

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers, 4:00 P. M.
Tuesday, December 5th, 1967

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 7: Banfield, Bott, Cvitanich, Herrmann, Johnson, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen. Absent 2: Finnigan and Murtland.

Mr. Bott moved that the minutes of the meeting of Nov. 21st, 1967 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

PETITION:

William C. Marcum, requesting rezoning of the east side of Pacific Ave. south of 88th Street from an "R-4-L" to a "C-1" District.

Referred to the Planning Commission.

COMMUNICATION:

Communication from Maurice S. Finnigan, Councilman, requesting that the City Council take no official action on any proposed amendments to the City Charter or to the rules of the Council until he is present and specifically urging for their support and passage of ordinances, No. 18440, 18441 and 18442.

Mayor Rasmussen acknowledge Mr. Finnigan's communication and explained that if a quorum is present at a Council Meeting, the business should be conducted in the usual manner.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 19196 (postponed from the meeting of Nov. 21st, 1967)

Consideration of the annexation of the property in the vicinity of the S.W. corner of East 72nd & Portland Ave. (petition of Victor Lyon)

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Mr. Cvitanich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich.

Mr. Buehler, Director of Planning, explained that this resolution was continued at the request of the County Commissioners as they were considering a different zoning in the area. He pointed out on a map the location of the proposed annexation.

Mr. Buehler explained, if the City Council considers annexation the petition with 75% of the property owner's signatures is then submitted to the Council.

Mr. Adams, Attorney for the petitioner, stated the action of the Pierce County Commissioners was that the land in question should be left under their designation as 'general use', which allows this type of development. Since the sewers were granted by the City Council in July, they would agree to do anything the Council desires in regard to this annexation.

He was advised by Mr. Sprinker, County Commissioner, that the Commissioners were somewhat concerned over the fact that it would constitute in their judgment 'spot' annexation, but that is a problem that can be considered and resolved, he added.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.

Resolution No. 19448 (postponed from the meeting of Nov. 21st, 1967)

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Authorizing the execution of an agreement for and on behalf of the City of Tacoma in conjunction with the Commissioners of Pierce County and with Dr. Bryan M. Archer for emergency medical care to be furnished to inmates of both the Tacoma and Pierce County jails.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2; Finnigan and Murtland.

Mr. Zatkovich moved that the following resolutions, Nos. 19462, 19463, 19464, 19465, 19466, 19467, 19468, 19469, 19470 and 19471 be taken up after the final reading of the ordinances. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19472

Approving the preliminary plat of Enemark Addition on the west side of Orchard Street between No. 41st and No. 42nd Streets.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich.

Mr. Buehler, explained that the preliminary plat approval is being submitted to the Council because of the adoption of Resolution No. 19022 on Jan. 31st, 1967 that stated, all new plats in subdivisions shall provide underground wiring for utility services. In addition, the resolution provides that in proper circumstances the City Council may, within its discretion, waive this requirement. The developer does not desire to have the underground utilities in this particular plat, he added.

Mr. Cvitanich explained that the Council has approved underground wiring in all new developments, but where there were existing poles it was felt that it would be a financial hardship on the developer. It was decided that each case should be judged on its individual merit.

Mr. Johnson moved to amend the last paragraph of the resolution to provide that the installation of electric power service and distribution and other necessary utilities be installed overhead. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

The Resolution as amended was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.

Resolution No. 19473

Approving the final plat of Miller's Sheridan Addition between Sheridan Avenue and "L" Street extended, from So. 82nd to So. 84th Streets.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Bott.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.

Resolution No. 19474

Fixing Tuesday, Dec. 19th, 1967 at 4:00 P. M. as the date for hearing for the rezoning of the S. W. corner of No. 10th & Yakima Ave. from an "R-2" to an "R-4-L" District. (petition of Louis J. Burkey)

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

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.

Resolution No. 19475

Requesting that the Treasurer's office advise property owners when any sale of property is conducted for tax title.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.

Resolution No. 19476

Appointing Paul Meyers as a member of the Board of Adjustment for the term commencing Dec. 6th, 1967 and expiring Sept. 30th, 1968.

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

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.
Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 18454

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by adding a new section 13.06.065-76 to include property on the west side of Fife St. between No. 21st and No. Yakima Ave. in an "R-4-L" District. (petition of Fred Roberson)

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 18455

Vacating the west 15 feet of Fifth St. between No. 21st and Yukima Ave. (petition of Fred Roberson)

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 18456

Vacating the alley between South and Crafton Sts. from the north line of Tacoma Way to a point approximately 150 feet north thereof. (petition of Mid West, Inc.)

Mr. Cvitanich remarked that he understood a law was passed during the last legislature regarding the opening of a street whereby the City would now be reimbursed.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, stated this law would now require an ordinance of the City Council enforcing that provision.

Mr. Cvitanich suggested that the City Attorney's office prepare an ordinance of this nature as the streets do belong to the taxpayers and are vacated by the City who receives no compensation whatsoever.

Mr. McCormick explained his staff was tentatively preparing an ordinance to that effect.

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 18457

Amending the official code of the City by adding Sections 2.02.1100 and 1120 to conform with the State Fire Marshall's Regulations relative to fire safety requirements in certain existing buildings.

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 18439

Amending the pay and compensation plan for the year 1968.

Mr. Swan Johnson, residing at 1508 No. Fir St. asked to speak on the ordinance.

Mr. Johnson, a member of the Human Relations Commission, felt that the Commission could function without an executive director and save \$12,000 as proposed in the 1968 budget. He asked that the Commission and the Council review the Charter and try to come up with ways to cut the budget at least \$12,000.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained that normally an Executive Director receives a salary such as the Planning Director and the Utility Director who receive salaries and who have volunteer members. A Directorship is a very challenging one and he hoped that Mr. Hodges would have an opportunity to advise Mr. Johnson what his position entails.

Mr. Bett stated, in fairness, the directorship had been discussed and debated by the Council.

Mr. Zatkovich asked if the Council could adopt the Pay and Compensation Plan at this meeting, with the exception of Items 1103.5 and 1104 pertaining to the Director's salary and the assistant's salary.

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Mr. McCormick stated the Council would have to amend the ordinance by deleting these items, then the ordinance would have to be passed as amended.

Mr. Bott felt this ordinance should not be amended to delete these items. He felt the ordinance could be passed as is, and these particular items could be determined at a later date.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained that the Budget for 1968 has been adopted by the City Council. The pay and compensation plan affects approximately 345 positions. The compensation plan under this ordinance, merely determines the rate of pay for the various positions. The budget itself will be effective on Jan. 1st, 1968. These are two different documents.

Mr. Rowlands further stated, it has been the position of the administration over the years not to spend any money in the budget that does not have to be spent. Each department tries to come up with an unexpended balance each year.

Mayor Rasmussen stated that the new members of the Council wish to come up with the same unexpended balance or greater.

Mr. Bott moved that Ordinance No. 18439 be postponed for two weeks, until Dec. 19th, 1967. Seconded by Mr. Johnson.

The Rev. E. S. Brazill, Human Relations Commission President, remarked that Mr. Johnson has been unjust to the Commission. He felt that Mr. Johnson does not seem to be concerned about the minority groups in the City of Tacoma.

Mayor Rasmussen felt the recommendation proposed by Mr. Johnson was that the Human Relations Commission should be on the same par as the Planning Commission who, of course, has a Chairman. They are doing very important jobs, but they do have non-paid members on the commission. He felt he was suggesting that the Commission keep on functioning but he questioned the need of an Executive Secretary.

The Rev. Brazill felt an Executive Secretary was needed because the members of the commission are just part time.

Mr. Cvitanich and Mr. Zatkovich defended Mr. Johnson as a man who has always given of himself to help others, including Negroes.

The Rev. John Williams of 1621 So. Sheridan Ave., explained he had served on other Human Relation Commissions, and it would be highly irregular to have a Commission with an Executive Director without compensation. The very nature of the work demands that the job be dignified with compensation. He felt the budget should not be cut in this respect. He asked the Council to allow the budget and compensation plan to proceed as it stands. He felt Tacoma would benefit by a very effective Human Relations program.

Mayor Rasmussen wondered why the Human Relation's office occupied space outside the County-City Bldg.

Mr. Rowlands explained the \$150 a month rent paid for the office space was necessary because of the space shortage in the County-City Bldg.

A number of citizens and commission members voiced disagreement with Mr. Johnson's remarks.

Dr. Herrmann explained that the Council has previously heard much of this testimony and was convinced that a Human Relations Commission was essential to the City of Tacoma. This commission cannot function properly without a paid Director, and he felt it was poor judgment on the Council's part at this point to even question the need. He felt the Council should not postpone the ordinance that includes the salary of the Executive Director and his assistant.

Mr. Bott felt that the commission should meet and make the determination as to whether it needs a paid director.

Tom Garlington, a member of the Planning Commission, stated if that Commission did not have a Director, it would be totally ineffective as a commission. He felt this ordinance should not be postponed two weeks.

Richard Charles, Field Representative for the State Board Against Discrimination, felt the Council was failing to recognize the program that exists in the City of Tacoma. He noted that this commission was not a duplication of the State agency, He felt the Council should pass this ordinance this evening.

Mayor Rasmussen stated he would call for a vote on the motion to postpone the ordinance until Dec. 19th, 1967.

Mr. Johnson withdrew his second on that motion.

Mr. Zatkovich then seconded Mr. Bott's motion.

Roll call was taken on the motion to postpone the ordinance until Tues., Dec. 19th, 1967. Ayes 5; Nays 2, Herrmann and Johnson; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland. Motion carried.

The Ordinance was declared postponed until Tuesday, Dec. 19th, 1967.

Ordinance No. 18440

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by adding subsections 4.5 and 28.2 to section 13.06.010 and amending subsection B of Section 13.06.010, relative to Floor area regulations in the "B" Downtown Business District.

Mrs. Banfield asked for information relative to the vacation of Court A and the traffic pattern.

Mr. Kosai, Traffic Engineer, stated that Pacific Ave. or Commerce St. will be used in place of Court A. The traffic volume count in question on October 17th, 1967 was 1,800 vehicles per day.

Mrs. Banfield asked how this compared to other streets in the area.

Mr. Kosai explained that on Oct. 30th on Pacific Ave. between 12th and 15th Sts. there were 7,471 vehicles per day in the southbound direction and northbound the vehicle count was 11,969. Commerce St. carried 5,046 vehicles southbound and on A St. between 11th and 15th 12,138 vehicles per day.

Mrs. Banfield felt the Council was setting a precedent in downtown Tacoma when they allow a vacation on a street that has so much traffic.

Mr. Buehler explained this has been a service area, but each vacation application should be considered on its own merit. He noted that is an "A" St. viaduct planned which will probably eliminate this court.

Mr. Zatkovich wondered if this would cause a traffic change to two-way streets.

Mr. Kosai stated this report has not been completed but will be submitted to the Council as soon as possible.

Mr. Cvitanich asked how many floors the National Bank of Washington would use in the new facility.

Mr. Egly, representing the National Bank of Wash., answered they were planning to occupy 100,000 sq. ft. which would be approximately nine floors of the building. Economically the other floors have to be rented and to rent space, they have to provide parking.

Mr. Buehler explained the number of parking facilities that would be required by the rentals in the building.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18441

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by amending sub-section C of Section 13.06.350 relative to Off Street Loading areas.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18442

Vacating Court A between So. 12th & 13th Streets. (petition of the National Bank of Washington)

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18443

Creating in the Treasury of the City of Tacoma a special fund to be designated "Equipment Rental Fund" and Amending Ordinance No. 15928.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18444

Providing for the improvement of L I D 3650 for sanitary sewers in Huson from Center St. to 425 feet south of So. 30th St. and other nearby locations.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18445

Providing for the improvement of L I D 3666 for sanitary sewers in the vicinity of No. 9th and Winnifred and Alder from So. 15th to So. 17th St.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18446

Providing for the improvement of L I D 4833 for paving on Vassault from So. 10th to So. 12th; Fife from No. 21st to No. Yakima Ave.; No. 24th from Warner to Puget Sound Ave.; Winnifred from No. 9th to Dahl Drive and No. 9th from Winnifred to Shirley St.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

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Ordinance No. 18447

Providing for the improvement of L I D 5448 for water mains in So. 80th from Pacific Ave. to So. "D" St.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18448

Providing for the improvement of L I D 5449 for water mains in So. 90th from Alaska St. to 330 ft. east of Ash St. and in Alaska from So. 88th to 89th St.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18449

Providing for the improvement of L I D 6896 for street lights on Geiger from So. 12th to So. 19th St.; Meyers from So. 12th to So. 15th St.; and So. 15th from Geiger St. to Jackson Ave.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18450

Providing for the improvement of L I D 6897 for street lights on Mullen from So. 56th to So. 62nd St.; So. 73rd from Mullen St. to Mason Ave.; and Mason Ave. from So. 73rd to 350 feet south.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18451

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 3569 for sanitary sewers in Union Ave. from So. 23rd to So. 29th; So. 30th from Puget Sound Ave. to Center and Center from So. 30th to Cedar.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

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Ordinance No. 18452

Approving and confirming the Assessment Roll for L I D 3641 for sanitary sewers in No. 38th from Baltimore to Shirley St. and in Shirley from No. 38th to No. 37th S .

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18453

Approving and confirming the Assessment Roll for L I D 4789 for paving on Milrose from Fife to Oakes S .; No. 16th from Cheyenne to Verde St.; Alaska from So. 21st to So. 23rd St.; and Villard from No. 18th to No. 21st St.

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

Ayes 7; Nays 0; Absent 2, Finnigan and Murtland.
The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Mayor Rasmussen stated Resolutions No. 19462 through 19471 which were postponed until the end of the final reading of ordinances will be taken up at this time.

Resolution No. 19462

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma at a special election for the adoption or rejection of a proposal providing for the Government of said City under a strong Mayor-Council Plan in place of the present Council-Manager Plan.

Mr. Zatkovich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

Dr. Herrmann moved that the resolution be postponed until Councilman Murtland and Councilmen Finnigan are present as requested in Mr. Finnigan's letter to the City Council. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote was taken. Motion failed.

Mayor Rasmussen reiterated that as long as the Council has the necessary number of members present to conduct city business, he felt there is no reason why any matter should be postponed because of some Council members being on vacation.

Dr. Herrmann explained he made this motion because of the courtesy of the Council that has been previously extended.

A communication was read from L. H. Pedersen, Secretary of the Pierce County Central Labor Council, requesting that the Council delay any action on the proposed charter amendments at least one week as their Council wished to review and study the many changes which are listed under these proposed resolutions.

A communication was also read from Mrs. John Anderson, residing at 5104 McKinley Ave., requesting the Council to vote on these resolutions tonight.

Mr. Johnson stated that the eyes of the entire City of Tacoma are on the Mayor and the City Council tonight. Not only those present in the Council Chambers but also those who will hear the broadcast on the radio and television and what is printed in the newspapers. He added, they are looking at the Council for leadership; but not dictatorship. Tonight the City Council has that opportunity

duty, to ask for citizen participation. It has been loudly voiced that the people of Tacoma are looking for a different form of government and would like to have a say in what it shall be. We do have that opportunity, but there are differences of opinion, but they should be involved in selecting the kind of government they wish and also to select those they consider qualified to offer help in forming an improved City Charter.

Every citizen throughout the City is eligible to become a freeholder if he has lived here three years and is a qualified elector. This gives the citizens the opportunity of thinking, in effect, three times before a final conclusion is reached. Instead of just once, as the proposed method provides. The first election would determine whether or not they want freeholders. And at the same time they would vote on who they wanted as freeholders. Lastly, they would vote whether or not they will except the proposal of the freeholders, and all this accomplished in a six-month's period.

He thought this was not a dire emergency that calls for a crash program that must be voted on tonight. A program that has been hastily put together by a few people. He mentioned the old adage, "act in haste and repent at leisure."

Mr. Johnson added, that Mayor Rasmussen a leader of the City of Tacoma should put it to himself and to all the citizens whom he serves, to give them the benefit of the best thinking the City has to offer. The slight cost of a freeholder election is a mere pittance in view of the hundreds of millions of dollars that are at stake in the next few years.

Mr. Johnson continued, he earnestly urged the Mayor and his fellow Councilmen to vote against a hastily prepared program of Charter changes, a method which would be satisfactory for minor alterations, but totally unsuited to the dire effects that he has pointed out. He urged them to give the government back to the people by voting for a freeholder election as provided by Resolution No. 19471.

Mr. Cvitanich stated he would like to say this in rebuttal in all sincerity. Within the last eighteen months the people of this community submitted a petition asking for a freeholder election, approximately ten thousand signatures were presented to the Clerk's office, and due to a technicality, these petitions were held invalid at that time. He said he didn't remember that Mr. Johnson or any of his colleagues, coming forth and saying that the people brought forth ten thousand signatures and they want a freeholder's election. They did not rise to the occasion.

In summary, he added, the only comment he has to offer is 'too little, too late.'

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, explained Resolution No. 19462 pertaining to Charter changes in detail for Council's information.

Mr. McCormick explained that this resolution would have to pass by a vote of less than five affirmative votes. This resolution would submit to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma at a special election, the adoption or rejection of a proposal providing for the Government of said City under a strong Mayor-Council Plan in place of the present Council-Manager Plan.

Mr. Bott said he would also like to make a statement.

Mr. Bott stated he felt it was necessary to elaborate somewhat on this very controversial subject. Regardless of the apparent surprise on the part of many people that the Mayor's rapid approach in suggesting a vote on the Charter change, he must say in his defense, that during the campaign at each meeting where the Mayor spoke, he stated and I quote, 'that in my opinion I am for a strong Mayor form of government.' So it is understandable that he could then interpret his words as a mandate for a strong Mayor form of government. Mr. Bott said he could share his opinion, but he believed it to be an honest one.

If it were so that the election results were a mandate from the people for a change, then it would logically follow that Dr. Herrmann's opponent whose campaign was based on his avowed opposition to the present form of government and complete support of Mr. Rasmussen's desire for a strong Mayor form, would have

been elected. This did not come to pass.

Mr. Bett continued, Mr. Zatkovich who received such an overwhelming vote, also an open critic of the administration of the present form of government, could understandably feel that his support was indicative of the desire for a change. On the other hand, it follows that the re-election of both Dr. Herrmann and Mr. Finnigan, each strong proponents of the present form of government, belie the fact that the electorate wishes such a complete change.

He added, after deep consideration and soul searching on his part, he is convinced that he can interpret the election results as a public indication of their desire to scuttle our present form in favor of the strong Mayor form. However, he said he does feel there is a definite desire on the part of a good share of the populace to take a good look at the present charter and consider amendments made necessary through working experience and changed conditions, to give it its conception. In his opinion, he truly believes that the Council should recognize the people's right to vote on a freeholder's election in a legally prescribed manner.

He said he would like to give credit to the Mayor, the City Attorney and his staff for the task involved in preparing the proposed Charter excellent amendments, several of which could well be considered by a freeholder's commission.

Dr. Herrmann stated he did not have a prepared statement, but it seemed to him that for the present Mayor and Council to continue under a new form of government is not exactly what the people voted for. He didn't think that a person could separate votes and say that. He is sure there are a hundred different reasons why people voted in favor of one candidate as opposed to another. These reasons were not necessarily based on the form of government. If the Council passes this resolution, the people will not have an opportunity of a choice of Mayor and Council to fill positions under a new form; they must accept those that are now in office. He is satisfied that if the people knew for instance, the present Mayor who was successfully elected, was to be the chief administrator of the City of Tacoma, there may have been some other vote, or other persons who knew that the chief administrator was to be the Mayor, would have filed. Furthermore, the people have no preliminary choice in any of the various forms of government that are available. There are several forms of government, not only the strong Mayor-Council or the Council-Manager but there are Mayor-Administrator forms and there are modifications of the Council-Manager forms.

He thought it was presumptuous as far as the Council was concerned, that we as Council members are better informed on the forms of government and governmental procedures than anyone else in the City. He felt the City should have the best thinking of the best minds in Tacoma, and even outside the City to lend their experience and wisdom in order that the City can have a Charter that all can live with for a reasonably long period of time, in order that there is not this continuous attack on government by bias individuals, hiding behind their peculiar positions to inculcate fear and hate and create this disenchantment with Tacoma's form of government.

Mr. Zatkovich stated he too had not prepared any statement. He felt it was quite apparent to him that the people of the City of Tacoma wanted a change. He also said he didn't talk about firing the City Manager, either in his campaign even though they had a number of verbal battles. The Manager had his job to do, and he had his. But there again it was quite apparent and evident to him that the people of the City of Tacoma did want a change, all through the campaign. They knew his stand, he had people that voted for him that probably didn't vote for the Mayor and vice versa.

He had been hearing 'let's return the government to the people'. He said this is what he has maintained all along during his campaign. There are only two

forms of government that have been discussed, basically, the present form and a strong Mayor form. The strong Mayor form has been under discussion all the time. He felt the government can be returned to the people, "Let's not delay for a couple of years, as in a freeholder deal." He felt this resolution was a short-cut and less expensive. There is no question but what the people want a change.

He added, Mr. McCormick explained the amendments in detail. The basic change is from a strong Mayor from the Manager form. He believes the present Manager form is stronger than the proposed Mayor form. He thought the people were much more interested in the election this time because the question of a change was raised. He believed the people want a change and this would be the better way to follow.

Mr. Bitt said he agrees that the results of the election showed that a change was wanted. He added, reflecting back on the many signatures on the freeholder's petition that was circulated, he noted that people that are now in favor of a strong Mayor form of government were the very ones that set up the freeholder petition.

He heard a remark today that nine out of ten people who signed for a freeholder election, wanted a strong Mayor form of government, so this person was assuming that 90% of the people who signed, didn't know what they were signing, and didn't know what they wanted.

Everyone is entitled to their own interpretation but he felt that the resolutions called for an election of a group of freeholders to re-examine the Charter, not to vote on a strong Mayor form of government. So on that basis, he felt many people did want a change. He felt a change is necessary and many of these amendments are splendid and could well be incorporated into the present Charter, which would make it a better Charter for the City of Tacoma.

Mayor Rasmussen explained that he ran for office on a declaration that he felt that the present form of government which he also voted for some years ago, has been in effect a number of years, was to be the least expensive and the most efficient. The recent budget which was adopted and the recent tax statement for 1967 indicated that taxes were the highest in the history of Tacoma and the highest of any City in the State.

After receiving a substantial majority of votes in the last election, it indicated that the people of the City of Tacoma wanted a change. He added, that he made a campaign pledge that he would do everything in his power to carry out the promises. He was rather surprised that the present Council, when the 10,000 signatures for a freeholder election were rejected, now is proposing a freeholder election. Since there is no fee for filing for freeholders, there will be a great number of candidates filing, naturally people that are very interested in who is elected as a freeholder. For an example, our neighbor King County spent thousands upon thousands of dollars advertising certain slates of candidates for freeholders. The people do not have a chance in this type of a contest.

There are people who say this is the wrong approach. He added, he feels the rank and file of the City feels that we need a change, after all, he felt the City belongs to the people.

Mr. Cvitanich stated that he would like to make an observation or two. He said he took the liberty of availing himself to some research at the Library and pointed out the steps taken for a freeholder election in 1952 and the form of government to the present time.

He added, most of the members of the Council are familiar with the running audit that has been mentioned many times in the City of Tacoma. The legal department has said they can give no interpretation. There is no agreement

... the members of the City Council, but he pointed out that the advertisement in the News Tribune for the pro-City Manager form of government specifically said that an annual day to day audit of all books and records would be made. Members of the freeholders in 1952 and 1956 considered this an important proviso in the City Charter to carry it through two charter elections. And again an effort was made in 1962 by this council to submit a vote to the people of the City of Tacoma, but it was voted down. But the proposition says in essence, 'should we water down that provision in the City Charter that pertains to the independent audit.' It was soundly defeated by the people of the City of Tacoma. He thought the people of the City should have the right to make their own choice and not have it made by the City Council members who vacillate from time to time.

Mrs. Bantfield stated she is in favor of submitting this proposition to the people of the people, for them to decide.

Mr. Johnson said he has listened with a great deal of interest to what has been said and from the comments that have been made by other members of the City Council, he could not but feel that his position has been strengthened in favor of the freeholder's election.

Dr. Herrmann stated, he thought if there is to be a change of form it should be studied, as there are various forms available, one of which could be adapted to the City of Tacoma's needs.

Mr. Zatkovich moved to postpone Res. No. 19462 until Tuesday, Dec. 19th, 1967. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

Dr. Herrmann moved to amend the motion to hold this over one month, until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1967. No Second. Motion lost because of want of a second.

Mr. Zatkovich stated he would withdraw his motion for a two week's postponement with the consent of his second.

Mr. Bott stated he would vote against this resolution, but he did feel that the people should have an option and have a choice of several plans.

Mr. Bott moved that the resolution be postponed until Jan. 2, 1967. Second. Motion failed for want of a second.

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

Ayes 4; Nays 3, Bott, Herrmann and Johnson; Absent 2: Finnigan and Murtland. The Resolution was declared LOST as it needed 5 Affirmative votes to pass.

Resolution No. 19463

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma a proposition to amend Article V Section 5.2 of the City Charter relative to elections to conform to the new provision contained in the State Law.

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Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19464

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma a proposition to amend Article V. Section 5.3 of the City Charter relative to the filing of a declaration of candidacy with the Clerk of the City of Tacoma.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19465

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma a proposition to amend Article V Section 5.4 of the City Charter relative to designating all positions and elective offices of the City of Tacoma and the positions and offices so designated considered as separate offices for election purposes.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19466

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma a proposition to amend Article V Section 5.6 of the City Charter of the City relative to candidates statement of qualifications only with reference to primary elections.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19467

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma a proposition to amend Article VI, Section 6.10 of the City Charter to authorize elective officials to participate in retirement benefits and group life, hospital, health and accident insurance.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19468

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City of Tacoma a proposition to amend Article VII, Section 7.14 of the City Charter to clarify the provision with reference to the independent audit providing over a three year period, such an audit shall be completed.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19469

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City a proposition to amend Article IX Section 9.3 of the City Charter relative to filing claims against the City.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19470

Resolution requesting the Pierce County Auditor to place on the ballot the seven propositions approved by the City Council.

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

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Resolution No. 19471

Submitting to the qualified voters of the City at a special election a proposition to elect 15 freeholders to prepare and propose a new City Charter

178+
183

Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone this resolution until Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1968 seconded by Mr. Zarkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

AGENDA:

MC 508 City Council Sound Systems

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained the various sound systems that have been used and improving the public address system in the Council Chambers.

Mr. Rowlands distributed MC 509, Progress Reports which had been previously requested by the Mayor

REPORTS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

a. Report from the State Auditor Garbage & Refuse Div. Dept. of Public Works from January 1, 1966 to December 31, 1966

b. Personnel report for the month of October 1967

c. Report from the Tacoma Employees Retirement System for the month of November 1967.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Cvitanich explained that approximately four years ago when the pending merger between the railroads was taking place, the City of Tacoma went on record in opposition. He noted that the ICC has entered a decision to reverse themselves. He asked if the Council should make a motion to reaffirm their position.

54-19
62-12

Mr. Cvitanich then moved that the City Council of the City of Tacoma still opposes the merger of the railroads. Seconded by Mr. Zarkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Dr. Herrmann stated he was concerned about the Mt. View Hospital contemplated closing and he wondered if the Council should not inform the Legislature of their concern.

60-396
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Dr. Herrmann moved that a letter be sent to Governor Evans stating that the City of Tacoma wishes to retain the fine facility on Pacific Ave., namely Mt. View Hospital as a TB center as well as a General Hospital for the State. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

A communication was submitted in regard to Information and Complaint Centers to provide information to citizens who come to the City Hall with a problem. Mayor Muesen asked that the Council consider this proposition.

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There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly seconded and passed the meeting adjourned at 10:15 P. M.

A. L. Rasmussen
MAYOR

Attest: Josephine Melton
City Clerk