

# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers  
January 21, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

Present on roll call: 7 - Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Deputy Mayor Baarsma. Absent: 2 - Mayor Ebersole and Kirby (Council Member Kirby arrived at 5:10 p.m.).

The Flag Salute was led by Council Member McGavick.

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## CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the minutes of the Tacoma City Council meeting of January 7, 1997 and study session of January 14, 1997.

### ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

- a. Minutes of the meeting of the Arts Commission, December 9, 1996.
- b. Minutes of the meetings of the Commission on Children, Youth and Families, November 14 and December 12, 1996.
- c. Minutes of the meeting and study session of the Public Utility Board, December 11, 1996.
- d. Total service report of the Tacoma-Pierce County Humane Society, October 1996.
- e. Monthly financial reports for the Belt Line Division, Light Division, Water Division, Data Processing Fund, Fleet Services Fund, Self-Insurance Claim Fund, Conservation Project Fund, and Geographic Information System Fund, November 1996.
- f. Reports of the Director of Finance, October and November 1996.

Council Member Miller moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. Seconded by Council Member Evans.

Deputy Mayor Baarsma moved to amend the City Council minutes of January 7, 1997, to reflect that it was Council Member Evans and not Council Member Kirby that voted nay on Resolution No. 33587. Seconded by Council Member De Forrest. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Voice vote was taken and carried on the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, including the amended City Council minutes of January 7, 1997. The Consent Agenda, including the amended City Council minutes of January 7, 1997, was declared approved.

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**REGULAR AGENDA**

**FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES**

**Ordinance No. 26018**

Authorizing the execution of an agreement with Pierce County in the amount of \$17,000; accepting, depositing and appropriating said sum from the Miscellaneous Grants Summary Fund to acquire computer equipment for the Domestic Violence Unit.

Roll call vote was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes: 8 – Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, Kirby, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Deputy Mayor Baarsma

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Mayor Ebersole

The Ordinance was declared passed.

**Ordinance No. 26019**

Approving and confirming the Assessment Roll for L.I.D. No. 5720 for the installation of water mains and fire hydrants in Grandview Avenue from Wright Avenue to East 32nd Street and East 32nd Street from 300 feet east of Roosevelt Avenue to Grandview Avenue.

Roll call vote was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes: 8 – Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, Kirby, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Deputy Mayor Baarsma

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Mayor Ebersole

The Ordinance was declared passed.

**Ordinance No. 26020**

Approving and confirming the Assessment Roll for L.I.D. No. 5721 for the installation of water mains and fire hydrants in East C Street from East 96th Street south 650 feet.

Roll call vote was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes: 8 – Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, Kirby, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Deputy Mayor Baarsma

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Mayor Ebersole

The Ordinance was declared passed.

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**Ordinance No. 26021**

Approving and confirming the Assessment Roll for L.I.D. No. 5723 for the installation of water mains and fire hydrants in North 32nd and North Alder Streets.

Roll call vote was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes: 8 – Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, Kirby, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Deputy Mayor Baarsma

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Mayor Ebersole

The Ordinance was declared passed.

**Ordinance No. 26022**

Providing for the formation of L.I.D. No. 8599 for the construction of permanent pavement on the alley between South I Street and South J Street from South 25th Street north 550 feet then west to South J Street.

Roll call vote was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes: 8 – Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, Kirby, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Deputy Mayor Baarsma

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 – Mayor Ebersole

The Ordinance was declared passed.

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**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES**

**Ordinance No. 26023**

Amending Chapter 3.04 of the Municipal Code relative to the duties and responsibilities of the Fire Department, adding the Administration of Emergency Management for the City of Tacoma, and deleting obsolete references to working hours and gender-specific references to the officers and employees of the Department.

The Ordinance was set over for final reading next week.

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**RESOLUTIONS**

**Purchase Resolution No. 33599**

Awarding contracts to:

1. El Monte Plastics, on its bid of \$42,422.50, for 300-gallon plastic refuse containers - Specification No. G-073-96; and

- 2. S & W Utility Contractors, Inc., on its bid of \$303,926.69, for sanitary sewer replacement at Portland Avenue from East 38th Street to Columbia Avenue and Columbia Avenue to the T Street sanitary trunk line - Specification No. G-253-96.

Council Member Miller moved that the Purchase Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Council Member Crowley. Voice vote was taken and carried on the Purchase Resolution. The Purchase Resolution was declared adopted.

**Resolution No. 33601**

Authorizing the execution of Amendment No. 140 to the Neighborhood Preservation Program Agreement for approval of the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority's 1997-1998 biennial budget.

Council Member Miller moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Council Member Silas. Voice vote was taken and carried. The Resolution was declared adopted.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**REPORTS BY CITY MANAGER**

City Manager Ray E. Corpuz, Jr. stated that the Airport Advisory Committee's recommendation regarding the management of the Narrows Airport was to go out to bid. He stated that he wanted to talk with the members of the City Council regarding their specific concerns and issues, and that perhaps they should also meet with the Airport Advisory Committee. Mr. Corpuz then reported on his visit to the Aquarium of Americas in New Orleans, Louisiana, and the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga. He stated that these are very fine facilities, well known in the aquarium world, and are more than just aquariums in that they emphasize conservation, environmental stewardship, and are educational resources in the community. He added that it was clear the aquariums were anchored facilities which created a redeveloped area of a city that was blighted, unproductive and underutilized. Mr. Corpuz further reported that, with the establishment of these aquariums, in the case of New Orleans, the city provided a \$25 million bond and that \$15 million was provided by the private sector for a \$40 million facility. He stated that the New Orleans facility is managed by the Audubon Society, but the city owns it and the revenue they make supports the zoo and six other facilities. Mr. Corpuz reported that the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga is a fresh-water facility and has reported that it has generated \$130 million in 1,600 additional jobs. He stated that the facility opened in 1992 and is privately financed. Mr. Corpuz stated that this was a good trip to learn about what other communities are doing; however, there are many questions that still need to be answered, and that the Metropolitan Park District, as well as others in the city, will be looking at the feasibility of such a project. He mentioned that the newspaper will be reporting on the trip next weekend and that he will have some additional reports.

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## COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Evans moved to excuse Mayor Ebersole from tonight's meeting. Seconded by Council Member De Forrest. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

Council Member Miller reported on the outstanding celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. He stated that the City's Human Rights Department once again outdid themselves, that the celebration was extremely worthwhile, and he gave both thanks and compliments to that department and all the employees in the City who were involved. Mr. Miller also extended those compliments to Deputy Mayor Baarsma for an outstanding job on the speech and in representing the City Council.

Council Member De Forrest stated that he read the State Audit Report and that we received a "clean bill of health." It was an excellent audit report of which staff can be proud. He mentioned that on the audit report in 1992 our bond and indebtedness was \$900 million. Three years later, in the 1995 audit report, it was up to \$1.3 billion. Mr. De Forrest stated that these figures are something we should think about when we decide to refinance bonds instead of paying them off and adding more bonds.

Council Member Crowley reported an interesting visit to the New Orleans and Chattanooga aquariums. He stated that one was basically financed by public dollars and one by private dollars, but that both were true catalysts for economic development. Mr. Crowley stated that he was anxiously awaiting the second phase of the Executive Council's report. Mr. Crowley stated that the report will hopefully explain how this aquarium could be funded, identify a location and who the leadership is going to be that takes on the site selection and raising of funds for the aquarium.

Council Member Evans stated that, in reference to the Tacoma Narrows Airport, he asked Asset Management to provide all of the correspondence so that they will have all the history. He then commented on the landslide tragedy on Bainbridge Island and stated that the City of Tacoma should be looking at our land use regulations to see how and where we might anticipate some changes knowing some of the possibilities that are in this area for landslides and chopping down forests. Mr. Evans then reported on the trip to the aquariums in New Orleans, Louisiana, and Chattanooga, Tennessee, stating that it was very profitable and impressive. Mr. Evans stated that he noted things of value to the City of Tacoma and saw how other cities made the redevelopment possible under different circumstances.

Council Member Silas commended the Finance Department on the State Audit Report. She then stated that the Human Rights Department did a beautiful job on the Martin Luther King, Jr. program and that each year the program is beyond our expectations. Dr. Silas stated that Deputy Mayor Baarsma represented the City Council well in giving the historical background in his presentation.

Council Member McGavick thanked and complimented Deputy Mayor Baarsma for a wonderful meeting.

Council Member Crowley requested that the City Manager convene a joint City Council/Airport Advisory Committee study session.

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Deputy Mayor Baarsma first commented that the student senate at the University of Puget Sound had passed a resolution of intent expressing their concern regarding traffic problems on Union Avenue and North 14th Street. He stated that the student senate, along with University staff, indicated a desire to meet with City staff to see if there might be some way of resolving some of the issues. Mr. Baarsma added his compliments to staff who did a splendid job on the Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday celebration and stated that he was really impressed with the Covenant Celebration Church Choir. He noted that on Wednesday, January 22, 1997, at 3:30 p.m., in the Tacoma Public Utilities training room, the Utility Board will be having a study session and on their agenda will be a discussion of telecommunications. Mr. Baarsma stated that he met with the City Manager and discussed the creation of a task force to look at ways in which the Library might identify some additional funding, look at some creative ways of addressing some of the concerns of the Library system, and also to look at the long-term strategic goals. He stated that he has offered to be involved with that process and the Mayor will come forward with a proposal in that regard. Finally, Mr. Baarsma related an incident that occurred to a deputy mayor in Norway paying homage to all deputy mayors who rarely receive the recognition they deserve.

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On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

  
 WILLIAM BAARSMA, DEPUTY MAYOR

ATTEST:   
 RICK ROSENBLADT, CITY CLERK

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