

COUNCIL CHAMBER, 7:30 P.M.  
Monday, February 17, 1958

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 6: Battin, Bratrud, Goering, Humiston, Perdue, and Mayor Anderson. Stojack, Jensen, and Tollefson took their seats at 7:45 P.M. Absent 0.

Moved by Dr. Battin, seconded by Mr. Perdue, that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved and the reading thereof dispensed with. Motion carried on roll call: Ayes 5; Nays 1, Humiston (not voting); Absent 3, Stojack, Jensen, and Tollefson.

COMMUNICATIONS: †

Tacoma Transit System: Recommending the changes in bus fares charged by the Tacoma Transit System, to become effective February 22, 1958, in accordance with the findings and recommendations of the Transit Committee of the Citizens' Committee for Tacoma's Future Development:

Mayor Anderson said that Mr. Hill, President of the Transit Company, was to be here on this matter and inasmuch as he is not here at this time he would like to consider this later in the meeting. It was moved by Dr. Battin, seconded by Mr. Perdue that this be discussed later on in the meeting. Ayes 6; Nays 0; Absent 3, Stojack, Jensen, and Tollefson.

RESOLUTION:

Resolution No. 15218:

By ANDERSON:

Appointing Howard Wernick as a member of the Civil Service Board to fill the unexpired term ending June 30, 1959.

Mr. Buckaly, representative from the Teamsters Union was present and asked that the Council give every consideration possible in appointing Mr. Wernick on the Civil Service Board. He said he was representing the Joint Labor Committee comprised of 15 Unions in the City, at one time, he said Mr. Wernick was the choice of the people in this position and at that time found he was just, and sound in his thinking, and he added, "they haven't changed their mind since then." Roll was then called on the Resolution.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958  
Ayes 6; Nays 0; Absent 3, Jensen, Stojack and Tollefson

Resolution No. 15219:

By BATTIN:

Awarding contract to Electric Construction Company for installing ornamental street lighting standards with underground wiring on their bid of \$57,668.65.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958  
Ayes 6; Nays 0; Absent 3, Jensen, Stojack and Tollefson

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Resolution No. 15220:

By RATTIN:

Awarding contract to Standard Oil Company for furnishing the annual supply of gasoline, upon its bid of \$0.1925 per gallon for regular gasoline and \$0.2205 per gallon for premium gasoline.

Mr. Bratrud explained the Utility Commission met with the Utility Board today and they were of the opinion this contract should be awarded to the Standard Oil Co., as the lowest and best bidder. There was some discussion, however, on the way the specifications are drawn on the bids for the gasoline contract each year and feel they should be corrected. The Board was of the opinion that next year instead of asking for specifications they should ask for quotations because there are other things involved other than the actual price. For example, he said, if the cost of gasoline should go down, which was the main item of difference between the Standard Oil Company's bid and the Shell Oil Company's bid it would allow the City only 1/2 of the savings in cost where the Standard Oil Company would allow 100%. It was for this reason and others that the Standard Oil Company's bid was considered the best bid by the Board.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15221:

By PERDUE:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute and enter into a lease agreement with the Washington Toll Bridge Authority in respect to the roadway ferry approaches landings etc., in connection with the ferry between Point Defiance and Tahlequah, Vashon Island.

Mr. Rowlands explained this Resolution sets up the agreement for 15 years which involves the new ferry improvements being made by the Toll Bridge Authority at Pt. Defiance Park, in addition to the improvement at the Ferry Building which will be borne entirely by the Toll Bridge Authority under this agreement.

The Toll Bridge Authority have agreed to participate in the Park road from Pearl Street to the sea wall and they will share the expense, which will be 50% by the city and 50% by the Toll Bridge Authority for a 15 year period. He explained the Park Board members are agreeable to this plan. Previously, he added the Toll Bridge Authority just took care of the small portion of that road about one-quarter of the way from the sea wall to Pearl Street.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15222:

By TOLLEFSON:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to sell to the Port of Tacoma property owned by the Belt Line Railway for the sum of \$200.00.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15223:By BATTIN:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute a Release by Quit Claim Deed to J. F. Barnes & Mary S. Barnes of any interest the City acquired by that easement signed by Louis J. Muscek and Joyce C. Muscek on April 3, 1941.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15224:By JENSEN:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute a supplemental agreement accepting the offer of the railroads for a nine percent increase in existing rates per car, retroactive to January 1, 1957.

Mr. Barline explained that an increase in switching rates was asked in December of 1956, as 99% of the revenues come from the trunk line. An audit was made in April of 1957 and in December of 1957 an offer was made of a 9% increase in rates, this was not as much as was expected, Mr. Barline explained, but after several meetings with the Companies it was recommended that the 9% increase be accepted, and then, immediately asked, for an addition increase to be retroactive to August 1957, but the 9% is retroactive until January 1, 1957 which means approximately \$30,000 a year.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15225:By GOERING:

Settling the claim of J. G. Shotwell in the sum of \$150,000 in accordance with Section 4E of the agreement with Arundel-Dixon Co. (Mayfield Dam).

Mr. Barline said this was a subcontract that was let by L. E. Dixon Co. to J. G. Shotwell contractors for the aggregate of the Mayfield Dam, which was approximately \$240,000 and the Shotwell Company constructed this plant at the Mayfield site which cost approximately \$48,000 and which has been appraised by firms from Los Angeles and Seattle and also by the City at between \$75,000 to \$100,000. Mr. Barline explained the plant has been idle for a year before closing off the contract and Shotwell Company had done no work at that time. After the work was stopped, Shotwell Company brought an action which is now pending in Superior Court for \$200,000 for damages. Out of this settlement for \$150,000 the City will obtain the plant. If the City had gone to court on the \$200,000 lawsuit the City probably would have ended up with nothing. The plant could be torn down and the estimated salvage value is approximately \$50,000 and would cost approximately \$15,000 to tear it down, Mr. Barline explained.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney said by settling in this manner, they felt they were saving the citizens from \$40,000 to \$50,000. The current value of the plant was estimated as \$78,500. Mr. McCormick said the City felt, as well as Mr. Metzger, attorney on behalf of Dixon Company, that this was an excellent settlement and recommended its approval. Mr. Jensen said that the amount of a figure of

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Mr. Jensen asked how they arrived at a figure of \$48,000.

Mr. Barline explained that this amount was taken directly from their books. It was required that some materials and equipment be purchased, and this includes the cost of materials and also of installation.

Mr. Jensen asked if this was a portable plant.

Mr. Cole, Manager of Major Projects, advised that with the number of pieces of machinery it is not classed as a portable plant, it would be classed as a stock plant.

Mr. Jensen said that he could not see \$48,000 in a plant of this type, that could be constructed in one week.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15226:

By HUMISTON:

Settling and terminating the contract with Pacific Oerlikon Company in the sum of \$62,865 for cancellation charges for furnishing transformers for the Mayfield Powerhouse.

Mr. Barline explained this was a contract the City had with Pacific Oerlikon Company for furnishing transformers for the Cowlitz Project.

The contract called for \$629,400 and \$68,865 represents the actual expenditures for engineering and other costs, but not including any charges for damages.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15227:

By PERDUE:

Settling and terminating the contract with the Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company in the sum of \$15,000.00 in full settlement of all cancellation charges for furnishing electric generators for the Mayfield Powerhouse.

Mr. Barline explained that this resolution is the same circumstances as the previous which entails the amount of money they have expended on the contract they have for generators.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Resolution No. 15228:

By HUMISTON:

Mr. Rowlands advised he had another Resolution to be considered tonight which does not appear on the agenda which should be considered.

It was moved by Mr. Tollefson to suspend the rules to consider this Resolution. Motion seconded by Dr. Battin.

Authorizing the City Manager to file an application for an advance by the United States for aid in defraying the cost of plans and preparation of the proposed Yakima Avenue Bridge.

Mr. Rowlands said this Resolution is regarding advance Public Works Planning. The Public Works engineer staff would like to begin plans for the Yakima Avenue Bridge so as to have the plans ready to tie in with the freeway.

Adopted on roll call February 17, 1958  
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE:

Ordinance No. 16050:

By JENSEN:

Amending the Charter and Official Code of the City of Tacoma, relating to the pay and compensation plan, and amending certain sections thereof. Read by title, and placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 16049:

Amending the Charter and Official Code relating to buildings; adopting the American Standard Safety Code for Elevators, Escalators, and Dumbwaiters, 1955 Edition.

It was moved by Dr. Humiston that the ordinance be amended by amending Section 2.14.010 #1 1955 to read 1957 and the Code number to read ASA 17.1 - 1957 Code. Motion seconded by Dr. Battin and carried unanimously. Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0/

It was moved by Mr. Tollefson that the ordinance be amended by amending Section 2.14.160 by changing appointed by the City Manager to read appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council, and adding Vacancies shall be filled by appointment in the same manner as above set forth for the unexpired portion of the term.

Mr. Tollefson asked that a copy of this 1957 addition to be adopted by reference be furnished the Council Members so they can familiarize themselves with the code.

It was moved by Mr. Tollefson that the ordinance be layed over for one week to give the members an opportunity to study the code. Motion seconded by Dr. Humiston. Ayes 7; Nays 2, Battin, Bratrud; Absent 0.

Discussions on the recommendation for Transit Company Rates were discussed at this time. X

Mr. Curtis Hill, President of the Tacoma Transit Company, advised that the increase in bus fares is requested as a result of the recommendation of the Transit Committee of the Citizens Committee for Tacoma's Future Development. He said the recommendation sets up school fares be raised to 15¢ and adult tokens so fares be raised to 5 for \$1.00, with adult cash fares at 25¢ each. The studies by the Committee were based on the revenues for 1957, and that fares during the last 12 weeks have dropped 10% over that of a year ago, he added. He explained that by increasing the fares there will be a decrease in riding, the increase will average approximately \$163,000 if the riding is decreased by 5% and, approximately \$97,000 if the passengers loss is 10%. He then explained that if the passenger loss continues as it has during the past 14 weeks the probable increase in revenues would be \$129,000 if the loss were 5% and \$64,000 if the loss were 10%.

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He explained that this increase in fares is merely a "stop-gap" so that the employees will be able to get a much needed raise, and he urged Council to continue to explore a long range solution to their problems.

Mr. Tollefson advised that each City has a problem as to how much to charge each passenger. Tacoma has tried to keep the costs of the Transit System down, by reducing their franchise, and by taking over the Transit System in name of lease arrangement and arranging for State Legislature to give some relief by way of taxes, and now, he said, we almost have "this thing in our lap," which we have been trying to prevent. Mr. Tollefson said he did not believe the Council has given this matter sufficient study to recommend the rates and believes more study should be given on this matter in its entirety at this time.

Dr. Humiston asked Mr. Hill how much 5¢ and hour increase would cost the Transit Company.

Mr. Hill replied that it would cost \$4,800 per year for each cent increase in salary.

He also advised that he was of the same opinion as Mr. Tollefson in respect to finding a permanent solution to this problem, but did not feel that by increasing the fares at this time it would not impair the seeking of a permanent solution. He felt that the increase in fares should be expedited so that the Company will be in a position to grant a modest increase of wages to their employees.

Dr. Humiston then asked that a Resolution be drawn incorporating the fare increase as recommended by the Transit Committee.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Works presents the assessment and assessment roll for the following Local Improvement District:

LID 2260 - Cement concrete sidewalks on South 13th Street from Cedar to Alder, also on South 17th Street, Ridgewood and Grant Avenues.

It was moved by Mr. Stojack that March 18, 1958 be fixed as the date for hearing thereon. Motion seconded by Dr. Humiston and carried unanimously. Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Rowlands presented M.C. 182 - on the storm drainage costs for areas that might be annexed to Tacoma.

Mr. Rowlands explained that this memo was distributed for Council's information pointing out what costs involves servicing storm drainage of the abutting areas in Parkland, University Place, Browns Pt. and Dash Point.

#### ITEMS RECEIVED FOR FILING IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

Report from Tacoma Transit System for December of 1956 and 1957 and 12 months of 1957.

H. C. Fisk, Fire Chief, submitting report for the Fire Department, Fire Prevention Bureau, Fire Alarm and Radio for the month of January, 1958.

Record of cases in Tacoma Municipal Court during the month of January 1958.

Summary of Tacoma Police, January, 1958 - Monthly Report

Tacoma Police Department - Traffic Division, Report for January, 1958.

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COMMENTS BY THE CITY MANAGER:

Dr. Humiston advised that Mr. Buckley had agreed that the 1st part of his report on the airport proposition would be delivered in time for distribution at tonight's meeting. However, Mr. Fugate received a telegram from Mr. Buckley advising that the main recommendation of their report is as follows: "It is our considered judgement that a publicly owned secondary airport conveniently available to the center of Tacoma is essential to the continued progress and prosperity of the city."

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Dr. Humiston advised that Mr. Fugate had especially stayed for tonight's meeting to answer questions brought about by the report that was to have been submitted at this meeting but was delayed due to the extreme cold weather in the East.

Mr. Fugate explained the procedure used in compiling his report: He said the report is based mainly on the questionnaires that were sent to a cross-section of local businessmen, and on surveys made by representatives of the Company.

Mr. John McNeil who operates a tavern at 2056 - 6th Ave. requested the city to grant exclusive parking west of the existing building at 2056 - 6th Ave.

Mr. Rowlands explained that the City Ordinance prohibits exclusive parking rights to any individual.

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Mayor Anderson advised that the only solution would be to provide a parking area of his own for his customers.

Mr. McNeil complained that on Tuesdays of each week the Womens League meets and they park in front of his establishment from noon until 6 P.M. in a restricted area without being checked.

Mayor Anderson asked that the City Manager check into this matter and report back to Council.

Mr. Ralph Bogan, Chairman of the Boat Launching Site Committee of the Tacoma Poggie Club and Heidelberg Boat Club, requested a meeting with the Council to discuss the possibility of obtaining a site adjacent to the Top of the Ocean Parking Lot and Pacific Cerlikon Co. to be used for boat launching purposes.

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This matter was discussed and Mayor Anderson asked the City Manager to check into this possibility and report back to Council.

Mr. Rowlands advised that he would check into this site and also ascertain if there are other sites along the waterfront available.

Mrs. Goering announced that the Washington State Board against Discrimination is making its first visit to Tacoma for an all-day meeting in Room 100. She invited all of the Members to attend their session to ascertain the workings of this Board.

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Communication from the Pierce County Veterans Advisory Council was read by the Clerk in reference to the moving of the Tacoma Naval Station.

It was pointed out that Pierce County and the Tacoma Business men are threatened with the loss of a \$3,000,000 payroll and 700 workers, naval and civilians, who buy and live in this area, if the naval station were to be moved. That the Naval Station has better water and railroad trackage, facilities and freedom from congestion than the Army's pier 91 in Seattle. It was explained there was a critical unemployment situation in Tacoma of approximately 9,500 people now. They urgently request the Council to take every effective action to retain the Naval Station in Tacoma.

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Mr. Tollefson asked if a copy of this letter had been sent to the Port Commission and the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Anderson said that no copies had been sent but that he would see that copies are made and sent to them, asking for their

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opinion as they have worked on this matter for considerable time. He was under the impression any reply should come directly from the Chamber and the Port, and if Council desired, he would personally deliver a copy to the Chamber for an answer to determine their thinking.

Dr. Battin requested that we go further than just to send a letter asking for their opinion, he requested we ascertain what the Port and Chamber have done so far on this and what they intend to do in the future.

Dr. Humiston advised that if we intend to conduct an independent investigation, he believes we should ascertain the reason the Navy came to this decision also.

Mayor Anderson advised he would contact the three concerns, Port of Tacoma, Chamber of Commerce and the Navy for answers to the inquiries.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained that the Council Committee and the Utilities Board discussed the manner in which the annual report of the City is to be compiled. He said it was the consensus of the committees that they proceed with a newspaper supplement combining the Utility Department with the General Government in a pasted-up on glossy paper for distribution. Distribution to be made to the various organizations in the City.

Council then adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

*John H. Anderson*  
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President of the City Council

Attest: *Joseph M. Merton*  
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City Clerk