

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT CITY HALL,  
ON MONDAY, JULY 17, 1967 AT 10:00 A.M..

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The Special Meeting was called to order by the Presiding Officer, Mayor W. W. McAllister, with the following members present: McALLISTER, JONES, JAMES, COCKRELL, TREVINO and PARKER; Absent: CALDERON, GATTI and TORRES.

66-1121 The Mayor announced the meeting was called for the purpose of canvassing the returns of the July 15, 1967 Initiative Election on the Minimum Wage Ordinance.

67-305 A group of young men hired during the garbage strike were present in the Council Chamber concerning their jobs. The spokesmen stated they were hired from the Southeast Center as temporary employees to help out the City while it was in need of someone to haul trash. They were hired and they worked long hours. They were threatened at all times by union employees and some were actually hit by them. When they hired out they were told they could work for the rest of the summer. Now they have been laid-off because the other workers have come back. They felt they had been guaranteed a job for all summer or as long as they needed one and asked why the action was taken.

The Mayor stated he did not know what kind of agreement was made with the young men when employed. The Council's statement to City Manager Shelley and the agreement, as he understood it, was that these workers who were sick and who have supposedly returned to work this morning would be taken back on a seniority basis as the positions opened up. The young men hired last week, who were working, would continue on their jobs if they wanted to stay on.

He added that the Council does not want to interfere with the administration of the City but can express its feelings and it is the sentiment of the Council that the young men should be employed as long as they want to work and are rendering satisfactory work for some activity of the City.

Mrs. Cockrell stated that if there is any confusion over this, it was her feeling that the Council as a policy matter should state that it is willing to authorize the necessary additional funds as the young men helped out when needed and did a good job and should not be let down or penalized simply because the former employees now decided to come back to work.

It was the sentiment of the Council that the young men should be allowed to work as long as they render good service.

Assistant City Manager Henckel advised that Mr. Granata had been advised of the Council's attitude and feeling on the matter and asked that the men report to the supervisor at the Service Center.

67-318 Assistant Manager Henckel advised the Council that HemisFair has stepped up construction of modules and have had to close streets in the HemisFair area which were being used for parking by the construction employees. This has created a problem and a request has been made to allow parking on Durango Street.

Traffic Director Stewart Fischer recommended allowing temporary parking on Durango Street with the stipulation that HemisFair pay for any damages incurred to the sprinkler system and landscaping. The parking will be needed for six or seven months. Durango is a divided four (4) lane street and the parking, will utilize one lane in each direction. The City can cancel permit at any time as this will be a privilege and not a right.

This was agreeable to the Council.

67-318 Mr. Henckel then brought up another traffic problem. A request has been made by H. B. Zachry Co. to Urban Renewal Agency and the City to close the 200 Block of Alamo for construction purposes. Zachry is building the hotel and the street. The matter has been discussed with Mr. Winston Martin, Executive Director of Urban Renewal Agency and he recommends that the city close the street. Normally you do not give consideration to such requests in the downtown area, but because of the fact that the street is not open beyond Commerce and Market where the new bridge is being built, it would not create any additional problems and traffic can be re-routed to Presa Street. If this is granted it will be at the pleasure of the City and the permit can be cancelled at any time. When the new bridge is completed Zachry will build the new lane of Alamo Street immediately and open the street to traffic at that time. It could possibly be four (4) or five (5) months before this is done.

Traffic director Fischer stated he has advised the Zachry people the street must be open no later than the first of November when the Christmas shopping period begins.

After discussion the Council agreed to the temporary closing of the street.

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Mr. Henckel advised that in this connection, H. B. Zachry Company has made a request to lease part of the property at the corner of Alamo and Nueva, where the stone from the Groos House is stored, which is not presently being used. They proposed to store equipment and material. The property is available and not being used at the present. This permit would also be cancellable at any time the City desires. They will pay the normal rates charged.

After discussion the Council was agreeable to a day to day lease and that this be co-ordinated with the Urban Renewal Agency.

66-343

Mrs. Cockrell proposed that the Council consider that apparently the City is going to get a refund from its portion of participation money in the Urban Renewal Project, and asked that an architect be immediately hired to draw plans for a parking structure over the Marina and that the cost of reinforcing of the roof of the Marina, which is not funded in the budget, be included in the cost of the parking garage for five hundred (500) cars which is estimated to cost about \$1,000,000. If this could be done immediately and ready for HemisFair, a charge of \$2.00 a day during the fair would bring in good revenue.

The Mayor stated he has noted the \$150,000 figure as cost of reinforcing the Marina to carry five (5) additional floors and had thought of including this in the budget which would be an additional two cents on the tax rate.

He did not know how much money the City will get back or what the commitments are, but felt the City must be prepared to include in the tax rate some additional items other than that covered by wages.

Mrs. Cockrell stated that if this parking garage could be built with the refund that during the months of April, May, June and July the City could derive as much as \$100,000 which would assist to the tune of one (1) cent on the tax rate. She strongly felt this should be planned for use during the fair.

After discussion Assistant Manager Henckel was instructed to consult with Mr. Arthur Mathis, the architect on the Marina, without making any commitments, to see if he is interested in designing a parking garage.

67-426

Mrs. Cockrell then stated that the general public should be informed that any refund of money on the Urban Renewal Project cannot be placed in the general budget. It can only be used for Urban Renewal Projects or Commitments.

66-1121 After the Canvass of the returns was completed the Clerk read the following ordinance.

AN ORDINANCE 35607

CANVASSING RETURNS AND DECLARING RESULT OF AN INITIATIVE ELECTION HELD JULY 15, 1967 SUBMITTING A PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM WAGE FOR \$1.25 PER HOUR AND ESTABLISH A CITY DIRECTOR OF MINIMUM WAGE, AND DECLARING IT TO BE AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY.

\* \* \*

WHEREAS, a petition bearing the valid signature of the required number of qualified voters of the City of San Antonio was duly filed requesting that a certain ordinance be enacted or an election be held on said ordinance; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council, in response to said petition, by Ordinance 35401, of May 4, 1967, ordered that an initiative election on said ordinance be held on Saturday, July 15, 1967, and,

WHEREAS, said election was duly and legally held on the 15th day of July, 1967, in conformity with the Charter and the election ordinance heretofore passed by the City Council and the result of said election has been certified and returned to this Council by the proper officials; and,

WHEREAS, this Council has this day considered the returns of said election on the proposition herein stated; and;

WHEREAS, said election was in all respects lawfully held and said returns duly and legally made and that there were cast at said election the following votes:

"Ordinance establishing a minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour for all workers within the City of San Antonio and providing a City Director of Minimum Wages for its enforcement.

FOR THE ORDINANCE" 15,211

"Ordinance establishing a minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour for all workers within the City of San Antonio and providing a City Director of Minimum Wages for its enforcement.

AGAINST THE ORDINANCE" 9,086

NOW, THEREFORE:

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BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

The ordinance submitted by initiative petition to establish a minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour in the City of San Antonio was approved by a majority of the electors voting thereon at the aforementioned initiative election, and it is, therefore, declared to be an ordinance of the City.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 17th day of July, 1967.

/s/ W. W. McALLISTER  
M A Y O R

ATTEST: /s/ J. H. Inselmann  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: /s/ Sam S. Wolf  
City Attorney

The Mayor inquired if a separate ordinance will be prepared on the issue.

The City attorney advised it was not necessary and read from Section 43 of the City Charter entitled "Results of Election," as follows: "If a Majority of the electors voting on a proposed initiative ordinance shall vote in favor thereof, it shall thereupon be an ordinance of the City."

On motion of Mr. Trevino seconded by Dr. Parker the canvass ordinance was passed and approved by the following vote AYES: McAllister, Jones, James, Cockrell, Trevino and Parker; NAYS: None; ABSENT: Calderon, Gatti and Torres.

The minimum wage ordinance mentioned above and declared to be an ordinance of the City is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE 35608

ESTABLISHING A MINIMUM WAGE OF \$1.25 PER HOUR FOR SAN ANTONIO, AND PROVIDING A CITY DIRECTOR OF MINIMUM WAGES FOR ITS ENFORCEMENT.

\* \* \*

WHEREAS; Thousands of citizens of San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas, earn less than \$1.25 per hour; and

WHEREAS; Illiteracy, disease, hunger and crime are among the symptoms of a society in which people earn less than a living wage; and

WHEREAS; A \$1.25 per hour minimum wage will result in thousands of residents of San Antonio being able to maintain at least a semblance to a decent standard of living;

NOW, THEREFORE; BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

1. That a minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour be set by law for all workers within the confines of the City of San Antonio;
2. That an office of Director of Minimum Wages be established for the administration and enforcement of the \$1.25 per hour minimum wage.
3. That upon passage of this ordinance by this City Council, the minimum wage of \$1.25 per hour shall be made effective within 30 days.

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Mrs. Cockrell asked if under the ordinance a new employee must be hired or can an employee presently employed act as a City Director of Minimum Wages.

City Attorney advised it can be done either way. Just so that it complies with the provision of the ordinance.

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66-699 Mayor McAllister then discussed the proposal form on the tower restaurant on which they must act.

Mr. Henckel advised that on the matter of co-ordination of the bidders with the architect, the bidder can hire their own architect and co-ordinate the restaurant plan with the City's architect or if they desire they can hire the City's architect. In any event the administrative staff will have a recommendation from the City's architect on the proposals they submit.

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67-389 The Mayor then discussed the matter of the G. E. Cablevision Corporation application for a franchise. He said the matter is complicated and had a number of questions to ask and needed more information before he could act. He asked that Council Member's if they have any questions to present them at Fridays Meeting. He felt he could not act one way or another until he understood the proposal better.

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There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned.

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A P P R O V E D:

*W. McAllister*  
M A Y O R

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ATTEST:

*J. J. Danielman*  
City Clerk