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CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Public Utilities Building Auditorium, 4:00 P. M.
Tuesday, November 21st, 1967

Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 9: Banfield, Bott, Sviranich, Finnigen, Herrmann, Johnson, Murtland, Zatkovich and Mayor Rasmussen. 60-269

Mayor Rasmussen announced that the newly elected Council members will now be sworn in by the City Clerk. The oath of office was administered to Mayor Rasmussen and the newly elected Council members.

Mr. Clayton Brook's of AmVets Post #1 led the Salute to the Flag.

Dr. Lindsey of the First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

Mayor Rasmussen introduced the Council members to the audience and thanked the Utilities Dept. for use of the auditorium.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, introduced the City Department Heads.

Mr. Cliff Erdahl, Director of Utilities, introduced members of the Utility Dept.

Mayor Rasmussen announced that he had resigned his Senate seat in the 28th District of Pierce County.

Mr. Clay Patterson, presenting the Washington Disabilities Incorporation, presented a personal gift to Mayor Rasmussen.

Mr. Patterson explained that this incorporation was new and no one is employed by them unless they have a disability. He added, they expect to hold classes in PBX operating, manufacturing of signs and a variety of other instructional courses including radio and telephone operating

Mayor Rasmussen thanked Mr. Patterson for his presents.

The regular order of the agenda was then taken up.

Mr. Bott moved that the minutes of the meeting of November 8th, 1967 be approved as submitted. Seconded by Dr. Herrmann. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Johnson moved that the City Council ratify the action of the Mayor in calling the meeting of the Council in the Utility Building auditorium, instead of in the Council Chambers in the County City Bldg. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

HEARINGS & APPEALS:

a. This is the date set for hearing on the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for floor area regulations in the "B" (Downtown) Business District.

Mr. Buehler, Director of Planning, explained that the three hearings on this agenda are related and are being heard on the same date.

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No protests being made, Mr. Finnigan moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve this text amendment and that the proper ordinance be drafted approving same. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

b. This is the date set for hearing on the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment for Off-Street Loading.

No protests being made, Mr. Finnigan moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve this text amendment and that the proper ordinance be drafted approving same. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

c. This is the date set for hearing for the vacation of Court "A" between So. 12th and So. 13th Street, submitted by the National Bank of Washington.

Mr. Buehler introduced Mr. Goodwin Chase, President of the National Bank of Washington.

Mr. Chase congratulated the Mayor and the newly elected members of the City Council.

He explained that approximately two years ago the National Bank of Washington undertook to develop plans to build a high-rise building in the City of Tacoma. A number of locations were studied and the one selected was all of Court "A" between So. 12th and So. 13th Street. Two leases from national concerns are being negotiated upon and if these go through they intend to build a 30-story building. If only one of the leases is obtained, it would be a 25-story building. If neither of the leases are obtained, it would be a 22-story building.

Mr. Chase continued, the National Bank of Washington will utilize the space by domiciling their State wide bank administrative force as well as its main banking facilities in this building. The remainder of the building would be used for office space. In considering this project, there are many matters of economics involved, one of which is the size and dimension of the buildings, unfortunately, the streets between A and Pacific Ave. are only 100 feet deep. He said he would like to have Mr. James Egley, Vice President of the Bank of Washington, whose title is, Corporate and Bank Planning, make further explanations.

Mr. Egley presented a summary of the proposed building project. He noted that the two buildings which they now occupy are completely inadequate for their needs. It is planned that the bank will occupy eight to ten stories of the projected office tower. A survey of the local rental market has been made and physical areas have also been studied. They have engaged the firm of Skidmore, Owens and Merrill, architects who are internationally known to design the high-rise office building. They have anticipated that a square tower with a center core provides for the most efficient use of office space in this type of a building. In addition, it provides tenants with an outside exposure on all four sides.

Mr. Egley further stated they could not build a high-rise office tower under the City code at the present time. The tower would be somewhere between 280 and 350 feet in height. The height allowed in the code is only 150 feet. Off-street loading under the present code presents another problem as they would have to have a minimum of 16 individual truck loading positions for this tower, which would not be practical unless the ordinance is amended.

Mr. Egley continued, because of the type of business they are in, considerable parking for their customers is needed and to provide for teller drive-in facilities with back-up areas for persons to get to the window, also for tenants in the building who will need parking space for their customers. The recommendations of the Planning Commission will be observed, he added. The traffic pattern within the

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area has also been studied in conjunction with System 6 of the State Highway Dept. He noted that they did not want to build a building from sidewalk to sidewalk and pointed out on a scale model the aesthetics planned. He stated it is hoped that the Council would recommend the approval of the proposed high-rise building.

Mr. Buehler explained the ratio of parking for the proposed building.

Mayor Rasmussen asked when this building would be completed.

Mr. Egley explained that it would take six months to relocate the utilities before they could start construction.

Mayor Rasmussen asked if the Freeway entrances and exists have been finalized.

Mr. Buehler said this had not been finalized. He noted the Planning Dept. staff has worked with the architects for the National Bank of Washington.

Mr. Gordon N. Johnston, architect, and Vice Pres. of the Planning Commission, stated they felt the time has long since elapsed for the opening up of the business area to the citizens of Tacoma. They were delighted to see local investors propose this type of development in the downtown core. There are now prospects of high-rise buildings in Tacoma and yet, retaining the street level for the use of the public. He felt it was vital to eliminate the trucks on the street by using the off-street loading so the streets can be used as they were properly designed.

Mayor Rasmussen asked, in the event the Supreme Court would not approve Urban Renewal on Pacific Ave., what would be done with the parking situation.

Mr. Buehler explained the developers are aware of this probability and would take care of the parking themselves.

Mr. Finnigan felt anyone planning a development of this type would certainly be cognizant of the parking needs in the downtown area and provide for same.

Mr. Finnigan moved to concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission to approve the vacation and that the proper ordinance be drafted approving same. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Mr. Cvitanich said that several items should be considered, (1) where are the downtown parking garages in relation to this building; (2) how does this tie into the overall Downtown Urban Renewal Project. Mr. Cvitanich thought that the hearing should be postponed for two weeks to allow the new Council members an opportunity to avail themselves of this information.

Mr. McCormick, City Attorney, advised that the Ordinance will be given two readings before it is passed and this will allow sufficient time to check any information that is available.

PETITIONS:

a. Petition submitted by James M. Cronen requesting rezoning of the property on the south side of So. 72nd St. between Ash & Alaska Sts. from an "R-4-L" to an "R-2" District.

b. Petition submitted by Marvin E. Boys requesting rezoning of the property on the south side of So. 47th between Pine & Oakes and the S. W. corner of So. 47th & Oakes St. from an "R-2" to a "C-1" District.

Referred to the Planning Commission.

c. Petition with approximately 190 signatures requesting that bus service be established to the following areas: Starting at 74th & Oakes, thence east to Sprague Ave.; south on Sprague to 84th; west on 84th to Lawrence; north on Lawrence to 82nd; then west on 82nd to So. Tacoma Way; north on So. Tacoma Way to the City of Tacoma via the Tacoma Mall.

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Mayor Rasmussen asked that the Planning Commission review this request, as well as the Transit Dept.

Mr. Glenn Mills, owner of the Trailer Court known as Glenmar Mobile Home Estates, stated he had been trying to get bus service in this area for the past five years. These signatures were basically signed by the people in the Glenmar Mobile Home Estate, the Star Trailer Court and a housing project. They have bus service from Ft. Lewis but there is no transfer facilities.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the petition be referred to the Transit Dept. for their recommendation. Seconded by Mr. Bott. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 19196 (postponed from the meeting of June 13th, 1967)

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

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Mayor Rasmussen stated the Council has received a letter from the attorney of Tacoma Realty Inc., requesting a delay on this resolution for two weeks.

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Mr. Finnigan moved that Resolution No. 19196 be postponed until Tuesday, Dec. 5th, 1967 at 4 P. M. Seconded by Mr. Bott. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

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Resolution No. 19445

Fixing Tuesday December 19, 1967 at 4 P. M. as the date for hearing for the vacation of So. 14th St. between Union Ave. and the alley lying immediately west thereof. (petition of Public Works Dept.)

Mr. Finnigan moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Johnson.

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

Resolution No. 19446

Authorizing the Mayor of the City of Tacoma to file an application with the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development for Urban beautification and improvement of open-space and other public urban land in the estimated amount of \$8,562.00.

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

Mr. Cvitanich asked if the new members of the Council had had an opportunity to study the Urban Beautification program as outlined.

Mrs. Banfield and Mr. Zatkovich felt they would like to have more time to study the program.

Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, explained that the federal money would go toward the General Government and Utility Dept. beautification projects for 1968. He felt it was essential that this resolution be adopted as it involves projects for the Schools, Park District and Port of Tacoma.

Mr. Stevens, Federal-State Coordinator, explained he felt delay in adopting this resolution would jeopardize the application to the federal government.

Mayor Rasmussen felt, perhaps, the Council should curtail requests for federal funds.

Mr. Johnson thought if the money was available, the City should apply for it.

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Dr. Herrmann moved that Resolution No. 19446 be delayed for one week, until Nov. 28th, 1967 at 4 P. M. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19447

Adopting the Beautification Program of the City of Tacoma for the year 1968.

Dr. Herrmann moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Cvitanich. Mr. Cvitanich moved to postpone Resolution No. 19447 until Nov. 28th, 1967 at 4 P. M. Seconded by Dr. Herrmann. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 19448

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. 129

Mr. Cvitanich moved that the resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Finnigan. Mr. Rowlands explained that medical services must be given to the inmates of both the County and City jails. This is a program to obtain medical service on a 24-hour basis. It is no longer possible to automatically admit a patient from the jails to Mt. View Hospital.

Dr. Kredel, Director of Health, stated the services even at Mt. View Hospital have never been completely gratis. Due to a number of circumstances facing Mt. View Hospital, it is not possible to receive medical attention.

He added, Dr. Bryan M. Archer and other physicians have asked that this agreement be executed which provides emergency medical care for inmates of the City and County jails. The charges would be based on the regular medical bureau fee.

Dr. Kredel also explained the plan for in-patients and out-patients from the jails. The emergency room at St. Joseph's Hospital is used more often than any other, but if the victim requires hospitalization, he is transferred to Mt. View Hospital. He said the County Commissioners are anxious to have the facilities of Mt. View Hospital utilized, otherwise the overhead will become more burdensome.

Ruth Paul of 1528 East 64th, stated she was a member of Local #120, State-County-Municipal Employees Union, and they were very interested in the decision about Mt. View Hospital, as it does effect some of their union members. She stated that the union, perhaps, can do much in recommending that an emergency facility be located at Mt. View Hospital for all City purposes.

Mrs. Banfield moved to postpone Resolution No. 19448 until Dec. 5th, 1967 at 4 P. M. Seconded by Mr. Bott. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 18436

Vacating the north 188 feet more or less of the alley between Sawyer St. and Cushman Ave. from So. 28th to Center St. (petition of Caballero's Club)

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

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Ordinance No. 18437

Vacating South Houghton Way between So. 42nd & So. 43rd St. (petition of Realbon Corporation et al)

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 18438

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the official code by adding a new section 13.06.045-8 to include property on the N. E. corner of Ea. 72nd & K Sts. in an "R-2-T" District. (petition of Salvatore A. Giusti, DDS)

The ordinance was placed in order of final reading

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 18428

Amending Section 2.02.020 and repealing and re-enacting Section 2.02.430 of the official code relative to up dating the springling section of the Uniform Bldg. Code.

Dr. Herrmann explained he had a discussion with one of the Doctors who was concerned about this ordinance. A suggestion was made that sprinklers not be installed in areas where a life of a patient may be in danger. He wondered if an amendment could be made to the ordinance whereby sprinkling systems would not be required in three areas, namely, the department of surgery, laboratories and x-ray. The reason for omitting the system in these departments is the fact that even drinking water on a patient during an operation would be detrimental to his health. In the laboratory and x-ray departments, thousands of dollars of valuable equipment could be ruined by water. In all of these units they are supplied with carbon dioxide fire extinguishers.

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Mayor Rasumussen asked that the ordinance be held over for one week so this amendment could be studied.

Dr. Herrmann moved to postpone this ordinance for one week, until Nov. 28th, 1967. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 18429

Establishing an Urban Arterial Street Fund to conform to Chapter 83 of the Extra Ordinary Session Laws of 1967.

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

Ayes 8; Nays 1, Banfield; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18431

Vacating East B Street between Ea. 86th and 88th St. extended. (Tacoma School Dist. #10--Larchmont School)

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

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Ordinance No. 18432

Providing for the improvement of L I D 6878 for street lighting between So. 56th & 64th Street from Park Ave. to Pacific Avenue.

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman

Ordinance No. 18433

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 6864 for street lighting on East 57th to 63rd and from McKinley Ave. to East K Street.

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18434

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 5421 for water mains in Roosevelt Ave. from Ea. 68th to a point 773 feet south of the south line of Ea. 68th Street.

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

Ordinance No. 18435

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 5428 for water mains in No. 33rd St. from 515 feet east of Pearl to Shirley St., Shirley St. from No. 33rd to No. 35th & No. 35th from Shirley west 270 feet.

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed by the Chairman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The Director of Public Works presents the assessment roll for the cost of L I D 4796 for paving on Mildred St. from 6th Ave. to So. 19th Street.

Mr. Finnigan moved that Monday, Jan. 8th, 1967 at 4 P. M. be fixed as the date for hearing on the assessment roll for L I D 4796. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.

REPORTS:

- a. Puget Sound Regional Transportation Study-Recommendations to 1990.
- b. Puget Sound Regional Transportation Study-Summary Report.
- c. Tacoma Police Dept. report for the month of Oct. 1967.
- d. Municipal Court report during the month of Oct. 1966 & 1967.

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COMMENTS:

Mayor Rasmussen read the following to the Council:

It is my understanding that Chapter 1.19 of the official code of the City of Tacoma provides that the term of the Deputy Mayor is the same as the term of the Mayor and that, consequently, the office of Deputy Mayor is now vacant due to the termination of Dr. Herrmann's term.

It is further my understanding that a new Deputy Mayor should now be elected by the Council to serve concurrent with my term as Mayor.

Mr. Murtland moved that Dr. Herrmann be nominated to the office of Deputy Mayor. Seconded by Mr. Johnson. Voice vote taken. MOTION LOST.

Mr. Cvitanich moved that Mr. Bott be nominated to the office of the Deputy Mayor. Seconded by Mr. Zatkovich. Voice vote taken. MOTION CARRIED. ✓

Mayor Rasmussen declared Mr. Bott elected to the office of Deputy Mayor.

Deputy Mayor Bott thanked the Councilmen and stated he will fill his office to the best of his ability.

Mr. Andrew McDonald of 2356 So. Ainsworth Ave., remarked his residence is included in the Hilltop area and he has lived there approximately forty years. He asked if something could be done relative to the chuck holes in the City streets pointing out that some are from six to eight inches deep.

Mayor Rasmussen stated the matter will be taken care of as soon as possible. ✓ 60 x 239

Mayor Rasmussen submitted a resolution relative to changes in Council Rules of the Government to the Council. He suggested a number of changes and stated that any Councilman could submit amendments to the rules by next week if he wished, as the Resolution will be included on the agenda at that time. ✓ 114

Mayor Rasmussen read the following statement to the Council:

"One of the planks of my campaign and upon which I was elected as Mayor of the City of Tacoma was that I would place before the voters of the City of Tacoma as soon as possible a proposition for a strong mayor-council government, in place of the present council-manager form, and amendments to our present Charter to accomplish this purpose are now in the process of being prepared and will be presented to the Council at an early date."

"The strong mayor concept of government is in direct conflict with the philosophy of the council-manager form of government and, particularly, of the present City Manager, David D. Rowlands. I believe that his continuance in office, in view of the plain intent of the voters of the City, would lead to confusion, dissension, and noncooperation in the carrying on of the business of the City, and I believe that, under these circumstances and in fairness to the voters of Tacoma and in the best interests of the City, the City Manager should resign from his office of City Manager." ✓

"It is further my understanding that, under Section 3.1 of the Tacoma City Charter, the City Council by a vote of five of its members has a right to remove the City Manager."

Mr. Cvitanich felt the elimination of the Council-Manager form of government may solve the problem, but not by eliminating the individual.

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Dr. Herrmann pointed out that if the Mayor had received a mandate to abolish Council-Manager Government, then he had won a reverse mandate, since he had supported the system.

Mr. Johnson felt this would be a poor way of starting off, if and when the people change the system, that would be another matter. In the meantime, he did not know where a better manager could be found.

Mr. Murtland moved that Mr. Rowlands, City Manager, be invited to sit at his usual place at the next Council meeting. Seconded by Mr. Johnson

Mr. Bott moved to postpone action on this request. No second.

Mr. Murtland said he was trying to set up a proper procedure for the Council and that a motion was in order.

Mr. Bott requested that Mayor Rasmussen give his reasons for Mr. Rowlands to sit with the Department Directors.

Mayor Rasmussen stated, Mr. Rowlands was on an equal basis with Mr. Erdahl, Director of the Utility Dept. and Mr. Benedetti, Assistant Director. He felt he would function better by sitting with his staff, and the Council as elected officials should have the entire staff in front of them available for questioning.

Mr. Bott felt this was a matter of executive decision.

Mr. Zatkovich remarked that the City's former manager, Frank Backstrom had sat with the staff and he felt this was proper.

Voice vote was taken on Mr. Murtland's motion MOTION LOST.

Mr. Bott felt this should not be any personal reflection on Mr. Rowlands or his ability.

Mr. Rowlands explained he had received a letter from Knight, Vale and Gregory, Auditors, in regard to the Annual Management Audit. He asked that the Council set up a date to review possible areas on the normal running audit. In order that the work can be completed by the end of December, a meeting should be called as soon as possible.

Mayor Rasmussen thanked Mr. Rowlands.

Mayor Rasmussen asked for the following reports:

1. Mayor Rasmussen asked that a report be submitted to the City Council at the next Council meeting, or shortly thereafter; who prepared the report of the blighted areas in the City, designated on a colored map.
2. A list of all City owned property and vacant lots that can be used, or could be used as playgrounds.
3. A list of Boards and Commissions with the background material of all of the members of various Boards and Commissions in the City.
4. A report from the appropriate agency as to what can be accomplished to establish a uniform speed limit in the City.
5. Establish a 25 cent fine box for overtime parking.
6. Whether or not it would be advisable to abolish the meter maids and replace them by police personnel on three-wheelers, and try to place the meter maids in other positions.
7. Consideration by the Council to change the Council meetings from 4 P. M. to 7 P. M. in the evening.

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8. What changes could be made on the one-way streets in Tacoma to expedite traffic and help business.

9. In line with Mr. Rowland's recommendation, we would probably want to consider a full audit report for the past number of years, so we could have an accumulative total on the amount spent on various projects, including the Airport and Urban Renewal; and to refresh the Council on the cost of the Escalades.

10. Request that the names of the Mayor and City Council be placed on the Mayor's door to read: Mayor, A. L. "Slim" Rasmussen and then list the Council member's names.

11. Some consideration be given as to whether services of a Public Information officer are needed for the City Council.

12. A report in line with what Mr. MacDonald, a citizen, asked about, what could be done with the chuck-holes in the City streets, pointing out that some of them are six to eight inches deep.

13. A report from Mr. Schuster, Public Works Director, for the next Council meeting, on how fast the City can relieve congestion on 38th St. where traffic is now backing up out into the Freeway.

14. The Charter changes are now being prepared and will be discussed with the Council.

These are matters that are of prime interest, he added.

Mr. Cvitanich asked if it would be possible to go back to the Council's old seating arrangement. He thought it would make for a quicker roll call.

Mayor Rasmussen said this would be considered.

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Mr. David Showalter, a citizen, felt it was the Mayor's responsibility to pursue the matter relative to Mr. Rowland's continued service and not the responsibility of the City Council.

Mayor Rasmussen stated that he had information that Mr. Rowlands was to become the King County Manager, if and when they amend their charter. Mayor Rasmussen remarked that Mr. Rowlands had other positions offered to him but he did not wish to reveal them at this time.

Mr. Rowlands asked that he speak for the record. Mr. Rowlands remarked that he is reluctant to make any comment, but he categorically denies the statements made by Mayor Rasmussen relative to positions offered and other matters. He added, he did not mind criticism but he does resent misinformation simulated.

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Mayor Rasmussen remarked that he did not question Mr. Rowlands character as he considered his personal conduct excellent.

Mr. Finnigan stated that the City Council has rules and regulations to follow and felt that the Council should be consulted on all matters for a smooth working continuity and asked that this policy be adhered to hereafter.

There being no further business to come before the Council, upon motion duly seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 P. M.

Attest: Josephine Melton
City Clerk

A. L. Rasmussen
MAYOR