

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

City Council Chambers
January 31, 1995

The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m.

Present on roll call: 8 - Baarsma, Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Mayor Moss. Absent: 1 - Kirby (Council Member Kirby arrived at 5:08 p.m.)

The Flag Salute was led by Council Member Baarsma.

Approval of the minutes of the Tacoma City Council meeting of January 17, 1995.

ITEMS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK:

- a. Hearing Examiner Agenda for Tuesday, January 31, 1995.
- b. Minutes of the meeting of the Fire Safety Education Advisory Committee, January 5, 1995.
- c. Minutes of the meeting of the Tacoma Planning Commission, January 4, 1995.
- d. Minutes of the meeting of the Urban Policy Committee, November 2, 1994 and amended minutes of August 23 and September 28, 1994.
- e. Minutes of the meeting of the Environmental Commission, December 12, 1994.
- f. Minutes of the meetings of the Human Rights Commission, October 20 and November 17, 1994.

Council Member Kirby arrived at 5:08 p.m.

Deputy Mayor Evans moved that the Consent Agenda be approved. Seconded by Council Member Miller. Voice vote was taken and carried. The Consent Agenda was declared approved.

REGULAR AGENDA

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

Presentation of Police citizen awards.

The recipient for the Police citizen award was not in attendance to receive the award.

COMMUNICATION:

Hearing Examiner recommending denial of a petition to vacate a portion of the north four feet of the alley between North 26th and North 27th Streets west of Cedar Street. (Joel R. Erickson; File No. 124.1004)

Mayor Moss moved to concur in the recommendations of the Hearing Examiner. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Evans. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

FINAL READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 25661

Accepting a grant of \$17,000 from the Washington State Community, Trade and Economic Development Department; and appropriating said sum from the Miscellaneous Grants Summary Fund to conduct a feasibility study for business retention and recruitment programs through the Neighborhood Business District Revitalization program.

Roll call vote was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes: 9 -- Baarsma, Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, Kirby, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Mayor Moss.

Nays: 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed.

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Ordinance No. 25662

Amending Section 1.06.690(B) of the Official Code to modify the membership of the Information Systems Board by adding up to two private industry senior information systems executives to the Board.

Roll call vote was taken, resulting as follows:

Ayes: 9 -- Baarsma, Crowley, De Forrest, Evans, Kirby, McGavick, Miller, Silas, and Mayor Moss.

Nays: 0.

The Ordinance was declared passed.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance No. 25663

Amending Chapter 13.06 of the Official Code to reclassify the property located at 4003 McKinley Avenue from a "C-1" Commercial District to a "C-2" Commercial District to allow automobile sales at an existing automobile repair and body shop. (Juan and Angelite Carrillo; File No. 120.1388)

Council Member Miller moved to continue Ordinance No. 25663 to the meeting of February 7, 1995. Seconded by Mayor Moss. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

The Ordinance No. 25663 will be considered at the regular City Council meeting of February 7, 1995.

Ordinance No. 25664

Annexing approximately 207 acres of unincorporated Pierce County generally located south of East-West Road and bounded by the Tacoma city limits on the north and west sides and by the Fife city limits on the south and east sides.

The Ordinance was set over for final reading next week.

Ordinance No. 25665

Amending the Pay and Compensation Plan to implement rates of pay for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 483, Customer Service and Light Division Units, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers District Lodge 160, Belt Line Unit and certain nonrepresented classifications and amending classifications to reflect changes in the negotiated structure.

The Ordinance was set over for final reading next week.

RESOLUTIONS:

Purchase Resolution No. 32894

Awarding contracts to:

1. Platt Electric, on their bid of \$26,110.48 for wire and cable for replacement and repair of traffic signals and streetlights - Informal Bid No. 8036; and
2. Motorola Communications & Electronics, in the amount of \$71,474.90 for Motorola Visar radios & miscellaneous Saber accessories for the Police Department - Washington State Contract No. 205-88.

Council Member Miller moved that the Purchase Resolution, including waiving formal bidding procedures on Item No. 1, be adopted. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Evans.

Voice vote was taken and carried on the Purchase Resolution. The Purchase Resolution, including waiving formal bidding procedures on Item No. 1, was declared adopted.

Resolution No. 32895

Designating St. Rita's Church, Olsen House, Agnew House, Thomas Carroll Double House, Hillside Grocery, Anderson House, Burkee-Francois House, Brenden House, Hob Nob Restaurant, Michael J. Buren Apartments and Schultz Apartments as historic landmarks on the Tacoma Register of Historic Places.

Council Member Miller moved to suspend the rules to consider Substitute Resolution No. 32895. Seconded by Council Member Baarsma. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

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

Resolution No. 32896

Authorizing the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Customer and Field Services Unit Local 483, effective January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1997.

Deputy Mayor Evans moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Council Member Crowley. Voice vote was taken and carried. The Resolution was declared adopted.

Resolution No. 32897

Authorizing the execution of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with District Lodge 160, on behalf of Local Lodge 297 and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Belt Line Unit effective January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1998.

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

Resolution No. 32898

Authorizing the execution of an agreement with Architects Reed Reinvold Johnson Willows in an amount not to exceed \$347,641 for architectural and management services for renovation of the Tacoma Municipal and Center Plaza Buildings.

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

Resolution No. 32899

Setting Tuesday, February 28, 1995, at approximately 6:00 p.m. as the date for a public hearing by the City Council to consider the intent to levy the eighth annual assessment on properties within the Downtown Business Improvement Area for the period May 1, 1995 through April 30, 1996.

Council Member Silas moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Deputy Mayor Evans. Voice vote was taken and carried, with Council Members Crowley and Miller abstaining. The Resolution was declared adopted.

COMMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL:

Council Member Kirby asked if public testimony would be allowed under the rezone Ordinance No. 25663 that the Council continued to next week. He explained that typically public testimony is not allowed because of the hearing process and the quasi judicial nature of the proceedings. Acting City Attorney Pat Bosmans suggested that if the Council wishes to have additional testimony, the matter should be remanded back to the Hearing Examiner to reopen the rezone if there is a basis for reopening the matter. On another matter, Council Member Kirby requested that the Public Works Department seek the best bid for the elevator repairs.

Council Member Crowley thanked Martha Anderson, Cathy Morton, Bill Pugh and other City staff for helping to make the accommodations for the Council's trip to Vancouver, Granville Island, B.C. a successful event. Council Member Crowley commended the Dome staff for converting the Dome from a concert Friday night to a NBA basketball game by noon the next day; and then converting the facility to a hockey arena within two hours and forty-five minutes. He thanked John Croley, Mike Combs and the rest of the Dome staff for their efforts.

Council Member Silas reminded the public of a Town Hall meeting on Thursday, February 2, 1995 at The Evergreen College from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the central district. Council Member Silas announced that this is an opportunity for citizens to come and make their wishes known.

Council Member Baarsma also thanked the Dome staff. He noted that there were approximately 17,300 attendants at the Sonics game, the eighth sellout; and about 8,100 individuals attended the Tacoma Rockets game. Council Member Baarsma commented on two articles in the Sunday's edition of THE NEWS TRIBUNE on Initiative 164. He explained that the articles entitled "Danger Zone for Property Rights" and "Initiative 164 Debate Regulations Must Balance Welfare and Property Rights" poses a tremendous challenge to local governments. He also commented on another article in the PUGET SOUND BUSINESS JOURNAL written by the editor, that critiqued Initiative 164 and characterized the initiative as a fatally flawed initiative.

Council Member Miller asked the City Manager to provide additional information on the home occupation tax passed by the Council. He asked for an explanation on what the justification was for imposing this tax. Council Member Miller asked if the home occupation permit is being imposed for the purpose of paying for the cost of

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initiating the permit in the first year, could a separate fee be charged for subsequent renewals.

Council Member Miller commented that during the review of the bids on the elevator repair, companies are not being blamed for what is truly the fault of the equipment and not necessarily the fault of any individual or company to be able to solve.

Deputy Mayor Evans also requested that the questions raised on the home occupation tax be addressed. Deputy Mayor Evans explained that residents of University Place has the option of having their garage and recycling materials picked up on a weekly or monthly basis. Deputy Mayor Evans asked staff to investigate whether less frequent pickups could potentially reduce costs for the users. At the same time, this alternative would encourage more recycling and garbage reduction. He also asked when the automated pickups will begin in Northeast Tacoma. In addition, He asked if available alleys could be used for automated pickups so that residents didn't have to struggle with bringing their containers to the street level. He asked what the financial impacts would be if the garbage wasn't picked up so frequently.

Council Member McGavick explained that last week a group of citizens expressed their concerns for more police officers, jails and the continuum of public safety issues. She indicated she received many calls on this matter. Council Member McGavick stressed the need for a balanced approach to public safety from prevention, through protection and law enforcement.

Council Member De Forrest asked if affected individuals were notified about the home occupation tax prior to it taking effect. Council Member De Forrest indicated that according to the ordinance which created the Neighborhood Councils there would be an evaluation of the Neighborhood Councils program. He asked when would the evaluation process begin. Council Member De Forrest indicated that there were several excellent articles on the earthquake. He expressed concern about the area in the tideflats and the 509 freeway withstanding a major earthquake. He stated it is important during the planning process of any kind of development that soil types be considered that will withstand earthquakes.

Deputy Mayor Evans indicated that the entire port area lies on sand which liquefies under the right kind of earthquake and is very vulnerable. He explained that the structures that were contemplated to be on columns are on earthfill trapezoids so they are sitting on a mass of earth and are designed to the 7.6 capability. Deputy Mayor Evans expressed concern about that portion of the 509 freeway which goes over the sewage treatment plant about 70 feet of the ground. He explained that this section is built on columns and on the same vulnerable soil. Deputy Mayor Evans stated that the proposed access ramps at Portland Avenue were denied by the Department of Transportation and Port of Tacoma.

Council Member Miller reported that at the noon study session, he was pleased that the City Manager indicated that the Council would be looking at the issue of police enforcement in the parks. Council Member Miller suggested that the Council send a letter to the Metropolitan Park District Board informing them of the Council's position that police enforcement within the parks is an important issue and that the Park Board give due consideration before continuing the process to reduce their police force.

Mayor Moss reported on his pleasure of witnessing Simone May receive Israel's highest honor for her efforts almost 50 years ago where she and her family saved over 100 Jewish people from death.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND APPEALS: (Began at 6:00 p.m.)

This is the date set for a public hearing regarding the proposed land exchange of 2,862 acres of surplus property in King, Snohomish and Chelan counties with the U. S. Forest Service for similar property in King County for the expansion of the Water Division's access control program in the Green River Watershed.

Speaking before Council was:

Joe Slepky

King County

The public hearing was declared closed at 6:16 p.m.

Council Member Miller moved to recess until 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Council Member De Forrest. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted. Council recessed at 6:16 p.m. and reconvened at 6:35 p.m.

(Interviews of candidates for the Municipal Court No. 3 Judge position will be conducted in the Council Chambers at approximately 6:30 p.m.)

The Council interviewed candidates Ronald Culpepper, Joseph Diaz, Dennis Nelson, Michael Pate, Marilee Jones Scarbrough, and Elizabeth Verhey for the position of Municipal Court Judge.

Mayor Moss moved to recess to Executive Session to discuss qualifications of candidates for appointment to an elected position, the session not to exceed one hour. Seconded by Council Member Silas. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

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Council recessed to Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. and reconvened at 9:47 p.m.

Mayor Moss moved to direct staff to prepare a resolution for the meeting of February 7, 1995 appointing Elizabeth Verhey to the position of Municipal Court No. 3 Judge. Seconded by Council Member Miller. Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:


None.

REPORTS BY CITY MANAGER:

None.

On proper motion, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.


HAROLD G. MOSS, MAYOR

ATTEST: 
RICK ROSENBLADT, ACTING CITY CLERK