

NOVEMBER 9, 1944

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER OF THE CITY HALL, AT 10:00 O'CLOCK, A. M., ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1944.

PRESENT: Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson; Mayor Mauermann absent. Commissioner Anderson, Mayor Pro Tem, presiding.

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 2, together with those of the Recessed Meeting of November 6, were approved on motion of Commissioner Steffler, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson; Nay, Mauermann (absent).

The following petitions were presented and referred as indicated:

Two Petitions of Los Angeles Heights Presbyterian Church asking exemption of City taxes on property at 1802 Edison, and on Lot 7, Block 32, C. B. 8477; and petition of Evangelical Community Church for exemption of taxes on Lots 11A and 11B, Block 16, C. B. 6374, all were referred to the Commissioner of Taxation.

Petition of Daniel J. O'Connell, et al, asking removal of resident from 809 McCullough Avenue, was referred to the City Attorney.

Acting on the recommendation of Commissioner Steffler and City Engineer Coghill, the Council approved the following plats:

Petition of Sam B. Lifshutz for approval of plat of subdivision of Lot 6, N.C.B. 2079, and petition of Ben Nathan for approval of plat subdividing Lots 7 to 14, incl., N.C.B. 2079.

Acting on the recommendation of Commissioner Anderson, the Council approved the following:

Petition of Rev. W. H. Martin to operate barbecue stand at Alazan Creek and Poplar Street; petition of Harry F. Haag to operate barbecue pit at 2414 N. Zarzamora Street, and petition of Magnolia Petroleum Co. to replace three electric computing pumps at R. A. Bostic Service Station, 425 Pecan Street.

The vote on approval was as follows in each of the above matters: Ayes, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson; Nay, Mauermann (absent).

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

APPRO. NO. 331

AN ORDINANCE (1533)

APPROPRIATING \$13,717.94 OUT OF U. S. GOV'T TAX ACCOUNT TO PAY WITHHOLDING TAXES FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1944.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 172.)

APPRO. NO. 332

AN ORDINANCE (1534)

APPROPRIATING \$0.66 OUT OF U.S. GOV'T TAX ACCOUNT, PAYABLE TO 1944 GENERAL FUND, STREET MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT, ADJUSTING ERROR.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 173.)

APPRO. NO. 333

AN ORDINANCE (1535)

APPROPRIATING \$114.50 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, TO PAY DAN QUILL, POSTMASTER, FOR POSTAGE STAMPS AND PENNY POSTAL CARDS.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 173.)

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AN ORDINANCE (1536)

GRANTING PETITION OF THEO AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH FOR EXEMPTION FROM CITY TAXES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1943 AND YEARS SUBSEQUENT THERETO AND CANCELLATION OF CITY TAXES FOR FISCAL YEARS 1943 AND 1944 ON LOT 8, BLOCK 1, NEW CITY BLOCK 3223 AT 131 THEO AVENUE IN THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 173.)

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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, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson; Nay, Mauermann (absent).

APPRO. NO. 334

AN ORDINANCE (1537)

APPROPRIATING \$6.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, SEWAGE DISPOSAL PLANT, TO PAY ALAMO IRON WORKS FOR RENTAL ON AIR COMPRESSOR.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 174.)

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

APPRO. NO. 335

AN ORDINANCE (1538).

AUTHORIZING CITY PURCHASING AGENT TO APPROVE EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF REPAIR PARTS FOR ONE AUSTIN-WESTERN ROLLER AND APPROPRIATING \$404.58 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, STREET MAINTENANCE DEP'T, IN PAYMENT TO HI-WAY MACHINERY CO., AGENTS.

(For full text see Ordinance Book "M", page 174.)

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APPRO. NO. 336

AN ORDINANCE (1539)

APPROPRIATING \$45.00 OUT OF CITY OF SAN ANTONIO STREET EXCAVATION TRUST ACCOUNT FOR REFUNDS AND REPAIRS.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 175.)

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APPRO. NO. 337

AN ORDINANCE (1540)

APPROPRIATING \$6.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, REFUNDS DEPARTMENT, FOR REFUND.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 175.)

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AN ORDINANCE (1541)

MAKING CONTRACT WITH FREEMAN AND WERNER TO BUILD A SEWER ON QUINTARD AND SOUTH FLORES STREETS.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 175.)

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AN ORDINANCE (1542)

REPEALING ORDINANCE DATED OCTOBER 19, 1943, ACCEPTING BID OF RODGERS & STEWART, INC., FOR APPLICATION OF NO. 1, ROCK ASPHALT, AND CANCELLING CONTRACT.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 176.)

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AN ORDINANCE (1543)

TO CLOSE PART OF MACKENSEN STREET AND MAKING A QUIT CLAIM TO ASSOCIATED SEEDS, INC., AND ACCEPTING DEED TO RE-LOCATE PART OF THIS STREET.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 176.)

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

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- APPRO. NO. 338 AN ORDINANCE (1544)
 AMENDING AN ORDINANCE, TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND AMENDING THE 1944 GENERAL FUND BUDGET.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 177.)
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 A RESOLUTION (1545)
 ACCEPTING MACK INTERNATIONAL PUMPER.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 178.)
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- APPRO. NO. 339 AN ORDINANCE (1546)
 APPROPRIATING \$30.03 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, CORPORATION COURT DEP'T, FOR EXPENSES ON TRIP TO DALLAS AND HOUSTON, TEXAS.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 178.)
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- APPRO. NO. 340 AN ORDINANCE (1547)
 APPROPRIATING \$39.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, PAUPER INTERMENT, FOR BURIAL OF PAUPERS DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1944.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 179.)
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- APPRO. NO. 341 AN ORDINANCE (1548)
 APPROPRIATING \$160.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND TO PAY RENT FOR CONTROL CENTER AND U. S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 179.)
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- APPRO. NO. 342 AN ORDINANCE (1549)
 APPROPRIATING \$10.52 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, PIONEER BUILDING, TO PAY PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS COMPANY.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 179.)
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- APPRO. NO. 343 AN ORDINANCE (1550)
 APPROPRIATING \$7.50 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, TO PAY DR. JAMES L. ANDERSON FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 180.)
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- APPRO. NO. 344 AN ORDINANCE (1551)
 APPROPRIATING \$15.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEP'T, TO PAY DR. B. E. GALLOWAY FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 180.)
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- APPRO. NO. 345 AN ORDINANCE (1552)
 APPROPRIATING \$30.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEP'T, TO PAY DR. A. C. DELAGOA FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 180.)
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- APPRO. NO. 346 AN ORDINANCE (1553)
 APPROPRIATING \$50.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEP'T, TO PAY DR. HELEN CANNON-BERNFIELD FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 181.)
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- APPRO. NO. 347 AN ORDINANCE (1554)
 APPROPRIATING \$25.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEP'T, PAYABLE TO DR. E.J. ARENDT FOR USE OF X-RAY EQUIPMENT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1944.
 (For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page 181.)
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One bid, the only one received, for the purchase of City property at the intersection of King's Court, North St. Mary's Street and East Woodlawn Avenue was opened and publicly read. Commissioner Steffler moved that the bid be rejected as too low. After a second by Commissioner Callaghan, the motion was carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson; Nay, Mauermann, (absent).

Bids to furnish tractors with bull clams for the Garbage and Sanitation Department were opened and publicly read and referred to the Purchasing Agent for tabulation.

On motion of Commissioner Hein, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson; Nay, Mauermann (absent), the meeting recessed to Tuesday, November 14, at 10:00 o'clock, A. M.

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PURSUANT TO THE RECESS of the meeting of November 9, the Council reconvened in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 10:00 o'clock, A. M., on Tuesday, November 14, 1944.

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

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

APPRO. NO. 348

AN ORDINANCE (1555)

APPROPRIATING \$88,778.78 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND FOR SEMI-MONTHLY PAYROLLS.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page /81 .)

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

APPRO. NO. 349

AN ORDINANCE (1556)

APPROPRIATING \$800.00 OUT OF 1944 GENERAL FUND, ANNEXATION ENGINEERING DEP'T, TO PAY LOUIS VARGAS FOR REMOVAL OF REMAINS FROM PROPERTY ON SOUTH NEW BRAUNFELS AVENUE PURCHASED BY ST. GERARD'S PARISH.

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page /82.)

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

APPRO. NO. 350

AN ORDINANCE (1557)

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

(For full text, see Ordinance Book "M", page /82.)

UPON completion of the routine business of the Council, the meeting was thrown open for general discussion between members of the Council and its guests, representatives of the City Councils of Alamo Heights, Terrell Hills, Olmos Park, and representatives of the San Antonio-Bexar County Planning Board.

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Guests included: Mayor C. E. Hoff and Councilmen F. L. Bramlett, J. L. O'Brien, H. B. Zachry, Hubert Green and City Attorney M. R. McClanahan, all of Alamo Heights; Mayor Theo F. Meyer, Jr., and Councilmen T. F. Murchison, W. B. Jack Ball, John Catto, Jr., D. J. Farrell, H. C. Thorman and Robert D. Barclay, all of Olmos Park; Mayor Datus E. Proper and Councilmen David Steves, E. M. Sweeney, Gen. H. J. Brees and E. H. Keator, all of Terrell Hills; and Alex Thomas, Chairman, and Albert Steves, Jr., E. A. Baugh, J. O. Loftin and H. C. Kilpatrick, all of the San Antonio-Bexar County Planning Board.

Mayor Mauermamm opened the joint meeting with a welcome to the representatives of San Antonio's "sister cities" and an explanation that this meeting was called for the purpose of discussing general matters of mutual interest to all the municipalities in Bexar County. He then called on Chairman Alex Thomas to outline the work being done and plans being made by the Planning Board for sewerage improvements.

Mr. Thomas stated that the Planning Board is having a survey made to cover the needs of the entire metropolitan area, with the ultimate goal to be organization of a metropolitan sewer district under state laws, to care for the needs of all the surrounding communities, as well as San Antonio and with capacity sufficient to take care of the normal growth of this area for the next 25 years.

Mayor Hoff admitted that he had not given this matter much thought but realized something should be done. He advocated a single system for the entire area to save money and avoid duplication. Mr. Hoff asked Mr. Baugh, Planning Board engineer, if the proposed sewerage improvement plans contemplated the construction of new lines and the building of a new sewage disposal plant, or mere additions to present facilities.

Mr. Baugh replied that the Board's instructions to engineers now making a survey were to outline a master plan for sanitary sewerage and disposal facilities to take care of the entire metropolitan area, both as to present needs and reasonable future growth. The primary report to be made by these engineers, he stated, will have three objectives: 1. Those things immediately necessary to give adequate service; 2. Extensions necessary now for service to areas now unsewered, and 3. Extensions proposed for the future, to be built as the need arises, and including both new sewer lines and disposal facilities.

Mayor Proper stated that all recognize that the whole community faces a health problem of serious proportions unless a satisfactory sewage system is provided. He said it is his belief that a satisfactory system should be provided, with all sections co-operating and paying a reasonable share of the cost.

Mayor Meyer stated Olmos Park is always glad to pay its just share, and cited the fact that his community, when it incorporated, immediately offered to pay San Antonio for fire protection.

Commissioner Hein pointed out that this sewage disposal problem is one of 15 years' standing. He said a single metropolitan sewer district had long ago been recommended by State Health Department engineers, with a single disposal plant and embodying the cost-reducing principle of gravity flow. He said the cost of this comprehensive system, starting at or beyond the Municipal Airport and servicing the entire metropolitan area, probably would run into millions, but, in his opinion, it would be no greater financial burden than that of the present facilities.

Commissioner Anderson called attention to the need for a new sewer line to service the growing area east of the city. He pointed out that national surveys indicate San Antonio's recent growth is not of the "mushroom" variety and will continue after the war. He cited the bad sewage situation in Harlandale as an example of the haphazard system to be found throughout the metropolitan area. Sewer system extensions naturally call for parallel extensions of

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the water system, he stated, noting that San Antonio at present has several blocks of "dry sewers". He praised the Planning Board for programming to cover the next 25 years and stressed the need for united effort, stating his belief that 99 per cent of the residents of the incorporated suburbs are interested in building a greater San Antonio. He called attention to the \$26,500,000 in improvement bonds recently voted in Houston and contended that a united San Antonio can do whatever Dallas or Houston can do.

Mayor Mauermann cited the fact that the San Antonio situation is different from other cities in that our city is the center of a closely allied group of cities, with San Antonio, located in a valley, receiving the drainage from the municipalities on the surrounding hills. He asked for suggestions of ways for the adjoining cities to co-operate in solution of the general garbage disposal problem.

At the request of Mayor Mauermann, William Steinhardt, airport director, explained the effect of garbage burning near the Municipal Airport by the suburban cities. Steinhardt said smoke from the garbage fires causes a fog which, on past occasions, has forced the Airport to suspend operations for as long as 24 hours. Mayor Mauermann suggested a central incinerator for San Antonio and the adjoining cities could solve this serious problem. Mr. Thomas stated the garbage disposal problem could be solved in the plan for a metropolitan sewer district.

Mayor Hoff expressed doubt that a central incinerator would be practical, due to the transportation problem. He said Alamo Heights dumps and burns its garbage in an abandoned gravel pit. Mayor Mauermann expressed surprise that this system of disposal has not resulted in legal action against Alamo Heights.

Commissioner Callaghan discussed the cesspool problem, suggesting that the suburban cities make a survey to determine the number of cesspools located within their limits.

Mayor Mauermann explained the plan for enlarging the San Antonio Public Library system, pointing out that this system is also patronized by the suburban citizens. Mr. Ball replied that he believed most Olmos Park residents have their own private libraries, but agreed that improvement of the library system to keep step with the city's growth is essential.

Mayor Mauermann said he had found San Antonio's fire insurance rate to be cheaper than in the suburban cities, and Mayor Hoff replied that the over-all San Antonio rate is only slightly lower than that of Alamo Heights, since the latter city has a five per cent better fire credit.

Mr. Keator said he believed all the suburban citizens feel the necessity for co-operating in the development of San Antonio and suggested that the councils of the suburban cities meet separately to discuss at length the various points brought out in this joint meeting and make definite plans for co-operating.

Mr. Zachry, member of both the Planning Board and the Alamo Heights City Council, explained the nature of the Planning Board, stressing that it is a joint venture, financed by subscriptions of business men of Alamo Heights, Terrell Hills, Olmos Park and San Antonio, and including in its membership residents of all four cities. Plans for improvements to be developed by and for the whole metropolitan area he outlined as follows: inter-regional highways, with rights-of-way to be provided by the local cities at a cost of perhaps \$6,000,000; airport improvements, necessary for proper service to all of Bexar County; a coliseum; sewage, drainage, public market and park improvements, and other projects affecting every resident of the county. San Antonio, he said, is limited by law to the issuance of not more than \$9,000,000 in new bonds, a total far from sufficient to finance all the necessary work, so the most worthy projects will get first attention while other methods of financing are developed to complete the program. Creation of a metropolitan sewer district, he stated, would benefit all and release approximately \$3,000,000 of the bond total for other projects.

Mayor Mauermann stressed the need for improvements totaling from \$1,000,000 to \$1,500,000

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at the Municipal Airport, which serves all the communities, and asked that the suburban cities consider ways of co-operating in this work. He said all the communities ought to join in at least the major post-war projects to help build and develop the metropolitan area.

Dr. Loftin, who is also president of the San Antonio Junior College, outlined the plan for a Greater San Antonio Junior College District, to be composed of the San Antonio Independent School District and all common and independent school districts in the San Antonio area. He said the School Board and Planning Board are circulating a petition requesting the election necessary to establish such a district.

In closing, Mayor Mauermann, Commissioner Anderson and Mr. Thomas thanked those in attendance at the meeting and stressed the need for co-operation and united effort in the over-all development of Greater San Antonio for the benefit of all.

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On motion of Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Callaghan and carried by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, the meeting adjourned Tuesday, November 14, 1944.

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APPROVED:

Geo B. Mauermann

MAYOR

ATTEST:

Frank Brady
City Clerk

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