

THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS WERE GRANTED:

The petition of C. B Nash, requesting approval for a location of a drive-in filling station on Lot # 1 and 2, NCB 2069, at 1403 Culebra Ave.

The petition of Kenneth L. Browne, requesting plat approval and resubdivision in NCB 8364.

The petition of R. E. Young requesting approval of a correction plat of lots 1-A, 2-A, 3-A,4-A and 5-A of Tract 175 NCB 836.

The petition of H. B. Zachry Properties Inc., requesting plat approval of Monticello Heights, Unit 2.

The meeting was recess until September 5th., at 10: A.M.

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RECESSED MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE CITY HALL, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th., 1950 AT 10:00 A.M.

PRESENT:

DAVIS, HEIN, KNIGHT AND SOUTH: MAYOR WHITE ABSENT- Commissioner Davis presiging as Mayor Pro-Tem.

THE FOLLOWING PETITIONS WERE PRESENTED:

Commissioner of Taxation:

The petition of the San Pedro Avenue Methodist Church, requesting that 4600 block, San Pedro Avenue, lot No. 1,2,3,4, NCB 9192 be exempt from taxation.

The petition of Home Mission Board of Southern Baptist Convention requesting that lot numbers 1,2,13 & 14, NCB 2456, at 2122 Colima Street be exempt from taxation.

The following ordinances were presented by the Mayor and various Commissioners and were passed and approved by a roll call vote to-wit: Ayes, Davis, Hein, Knight and South; Nays; White-(absent)

COMM. DAVIS.
APPRO. NO. 446

AN ORDINANCE 12,697

APPROPRIATING \$58,031.68 OUT OF THE 1950 GENERAL FUND, PROCEEDS OF NOTES ACCOUNT TO PAY PER DIEM PAYROLLS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book U. page. 481

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APPRO. NO. 447

AN ORDINANCE 12,698

APPROPRIATING \$50,000.00 OUT OF THE CITY COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL FUND, PAYABLE TO THE CITY COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL BOARD.

(Full text in Ordinance Book U. page. 482

COMM. HEIN

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APPRO. NO. 448

AN ORDINANCE 12,699

APPROPRIATING \$180.00 OUT OF THE STINSON HOMES SECURITY FUND PAYABLE TO VARIOUS PERSONS AS REFUND OF SECURITY DEPOSITS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book U. page. 482

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COMM. KNIGHT
APPRO. NO. #49

AN ORDINANCE 12,700

APPROPIATING \$1,279.90 OUT OF THE SANITARY SEWER PLANT & SYSTEM A-47 FUND TO PAY PER DIEM PAYROLL.

(Full text in Ordinance Book U. page. 482

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SEPTEMBER 5, 1950

COMM. DAVIS, for
MAYOR WHITE

APPRO. 450

AN ORDINANCE 12,701

APPROPRIATING \$1,030.00 OUT OF THE PARK REVENUE
BOND 1945 FUND TO PAY WILLOW SPRINGS GOLF COURSE
PAYROLL.

(Full text in Ordinance Book U. page. 483

The City Clerk read the veto message of Mayor White relative to "AN ORDINANCE REGULATING PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES OF CHARTER EMPLOYEES". Commissioner Davis read a reply to the veto message both of which are copied below as follows:

TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO,

SIRS:

Under the authority vested in me, as Mayor, by Paragraph 1, Section 26, of the Charter of the City of San Antonio, I hereby notify you that I disapprove of the ordinance REGULATING PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES OF CHARTER EMPLOYEES passed by the Board of Commissioners of the City of San Antonio on August 31, 1950, and I hereby veto said ordinance.

In compliance with the City's charter, I specify my objections to this Ordinance in writing, and they are as follows:

1. It is almost as evil as some of the orders issued from the Kremlin of Communist Russia.
2. It will stifle the energy, initiative and ambition of all City officers and employees and make a mockery of the freedom of American citizens to pursue their private courses, each in search of his own betterment.
3. It is calculated to produce City officials and employees who are little more than adject slaves of the Commissioners.
4. It will prevent an honest, capable and faithful city employee or officer from even investing his savings and earnings in some small business enterprise, and thereby seeking to secure his own and his family's future welfare.
5. It is designed to reduce the character and quality of public officials of this city.
6. It was conceived in viciousness, for the purpose of threatening and penalizing honest, straightforward officials and employees who do their duty; and to give the Commissioners virtual control over all the employees and officers of the Mayor, even to the extent of regulating their activities in their own homes at night.
7. If this sorry creature of petty politics weren't so clearly vicious, it would be ridiculous.
8. It is a ruthless, rank discrimination against the officers and employees of the Mayor, in favor of those employed by the four Commissioners. The inclusion of the offices of the Chief of Police and City Engineer in this ordinance is in my opinion, a pure, political smoke screen.
9. In this thing it is made unlawful "to employ a person***** or to continue one presently employed who is engaged in private business or private practice." But it was all right, back in 1941 and 1942 for the people of this city to employ the Tax Commissioner at \$500.00 per month for sixteen long months while he drew over \$444.00 per month from the United States for active duty in the Quartermaster Corps of the Army. Yet it now is declared to be against public policy for one of the Mayor's employees to rent a room in his own home, and thereby endeavor to meet the rising cost of living.

10. It is all right for the big man to try to make all he can but it is all wrong for the little fellow to try to improve his lot.

11. If this piece of stupid legislation is allowed to stand, the next step might well be to tell the City officers and employees not only what they cannot do on their own time, but what they shall do on it.

12. Under Section 2 of this thing this City would be forbidden from hiring any practicing lawyer to staff the City Attorney's office, any auditor in the Auditor's Department, or a doctor in the Health Department. I quote from Section 2, as follows: "And it shall hereafter be unlawful for the City Council or any member thereof to employ a person in any one of the aforementioned positions or to continue one presently employed who is engaged in private business or the private practice of a profession in any manner whatsoever."

If a doctor, lawyer or auditor ever left the employment of the City and thereafter engaged in private practice, it would be unlawful to re-employ him.

13. As long as any city official or employee engages in a respectable and honest business or career, I shall never be a party to any attempt to dictatorially say to him that he cannot engage in such business or profession on his own time.

14. I do not believe that the City has any such power to regulate the lives, activities, businesses or pursuits of its officers and employees, and any such attempt would be unconstitutional and void.

/s/ A. C. White, Mayor of
the City of San Antonio.

September 1, 1950

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City Hall,
September 4, 1950.

Mayor A. C. Jack White,
City of San Antonio,
City Hall.

Dear Sir:

With shocking surprise, I have read in the press your veto of an ordinance, passed by the City Council on August 31, 1950, that would cause city employees, provided for by charter, to work full time in their respective city jobs in order to be continued on the pay roll and receive pay from the City.

Your veto message refers to "kremlin" tactics. Of all people it is most unbecoming of you, Mayor White, to make reference to the ways of Moscow, because you assumed the roll of dictator the day you took office as Mayor and you have employed the tactics of Jacob Malik Russian veto on several occasions other than this. Even now you are trying to deny the City employees the right to a vote on Civil Service unless they agree to include a brand of government dictated by you. In the face of this, you have the affrontery to state that the ordinance requiring full time work, places city employees in "abject slavery". Just who are you trying to hoodwink, Mr. Mayor? And furthermore, Just how will it "stifle energy and initiative" to cause such employees to work full time instead of engaging in private business or practicing a profession on city time?

Your veto message, although rather far fetched, also refers to a period when I was ordered to active duty in the army during the early part of World War II, and surprisingly near correct coming from you, Mr. Mayor, states that for a time I drew pay from the army while continuing to serve as Commissioner. For your information, the record further reveals

that when ordered away from San Antonio, eight months prior to my going overseas, I personally offered an ordance, which was duly passed, granting me a leave of absence, WITHOUT PAY.

That is my record, now what is yurs, Mr. Mayro? Just how much time do you devote to city business? It is generally known that you are operating at least three (3) hotels, a liquor store, a bar, an insurance business, a farm and perhaps there may be others. Do these businesses operate without any time and attention from you, Mr. Mayor? If they do, you are a genius. However, from my observation, I don't believe you are gifted with any such superior talent or sober mental capacity. The small amount of time you spend at the City Hall indicates that you are devoting much of your time to the promotion of your own private interests. Your personal habits, Mr. Mayor, set a very poor example for city employees, which in turn, encourages dereliction of duty. The fact that you object to requiring them to work full time for full pay gives me much concern as to how the tax-payer is going to fair as a result of such an unreasonable attitude. The tax-payer's dollar must pay the bill, therefore I think they have a right to expect the protection this ordance provieds.

"Stupid legislation" you call it, Mr. Mayor. I contend it represents sound doctrine to require full time work of key city employees in return for full pay. We can be certain that you don't permit your hotel employees to operate a hotel on the side while drawing a salary from Jack White. The tax dollar should be given the same careful consideration.

Yours truly,

/s/ C. Ray Davis,
Commissioner of Taxation.

On a motion by Commissioner South, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by a roll call vote to-wit:Ayes, Davis, Hein, Knight and South; Nays, White-(absent), the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED

ATTEST:

J. Frank Gallagher,
City Clerk


C. Ray Davis,
M A Y O R
Pro-Tem.

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