

FEBRUARY 15, 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., ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1945.

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

The Clerk read the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 8, which minutes were approved, as read, on motion of Commissioner Hein, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson.

The Clerk read the following letters:

Honorable Mayor
City Commissioners
City of San Antonio
Building

Dear Sir:

With reference to the petition of Reverend S. E. Steward and others requesting sanitary sewers, I wish to advise an investigation has been made and it is found that the topography of the land, in the area where the petitioners reside, is such that a gravity line could not be connected to our existing sewer system.

Therefore, due to the above mentioned condition, their request cannot be granted.

Very truly yours,

s/ Thos. H. Coghill
City Engineer.

Honorable Mayor
City Commissioners
City of San Antonio
Building

Gentlemen:

With reference to the petition of Mr. John E. West and others requesting the opening of Gifford Street, from Fay Avenue to Main Street in South San Antonio, which is a part of the newly annexed areas to this City, I wish to advise that the City does not have any funds available for the purchase of land for street extensions and unless the land required for this extension is deeded to the City it is impossible that this request be granted until such time as a bond issue is voted for this purpose.

Respectfully,

s/ Thos. H. Coghill
City Engineer.

Honorable Mayor
City Commissioners
City of San Antonio
Building

Gentlemen:

With reference to the attached petition signed by property owners and residents of West Laurel Heights Addition, which is a part of the newly annexed areas to this City, I wish to call your attention to the agreement between the City and County Commissioners, in which they agreed to maintain the streets within these areas until June 1, 1945.

I therefore recommend that this petition be referred to the proper County Commissioner for action in accordance with our agreement.

Respectfully,

s/ Thos. H. Coghill
City Engineer.

Mayor Mauermann asked Engineer Coghill for a report from the Council Committee appointed to investigate the need for extensions and improvements in the City Water System.

Coghill stated the Committee had located three streets with no water supply at all, and

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that he had asked the Health Department a week ago to furnish more information on these.

Mayor Mauermann instructed Coghill to inform his Committee that quicker action was desired.

Commissioner Anderson reported that in some cases he had found 30 or more families served by a single 1½-inch main. He asked Fire Chief C.A. Hart if he had completed his investigation in respect to the need for fire plugs. Hart replied reports were in on all except a few areas where mud conditions prevented him from investigating, whereupon Commissioner Anderson instructed him to get out of his car and walk into these areas.

Commissioner Anderson stated he understood that, despite the City Water Board's inability to get materials due to war conditions, several little independent water companies were making substantial improvements in their systems.

The following petitions were presented and referred as indicated:

Petition of Pedro Hernandez for permission to move gasoline tanks and pumps from 2625 Guadalupe St. and 307 S. Santa Rosa Ave. to 2715 Guadalupe St., and an accompanying petition to construct filling station at 2715 Guadalupe St., both referred to Commissioner of Fire & Police.

Petition of Jose Oviedo on behalf of property owners on Orleans St. between San Jacinto and S. Brazos Sts., asking construction of sanitary sewers on Orleans St., referred to Commissioner of Streets.

Petition of Mrs. H. P. Curtis and others asking relief from bad drainage condition on Commercial Avenue for two or three blocks south of Stonewall St., referred to Commissioner of Streets.

The petition of Mrs. Fred M. Wilson and others for relief of unsanitary conditions in the vicinity of Fulton, Elsmere and Lynwood Sts. was referred to the Health Department for immediate action on motion of Commissioner Steffler, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson. A committee headed by Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. J. L. Stedham, Jr., appeared before the Council in support of this petition.

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

APPRO. NO. 531

AN ORDINANCE (1803)

APPROPRIATING \$1,742.57 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND TO PAY TELEPHONE SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY 1945.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 310.)

APPRO. NO. 532

AN ORDINANCE (1804)

APPROPRIATING \$88,998.88 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND FOR SEMI-MONTHLY PAYROLLS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 310.)

APPRO. NO. 533

AN ORDINANCE (1805)

APPROPRIATING \$56,575.00 OUT OF VARIOUS SINKING FUNDS TO PAY MARCH 1, 1945, INTEREST COUPON MATURITIES.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 311.)

APPRO. NO. 534

AN ORDINANCE (1806)

APPROPRIATING \$46,067.92 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND TO PAY FOR MATERIALS, SUPPLIES AND MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 311.)

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APPRO. NO. 535

AN ORDINANCE (1807)

APPROPRIATING \$70.72 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND TO PAY EXCHANGE ON MARCH 1, 1945, INTEREST COUPON MATURITIES.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 312.)

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

APPRO. NO. 536

AN ORDINANCE (1808)

APPROPRIATING \$214.20 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, PAYABLE TO SOWELL WRECKING COMPANY FOR SUPPLIES AND REPAIRS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 312.)

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

APPRO. NO. 537

AN ORDINANCE (1809)

APPROPRIATING \$75.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, ANNEXATION ENGINEERING DEPT., FOR MAKING TRACINGS IN CONNECTION WITH ANNEXATION ENGINEERING.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 312.)

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A RESOLUTION (1810)

DIRECTING THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR SALE OF CERTAIN PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, LOCATED AT THE CITY ROCK QUARRY.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 313.)

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On motion of Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by the following vote on roll call, to wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, in each case, the following petitions were granted:

Petition of O. E. Fitzgerald to replace gasoline tank at S. Pine and Sanders Sts.

Petition of Sinclair Refining Co. to remove three tanks and replace with four tanks at 448 S. St. Mary's St.

Petition of Y. P. Bowen to install twin gasoline pump and two underground tanks at 5043 W. Commerce St.

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

APPRO. NO. 538

AN ORDINANCE (1811)

AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND AMENDING THE 1944 BUDGET.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 313.)

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

APPRO. NO. 539

AN ORDINANCE (1812)

APPROPRIATING \$22.50 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND TO PAY DR. HELEN CANNON BERNFIELD FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 314.)

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APPRO. NO. 540

AN ORDINANCE (1813)

APPROPRIATING \$60.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND TO PAY DR. J. M. DONALDSON, JR., FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 314.)

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APPRO. NO. 541

AN ORDINANCE (1814)

APPROPRIATING \$60.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND TO PAY DR. B.E. GALLOWAY FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 314.)

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APPRO. NO. 542

AN ORDINANCE (1815)

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

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 315.)

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Mayor Mauermann introduced the following ordinance, which was passed and approved by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Steffler and Anderson; Nay, Hein (not voting).

AN ORDINANCE (1816).

DECLARING THE SALE, TRANSFER, USE, OR ACQUISITION OF A COMMODITY OR SERVICE WHICH IS RATIONED OR CONTROLLED UNDER ANY ORDER ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES WITHOUT TAKING OR GIVING RATION EVIDENCES; OR THE SELLING OR PURCHASING OF ANY COMMODITY OR SERVICE AT A PRICE IN EXCESS OF THE MAXIMUM PRICE ESTABLISHED BY ANY SUCH ORDER; OR THE POSSESSION, TRANSFER, OR DISPOSITION OF ANY RATION COUPONS OR RATION EVIDENCE, OR THE SALE OR PURCHASE OF ANY COMMODITY OR SERVICE IN EXCESS OF THE MAXIMUM PRICE, OR ANY SOLICITING OR ATTEMPTING TO IN ANY MANNER SO DO, TO BE UNLAWFUL, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 315.)

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City Attorney Cobbs explained the above ordinance, stating that it places minor infractions of OPA regulations under jurisdiction of Corporation Court, making a saving in the legal expense required of a defendant and lowering the possible fine; that it was introduced at the request on the OPA and drawn according to a general form provided by the OPA; that similar ordinances have been enacted by most cities of the United States in cooperation with the OPA. In reply to a question from Commissioner Anderson, he stated all infractions calling for fines of less than \$100 would be under jurisdiction of Corporation Court, the decision on whether an offense is of major or minor proportions to be made by the OPA attorneys.

Commissioner Hein expressed a fear that the ordinance might be too far-reaching and that the Council might at a later date regret having passed it. He stated he did not wish to be a party to any "monkey-business".

Mayor Mauermann stated he was of the opinion it was the Council's duty to back the OPA and that he was willing to "back them up 100%"--adding he felt sure the Corporation Court Judge was capable of administering the ordinance in a fair and impartial manner.

The vote followed, as recorded above.

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One bid, the only bid received, for purchase of city property located at Clark, Peck and Drexel Aves., was opened and publicly read and referred to the Commissioner of Parks.

Bids on construction of sanitary sewers in various parts of the City were opened and publicly read and referred to the City Engineer.

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Bids on paving North St. Mary's St. through Koehler Park were opened and publicly read.

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Acting on the recommendation of the City Engineer and on motion of Commissioner Steffler, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, the bid of Colglazier and Hoff was accepted and the City Attorney instructed to draw the necessary ordinance.

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Bids to furnish one piano for the Recreation Dept. were opened and publicly read. On motion of Commissioner Hein, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, the bid of Mrs. A. F. Snell was accepted and the ordinance ordered drawn as follows:

APPRO. NO. 543

AN ORDINANCE (1817)

ACCEPTING PROPOSAL, CREATING CONTRACT AND MAKING APPROPRIATION FOR EQUIPMENT WITH MRS. ALBERT F. SNELL TO FURNISH RECREATION DEPT. WITH ONE USED CARLISLE UPRIGHT PIANO FOR NET SUM OF \$130.00.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 317.)

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On motion of Commissioner Callaghan, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, the meeting was recessed to Tuesday, February 20, 11:00 o'clock, A. M.

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PURSUANT TO THE RECESS of the meeting of February 15, the Council reconvened in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 11:00 o'clock, A. M., Tuesday, February 20.

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

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The Clerk read the following letter:

February 15, 1945

Honorable Gus B. Mauermann
Mayor
City of San Antonio
Building

Dear Sir:

The undersigned made an inspection on February 6, 1945, of the condition on Chihuahua Street, Vera Cruz Street, and Colima Street in the block immediately west of Southwest 19th Street with the view of ascertaining whether or not the seventy (70) houses located on these streets were served with water from the City Water Board, or any other company.

This investigation revealed that there is no water service available to these houses, their source of water supply is derived from water peddlers delivering water to open barrels located in the yards as shown by the attached photographs taken by Captain Davenport of the Police Department.

In discussing these conditions with some of the people living in these houses, we were informed that application had been made to the City Water Board some months ago for water service and that a number of them had deposits on file with the Board, but as yet, nothing had been done.

This condition is causing a very serious health menace to this part of the City since without water there can be no sanitary sewers in operation and we therefore recommend that an effort be made to extend water service to these houses.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Thos. H. Coghill
City Engineer

s/ Lewis C. Robbins, M.D.
Director of Public Health

s/ C. A. Hart
Fire Chief

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Mayor Mauermann stated he had instructed the City Clerk to investigate this matter and asked for a report.

The Clerk stated he had contacted Mr. John P. Newcomb, Water Board Secretary, who said the Water Board has issued orders to its construction department to lay mains on Chihuahua and Vera Cruz Streets in the areas complained of, which work will be done as quickly as possible. The Clerk added that Mr. Newcomb said the Board has no applications for connections on file from the Colima Street residents.

The following petitions were presented and referred as indicated:

Petition of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church for exemption from City taxes of Lots 4, 5 and 6, Block 6, City Block 6293, referred to Commissioner of Taxation.

Three petitions of Redeemer Lutheran Church for exemption from City taxes of property at 2511 Fredericksburg Road, 1827 Edison Drive, and 106 Quentin Drive, all referred to Commissioner of Taxation.

Petition of Harold E. Taylor to keep horses at 206 Sherwood Drive, referred to Commissioner of Fire and Police.

Petition of Hollis B. Williams to keep horses at 1638 Pasadena St., referred to Commissioner of Fire and Police.

Petition of Mrs. Beatrice Johnson, et al, for street light at Holly and Twenty-third Sts., referred to Commissioner of Fire and Police.

Petition of Mrs. Elvira G. Castillo, et al, for sanitary sewers on sections of Chihuahua, Tampico, San Carlos and South Hamilton Sts., referred to Commissioner of Streets.

Petition of Trinity Lutheran Church, Rev. H. A. Heincke, for extension of sanitary sewer line on South Flores St., referred to Commissioner of Streets.

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

APPRO. NO. 544

AN ORDINANCE (1818)

TRANSFERRING \$25,000.00 FROM 1944 GENERAL FUND, TAXES, LICENSES, FINES ETC. ACCOUNT TO THE 1944 GENERAL FUND - PROCEEDS OF NOTES ACCOUNT.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 317.)

APPRO. NO. 545

AN ORDINANCE (1819)

APPROPRIATING \$26,167.28 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND FOR PER DIEM PAYROLLS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 317.)

APPRO. NO. 546

AN ORDINANCE (1820)

APPROPRIATING \$694.25 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, VARIOUS DEPTS., TO PAY FOR INDEPENDENT HIRE OF TEAMS AND TRUCKS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 318.)

APPRO. NO. 547

AN ORDINANCE (1821)

APPROPRIATING \$80.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT PAYROLL.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 318.)

Commissioner Steffler introduced the following ordinances, which were passed and approved

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by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson:

APPRO. NO. 548

AN ORDINANCE (1822)

ACCEPTING PROPOSAL OF GEO. E. BROMBAUGH FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER MAINS ON CERTAIN DESIGNATED STREETS AND APPROPRIATING \$7500.00 THEREFOR.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 319.)

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APPRO. NO. 549

AN ORDINANCE (1823)

ACCEPTING PROPOSAL OF COLGLAZIER & HOFF, INC., FOR PAVING ON NORTH ST. MARY STREET AND APPROPRIATING \$2,000.00 THEREFOR.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 320.)

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

APPRO. NO. 550

AN ORDINANCE (1824)

AUTHORIZING CITY PURCHASING AGENT TO APPROVE PURCHASE ORDER FOR INSTALLATION OF ONE STEEL DOOR IN CITY JAIL IN ACCORDANCE TO ATTACHED PROPOSAL OF SOUTHERN STEEL CO. AND APPROPRIATING \$265.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, POLICE DEPT., IN PAYMENT.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 320.)

Commissioner Anderson stated this was an emergency measure, as the regular jail door could not be used, due to breakdown of the regular jail elevator.

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AN ORDINANCE (1825)

APPOINTING M. C. GONZALES TO MEMBERSHIP ON THE FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 321.)

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AN ORDINANCE (1826)

APPOINTING GUY CUDE TO MEMBERSHIP ON THE FIRE AND POLICE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 321.)

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

APPRO. NO. 551

AN ORDINANCE (1827)

APPROPRIATING \$2353.49 TO PAY STATE AND COUNTY TAXES ON CITY PROPERTY AT MARKET AND PRESA STREETS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 322.)

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APPRO. NO. 552

AN ORDINANCE (1828)

APPROPRIATING \$117.64 IN PAYMENT OF CURRENT STATE AND COUNTY TAXES ON PROPERTY AT THE CORNER OF MARKET AND PRESA STREETS.

(Full text in Ordinance Book "M", page 322.)

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On motion of Commissioner Steffler, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson, the Council ordered City Hall closed Thursday, February 22, in celebration of Washington's Birthday, and set the Regular Council Meeting for Friday, February 23.

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Acting on the recommendation of City Attorney Cobbs, the Council, on motion of Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson, ordered all prospective bidders on the project to construct two swimming pools notified that all bids would be rejected and returned unopened -- due to failure to secure W.P.B. approval for the project.

In reply to a question from Mayor Mauermann, Attorney Cobbs stated he had contacted the companies which have a contract with the City to handle the bonds for the swimming pools project and that they agreed to let the contract stand in status quo until the City tries, at a later date, to obtain W.P.B. approval for the construction.

At the suggestion of Mayor Mauermann, and on motion of Commissioner Steffler, seconded by Commissioner Hein and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson, the Council ordered the addresses of the Honorable Antonio I. Villalobos, Senator and President of the National Revolutionary Party of Mexico, and Lt. Gen. George Grunert, Commanding General of the Eastern Defense Command, included in the Official Minutes of the Council. Both speeches were delivered during ceremonies at the Municipal Auditorium the evening of February 12, 1945, at which time Commissioner Anderson was awarded the decoration of the Order of the Aztec Eagle by the Mexican Government.

On motion of Commissioner Hein, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler, Anderson, the meeting adjourned Tuesday, February 20, 1945.

APPROVED:

Ernst B. Mauermann

M A Y O R

Attest:

Frank Brady
City Clerk

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