

City Council Chambers, 4:00 P.M.
Monday, January 25, 1960

The City Council met in regular session. Present on roll call 8:
Anderson, Bratrud, Easterday, Goering, Humiston, Perdue, Price and Mayor Hanson.
Absent 1, Porter. Porter coming in at 4:15 P.M.

Dr. Humiston moved that the minutes of the meeting of January 18, 1960
be approved as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Easterday. Voice vote was taken on the
motion resulting as follows: Ayes 8; Nays 0; Absent 1, Porter.

Mayor Hanson said before proceeding with the regular order of business,
he would like to introduce Miss Yamaguchi, a visitor from Tacoma's Sister City Kokura,
Japan. Mayor Hanson welcomed Miss Yamaguchi to Tacoma and wished her the best and
offered her Tacoma's facilities in making her stay profitable and enjoyable.

Mayor Hanson also thanked Dr. and Mrs. Humiston for their having made
it possible for Miss Yamaguchi to be present.

Mayor Hanson asked Dr. Humiston if he would like to make a few remarks
on how the Sister City Program is progressing.

Dr. Humiston said the Sister City Program is developed far enough now
that it is safe to say Tacoma is going to have a creditable exhibit. There are still
a few details to be worked out at another meeting which will be held Tuesday, January
26th at 4:00 P.M.

Mayor Hanson thanked Dr. Humiston and John Anderson for all their efforts
in arranging this program.

Miss Yamaguchi presented a letter from the Mayor of Kokura to Mayor
Hanson and a copy to John Anderson in which he extended his personal greetings and
expressed his gratitude for the Sister City Program.

PETITIONS:

Petition of Frank Lasswell requesting the rezoning of property located
on the north side of 6th Avenue bounded on the west by Cheyenne Street and the east
by Verde Street. 513

Referred to the Planning Commission.

Porter coming in at this time.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 16013:

BY PERDUE:

Authorizing the transfer of various items within the same class in the
1959 Budget.

It was moved by Mr. Anderson that the Resolution be adopted, Seconded
by Dr. Humiston.

Mr. Rowlands said this is one of the annual transfers. He explained it

is difficult to estimate a year a head of time how much money to budget for each department item. Consequently certain items are over-expended and certain surpluses accrue. Therefore it is necessary to transfer between the items within the same class in the Budget for sufficient funds to balance these items.

Resolution Voice vote was taken on the motion to adopt the Resolution, resulting as follows:

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

25 Resolution No. 16014:

L I D 3507

BY PORTER:

Fixing Wednesday, February 24, 1960 at 4:00 P.M. as the date for hearing on L I D-3507 for sanitary sewers in Wilkeson from So. 73rd to So. 80th; Alaska from So. 74th to So. 80th and So. 80th from Alaska to Sprague Avenue.

It was moved by Dr. Humiston that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Rowlands said inasmuch as Monday, February 22nd is a holiday, the Council meeting and also the L I D Committee will have to be moved up one day. Therefore this is the reason the L I D Committee meeting is set for Wednesday.

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

Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

The Resolution was then declared adopted by the Chairman.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 16506:

Amending Sections 1.18.010, 020, 040 and repealing Section 1.18.050 of the Official Code of the City by changing the word "Acting" to "Deputy" Mayor. Read by title.

Mr. Easterday said research has revealed to him that "Deputy" means "assistant" whereas "pro tem" means "temporary" or "at intervals". Therefore he moved that the Ordinance be amended changing "Deputy Mayor" to "Mayor pro tem" as he felt this was more appropriate. Seconded by Mr. Porter.

Dr. Humiston said the difficulty that arises with both the terms "Acting Mayor" and "Mayor pro tem" is that when the title is mentioned it sounds as if the person were active at that time. There is not that objection to the term "Deputy Mayor" or "Vice Mayor." For that reason he would vote against the motion.

Mrs. Goering said she was Acting Mayor for three years and found it very awkward to explain to people what Acting Mayor meant, and was in favor of this Ordinance.

Vote was taken on Mr. Easterday's motion to change the word "Deputy" Mayor to Mayor "pro tem". Ayes 8; Nays 6, Anderson, Bratrud, Goering, Humiston, Perdue, Hansen; Absent 0. Lost on roll call.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 16507:

Authorizing the transfer of funds from certain categories to other categories from the 1959 Budget. Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands said when a transfer of funds is made between the same class it can be accomplished by a Resolution, but if a transfer of funds is made between separate categories it has to be made by Ordinance, which is done in this instance. The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

Ordinance No. 16508:

Authorizing the expenditure of certain moneys from unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$50,180.34 in the Public Works Revolving Fund and \$50,913.26 in the Equipment Rental Fund Account "A". Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands said it is impossible to anticipate how much money that is to come in from outside contracts, etc. It appears that in the operation of the Public Works Revolving Fund additional activities resulted in the receipt of revenues in excess of the estimated amount as set forth in the 1959 Budget. These increased activities require the expenditure of additional funds over and above the amount budgeted. This additional work is being paid for by the individuals and departments for whom the work was performed.

The Ordinance was then placed in order of final reading.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:Ordinance No. 16500:L I D 4657404
52.37

Providing for the improvement of L I D 4657 for permanent pavement on So. D Street from South 70th to South 72nd St. Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands said Mr. Schuster, Public Works Director, has submitted a report requested by Mrs. Price last week in reference to the comparative cost to both Mr. Hoffman and the other property owners in proceeding with this L I D versus proceeding with the minimum graded and gravelled street, with the paving to be accomplished at a later date.

The report stated that under this L I D method, Mr. Hoffman would pay approximately \$2,000 for his assessment in addition to the \$2,000 he has agreed to apply against the assessments of the rest of the property owners. Therefore, Mr. Hoffman's cost would be approximately \$4,000.

Under this agreement the property owners would be paying approximately \$4.75 per front foot instead of the usual \$6.50 per front foot.

The other plan which would require Mr. Hoffman to grade and gravel the street would cost him an approximate \$1000 in addition to the \$4,000 already expended by him.

This method would then cost the property owner \$5.00 per front foot.

Mr. Schuster stated in the report that it would appear the second alternative is more costly for both the property owners and for Mr. Hoffman. He felt the creation of the improvement under this L I D No. 4657 would be more economical for all concerned for the construction of a final paved street.

Mr. Perdue said he was on the committee when this L I D was heard and thought it should be mentioned that there were just as many people present at the L I D Meeting who were in favor of this L I D as those opposed. He said it does appear that

this L I D procedure will benefit the people more than the other method.

Mrs. Price said she was also satisfied this was the case but she had requested this information for the sake of the Council and the property owners.

Mrs. Royce, a property owner protesting the improvement, brought up the point of right of way in the area. She said according to records a survey of the Pacific Addition revealed it was off three feet and she wondered how this would affect the area in question.

Mr. Schuster explained that the City does not make a survey of any private property, but a survey would be made as to the location of the public street inside the right of way which will be made in the normal course of this L I D.

Mayor Hanson explained to Mrs. Royce that a report would be made and a copy sent to her on the matter. However, he said, this report will have no bearing on the passage of this Ordinance.

Mrs. Price said she certainly had no desire to impose any hardships upon the people in this area. However the protest to date on this L I D are only 48% and she felt that the majority should rule.

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

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Ordinance No. 16501:

Appropriating the sum of \$9,737.25 from the General Fund to the Police Relief and Pension Fund for the purpose of operating the activities of the Police Relief and Pension Fund, and declaring an emergency. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Ordinance No. 16502:

Appropriating the sum of \$4,465.09 from the General Fund for the purpose of paying the cost of operation of the Urban Renewal Coordinator and declaring an emergency. Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands asked that this be tabled, as the information was incomplete and somewhat erroneous that they received last week. The General Fund Urban Renewal appropriation for 1959 totaled \$13,933 and the expenditures totaled \$18,398, but the amount of money which will be re-embursed from Federal Funds to the General Fund is \$5,900. Therefore there is money set aside by the Federal Government apart from the Budget which will be taken and placed in the General Fund, leaving an unexpended balance of approximately \$554.00.

Mr. Anderson then moved that the Ordinance be tabled. Seconded by Mrs. Price. Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

Ordinance No. 16503:

Appropriating the sum of \$1,000 from the Public Works Revolving Fund-Asphalt Plant Category for the purpose of paying the costs of replacing the asphalt pumps, and declaring an emergency. Read by title.

Mr. Rowlands said the report Mr. Bratrud requested on the Asphalt Plant will be ready next week.

Roll call on the Ordinance, resulted as follows:

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

466

463

Ordinance No. 16504:L I D 4500

385

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 4500 for permanent paving including curbs and gutters and storm drains on Division Lane from Tacoma Avenue to Fawcett; Thompson from So. 50th to So. 56th; 46th Street from Thompson to K Street. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0

Ordinance No. 16505:L I D 4635

412

Approving and confirming the assessment roll for L I D 4635 for resurfacing with asphaltic concrete on Court C from So. 7th to St. Helens and from So. 9th to So. 13th. Read by title and passed.

Roll call: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Contract between the City of Tacoma and Tacoma Transit Co., and Employees Transit Association of Tacoma. 484

Mayor Hanson said he knew the Council members were aware of the general nature of the problems involved in the transit system.

Mr. Rowlands said he would like guidance from the Council on how to proceed in this matter. In the past there has been a subcommittee of Councilmen working on this problem and thought that perhaps further reports would be desired from such a committee.

Mayor Hanson said it was his feeling that an analysis of the problem be presented to the Council as soon as possible and at that time the matter of having a committee could be discussed more fully. On the other hand it may be necessary to have the committee work immediately to bring to light all the problems.

Mr. Rowlands said about eighteen months ago a considerable amount of information was compiled on this subject. No doubt there will be additional recommendations in light of this letter that just arrived from the Employees Transit Association of Tacoma.

Dr. Humiston said the most recent operating statements and balancing sheets the Council receives monthly shows the Company operating slightly and consistently in the black. The City has done everything suggested in a cooperative way beginning by cutting out the City's Gross Earnings Tax and eventually ending up with the Lease arrangement making it possible for the buses to drive around with D licenses. Also considerable support was given to induce the Legislature to delete the gasoline tax. The Company at the present time is operating in the black and the men are receiving a gross payment before deductions of \$2.24 an hour. If the operation continues as it is and the drivers continue to get \$2.24 an hour there is no emergency. If, on the other hand, the drivers are to have a substantial raise there isn't going to be enough money. The question is very simple - whether the City should step in and subsidize the operation one way or another in order to get the bus drivers a raise.

Mayor Hanson said the basic framework of the problem is quite clear although a clearer definition of the problem in terms of what the City might face in the immediate future would be desirable.

A member of the audience asked if the City of Tacoma takes the Transit Co. over, would the citizens of Tacoma be taxed for this subsidy out of the light department?

Mayor Hanson said State Law and the City Charter prohibits one utility from subsidizing another utility, so it would be impossible to subsidize this out of

light department funds. Any subsidy would come from the General Fund.

Mr. Rowlands said one of the difficulties is the agreement in the company whereby the employees are contributing so much monthly in purchasing stocks so that they will eventually own the rolling stock and the real property.

Mrs. Goering said it seems that if the City subsidizes the system it would be helping the employees to buy something for their own.

Dr. Humiston said what a private person does in the way of entering into a conditional sales contract is really no affair of any employer. However, their gross rate pay is of prime concern to the employer.

Mrs. Goering said she still wondered if it would be ethical to make a business a going concern in order to make it a good deal for its employees to buy.

Mr. Anderson said if the employees had not banded together to buy the system, the problem would have been in the City's lap a long time ago.

Mr. Porter said he has heard the reason the Company is in the black is that the employees are working below the prevailing wage,; so if they did insist on being paid the prevailing wage the Company would not be operating in the black. Perhaps the present rate of payment to buy the Company will not be sufficient to consummate the agreement and then the City might find itself without a transit system.

Mrs. Goering said it seemed to her the only way the City could subsidize the system would be to own it legally.

Mr. Porter said he was not suggesting subsidy but that the situation may become more important and perhaps drastically in the next few months.

Mrs. Price asked Mr. McCormick how far the City could go on this matter

Mr. McCormick said he attended quite a few of these hearings in order to work up this agreement and there were, and still are, a lot of legal problems involved in the purchasing of the Company: how it will be financed, the revenue, if General Obligation Bonds are used it will have to be put up to a vote of the people. All this has to be considered. Then the question is if the City will operate it and if the employees are City employees, then the Civil Service Rules will have to be considered, etc. There are countless legal problems. It depends on the method taken which will entail much research and work.

He added the City can not legally subsidize a private operation.

Mr. R. W. Clary, President of the Board of Trustees of the Transit Co. said they would like a subcommittee of the Councilmen appointed to assist in investigating the situation.

Mayor Hanson said he thought this matter of appointing a subcommittee should be postponed for one week. This would be a matter of digging into the facts and then presenting them to the Council. If a subcommittee will be of assistance in working out the facts, he was in favor of appointing such a committee.

Mr. Anderson said he was in favor of a committee being appointed immediately or else that the old committee be re-activated of which Dr. Humiston and Mr. Bratrud were members. He then moved that the old committee be re-activated consisting of Dr. Humiston, Mr. Bratrud and a third member to be appointed by the Mayor. Seconded by Mr. Ferdue.

A discussion held on the motion resulted in Mr. Porter moving to table the motion for one week for further investigation. Seconded by Mr. Easterday. Voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes 9; Nays 0; Absent 0.

ITEMS FOR FILING IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

Tacoma Police Department, Traffic Division report, for December 1959.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Rowlands distributed a second Inspection and Progress Report on the Baseball Project. 469
486

Mr. Rowlands distributed a letter from the Memorial Stadium Association in reference to the Stadium Bowl. The letter stated that it has come to the Association members attention that City Officials are predicting their approval of the first plans on the destruction of certain end sections of the seats in the bowl, on the basis of public safety. It was their understanding that the end sections in question could be repaired and used as part of the overall program of rebuilding and re-opening the Bowl as a memorial. The Association asked that a change in the City's policy in this instance be made or, at least, that the present ruling be delayed until the facts could be reviewed. 49:52

Mr. Rowlands said as the Council recalls the School Board did authorize an expenditure of \$60,000 to renovate a couple of sections of the Stadium Bowl. Plans have been drawn and meetings held with the Public Works Staff and especially with Les Willis, Building Inspector. It is a question of whether the end sections should be left in place even if they are barricaded. The Council certainly has the responsibility of any accidents that might occur. He said the City has attempted to work in every way possible with the School Board and the Stadium Association. He asked Mr. Gillis to give a brief report on the situation.

Mr. Gillis said several years ago the Stadium was condemned because of certain structural failures that occurred particularly in these end sections. He said the Department fears that even if barricaded, panic would result should the end sections collapse while the bowl is in use. The department had been asked by the architect, Mr. Pedersen, just what would be required by the City in connection with the renovation. After an inspection, the department had decided to require certain exit arrangements, soil tests in the closed end, to determine the stability of the slope, and the demolition of the seat sections at the open end.

Mr. Rowlands said the Council has a problem in this respect. The \$60,000 which the School Board has earmarked for this improvement, if its carried through and used for the rehabilitation of a certain number of seats, will in fact enable the games to be held there and the students and their families to sit in the Stadium. If the end sections are taken out, which would be the City's recommendation, apportion of the \$60,000 will be diverted and there will not be enough money left to rehabilitate the stands for the students. The only alternative would be to leave the end sections in, build a fence barricading the same and make it known to all who attend the games there is a possibility that the end sections might collapse.

Mr. Porter said the Stadium Association feels that if the money is spent on the rehabilitation of sufficient seats for the high school's use, private sources will donate additional funds to repair these end sections.

Dr. Humiston said he did not feel that the decision was within the Council's jurisdiction. He said it was a matter of the Public Works Department's judgment, as none of the Council members are engineers.

Mr. Rowlands said this was true but felt the Council members should be aware of the situation as they no doubt will be approached about the subject.

Mr. Bratrud said he felt the matter should stand as is until further information was received.

Mayor Hanson said the department's ruling would stand in effect therefore for the time being, but added the Council could consider it in the future since there is sufficient room for difference of opinions.

JAN 25 1960

Mr. Perdue said he has heard many remarks lately that no improvements have been made in the Fire Department for years. He asked the City Manager to make a report on how many improvements have been made between 1949 and 1959.

Mayor Hanson said several possibilities for a temporary helicopter landing site in the downtown area are being worked on in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce and one should materialize in the next few weeks.

A new helicopter service linking Tacoma with the Sea-Tac Airport and Seattle has asked the City's aid in finding a suitable, centrally located base.

Mayor Hanson said it is hoped that a permanent base will be atop one of the new parking garages planned for downtown.

Mr. Anderson asked if this has been discussed with the group financing the garages.

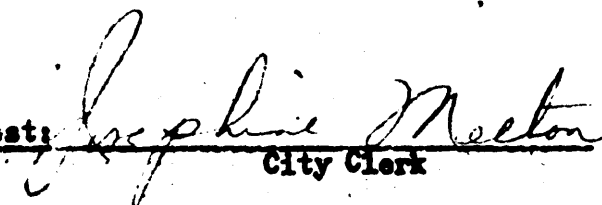
Mayor Hanson said it has not been officially discussed with the group, but it would be within a few days.

Mayor Hanson said he has received a call from the Pan-American Airlines asking that he appear before the F. A. A. on February 10th in Washington D. C. to give the position of the City regarding the case pending before the F. A. A. on certain flight services at the Sea-Tac Airport. He said he did not know if this would entail any expense to the City at this time but he did know that this was a matter of extreme importance not only to the City of Tacoma but to the whole northwest area.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly seconded and passed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.


Mayor of the City Council

Attest:


City Clerk