

JULY 12, 1945

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE CITY HALL, AT TEN O'CLOCK, A.M., THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1945.

PRESENT: Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson; Mayor Mauermann presiding.

The Clerk read the minutes of the meetings of June 28, June 29, July 5 and July 11, which minutes were each approved, as read, on motion of Commissioner Steffler in each case, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson.

Mr. Howell Jones, representing the Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Council and asked that the City of San Antonio intervene in behalf of the Braniff Air Lines' application before Civil Aeronautics Board for a permit to extend service to New York City and points between. Jones explained that the new service, if permitted, would provide a one-plane ride from San Antonio to New York City, give San Antonio its first through service to Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and other cities on the route to New York, and avoid the inconvenience of weather delays on the transcontinental lines which now must be used on the trip from San Antonio to New York. Airport Director William Steinhardt concurred in Jones' statements.

On motion of Commissioner Steffler, seconded by Commissioner Anderson and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson, the Council authorized full power to the Mayor to take whatever steps he deems necessary and for the best interests of the city in this matter.

The following petitions were presented and referred:

Four petitions of Central Baptist Church for exemption of taxes on the following property: 1226 S. Presa St., 317 Dunning Ave., 1232 S. Presa and 230 Vance Sts., and 143 and 145 Florida St., all referred to Commissioner of Taxation.

Petition of Southside Improvement Leagues asking for zoning of certain areas, referred to City Building Inspector for submission to the Zoning Commission.

Commissioner Callaghan introduced the following ordinances, which were passed and approved by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson.

APPRO. NO. 77

AN ORDINANCE (2395)

APPROPRIATING \$25,009.59 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND TO PAY ONE NOTE, No. 8, OF 1945 GENERAL FUND SERIES AND ACCRUED INTEREST.

APPRO. NO. 78

AN ORDINANCE (2396)

APPROPRIATING \$247.22 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND TO PAY EXCHANGE ON AUGUST 1, 1945, BOND AND INTEREST COUPON MATURITIES.

APPRO. NO. 79

AN ORDINANCE (2397)

APPROPRIATING \$197,775.00 OUT OF VARIOUS SINKING FUNDS TO PAY AUGUST 1, 1945, BOND AND INTEREST COUPON MATURITIES.

Commissioner Hein introduced the following ordinances, which were passed and approved by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson.

JULY 12, 1945

APPRO. NO. 80

AN ORDINANCE (2398)

APPROPRIATING \$4,000.00 AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE TWO VENDOR'S LIEN NOTES FOR \$6,000.00 EACH TO BUY PROPERTY FOR THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO.

- - -
AN ORDINANCE (2399)

APPRO. NO. 81

ACCEPTING PROPOSAL: CREATING CONTRACT AND MAKING APPROPRIATION FOR MATERIALS AND LABOR WITH KRAUSE ELECTRIC CO. FOR RE-WIRING AND RE-LOCATING FOUR MOTOR CIRCUITS AT SEWAGE PLANT.

- - -
AN ORDINANCE (2400)

APPROVING THE BOND OF GEORGE EVERS ON CONTRACT FOR THE PARK CONCESSIONS.

Commissioner Steffler introduced the following ordinances, which were passed and approved by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson.

APPRO. NO. 82-

AN ORDINANCE (2401)

ACCEPTING PROPOSAL OF FRED J. GIMBEL TO SELL CERTAIN PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO TO EXTEND PEACH STREET: AND APPROPRIATING \$500.00.

City Engineer Coghill stated this property was being purchased for drainage purposes and that the City would sell part of it, leaving the ultimate cost to the City of \$250.00.

- - -
AN ORDINANCE (2402)

APPRO. NO. 83

APPROPRIATING \$98.51 TO PAY RODGERS & STEWART, INC., FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CONCRETE BUS STOPS.

- - -
AN ORDINANCE (2403)

APPRO. NO. 84

APPROPRIATING \$990.40 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND, ANNEXATION ENGINEERING DEPT., PAYABLE TO FRANK T. DROUGHT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH BOUNDARY SURVEYS OF ANNEXED AREAS.

On recommendation of City Engineer and on motion of Commissioner Steffler, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson, the Council approved the plat of subdivision of Tract No. 254, Harlandale Acre Tracts No. 2 (First Filing), submitted by Mr. Alexander Brenner.

On recommendation and motion of Commissioner Anderson, in each case, seconded by Commissioner Steffler and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, the Council granted two petitions of Carle Petroleum Co. for permission to make gasoline installations at 422 Pleasanton Road and 5401 S. Flores St.

Commissioner Anderson then offered a motion that the Council, at the close of business, adjourn in memory of Henry M. Hein, son of Commissioner Hein, whose death had been reported by the War Department. Commissioner Anderson addressed the Council as follows:

"Your Honor, I want to make a motion that when we adjourn today, we adjourn in memory of Henry M. Hein. I have seen this young man grow from boyhood into young manhood. Reared in a fine Christian home under the most wholesome of surroundings, deeply imbued as he was in the finest of American traditions, he followed the footsteps of his father. His father in 1917 and 1918 served in the Army. This young boy answered the call of his country -- and he gave his all. Greater love hath no man. He gave his all that our democratic form of government might survive.

"There is nothing we can put into a resolution that will adequately express our thoughts to you, Commissioner Hein, and to your good wife, but I feel sure that you know that the Mayor and Commissioners sympathize with you and your family in the hour you received the news concerning your son. But, at the same time, we glory with you in having a boy who so courageously gave his life in order that the American form of government might survive.

JULY 12, 1945

"I move, Your Honor, that we adjourn in memory of the late Henry M. Hein."

Following a second by Commissioner Steffler, the motion was adopted unanimously.

The following telegram is included in these minutes as explanatory material, for the record:

"Washington, D. C., 1945 Jul. 9

"Mrs. Paula Hein
"600 Goliad St., San Antonio, Tex.

"It is with deep regret I must now inform you a report has just been received which states that your son, Private Henry M. Hein, who was previously reported missing in action, died twenty-two February Nineteen Forty Five while a prisoner of war of the German government as a result of wounds received in action. The Secretary of War asks that I express his deep sympathy in your terrible loss, which has been doubly hard to bear through unavoidable delay in reporting your son's death to you. Permit me to add my personal expression of condolence. Confirming letter follows immediately.

"Edward F. Witsell, Acting, the Adjutant General of the Army."

(The confirming letter provided the following information: Official captured records revealed that Private Henry M. Hein, Army Serial No. 38,677,838, Company K, 328th Inf., 26th Division, died in the vicinity of Saarbruecken, Germany, 22 February 1945, as a result of wounds received in action.)

Mayor Mauermann introduced the following ordinances, which were passed and approved by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson.

A RESOLUTION (2404)

DIRECTING THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE OF APPROXIMATELY 20,000 FEET OF USED OAK FLOORING LOCATED AT THE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.

APPRO. NO. 85

AN ORDINANCE (2405)

APPROPRIATING \$47.00 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND FOR BURIAL OF PAUPERS DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1945.

APPRO. NO. 86

AN ORDINANCE (2406)

APPROPRIATING \$60.00 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPT., TO PAY DR. J. M. DONALDSON JR. FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

APPRO. NO. 87

AN ORDINANCE (2407)

APPROPRIATING \$60.00 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPT., TO PAY DR. HELEN CANNON BERNFIELD FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

APPRO. NO. 88

AN ORDINANCE (2408)

APPROPRIATING \$60.00 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPT., TO PAY DR. B. E. GALLOWAY FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

APPRO. NO. 89

AN ORDINANCE (2409)

APPROPRIATING \$25.00 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPT., PAYABLE TO DR. E. J. ARENDT FOR USE OF X-RAY EQUIPMENT FOR MONTH OF JUNE, 1945.

JULY 12, 1945

APPRO. NO. 90

AN ORDINANCE (2410)

APPROPRIATING \$66.00 OUT OF COMMERCE BUILDING FUND, PAYABLE TO OTIS ELEVATOR CO. FOR MAINTENANCE OF ELEVATORS FOR MONTH OF JUNE, 1945.

- - -

APPRO. NO. 91

AN ORDINANCE (2411)

APPROPRIATING \$47.31 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPT., PAYABLE TO TOM L. JOHNSON, COORDINATOR, FOR EXPENSES INCURRED ON TRIP TO AUSTIN, TEXAS.

- - -

APPRO. NO. 92

AN ORDINANCE (2412)

APPROPRIATING \$100.00 OUT OF 1945 GENERAL FUND TO PAY RENT FOR U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

- - -

APPRO. NO. 93

AN ORDINANCE (2413)

APPROPRIATING \$129.45 OUT OF ADVERTISING FUND PAYABLE TO SHIRLEY BROWN SADDLERY, FOR CAMP SAN ANTONIO AT CHATEAU THIERRY.

- - -

APPRO. NO. 94

AN ORDINANCE (2414)

APPROPRIATING \$354.00 OUT OF ADVERTISING FUND PAYABLE TO GARCIA AND KELLY-SCHERRER FLOWER SHOPS FOR FLOWERS FOR WAR HEROES.

- - -

AN ORDINANCE (2415)

MAKING A CONTRACT WITH THE TERRELL BARTLETT ENGINEERS FOR AN APPRAISAL OF CERTAIN PRIVATELY OWNED WATER SYSTEMS WITHIN THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO.

- - -

Mayor Mauermann introduced the following ordinance, which was passed and approved by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein, Steffler and Anderson; Nay, Callaghan.

AN ORDINANCE (2416)

MAKING A CONTRACT WITH JOHN E. ZELLER TO OPERATE THE CONCESSIONS IN WILLOW SPRINGS PARK.

Before the vote on this ordinance, Commissioner Callaghan stated he thought Mr. Zeller, as concessionaire, should be placed under bond to the City. He said the City Charter required such bond.

Mayor Mauermann replied he thought it would be an "affront" to Mr. Zeller to require such bond, since Mr. Zeller was offering his services free to the City and had already contributed more than the amount of such bond toward the purchase price of Willow Springs.

Commissioner Callaghan said he thought it would be "just a business proposition" to require the bond.

In reply to a question from Commissioner Hein, Mayor Mauermann explained Mr. Zeller would handle no money, all receipts being handled by a City employee, bonded to the City. The vote followed, as recorded above.

- - -

One bid, to repair roofs at the City Material Yard was opened and publicly read and referred to the City Engineer.

- - -

The Council then proceeded with the hearing on the application of Lon D. Fisher, doing business as White and Blue Cab Co., to transfer his taxicab permits to K. M. Fisher. City Attorney Cobbs outlined the rules of procedure and Mr. K. M. Fisher and Mr. Walter Flack, auditor for the cab company, appeared in behalf of the petitioner. Mr. Flack filed a financial statement showing the financial ability of Mr. K. M. Fisher to operate the company. There were no appearances in protest to the application.

JULY 12, 1945

Following the hearing, Commissioner Anderson introduced the following ordinance, which was passed and approved by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson.

AN ORDINANCE (2219)

PERMITTING LON D. FISHER, DOING BUSINESS AS WHITE AND BLUE CAB COMPANY, TO TRANSFER TAXICAB PERMITS TO K. M. FISHER.

The Council then proceeded with the hearing on the application of the San Antonio Transit Co. for approval of changes in routing of the Beacon Hill and San Pedro bus lines and discontinuance of present service on the North Flores bus line.

The City Attorney explained this was a hearing on necessity and convenience, with the Board of Commissioners sitting as a quasi-judicial body to pass on a civil right, and outlined the rules of procedure.

Mr. Laurence Wingerter, Vice President of the Transit Co., explained the reasons for which the company is seeking the changes. He stated the commanders of four army installations had requested additional service, which the company thought was badly needed, and the only way to provide it would be to curtail service on less popular lines. With the aid of a blackboard sketch, he detailed the changes requested and added that the few buses they would make available still would not solve the problem of complete service to the army posts.

Judge O. M. Fitzhugh stated the case of the citizens protesting the proposed changes. He argued they would just intensify present traffic bottlenecks, would deprive one of the most completely populated sections of the City of proper bus service, would result in inconvenience to the public and would not achieve the result sought by the Transit Co. He accused the Transit Co. of "bad faith", charging the company had sold buses to Wichita Falls and to Mexico while it was pleading a shortage of equipment as a reason for the changes.

Judge R. J. Boyle, who stated he was appearing only as an interested citizen, opposed the changes in routing of the San Pedro and Belknap lines as a traffic menace. When he explained the traffic bottlenecks which would be intensified by the proposed changes, Commissioner Anderson called Police Lt. George Bichsel, traffic engineer, into the meeting and instructed him to investigate the traffic situation complained of.

Rebuttal:

Mr. Wingerter stated an increase in the number of buses on a street would actually reduce rather than increase congestion, that the buses sold were too small to be used in San Antonio and were disposed of to make room for large buses which are on order, that the company has 100 fewer drivers today than a year ago while the transportation load has increased 10 per cent, with the increase being many times greater on the lines serving military posts.

Judge Fitzhugh charged the Transit Co. was "not disposed to give service" but was rather interested only in "making more money."

Other appearances included Mr. W. W. Holden for the Transit Co. and Rev. W. D. White for the protesting group.

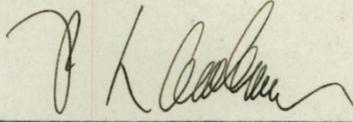
Commissioner Anderson cited traffic count statistics material to the discussion.

Commissioner Steffler moved that the matter be passed to the Committee of the Whole for further discussion, with a vote to be taken Thursday, July 19, to attempt to decide the issue. After a second by Commissioner Hein, the motion was carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson.

JULY 12, 1945

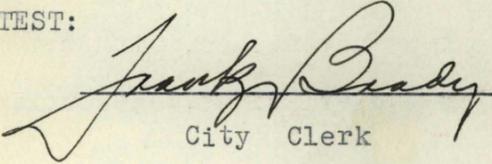
There being no further business before the Council at this time, the meeting stood adjourned in honor of the memory of Henry M. Hein, in accordance with the motion adopted earlier in the meeting.

APPROVED:



M A Hayer Pro-Tem

ATTEST:


City Clerk

(For full text of all ordinances passed at this meeting, see Ordinance Book "M", pages 626 through 635.)

* * *