

JAN 30 1956

Council Chamber, 7:40 P. M.

Monday, January 30, 1956.

Council met in regular session. Present 8; Battin, Bratrud, Hooker Humiston, Jensen, Perdue, Stojack, Tollefson. Absent 1; Goering, taking her seat at 8:53 P. M.

It was moved by Dr. Battin, seconded by Col. Hooker 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 on voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Elmhurst Mutual Co.; Loveland Mutual; and Parkland Light & Water Co., submitting copies of resolutions adopted by Their organizations, supporting Tacoma's efforts to construct two new dams on the Cowlitz River, and commending Tacoma City Light Officials for their exceptional service in the past and expressing encouragement for the future. It was moved by Col. Hooker, seconded by Mr. Perdue that the Mayor acknowledge the above communications. Motion carried on roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 14511.

By STOJACK:

Fixing February 27, 1956 as the time for hearing on petition to vacate that portion of alley between South Trafton and South State extending from South Tacoma Way south. (Petition Northwest Chair Co.)

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14512.

By JENSEN:

Approving recommendation of Director of Public Works and Board of Contracts and Awards and awarding to Paine-Gallucci, Inc. on its low bid of \$6,331.45 the contract for L I D 1947, constructing sanitary sewers within Puget Sound First Addition.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14513.

By JENSEN:

Approving recommendation of Director of Public Works and Board of Contracts and Awards and awarding to George Madsen Co. contract for L I D 2187- ce-

ment concrete sidewalks on North 27th from Stevens to Tyler; North side of North 27th from Tyler east 124 feet and on North Stevens from North 27th north to the alley (east side only), on its low bid of \$3126.45.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14514.

By JENSEN:

Approving recommendation of Director of Public Works and Board of Contracts and Awards and awarding to Paine-Gallucci, Inc. on its low bid of \$2950.88 the contract for L I D 1950-- construction of sanitary sewers in the vicinity of South 64th Street and Sheridan Avenue.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14515.

By HUMISTON:

Making the terms of the contract to be entered into with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union No. 483, for annual wage negotiations and working conditions, effective as of Feb. 1, 1956, provided that such negotiations are concluded and formally approved on or before May 1, 1956.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14516.

By GOERING:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to make transfers listed herein in the 1955 Budget.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14517.

By STOJACK:

Fixing February 27th, 1956 as the time for hearing on petition to vacate South Junett Street from South 37th Street to South 38th Street. (Petition Bert A. Hogberg, et ux) 309

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

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Resolution No. 14518.By JENSEN:

Approving recommendations of the Dept. of Public Works and Board of Contracts and Awards and awarding to General Electric Supply Co. on its low bid of \$14,742.50 the contract for furnishing Bond Street Prestressed concrete street lighting strain poles.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14519.By STOJACK:

Authorizing City Manager to enter into an agreement on behalf of City of Tacoma providing for the rendering of mutual fire fighting assistance between the City of Tacoma and the U. S. Naval Station at Tacoma, Washington and cancelling the existing agreement between the parties dated March 2, 1954.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14520. L I D 4574.BY TOLLEFSON:

319 Stating intention of Council to order grading and placing thereon a 16-foot asphaltic surface in the alley between North 21st Street and North 22nd Street, from 234 feet west of Cedar Street to Cedar Street; fixing February 21, 1956 as the date for hearing thereon; creating L I D 4574.

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14521.By STOJACK:

310 Fixing February 27th, 1956 as the time for hearing on the petition to vacate certain streets and alleys in the area bounded by South 19th Street, South 23rd Street, South Cheyenne Street and South Mason Avenue. (Petition Metropolitan Park District).

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.
Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Resolution No. 14522.By GOERING:

Approving recommendation of the City of Tacoma Health and Welfare

Committee and the Board of Contracts and Awards and awarding the contract for one-year health service plan coverage for City Employees, with optional benefits for their dependents to the Pierce County Industrial Medical Bureau on its low bid for employees at the rate of \$4.97 each per month. Mayor Tollefson reported that certain parties, who wished to be heard on this matter, had requested that the resolution be laid over until the end of the agenda, as they were attending another meeting before the Council meeting. It was moved by Mr. Bratrud, seconded by Mr. Stojack, that Resolution No. 14522 be placed at the end of the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

Resolution No. 14505. (Laid over to this date on January 23, 1956.)

By HUMISTON:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City of Tacoma to sell certain real property located at South 23rd and Winthrop Avenue, which was formerly used by the Water Division, to American Manufacturing Co. on their bid of \$4225.00 and setting forth terms and conditions of said sale. The Clerk reported she had received a letter from the Director of Utilities requesting that this matter be returned for review and reconsideration by the Utility Board at its next meeting. It was moved by Mr. Jensen, seconded by Mr. Perdue, that the resolution be forwarded to the Utility Board for further study and recommendation. Motion carried unanimously on voice vote.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15528.

Creating working fund advances in the office of the Chief Accounting Officer in the Finance Department in the sum of \$100.00; in the office of the Chief Clerk of the Health and Welfare Department in the sum of \$100.00; in the office of the Fire Chief in the Fire Department in the sum of \$50.00; and in the office of the Jailor in the Police Department in the sum of \$50.00; for use in the payment of current and incidental expenses in connection with the operation of said offices; and authorizing the Director of Finance to issue any warrants necessary for the purpose of creating said advances. Read by title and placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 15525.

Authorizing the settlement of certain claims pending between the Department of Public Works and the Light Division of the Department of Public Utilities and the Water Division of the Department of Public Utilities; appropriating the sum of \$9,621.73, from the General Fund for the purpose of paying the amounts agreed to be due; and declaring an emergency making necessary the passage of this ordinance and the appropriation herein contained. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Ordinance No. 15526. L I D 5268.

Providing for construction of a 6-inch cast iron water main in North

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Highland Street and North Winnifred Street from the north lines of Nelson's Second Addition to North 30th Street; and an 8-inch cast iron water main in North 30th Street from Highland Street to Shirley Street; Creating L I D 5268. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Ordinance No. 15527.

Amending Ordinance No. 14887 entitled: "An ordinance to be known as the Administrative Code, providing for the establishment of a complete plan of administrative organization of the government of the City of Tacoma, etc." by adding thereto a new section to be known as Section 41E. (allowing 5% preferential for materials, supplies etc. produced or manufactured in the State of Washington, in awarding contracts). Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Ordinance No. 15521. (laid over to this date to conform to Charter provisions)

Amending Ordinance No. 11459 entitled: "An ordinance granting to Tacoma Railway and Power Co., its successors and assigns, the authority, right and privilege to establish, maintain and operate a transportation system in the City of Tacoma, etc." by amending Section 4G; repealing Section 4N thereof; and providing for change of routings of certain transportation services established by said ordinance. (abandoning Tacoma Ave.-K Street Route, and changing a portion of Old Tacoma-Oakland-Fircrest Route to meet service requirements of the abandoned line.) Read by title. Dr. Humiston, Chairman of the Utility Committee, reported that they had met with Mr. Hill and Mr. Hendry of the Transit Co. and they had gone into the matter at great length. They checked into how many would be inconvenienced and how much financial saving was involved, and in the Committee's opinion the change was warranted, he said, as it inconvenienced only a small number and is compensated by the savings and the fact that others on the south end of Tacoma Avenue will be benefited. Mr. Jensen reported they had also checked the "Owl Service" with the company's "patronage survey" and it showed that not many persons rode the bus at this time of night, and in their opinion the Company was justified in discontinuing this service. The ordinance was then passed.

Roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

This being the dated fixed by Resolution No. 14497, adopted by the City Council on January 9, 1956, for construction, reconstruction and repair of certain sidewalks, gutters, curbs and driveways across sidewalks, as set forth therein, (W. O. 6511) the Clerk reported that Resolution No. 14497 had been published on January 18th and 25th, 1956 and that an affidavit of publication had been filed. Also reported that notices to property owners had been mailed out by the Public Works Department on January 13th, 1956. Mr. L. P. Staman, Director of Public Works, Mr. Wickstrom, Engineer and Mr. Backstrom, City Manager, were present to answer questions and explain the project to those interested.

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Mr. Backstrom reported that the Public Works Department has asked to have certain streets eliminated from the program, due to objections of property owners, ie. walks on the west side of Wapato from South 62nd to South 64th (pages 28 and 29 of Res. 14497) and walks on the east side of South Fife from South 49th Street to 125 feet north (page 30 of Res. 14497). It was moved by Mr. Jensen, seconded by Mr. Perdue, to eliminate from the project the streets referred to by the City Manager, based on objections of property owners. Motion carried on roll call: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1; Goering.

Mrs. Earle C. Greene, 6436 South Huson, stated that sidewalks are badly needed on this street, as it is nothing but mud and almost impassable; and she said that most of the residents walk down the middle of the street, which is extremely dangerous particularly on a dark night. They had one half of the block signed up for an L I D and would like to see sidewalks in the entire double block, she added. Mr. Wickstrom of the Public Works Department, replied that although this was a majority petition, the district was too small to create an L I D, as the cost would have been very high. Instead they decided to include it in this program, he said, and assured Mrs. Greene the other half block could be included in the next program, which will be taken up as soon as this one is under way. Mrs. Manley Welfringer said they planned to build on the corner of 66th in this same block and asked about a driveway. She was requested to talk to Mr. Wickstrom or the contractor about this matter at the time the walks were being put in.

Ralph M. Lindskog, 5240 South Thompson, asked how much of the sidewalk would be taken out, and was assured by Mr. Wickstrom that any sidewalk that was good would not be removed. Mr. Wickstrom reported he had received approximately 51 calls about the project, the majority of which asked questions. The sentiment of those phoning was that they wanted the number of square feet of walks to be removed, cut to a minimum. Most of the objections came from districts where it was planned to put in new sidewalks, and these have already been eliminated from the project by Council tonight.

Mr. Warren Gipple, 4721 North Ferdinand, said he feels that the alley between Ferdinand and Muller was much more in need of improvement than the sidewalk, as 75% of the drainage from the upper areas drains into three basements. Mr. Staman promised to inspect the area and see what can be done.

Mr. Claude E. Craine, 4601 South L Street, presented pictures which he alleged showed that the sidewalk was in good shape. Mr. Staman and Mr. Wickstrom examined the pictures and in conclusion Mr. Wickstrom said he would consult with Mr. Craine further before proceeding.

Mr. Bill Weaver of 3824 South D Street, inquired about what would be done with two large cherry trees on this street, as their roots are constantly giving trouble. Mr. Wickstrom explained that it is customary to cut the roots one foot on each side of the sidewalk. Mr. Weaver said everyone was in favor of the project and urged the City to get busy on it immediately.

In reply to a question from the Mayor as to whether or not the Department wanted to have the hearing continued for further study, Mr. Staman said they prefer not to have it postponed. The matters brought up tonight can be investigated and they can consult with those who spoke tonight even if the Council approves the improvement, he added.

It was moved by Mr. Perdue, seconded by Dr. Battin, that the remonstrances be overruled and the City proceed with each of the improvements described in Resolution 14497 with the exception of the streets eliminated by motion of the Council tonight. Motion carried on roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The following resolution, which had been laid over to be taken up at the end of the Agenda, was brought up at this time:

Resolution No. 14522.

By GOERING:

Approving recommendation of the City of Tacoma Health and Welfare Committee and the Board of Contracts and Awards and awarding the contract for a one-year health service plan coverage for City Employees, with optional benefits for their dependents, to the Pierce County Industrial Medical Bureau on its low bid for employees at the rate of \$4.97 each per month.

Dr. Chas. A. Green of the Optometrists' Association, presented John Olmer, spokesman for a group who were protesting against awarding of the medical contract to Pierce County Medical. Mr. Olmer stated the group he represents, consisting of optometrists, chiropractors, osteopaths and several other branches of the healing arts, objected primarily because they are being excluded from giving service to City Employees and their families. Members of these professions were not given the opportunity of presenting their case to the committee, Mr. Olmer claimed, and he said he felt further study should be made and consideration given to these fields, as an injustice is about to be done. Mr. Green said it was merely by chance that they learned of the plans for medical coverage for City employees and on January 17th they requested an audience with the Committee, but were never granted this courtesy.

City Manager Backstrom outlined the method followed in this instance. ie, publicity was given to the proposition at Budget time; appointment of a committee of staff and employee representatives, with Clair Gaisford, Director of Finance as Chairman, which after numerous meetings brought in specifications for the call for bids; the publication of notice of call for bids in the local paper and the Tacoma Daily Index; the opening of bids on December 28th; the analysis of these bids by Gerald Childs; and finally the recommendation of the Committee that the bid of Pierce County Medical be accepted as it was the most favorable to the majority of the employees. Mr. Gaisford said that 90% of the City employees are now covered by Pierce County Medical and City employee groups representing 1600 employees brought back the recommendation to remain with this service plan.

Dr. M. A. Tweit and Dr. Maurice M. Dodge (optometrists) both said they felt the City employees should be given an opportunity of going to an optometrist if they wished, but under this contract they will be excluded from doing this, or from consulting any other healer of their choice.

Mr. D. H. Keßler, who represented the Joint Labor Committee in this matter verified the fact that the majority of the employees, through their

representatives, favored the Pierce County Medical plan.

The matter was discussed at length and various suggestions offered as to how the services of optometrists, osteopaths, etc. might be made available to employees, but it was decided that the entire contract would have to be awarded to one bidder or the City would be required to start over from the beginning. As the employees favored Pierce County Medical, it was the opinion of the Council that there was no alternative but to abide by the recommendation of the Committee and award the contract to Pierce County Medical. Roll was then called on the adoption of the ordinance, resulting as follows:

Adopted on roll call January 30, 1956.

Ayes 7, Nays 1; Humiston (not voting) Absent 1; Hooker (having been previously excused from the meeting).

Dr. Green thanked the Council for giving the group an opportunity to be heard, and said they would like to be allowed to present their proposition when the contract comes up next year.

Upon motion, duly seconded and carried, Council then adjourned at 10:07 P. M.

Attest:

Josephine Melton
City Clerk.

W. M. Johnson
President of City Council