

The program for local improvement district paving is approximately 25% participation by the City and 75% by the property owners. This would finance a program of approximately \$690,000 worth of construction within the City.

Mayor Johnston asked if there would be any legal problems involved.

Mr. Hamilton, Acting City Attorney, advised that the 1958 and 1963 bond ordinances had been so drafted that there were certain projects listed and there was also provision for such additional improvements and betterments as the Council might by resolution authorize. Therefore, they would be adequate in this instance.

Mr. Maule noted that the minutes showed that on February 2nd, the Council authorized a temporary loan from the 1969 Street and Bridge Construction Fund to various City funds. He asked why the excess money had not been put into those various City funds and thereby save some interest.

Mr. Gaisford, Finance Director, explained that the 1969 fund had only been used for one day and, therefore, the interest paid was a very small amount.

Voice vote was taken on the resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 8: Corsi, Egan, Herrmann, Jarstad, Maule, Moss, Schroeder and Mayor Johnston.
Nays 0. Absent 1: Finnigan (excused).

The Resolution was declared passed by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 21060

Authorizing the execution of an agreement between the City of Tacoma and the State of Washington, Dept. of Highways for approval of design plans for the 48th Street SR No. 5.

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

Mr. Gib Schuster advised that a portion of the urban arterial project for 48th Street includes a structure to be built across Interstate No. 5. The State Highway Dept. is responsible for the type and adequacy of structures which go onto property that has been reserved for the Interstate System; therefore, the Highway Dept. checks the design of any structure going across the Freeway. He added the City hired an engineering consultant firm to design the structure which was approved by the State Highway Dept. and for their services the Highway Dept.'s fee is \$2700.00.

Mayor Johnston asked if this is the normal step following the approval of the initial design and detail.

Mr. Schuster said this was correct and the necessary procedure in order to obtain a permit from the State to build the bridge over the Freeway.

Mr. Jarstad pointed out that some of the overpasses in California had dropped onto the freeways during the recent earthquake and asked if this possibility had been tested out and if Tacoma City tests are the same as those in California.

Mr. Schuster said the California structures are designed for movements of about 10 inches; whereas the earthquake moved the structures about 12 inches. He added the proposed structure for Tacoma had been designed for such movements as are known to occur in this area.

Mr. Corsi said at the meeting of the Civic Arts Commission in January a landscape architect had pointed out a method by which wild flowers can be hydraulically shot into the topsoil of the banks along highways. They also plant grass, trees and shrubs so that after five years the banks are completely stabilized and the growth permanently established. The Civic Arts Commission had complimented this pleasing design concept at overcrossings by the landscape architect and the engineers.

Mayor Johnston asked, at a later date when the Council further discusses the pedestrian overpass at 48th Street, if the Council would be limited by its thinking because of a previously established plan for the bridge. He asked if the design of the bridge at 48th Street in terms of the foundation and construction would affect anything that might be planned for the pedestrian overpass.

Mr. Schuster said there would be no conflict.

Mrs. Egan asked if there is continuing dialogue going on by the citizens, the public and the School Board relative to the pedestrian overpass which had been discussed by the Council last week.

Mr. Schuster and the Public Works Dept. had a discussion with the School Board relative to this proposal, but no additional discussion with citizens since last week.

Mr. Maule said in light of the fact that the bridge across the Freeway had been budgeted and some State funds are to be receive and some bids were received below the engineer's estimates, he wondered if it would be possible to use the extra funds for the pedestrian overpass or would the State approve of this.

Mr. Schuster said they had made an inquiry of the State relative to this question and has not received an answer as yet. He said verbal indications had been that the answer would be "No."

Voice vote was taken on the resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 8: Corsi, Egan, Herrmann, Jarstad, Maule, Moss, Schroeder and Mayor Johnston.
Nays 0. Absent 1: Finnigan (excused).

The Resolution was declared passed by the Chairman.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the Official Code by adding a new section 13.06.050(26) to include property on the Southeast corner of So. 12th and Highland Streets in an "R-3" District. (Mallos and Hoheim)

Roll call was taken on the ordinance, resulting as follows:

Ayes 7: Corsi, Herrmann, Jarstad, Maule, Moss, Schroeder and Mayor Johnston.
Nays 1: Egan. Absent 1: Finnigan (excused).

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Works presents the Assessment Roll for the cost of LID 4903 for paving on "A" Street from So. 52nd to So. 54th Streets.

Mr. Schroeder moved that the date of April 12th, 1971, be set as the date for hearing. Seconded by Mr. Corsi. Voice vote was taken. Motion carried.

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COMMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

Mayor Johnston read a Proclamation designating the month of February as "Back a Brother Month."

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Mayor Johnston appointed Mr. Corsi, Mr. Jarstad and Mr. Schroeder to serve on the L.I.D. Committee for the months of March, April & May.

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Mayor Johnston announced that the Puget Sound Regional Conference is developing an advisory body and has asked him to name two members of the community to serve on the body. He said he had asked and received acceptance from Dr. Thornton M. Ford, President of the Tacoma Community College, and Mr. William Hocking, a prominent Tacoma architect. He commented that one of these men is trained in planning and the other in social concerns, so that they should represent the City quite adequately.

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Mayor Johnston referred to having the Council meetings out in various areas of the community. He announced that the first of such meetings will be held on March 9th at the Rogers School, 1301 East 34th Street. He added that the school has made the facilities available without charge in furthering cooperation between the City and the schools. He said he hopes the people in that area will take advantage of the opportunity to meet with the Council.

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Mr. Moss asked to be excused from the meeting of March 9th. He said he will be very sorry to miss the first meeting to be held outside the County-City Building as he is in favor of the idea.

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Mayor Johnston stated that several thousand persons have viewed the model display of the proposed Bayside Drive and the Tacoma Spur which is in the new Pacific National Bank Building. He encouraged all who have not already done so to go down and view this model as it reflects some important decisions the Council will be making in the next months. The model will be on display for one more week.

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Mayor Johnston stated that the Federal Civil Rights Commission, whose western representative has offices in Los Angeles, will hold a hearing on March 5th in Tacoma relative to employment in City government for this City. He pointed out that there is some concern about the proportion of minority employees in the City of Tacoma. The hearing will appraise the situation and perhaps make suggestions as to what avenues would be open to correct what appears to be a situation which is totally out of balance. He is hopeful the Council will attend part of the day and make comments to the California Board who will be hearing the matter.

Mr. Jarstad asked if they could get a transcription of the hearing in order to be advised of the matter.

Mayor Johnston said perhaps they could, but if the purpose of the meeting were to counsel the members in this respect, the material would probably be available.

Mr. Corsi asked if the members would be notified of the information by letter.

Mayor Johnston said that was his understanding and that the Board was not assigned to act in a disciplinary way, but were concerned about the situation which the new Council had inherited in respect to this situation and wanted to hold the hearing to give some counsel.

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CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

Mr. Tom Wells, who had asked to speak this evening, requested to postpone his addressing the Council for two weeks until March 16th. Mayor Johnston moved to accept Mr. Wells' request. Seconded by Mr. Schroeder. Voice vote was taken and motion carried.


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ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

- a. Minutes of City Planning Commission meeting of February 1, 1971.
- b. Minutes of Public Utility Board meeting of February 10, 1971.
- c. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Dept., Vital Statistics Division, report for the week ending February 13, 1971.
- d. Municipal Court, Traffic Violations and Court Cases, report for the month of January, 1970 and 1971.
- e. Tacoma Police Department, I & R Division, report for January, 1971.
- f. Director of Finance report for December, 1970.

Placed on file.

Dr. Herrmann moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Corsi. Voice vote was taken. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P. M.



 Gordon N. Johnston - Mayor

Attest: _____
 Josephine Melton - City Clerk