

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19TH, A. D. 1940, 11:00 A. M.

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PRESENT: Honorable Maury Maverick, Mayor, presiding, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Steffler and Lipscomb.

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The Clerk read the following call, to-wit:

June 19, 1940

TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

Gentlemen:

Under the authority vested in me as Mayor by the Charter of the City of San Antonio, I hereby call you into Special Meeting on this the 19th day of June, 1940, to convene at 11:00 A. M., for the purpose of submitting for your consideration a resolution organizing a home guard in San Antonio; an ordinance adopting a tentative budget for the fiscal year 1940; an ordinance providing for an audit of City records and various ordinances appropriating funds for payrolls, supplies and services.

Respectfully,

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

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Proposals to furnish the Fire Department with fire engine pumpers were opened, read and referred to the City Purchasing Agent.

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Mayor Maverick made the following statement:

Gentlemen of the Commission, a story appeared in the San Antonio Express this morning which was a completely inaccurate statement of salaries paid in this office.

For instance, it said that Mr. Wyatt was getting \$250.00 instead of \$200.00 and that Howard Dickens was getting \$250.00 instead of \$200.00. There were other errors like that. Then we come to Henry Dielmann and they said he had been lowered from \$225.00 to \$200.00. He gets \$275.00 and still is getting that and there was and is no change in his salary. I want to be serious and earnest about this. There have been a great many inaccuracies appearing in all the newspapers in the last few weeks.

The San Antonio Light wrote their Democratic Convention story up in Waco and had many inaccuracies about it.

Now if it is the editorial policy of these papers to put out a little slander about me once in a while it is o.k.; but I don't think that the newspapers should print mathematical and factual errors.

When we were about to vote on annexation the Light said that I instructed the voting of the Commission to be done privately in my office, and that Mr. Steffler objected, saying we had to have it in the Council Chamber. That was without any foundation whatsoever. In good faith, and at a time like this, I believe newspapers ought to state the true facts. In editorials and articles I expect the truth and from Don Politico. I don't think that they should make any factual errors. I am going to hand this to Colonel Etheredge as the errors of the

Express have been corrected. Colonel Etheredge, I hope that you won't put us in a bad position. In other words, I am not picking a row with the newspapers. I am not mad, just a little disappointed.

Could it be that this story appeared because the San Antonio Express is opposed to me politically? I hope not, but there are gross inaccuracies, and my friends think that it is therefore a conspiracy.

Why say Henry Dielmann's salary was reduced when it was not? It creates an unfair situation. Mr. Dielmann, through all my trials and tribulations had been my friend. He has never lost faith in me and I have never lost faith in him. Our friendship has not stopped for a moment. I have known him for about 20 years and have never doubted him.

About the rest of those who were supposed to get these raises, they were not raised on account of the "Waco Convention" but I am going to stick by my friends. I am only human, I just want to be accurate; the Express article had numerous inaccuracies.

Commissioner Lipscomb: As far as Dickens is concerned, he is the best fire marshal in the United States and is very much underpaid as to his value to the City.

Mayor Maverick: We haven't got a single salary in this City that is higher than any previous year, none higher than any other city. Our municipal judge gets less than the previous administration. You take Ben Wyatt, chief building inspector, he is getting \$250.00. All our salaries are pretty near lower than they use to be. We have given social services, but they are not higher.

The next thing that I want to talk or bring up is the problem of the zoo. And I hope that the press will take this story because it is something that has been editorialized in the papers and has received an amount of criticism, some of which is uninformed.

Concerning the entrance charge to the zoo. I want to first state that the City of San Antonio does not own a single animal in the zoo. The animals are owned by the Zoological Society, who originally purchased \$14,000.00 worth of animals from Carl Hagenbeck and the Society paid for them.

I don't know how many animals we have got, but we have several thousands of animals, and not one owned by the City of San Antonio. Over a period of years the Zoological Society has stated that it should be better regulated and that a charge should be made for entrance. Also they say they need some money to make improvements and buy more animals.

And to have that they want a charge upon certain conditions. I want to bring out five things.

1. School children are free with the teacher at any time.
2. There is one free day a week and that is for everybody.

Now there was an editorial - I may be inaccurate about this - which was telling how much the poor people would have to pay on or for his children to enter into the zoo. The truth of the matter is that if you had small children you shouldn't have to pay for them to be admitted into the zoo.

3. For a period of 15 years at least people have been denouncing the city "that they should be out feeding monkeys while people are starving. And here you are taxing citizens to feed a bunch of monkeys and baboons while people are starving."

That propaganda has been continuously printed in the paper; it is not the reporters fault, they have merely quoted the people on that. And in every political campaign all of you hear the same thing.

Your City has attempted to develop a good Health Department and to give service to

the people that need it in San Antonio. And those services have to be paid for by the taxpayers. I do not want to demagogue about this thing, because I wish I could get everything free myself. But this City is giving this health, welfare, police and other services as good as they can. The City does not own the animals and does not have any control whatsoever.

4. That on Sundays it is estimated that at least three-fourths of the people that come out there to see the zoo are from out of town. Most of the town people go to the park, which will remain free, they come to picnic, and dance - all free. The out of town people will be willing to pay a small fee to enter the zoo. But even at that it is provided in there that if a convention is held, that a provision can be made by the Mayor for free entrance.

This is the Zoological Society's problem, and I want to invite the Zoological Society up here on Thursday, to make a statement as to why they want to do this, because this has been made a political issue by some people.

5. The fifth point is that 75% of the zoos in America charge, - they have entrance fees. Now, we face a situation in San Antonio where we must get ourselves in a financial position to give social service; for instance there will no doubt be a great increase in the number of soldiers. Moreover any emergency that may occur we must have cash available to meet it. That is the explanation that I want to give to the public.

You Commissioners, do you have anything to say on this problem? Commissioner Hein?

Commissioner Hein: I would like to just mention one reason for the fencing. One of the main reasons is that there has been lots of vandalism and destruction in a number of our parks, especially the zoo. Birds and animals have been killed and things like that have happened.

Second, we have to raise additional money if we expect to improve our zoo. We are trying to make this the best zoo in the country. We have to do this (admission fee) in order to pay for the care and feeding of the animals, this will be an opportunity to pay for our zoo (covering labor, feeding, etc.) and in addition to that there is going to be a zoo that will be worthwhile seeing.

Commissioner Steffler: What does it cost to keep or carry on your department together with all that?

Commissioner Hein: Over \$45,000.00 last year and at the present, the budget is \$42,000.00.

Commissioner Steffler: With all the money that comes in from the revenue collected at the zoo, you will be able to feed the animals and keep up the expense there.

Commissioner Hein: I believe that the people when they really understand the question will be heartily in favor of charging an entrance fee. It is just a necessary progressive step.

Mayor Maverick: I forgot to mention vandalism by which drunkards come out there and throw beer bottles at the animals. There are some people that taunt the animals and all that kind of stuff. Now, that much is true that nearly every zoo has a fence around it and 75% of the zoos in America charge.

Commissioner Lipscomb, do you have anything to say?

Commissioner Lipscomb: I don't think . . . there is only one side to this question. There is no reason why San Antonio shouldn't raise some revenue from this zoo and make it self-supporting. As to the children who can't afford, that is only one side of it. I think that the provisions are perhaps too lenient.

Mayor Maverick: They are the most lenient provisions in America.

Commissioner Steffler: There is the non-taxpayer who doesn't pay an admission charge. This is merely an equality.

Commissioner Lipscomb: I don't see why in the world that the City should be caused to spend several thousands of dollars a year to maintain the zoo, when it could come out on it.

Commissioner Steffler: We ought to have a Trust Fund for the zoo purpose.

Mayor Maverick: Commissioner Davis.

Commissioner Davis: I don't believe I have anything to add to what has already been said.

Mayor Maverick: Well that is the story about the zoo. Mr. McGown, I want you to invite the zoo people up here Thursday morning, at 10:00 o'clock. Anybody that wants to come up and complain is also invited to be here. Everybody is invited to be present. We will be glad to have them.

The next thing is the question of Jehovah's Witness. I would like the City Attorney to make a very brief statement and then what you intend to do.

Mr. Kercheville: A suit has been filed by a number of individuals in the Federal Court against the City of San Antonio asking for an injunction to compel the City to grant them the lease and use of the Auditorium for five days in July. The Judge of the Court has ordered a hearing on the preliminary injunction, set for Thursday week at 9:30 a.m.

They are pleading to have a contract with the City of San Antonio and asking performance of the contract and the City Attorney has prepared and has been instructed to resist the suit at that time. And to sustain action of the council is only to refuse the use of the Auditorium.

Mayor Maverick: Well I think that is just the case and that will be determined by the Court. Let the Court decide. Any discussion of the case by me at this time would be superfluous and the Court can actually decide. Has anyone got anything they want to bring up?

Commissioner Lipscomb: I have something I would like to take up. I hope I am wrong that this country is in very serious danger, but I feel that it is in a most serious danger - more serious than any of us here have ever seen in our life time, most serious since the American Civil war. We should recruit here in San Antonio 500 to 1000 men, from the ages of 45 to 55, men possibly too old for active military service, who are physically fit, good men, possibly past the years where they would be in a commandatory service. They ought to be trained for any emergency that might arise here in San Antonio, either requiring police aid or what, and be in such shape that they could be turned over to a federal set up, which I understand is being organized to take care of home defense and such as that. I would like to have a reaction of the commissioners.

Commissioner Steffler: Make it 65! (Laughter)

Mayor Maverick: Well say 65, or anyone physically fit.

Commissioner Davis: I concur with Commissioner Lipscomb's suggestion, and think the plan worthy of adoption.

Commissioner Hein: We should take those of good moral character and physically fit. They would make good home guards.

Mayor Maverick: When I was in Washington I had a conversation and one of the reasons I was criticized was for not being more specific about what I got for San Antonio. I got so much this time I came back with a heavy heart. There were lots of things that would have been improper for me to say, some of the things I heard were confidential and would have scared people. We better get scared.

I did have a conversation with a high military official about this home guard business, and the discussion was about whether we would have them under the state governors or under the federal government. I said they should be under general supervision eventually of the federal government, because if they were under the governors direct, you would have one fellow with a hilly billy music complex and another man with a military complex and another with a complex about anyone that had a German or Italian name, and a lot of people would get kicked around.

Therefore it should be under the Federal Government as soon as that can be done. I think that the Federal Government isn't moving fast enough in a preparedness campaign. The government isn't moving fast enough in connection with Latin America and Mexico, and we know more about Latin America, here in San Antonio, than any people in the United States. I fully agree with Mr. Lipscomb, and we should have our Home Guard organized under the Personnel Department of the City. We don't want men in there who are nervous, that is, too nervous, we don't want men that drink too much whiskey, I mean too much regularly. We want men that stand well in the community, we want men of the highest calibre. There's no reason why an executive who is making \$10,000.00 a year should not be a special officer in a case like this.

I told everyone in Washington, including members of the Cabinet, that we have the most highly mechanized Police Force in the world and we are willing to give the benefit of that to the Federal government and the rest of the cities. I want San Antonio to take the lead in organizing this intelligently and carefully and when we have it organized, it will be an example to the entire United States of America. I believe that the Police Forces of America should be integrated. The Police Force of New York City with Brooklyn and those surrounding places has about 35,000 policemen. With the firemen, it runs probably 65,000. At one time the Police and Fire Departments of the New York City were bigger than the whole United States army. If these men are trained they can do lots for the United States and so can others. I think the suggestion of Mr. Lipscomb is an extremely valuable one. We should go about organizing this in a serious way, because it is essential and may be it will help wake them up in Washington.

Commissioner Lipscomb: We have to have men in this thing who are able to furnish their own equipment. We haven't got it. We tried to get equipment of this character from the Federal Government, but we weren't successful. I don't think we'll get it. If such a group is organized, it must be handled by trained people who know their jobs and can handle it in an intelligent manner. The only danger of having a militant home guard is sometimes it does more harm than good.

Mr. McGown: Get some advertising, work it out and have it understood eventually it will be turned over to the Federal Government.

Mayor Maverick: We want it in the papers and on the first page, not the last. It ought to be federal. Every man must take oath to support the Constitution of the United States. They don't have to support the city charter.

Commissioner Lipscomb: Each man ought to be finger-printed. Ought to know who he is.

Mayor Maverick: We should have his finger prints, his photograph, his age, his experience, whether he is employed or not employed, character of his employment, -- it isn't necessary to ask him how much he makes, but character of his employment, available time, and possibly a reasonable statement of his physical condition should be given. You don't have to

get a physical examination, because you and I couldn't pass that. We can not ask an applicant to pass the same tests as a 19 year old boy going into the army.

Mr. McGown: Do you want to ask the Personnel Department to work up some forms for it? We will work up the forms and have them ready.

Commissioner Lipscomb: Of course the services would be without compensation, and we cannot equip them.

Mr. McGown: They would have to agree to give so much time a week?

Commissioner Lipscomb: We would have to get help either from the reserve or national guards so that they can be trained in the handling of civil disorder, so that they would be available if necessary. We may never use them.

Commissioner Lipscomb: Probably we could get some instructors. We don't intend to make soldiers of them, but they should be trained in the fundamentals of tactics and civil disorder.

Mayor Maverick: The Police Officers could teach them and you can get all the National Guard officers you want.

Commissioner Lipscomb: They should give about 2 hours a week.

Mayor Maverick: They have got to be Minute Men.

Mr. Dillashaw: I would like to be the first to volunteer my services, being an ex-service man.

Mayor Maverick: We'll put Dillashaw down as the first volunteer.

Commissioner Lipscomb: Here is the proposition, if we should go into an emergency, probably the United States army would not be in San Antonio. We probably would have no garrison. 250 men of the Police Department and 100 men out of the fire department would not be a sufficient number to handle a civil disorder.

Commissioner Lipscomb: They (the Home Guard) could probably protect it against any civil disorder. Probably the thing will never be needed. We, at least should prepare ourselves for any eventualities. I think it would be a fine thing if we had such a mobilization here. More private cars now have radios in them, and they could be put in individual cars.

Mayor Maverick: I wish to introduce this Resolution:

A RESOLUTION (2033)

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:-

That the City of San Antonio offer the services of all its departments, and particularly the Police and Fire Departments, to the Federal Government to augment the program of national defense.

Be it further resolved that it is the opinion of the City Commission that all of the police and fire departments of the United States, together with their radio, transportation and other communication systems, be integrated with the Federal Government for such defense.

Be it further resolved that the citizenship of America be organized for home defense under Federal supervision to insure uniform standards and practices, and that such supervision by our national government over such voluntary "home guards" be conducted in a careful and conservative manner.

And be it further resolved that the citizenship of San Antonio, which is now organizing itself through a city personnel department on uniform standards employed by the Federal Government, be made available to a Federal system.

Be it further resolved that all persons in such "home guards" shall take an oath

to support the Constitution of the United States as a condition of enlistment.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 19th day of June, A.D. 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

The above resolution was passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit:

Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

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Commissioner Hein introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

No. 49 *MR-248* AN ORDINANCE (2033A)

APPROPRIATING \$15,048.49 OUT OF THE 1940 GENERAL FUND,
VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, FOR PAYROLLS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$15,048.49, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the 1940 General Fund, Departments as listed below, for payrolls for the period ending June 15, 1940, for the following accounts:

Dept. of Parks, Sanitation, etc.	\$14,853.91
Dept. of Public Affairs in General	194.58
	<u>\$15,048.49</u>

"And that warrant therefor shall be numbered #9 and dated as of June 15, 1940 to correspond with payroll accounts."

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 19th day of June 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

No. 50 *MR-249* AN ORDINANCE (2034)

APPROPRIATING \$1,599.05 OUT OF THE 1940 GENERAL FUND AND \$17.50
OUT OF THE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 15 FUND TO PAY FOR TELEPHONE
SERVICES.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$1,616.55, be and the same is hereby appropriated to pay Southwestern Bell Telephone Company for telephone services as per approved invoices on file in the City Auditor's Office, chargeable as follows:

1940 General Fund:

Departments of Public Affairs in General	\$ 412.80
Departments of Taxation	70.70
Departments of Sanitation, Parks & Pub. Prop.	225.28
Departments of Streets & Public Improvements	55.88
Departments of Fire and Police	834.39
	<u>\$1599.05</u>

Improvement District No. 15 Fund:

Account River Beautification WPA Project 13085	17.50
	<u>\$1616.55</u>

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 19th day of June 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Lipscomb introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

No. 51 MR-250 AN ORDINANCE (2035)

APPROPRIATING \$47.32 OUT OF THE 1940 GENERAL FUND TO RE-IMBURSE

LOUIS W. LIPSCOMB, FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONER FOR TRAVELING EXPENSES.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$47.32, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the 1940 General Fund, Police Account - to pay Louis W. Lipscomb; Fire & Police Commissioner for traveling expenses incurred by various employees on official city business, as per approved requisition and expenses bills on file in the City Auditor's Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 19th day of June 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Steffler introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

No. 52 MR-251 AN ORDINANCE (2036)

APPROPRIATING \$46.00 OUT OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO EXCAVATION

TRUST ACCOUNT FOR REFUNDS AND REPAIRS.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$46.00, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of Street Excavation Trust Account for refunds and repairs, as per City Engineer's letter of June 19, 1940, as follows:

Bilt Rite Construction Co.	Refund	\$ 7.15
Mrs. Joe H. Garrison	"	8.00
City of San Antonio	Repairs	30.85
		<u>\$46.00</u>

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 19th day of June 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Davis introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

No. 53 MR-252 AN ORDINANCE (2037)

APPROPRIATING \$575.00 OUT OF THE 1940 GENERAL FUND FOR MOTOR

VEHICLE REGISTER FOR THE YEAR 1940.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, that, the sum of \$575.00, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the 1940 General Fund, Assessor's Account, payable

to J. T. Simmons for furnishing motor vehicle register for the year 1940 in accordance with contract dated May 2, 1940, as per approved invoice on file in the City Auditor's Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED on the 19th day of June 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

No. 54 MR-253 AN ORDINANCE (2038)

ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR THE EXPENDITURES EXPECTED TO BE MADE BY THE CITY DURING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR 1940.

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

1. That a tentative budget for the expenditures expected to be made by the City of San Antonio during the current Fiscal Year 1940, beginning the 1st day of June, 1940 and ending the 31st day of May, 1941, containing an estimate of the various amounts apportioned to each Department for services, public work, materials, supplies and expenses, estimated to be necessary therefor, is hereby adopted, in words and figures as follows:

For the Department of Public Affairs in General, the sum of	\$ 455,958.00
For the Department of Taxation, the sum of	143,000.00
For the Department of Sanitation, Parks and Public Property, the sum of	680,000.00
For the Department of Streets and Public Improvements, the sum of	394,800.00
For the Department of Fire and Police, the sum of	<u>1,325,000.00</u>
TOTAL BUDGET FOR ALL OF THE ABOVE	\$2,998,758.00

2. Be it further ordained that the sum of TWO MILLION, NINE HUNDRED NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$2,998,758.00), be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the 1940 General Fund, to provide for the operating expenses of the various departments of the City for the Fiscal Year ending May 31, 1941, as set out in Section 1.

3. PASSED AND APPROVED this 19th day of June, A.D. 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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Commissioner Davis introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

MR-254 AN ORDINANCE (2039)

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE RENTAL AGREEMENT ON ONE BURROUGHS STYLE 78 06 70 ACCOUNTING MACHINE.

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

1. That the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to sign a Rental Agreement with the Burroughs Adding Machine Company for the rental of one Burroughs Style 78 06 70 Accounting Machine, for Payroll, Warrant Register, and Voucher Register Operation at the rate of One Hundred and Seventy Two Dollars and Seventy Six Cents (\$172.76) per month, in advance, for a period of nine months on printed form of Rental Agreement.

2. PASSED AND APPROVED this 19th day of June, A.D. 1940.

Maury Maverick
Mayor.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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Mayor Maverick introduced the following ordinance, which was read, passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mayor Maverick, and Commissioners Davis, Hein, Lipscomb and Steffler.

AN ORDINANCE (2040)

PROVIDING FOR AN AUDIT OF CITY BOOKS AND CONTRACT WITH CARNEIRO, CHUMNEY & CO.

(For full text of this Ordinance, see Ordinance Book "J", page 151)

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On motion duly seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned.

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APPROVED Maury Maverick
MAYOR.

ATTEST: H. L. Dillashaw
City Clerk.

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