

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers
Tuesday, July 23rd, 1968

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rasmussen at 4 P. M.

Present on roll call 9: Banfield, Bott, Cvitanich, Finnigan, Herrmann, Johnson, Murtland, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen.
Absent 0.

The Flag Salute was led by Mr. Murtland.

Mrs. Banfield moved that the amendment to the Council minutes of the meeting of May 7th, 1968 be approved. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

Mr. Finnigan moved that the word amendment be changed to addendum to the minutes of May 7th, 1968. Seconded by Dr. Herrmann. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Voice vote was taken on the motion to approve the addendum to the minutes of May 7th, 1968. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Murtland moved that the minutes of July 2nd, 1968 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mrs. Banfield said she would like to have a statement added to the minutes of May 7th, 1968.

Mayor Rasmussen asked Mrs. Banfield to bring this up under Comments.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 19798

Fixing Tuesday, August 6th, 1968 at 4 P. M. as the date for hearing for the annexation of property located on the S. W. corner of East 72nd St. and Portland Ave. (petition of Tacoma-Shamrock Inc.)

Mrs. Banfield moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19799

Fixing Tuesday, August 6th, 1968 at 4 P. M. as the date for hearing for the rezoning of the S. E. corner of No. 7th and Orchard Sts. from an "R-2" to an "R-4-L" District. (petition of Alfred R. Orlando)

Mrs. Banfield moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote.

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19800

Fixing Tuesday, August 20th, 1968 at 4 P. M. as the date for hearing on the vacation of So. 18th between Shirley and Winnifred Streets. (petition of Bill Mar Homes)

Mrs. Banfield moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote. Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19801

Fixing Monday Aug. 26th, 1968 at 4 P. M. as the date for hearing on L I D 6895 for street lights along 65th Ave. N. E. from 19th St. N. E. to 25th St. N. E. and other nearby streets.

Mrs. Banfield moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich.

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote. Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19802

Awarding contract to Grinnell Construction Co. on its bid of \$3,050.00 for W. O. 55770.

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

The Resolution was passed unanimously by voice vote. Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19803

Rejecting the bid of L I D 4821 as it exceeded the Engineer's estimate.

Mr. Finnigan moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Banfield.

Mr. Schuster, Director of Public Works, explained there was only one bid received for this project and it exceeded the engineer's estimate. He said the department intends to re-advertise but it will be later in the summer as more bids will be received.

Mayor Rasmussen stated he understood the L I D fund is exhausted for this year. He wondered how much would have to be supplemented to allow further improvements.

Mr. Schuster stated that the policy of the Council has been to match approximately 25%.

Mayor Rasmussen asked Mr. Rowlands why a request for an emergency ordinance has not been submitted to the City Council in regard to this matter.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained he was familiar with this situation and he would request that a study session be held next Monday noon, July 29th, 1968

to review with the City Council the matching fund program for L I D's and Urban Arterials.

Mayor Rasmussen requested that Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, draft an emergency ordinance appropriating \$100,000 out of surplus funds to the L I D improvement fund for the Council to peruse.

Mr. Rowlands asked that the study session next Monday noon also take up priorities for the Ruston Way Program.

The Resolution was unanimously adopted by voice vote.
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19804

Amending Rule 5 of the Rules of the Government of the City Council.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Banfield.

The Resolution was set over for one week according to the Rules of the Government of the City Council.

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Resolution No. 19805

Authorizing the City of Tacoma to participate in the "Operation Mainstream" work program of the U. S. Dept. of Labor.

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

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained that the program of Operation Mainstream has had a fair degree of success as out of the (21) positions approved for Tacoma for 1968, (12) persons have been hired full time, (4) from the City and (8) by private industry.

The Resolution was passed by voice vote.
Ayes 7: Bott, Finnigan, Herrmann, Johnson, Murtland, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen.
Nays 2: Banfield and Cvitanich. Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19806

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to transfer certain real property in the area of So. 15th St. and Sprague Ave. on the records of the City of Tacoma from the Transit Dept. to the Dept. of Public Works.

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

The Resolution was unanimously passed by voice vote.
Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19807

Authorizing the proper officers of the City to transfer \$49,200.00 from the Project Expenditure Account, Wash. R-14 to the Street & Bridge Fund of 1958 for certain properties in the area of So. 10th and Pacific Ave.

Dr. Herrmann moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan. Mr. James Wright, Urban Renewal Director, explained, under the current design that is being worked out with the Parking Corporation a garage is included starting at a 50 foot distance from the Rust Bldg. and running to within 50 or 55 feet of 9th Street, leaving an open space development at either end. He further stated, that the Street and Bridge Fund Bonds were used to purchase this particular piece of property in 1960. This resolution, proposes to reimburse the Bridge fund in the amount of \$29,200.00 from the Urban Renewal Project Expenditure Account of Wash. R-14.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, explained the Bond fund was voted on by the people in 1958 for the extension and betterment of the street system, including the escalades. This \$49,200.00 will reimburse the Bond fund, as this amount of money was borrowed from the fund to purchase the right-of-way for the escalades. It is now proposed that the land be sold to Urban Renewal to complete the assemblage of the land for the off-street parking garages.

The Resolution was passed by voice vote.

Ayes 7: Bott, Finnigan, Herrmann, Johnson, Murtland, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen.

Nays 2: Banfield and Cvitanich. Absent 0.

Resolution No. 19808

Expressing the opinion of the City Council that the lowering of the requirements for an examination for Police Patrolman from that of a high school diploma to that of a certificate of (GED) test is detrimental to the morale of the members of the Tacoma Police Dept. and not in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Tacoma.

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Mr. Zatkovich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mrs. Banfield. Mr. Zatkovich stated that Ed Cutler, President of the Tacoma Police Union was here to express the opinion of the rank and file policemen relative to the GED test in place of a high school diploma for Police Patrolmen examinations.

Mr. Bott asked if the Police Dept. at this time had any officers who had passed the GED examinations for their appointments.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, stated that (14) officers had joined the force with an educational level of less than high school graduation. He mentioned that the grade level of the officers ranges from the 8th to 11th grade with one having a GED certificate. These appointments were made between 1942 and 1947. He added, this last call for applications netted 127 applicants, out of the 127 applicants there were 26 persons with GED certificates.

Mr. Zatkovich said there is no question that standards had to be waived during the war period, however, his point is, that today, there are sufficient high school graduates for existing vacancies and the minimum requirements should be raised.

Mr. Rowlands felt that persons who returned to their schooling and passed the GED test might have a higher motivation than traditional graduates.

Dr. Herrmann felt if this resolution is passed, the Council would be denying some potential, highly-motivated individual from even taking the examination and possibly becoming a police officer.

Mr. Frank Russell, residing at 1728 Karl Johan Rd., President of the Local NAACP chapter, felt this resolution should not be passed because candidates with GED certificates should be allowed to take the police examination, whether white or black.

Mr. Edward W. Cutler, President of the Tacoma Police Union, spoke and pointed out that the Police membership was violently opposed to use of the GED certificate. He stated that 70% of all police departments require a police candidate to have a high school diploma. He quoted an article that advocates college requirements for Policemen will be in order in the next few years.

Dr. Herrmann felt that the Union in opposing this so violently is stating that a man who has a GED certification is not as intelligent or as mentally mature as an individual who has a high school diploma. He just did not believe this could be true.

Mayor Rasmussen asked the procedure of the Civil Service Board and Civil Service examination.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, explained that under the City Charter the duty and obligation of providing for a merit system is given to the Civil Service Board. They promulgate the rules and regulations and also the ordinances which are then recommended to the City Council. They also have the responsibility of seeing that the proper qualifications are administered as directed. The City Council recommends to the Board and the Board does have the final decision on establishing a list.

Mr. Johnson stated he did not approve of the GED test if it is to be given by just anyone.

Mr. Rowlands stated he had been informed the GED tests are administered by School officials, Army officials and if the Personnel Dept. of the City was under some reciprocal agreement with the schools, they could perhaps administer them.

A number of persons spoke from the audience in favor of the GED tests.

Mr. Bott suggested that this resolution be postponed until someone from the Tacoma School District could come to address the Council in this regard.

Mr. Johnson stated he would support any desire that Mr. Zatkovich has to increase standards, but he did feel they were maintaining existing standards and were not lowering them.

After further discussion, Mr. Finnigan moved to postpone the resolution for two weeks, until Aug. 6th, 1968. Seconded by Mr. Bott. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Zatkovich questioned whether Mr. Rowlands, City Manager and the Personnel Dept. had abided by the City Charter in allowing the GED test in place of a high school diploma. He therefore asked that Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, determine if the Civil Service Board had approved acceptance of the GED for police candidates.

Dr. Herrmann asked if the Council has the power to hold off this examination for Police Patrolmen for two weeks.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, stated the examination could be held if the Civil Service Board decides that it should be given, however, the Council can suggest to them that it should be held up.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 18630

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by adding a new section 13.06.120-51 to include property at the S. W. corner of So. 15th & Sprague Ave. in a "C-1" District. (petition of Luzon John Mondau)

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 18629

Amending Section 13.06.010 of the official code of the City of Tacoma defining car washing facilities.

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

Ayes 9: Banfield, Bott, Cvitanich, Finnigan, Herrmann, Johnson, Murtland, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen.

Nays 0: Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

UNFINISHED and/or NEW BUSINESS:

a. The Director of Public Works presents the assessment roll for the cost of the improvement in L I D 6886 for street lights between So. 12th & 19th Sts. from Stevens to Proctor St.

Mrs. Banfield moved that Monday, August 26th, 1968 at 4 P. M. be set as the date of hearing for the assessment roll for L I D 6886. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mayor Rasmussen stated that Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, was to inform him about the status of an application by the Tacoma-Pierce County Opportunity Development Inc. for a federal grant in the amount of approximately \$200,000 to set up a rat-control program.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained a check had been made with the Health Dept. and the County-City Health Dept. would continue to administer the rodent-control operation, however, he had had no word as to whether the City of Tacoma would be among the cities receiving the federal grant.

Mayor Rasmussen said he had been informed that the ODI plans to establish an organization with a director, two assistants and two secretaries. He felt such a step would be wasteful and a duplication, as the City has its own rat control program.

Mayor Rasmussen asked why some of the budget surplus has not been spent to escalate the war on rats.

Mr. C. Gaisford, Director of Finance, explained it is his duty to predict revenues eighteen months in advance and in reviewing the Finance Department's report it is shown that the \$237,000 is being used in the 1969 budget.

Mayor Rasmussen stated he could not understand why the surplus is placed in the budget for next year when the rat-control problem has been escalating and the matching funds for the L I D program have been depleted.

b. Request from Lyle Green asking to make a presentation to the City Council relative to the City Manager.

Mayor Rasmussen asked Mr. Green who was in the audience, if he had signed the letter that he submitted to the City Council.

Mr. Green stated he had authorized Mrs. Lucille Hurst to sign his letter because he was out of town last week.

Mayor Rasmussen said the new Rules adopted by the Council would rule Mr.

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Green's request invalid, and out of order as he or his secretary had not signed the letter. He asked that Mr. Green send a letter to the Council signed by himself if he wished to address the Council.

Mr. Johnson appealed the decision of the Chair.

Mr. Bott and Mr. Murtland stated, they were satisfied that Mrs. Hurst was acting as Mr. Green's secretary pro-tem.

Roll call was taken on whether the ruling of the Chair shall be sustained, resulting as follows: Ayes 4: Banfield, Cvitanich, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen Nays 5: Bott, Finnigan, Herrmann, Johnson and Murtland. Absent 0. Motion Lost.

Mr. Green presented petitions to the City Council asking that Mr. Rowlands be retained as City Manager.

c. Virginia Shackelford, President of the Tacoma-Hilltop Citizens Assoc. requesting to speak on the matter of the misuse of taxpayers money and a matter concerning the Tacoma-Hilltop Citizens Association.

Mrs. Shackelford read from the June 25th, 1968 Congressional Record regarding proliferation of federal programs. She was concerned about the Narcotic Center in the City and how the federal monies will be spent. She felt that the representatives from our City Council on the Puget Sound Regional Conference should look into this matter as it does involve the taxpayers money. Also that they ask Governor Evans about the Puget Sound Regional Drug Abuse Agency.

Mayor Rasmussen requested Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, to contact the State Attorney General in regard to this new agency.

Mrs. Shackelford filed more petitions with the Council contending that a dangerous precedent was set when Mr. Rowlands allowed the Model Cities grant application to be enlarged without Council's approval.

Mrs. Shackelford also stated the Tacoma-Hilltop Citizens Association are questioning enforcement of the law in that area. She also asked about the incorporation of the K St., Tri-Mart and East Side areas. She felt this could not be done within a City.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, explained that a section of a City cannot be incorporated as a City within a City. Clubs as non-profit organizations or societies incorporate under the corporation laws of the State.

Mrs. Shackelford stated that thieves had ransacked every garage in the 38th to 40th St. area in the alley just two days after pictures were taken. She wondered if the material that the Housing Improvement Agents gathered was filed away in the Public Works offices, and if it were public information.

Mayor Rasmussen stated he knew that the City employees had no connection to any robberies and any material was public information.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained that the Dept. of Public Works and the Housing Improvement Agents have been particularly conscientious that the property owners are home when any pictures are to be taken.

COMMENTS BY THE CITY COUNCIL:

Mr. Cvitanich inquired when the Annual report from the Fire Dept. would be submitted.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, stated that he would look into the matter but he felt that details are being compiled at this time.

Mayor Rasmussen announced that the Council meets with the Civic Arts Commission on Wednesday, July 24th, 1968 at Noon.

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Mr. Zatkovich requested that Mayor Rasmussen check with the Civil Service Board to ask if they did meet in reference to the GED tests.

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Mayor Rasmussen requested that Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, take care of this request so the Council can have an official reply.

Mrs. Banfield said she would like to make a statement regarding the discussion on Resolution No. 19690 of the May 7th, 1968 minutes; that the taxpayers paid approximately \$226,000 for these escalades and these escalades consist of one set of escalades, one going up and one going down and that the overall cost was approximately \$873,000. The \$226,000 was to take care of this particular set of escalades only. Mrs. Banfield said she brought this up as she felt it would be of benefit to the Council in the future.

ITEMS & REPORTS FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK:

- a. Joint report on Suggestion Systems of the City of Tacoma for 1967.
- b. Fire Dept. report for the month of May 1968.
- c. Tacoma Police Dept. report for the month of June 1968.

Mr. Bott moved that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan. Voice vote taken. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 P. M.

Carl Rasmussen
MAYOR

Attest: *Josephine Melton*
City Clerk

After further discussion roll call was taken on the resolution, resulting as follows:
Ayes: Bott, Finnigan, Harrmann, Johnson, Kurcland & Mayor Rasmussen.
Nays: Zatkovich and Zatkovich. Absent: Banfield.
The Resolution was declared passed by the Chairmen.