

OCT 18 1960

City Council chambers, 7:00 P.M.
Tuesday, October 18, 1960

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call: 8, Bott, Cvitanich, Easterday, Murtland, Porter, Price, Steele and Mayor Hanson. Absent on roll call: 1, Mrs. Olson.

Mrs. Price moved that the minutes of October 3, 1960 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Steele. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 8, Nays 0, Absent 1, Olson.

Mrs. Price moved that the minutes of October 4, 1960 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Steele.

Mr. Bott asked that the minutes of October 4, 1960 be amended on Page 12 so as to note that at the request of Councilman Steele, Mr. Horsman spoke. Seconded by Mr. Porter. Voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

Mr. Murtland asked that there be inserted on page 11 of the October 4th minutes a statement he made in reference to L I D 2314 - that "he was a little disturbed with the fact 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 the Council should handle this L I D the same as the one acted upon at a previous meeting."

Mayor Hanson said if there were no objections then the minutes of October 4th would be set over until the Clerk has checked the record and inserted this remark of Mr. Murtland.

Mr. Easterday moved that the approval of the minutes of October 4, 1960 be set over for one week. Seconded by Mr. Steele. Voice vote: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

Mrs. Price moved that the minutes of October 5, 1960 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Steele. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 16317:

Fixing Monday, November 14, 1960 at 4:00 P.M. as the date for hearing on L I D 4681 for paving on No. 22nd and No. 27th from Stevens to Huson and on No. 24th from Ferdinand to Huson Street.

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

Voice vote on the Resolution resulted as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16318:

Fixing Wednesday, November 9, 1960 at 7:00 P.M. as the date for hearing on the vacation of property on So. 8th and Ainsworth. (Bryant Elementary School)

It was moved by Mr. Easterday that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

Voice vote on the Resolution resulted as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16319:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to enter into an agreement with the Northern Pacific Railway Company in order that the City may construct a 36-inch sewer line under the Railway Company's right-of-way.

It was moved by Mr. Easterday that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

Voice vote on the Resolution resulted as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16320:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute a contract with the Tacoma Housing Authority for the relocation planning of the Fawcett Urban Renewal Project.

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

Mr. George Smith, Assistant City Manager, explained that this Resolution is very similar to the Resolution the City Council adopted two years ago. He said, two years ago the Housing Authority was designated as the relocation agent for the City's Urban Renewal Program. Then in October of 1958 the City Council adopted a Resolution which authorized the Housing Authority to prepare the Relocation Plan for the Center Street Project.

He said this Resolution is merely carrying out the intent of the original one making the Housing Authority the agent and authorizing them to prepare the Relocation Plan and to perform other relocation services outlined in the Resolution in connection with the Fawcett Renewal Project.

Mr. Murtland asked if the Fawcett Street Urban Renewal Plan has been adopted as part of the Council action.

Mayor Hanson said the Council has agreed to proceed and assemble the necessary information to make that determination.

Mr. Murtland asked if this would cost the City any money.

Mr. Jacobson, Urban Renewal Director, explained that the City of Tacoma through action of the Council made application to the Federal Government for an advance on this project to aid in financing certain surveys and plans, and also for relocation planning. This contract is paid for out of these funds, he added. As soon as all these plans are complete, then a public hearing will be held before the City Council.

Mr. Murtland asked if this advance has to be paid back.

Mr. Jacobson answered that it will be included in the financing of the total project if the project were approved. If the project is not approved the advance is only payable out of funds made available to undertake the project.

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

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

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Resolution No. 16321:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute an agreement between the City and The Eatonville-Pierce County School District No. 404 relating to the education of the children of employees of the City's Electric Generating Plants located in said School District.

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

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

Resolution No. 16322:

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to execute a release of an easement to Earl and Bergloit Eldred on their property at 816 East 35th Street.

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

It was explained that the cancellation of this easement has been requested for the reasons that the Safeway Stores has purchased and will utilize the entire block, including the area covered by the said easement, and the City lines will be removed.

Voice vote was taken on the Resolution resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays; Absent 1, Olson.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:Ordinance No. 16651:

Adopting by reference a Uniform Building Code, as amended and repealing Ordinance No. 14634. Read by title.

Mr. Bott asked if there has been any change in fees?

Mr. Gillis said the fee schedule has been revised considerably. At the present time the fee schedule is based entirely on the cost of construction and has been considerably underestimated. Most other cities in the Pacific Northwest and throughout the Country are adopting the square footage cost which is based on the number of square feet in each building.

He said as an example for an average size warehouse the permit fee will be increased from approximately \$50. to \$180. The new Schedule is close to the City of Portland's scale and still considerably under the City of Seattle's scale.

Mr. Cvitanich asked if the new provision requiring licensed engineers or architects to approve plans for all buildings, except homes, costing more than \$25,000 would save the City engineering department a great deal of work.

Mr. Gillis said that was correct. It would save considerable money and grief for the department.

Mr. Cvitanich asked how much more would this Ordinance expand the downtown area in fire zones.

Mr. Gillis said the National Board of Fire Underwriters likes to see a 100 foot buffer around the number one fire zones of the cities. Under the previous Building Code the boundaries end on the courts and run down the alleys. Under this Ordinance the boundaries of the number one fire zone ends in the streets so as to take in one-half a block area entirely around the perimeter of the fire zone, thus expanding the area.

Mr. Bott asked if an estimate was made of how much these fees would bring in,

Mr. Gillis said it was estimated that they would bring in an additional revenue of about \$25,000 a year.

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

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 16656:

Providing for the improvement of L I D 3503 for sanitary sewers in the vicinity of Geiger Street to Mountain View And on So. 8th to So. 19th Streets. Read by title and passed. 409

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 16657:

Providing for the improvement of L I D 3514 for sanitary sewers in Woodlawn and Pearl Streets from So. 13th to 19th and in the vicinity of Sunset Heights. Read by title and passed. 395

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 16658:

Providing for the improvement of L I D 6749 for modern street lights on the existing wooden poles in the vicinity of East 40th and C Streets. Read by title and passed. 409

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

Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 16659:

Providing for the improvement of L I D 6781 for modern street lights on No. 22nd from Stevens to Huson Street; Cascade from No. 13th; Fir Street from No. 15th to No. 17th and at the intersection of No. 17th and Juniper Street. Read by title and passed. 366

Roll call was taken on the Ordinance resulting as follows:

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Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

The Ordinance was then declared passed by the Chairman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Utilities presents the assessment and assessment roll for hearing for L I D 5317 for cast iron water mains in the area bounded by McKinley Avenue, East 64th, Wilkeson and East 72nd Street.

Mr. Easterday moved that the date of November 14, 1960 be set as the date for hearing on the assessment roll for L I D 5317. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Olson.

COMMENTS:

Mr. George Smith, Assistant City Manager, announced that a meeting between the City Council and the Planning Commission has been arranged for Thursday, October 20, 1960 at 4:00 P.M. to be held in the Conference Room 354.

Mrs. Price said she has received several calls from property owners asking if there was any means of speeding up the Street Light Program.

Mr. Dave Ferguson, Light Superintendent, said the Light Department is cognizant of this fact and is trying to employ mento speed up the work.

Mayor Hanson said he noticed an article in the South Tacoma Star showing a picture of a "mall" in the South Tacoma Business District which is being promoted by Roger Guilmett. He said he know this would be of great interest to all Council members. He said it is very encouraging to note the efforts being made for improvement in the South Tacoma area and other business areas. He asked Mr. Benson, Assistant Planner, if he could explain to what extent the City is involved or how this could be worked into the City's plan, to assist these areas.

Mr. Benson said, as the Council knows, a study has been made as to the possibility of having a "mall" in the downtown area. However, he said there has been no specific study of the South Tacoma area for a "mall." Although, he added, in the next two years, they will be studying all the neighborhood business districts for improvements and will include the "mall" as part of that study.

Mayor Hanson said he would like to see that particular study be given priority.

Mr. John Hill, representing the private garage operator's association, was present and suggested that the Council vote down the Ordinance authorizing City revenue bond financing of two downtown parking garages. He said the group he represents feels they will have little difficulty obtaining sufficient signatures on a referendum, to stay the effect of the Ordinance until the people can vote on the issue.

Marshall McCormick, City Attorney, explained that the Ordinance authorizing the financing of the garages is expected to be up for first reading on October 25th and final reading will be given the following week. If the Ordinance is passed the opponents will have 10 days to file some 3,500 valid signatures with the City Clerk. If the referendum is filed with the required signatures the Council will have an opportunity to reconsider the measure. If no action is taken by the Council, the measure will be put on the next City ballot, in March of 1962 as it is too late to put it on the November 8, 1960 ballot. A special election next year would require a unanimous Council vote to spend some \$25,000 on the election, he added.

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Mayor Hanson said the progress on the program to present the Civic Auditorium proposition to the voters has been progressing, but felt it was not as satisfactory as it might be, as a number of questions have arisen. He said one of the problem of great concern on the part of those contacted has been the question as to whether or not the Auditorium would be self-supporting. There has been some alarm that an annual appropriation would have to be made from the General Fund for maintenance and operation of the Auditorium. He said he was convinced that the Auditorium can be self-supporting if it is located near the center of the City. The reason for this is the fact that the Cities that have constructed Auditoriums near the City center have had a greater degree of success than Auditoriums located near the outskirts. 402
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Mayor Hanson said the Civic Auditorium Committee has made the recommendation that the Council take action indicating, with a greater degree of certainty, the area in which it is intended to locate the Auditorium. He said it was his feeling the closer the Auditorium is situated to the downtown area the more certain of sufficient income to justify the construction. For that reason, he would like for the Council to consider the matter tonight, indicating its intention to locate the Auditorium in the downtown area. He asked, what was the thinking of the Council?

Mr. Bott said he would like to see this held up for a week. As he understands it, there is an A site and a B site proposed. He said the center of town is not necessarily downtown. He understands one of the big points to consider is the proximity to hotels, and he said there is a possibility that a new hotel might be built in an area other than downtown.

Mayor Hanson said he did not think the Council should take action on a specific site. If any action is taken at all it should be a general action within the downtown area as there are several possibilities, for example, in the area of the old City Hall and another on A street between 7th and 9th, the Firemen's Park. He said this matter is a subject of a great deal of concern to the public, he added.

Mr. Bott said when this first came up he expressed the opinion that there would be some reaction by the Public if the Council requested a proposition for a \$6,500,000 auditorium without designating an approximate site. However, he said he would recommend that no definite action be taken until next week.

Mr. Asterday suggested that the newly filled area near Lincoln Bowl, which was formerly Lincoln Gulch be explored also as a possible site, although he was not advocating it. He pointed out its accessibility and that parking could be provided for approximately 3,000 to 4,000 cars.

Mrs. Price said while attending the meeting in Yakima, she had talked to a Spokane Councilman who told her that Spokane's Auditorium has netted \$50,000 thus far this year and thought if it were closer to the City center or within walking distance of the hotels, etc., that the proceeds would have been much more. She said she thought it would be interesting to obtain a copy of the advance bookings from Spokane of the various events.

Mr. Steele said it seemed to him it would be logical that it would have to be located adjacent to main transportation routes and parking garages for the convenience of transients during conventions.

Mr. Bott asked if Mayor Hanson felt that if a different location were chosen other than the downtown area if the money would be difficult to raise to publicize the Auditorium.

Mayor Hanson said that is one of the reasons he felt it important to give some consideration to this site. He said there was a feeling it wouldn't be much of a convention attraction if it were built near the Ball Park.

Mr. Bott said he did not want to be considered anti-downtown but he did feel there are a few people with special interests who want it where they want it to the detriment of the rest of the town. There are many things to consider here, he added.

Mayor Hanson said other Cities had found a correlation between the success of Auditoriums and their nearness to downtown centers.

Mr. Bott said he would still request that the Council delay definite action on this until next week.

Mr. Easterday said the time is running short to get this publicized, etc.

Mayor Hanson said the reason he brought this matter up tonight was that he had assumed that the Council members have given this sufficient thought to form an opinion with reference to where the general area of location would be. If this is not the case then it would be improper for the Council to take action at this time, he added.

Mr. Porter asked if it would be proper to pass a motion to the effect that the Council thinks the Auditorium should be built in an area convenient which would be accessible to public transportation and private cars, near transient rooms and concentration of restaurants and other facilities necessary to Conventions.

Mayor Hanson said he thought that would be sufficient.

Mr. Bott said one matter that has not been considered is the cost of the acquisition of certain properties, as properties elsewhere might be obtained for considerable less money than downtown.

Mrs. Price said she could not see building an Auditorium that is to be used for so many different functions in any place other than in the core area.

Mr. Porter then moved that the Civic Auditorium be built near the centers of transportation, both public and private, and near the large concentration of transient rooms, restaurants and other facilities needed by tourists in the Convention area. Seconded by Mr. Steele. Voice vote resulted as follows: Ayes 7; Nays 1, Cvitanich; Absent 1, Olson.

Mr. Corey, a representative of the Northern Pacific Shop employees' group, said he had heard rumors to the effect that Mayor Hanson and Gov. Albert D. Rosellini had been refused admittance to the South Tacoma Shops, and he asked if this were true.

Mayor Hanson it is true that Gov. Rosellini and he paid a visit to Mr. Spellmeyer at the South Tacoma Shops approximately 10 days ago and did request an opportunity to tour the Shops. However, Mr. Spellmeyer indicated that since it was so close to elections he felt that it was against the policy of allowing candidates in the Shops. He said, the impelling reason, of course, that he and the Governor went to the Shops was to get first hand information on the local setup in view of the transfer of personnel.

Mr. Corey said he was instructed to apologize to the Mayor and Governor on behalf of his fellow union members. He said they appreciated the attempt made by them to investigate the situation.

Mayor Hanson said after the election he and the Governor will make another request to make the tour and is sure they will be given this opportunity. They will continue their efforts to do something to reverse the transfer trend.

Mr. Bott said the Council members sympathize with their problem. However, he added, it is a delicate matter for the Council to tell the Northern Pacific how to run its railroad, The Council can only ask for their cooperation.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Attest:

Joseph M. Meeter
City Clerk

Ben Hanson
Mayor of the City Council

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