

OCTOBER 3, 1946

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, THE THIRD DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D. 1946.

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

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Comm. Anderson moved that Comm. Callaghan be excused from attendance due to a death in
his family, and Comm. Steffler due to illness. After a second by Comm. Hein, the motion was
carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent)
and Steffler (absent).

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The Clerk read the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Sept. 26 and the Special Meeting of
Sept. 26, which minutes were each approved as read, in each case on motion of Comm. Anderson,
seconded by Comm. Hein and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and
Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent).

The Clerk read the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Sept. 30th. Comm.
Anderson asked that the minutes be corrected to include the statement of Comm. Hein that
there were two major breaks in the Mitchell Lake Dam, one 60 feet and one 30 feet wide. Comm.
Hein asked that the minutes also show that he had said these breaks had been observed from a
distance, and that he was unable to get close enough to make a careful inspection of the dam.
The minutes were then approved and adopted, as corrected, on motion of Comm. Anderson, seconded
by Comm. Hein and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson;
Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent).

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PETITIONS PRESENTED:

REFERRED to Comm. of Fire and Police:

Sinclair Refining Co., for permit to erect drive-in gasoline service station at the
northwest corner of Roosevelt Ave. and Mitchell St.

Brown Oil Co., for gasoline installation permit at 5316 W. Commerce St.

A. C. Benson, for permit to install diesel fuel tank at 112 W. Essex St.

Magnolia Petroleum Co., 3 petitions for gasoline installations, at 2101 W. Martin St.,
149 Frio City Rd., and 301 Vine St.

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REFERRED to Comm. of Streets for recommendation of City Engineer:

W. K. Ewing Co., Inc., for approval of plat of Terrell Heights Subdivision, Unit No. 3.

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REFERRED to Committee of the Whole:

Melvin Insall, et al, asking that channel of Martinez Creek in Los Angeles Heights be
dredged and straightened to improve drainage.

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

APPRO. NO. 345

AN ORDINANCE (4093)

TRANSFERRING \$7,000 FROM 1943 GENERAL FUND AND \$19,000 FROM 1944
GENERAL FUND TO 1946 GENERAL FUND.

APPRO. NO. 346

AN ORDINANCE (4094)

TRANSFERRING \$4,000 FROM BACK TAX GENERAL FUND AND \$8,000 FROM 1945
GENERAL FUND TO 1946 GENERAL FUND.

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APPRO. NO. 347	AN ORDINANCE (4095)
	APPROPRIATING \$50,006.52 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND TO PAY TWO NOTES, Nos. 34 and 35, AND INTEREST.
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APPRO. NO. 348	AN ORDINANCE (4096)
	APPROPRIATING \$268.97 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND TO PAY INTEREST ON 1946 GENERAL FUND NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER 1946.
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APPRO. NO. 349	AN ORDINANCE (4097)
	APPROPRIATING \$670.50 OUT OF PARK REVENUE BOND 1945 FUND FOR PAYROLL.
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APPRO. NO. 350	AN ORDINANCE (4098)
	APPROPRIATING \$29,114 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND FOR PER DIEM PAYROLLS.
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APPRO. NO. 351	AN ORDINANCE (4099)
	APPROPRIATING \$246.75 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND TO PAY FOR TELEPHONE SERVICES FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1946.
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APPRO. NO. 352	AN ORDINANCE (4100)
	APPROPRIATING \$1,098.62 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND, VARIOUS DEPTS., FOR POSTAGE STAMPS.
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	A RESOLUTION (4101)
	DIRECTING THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE INVITING PROPOSALS TO PURCHASE \$5,700,000 OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT GENERAL REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.
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APPRO. NO. 353	AN ORDINANCE (4102)
	APPROPRIATING \$38.50 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPT. POLIO CAMPAIGN, PAYABLE TO GOLDEN WEST OIL CO. FOR 550 GALLONS KEROSENE FOR FOGGING MACHINE.
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APPRO. NO. 354	AN ORDINANCE (4103)
	APPROPRIATING \$7 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND, HEALTH DEPT. POLIO CAMPAIGN, PAYABLE TO MAGNOLIA PETROLEUM CO. FOR GASOLINE FOR FOGGING MACHINE.
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APPRO. NO. 355	AN ORDINANCE (4104)
	REPEALING \$114.30 OF COUNCIL APPROPRIATION NUMBER 104.
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	AN ORDINANCE (4105)
	ACCEPTING PROPOSALS OF COLGLAZIER & HOFF, INC., AND SOUTHERN CONSTRUCTION CO. FOR REPAIRING FLOOD DAMAGE TO PAVEMENT AND DIRECTING THE CITY ENGINEER TO PROCEED WITH THE WORK IMMEDIATELY.
	At the request of the Mayor, City Engineer Coghill explained this emergency flood work was awarded on the basis of previous low bids on similar work, as the emergency prevented the usual advertisement for bids.
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	A RESOLUTION (4106)
	CALLING FOR BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STORM SEWER ON HEARNE AVE. FROM NOGALITOS ST. WEST APPROXIMATELY 150 FEET.
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	AN ORDINANCE (4107)
	MAKING A CONTRACT WITH THOMAS C. HERNANDEZ FOR A TRUCK.
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APPRO. NO. 356

AN ORDINANCE (4109)

APPROPRIATING \$105 OUT OF STREET EXCAVATION TRUST ACCOUNT FOR REFUNDS AND REPAIRS.

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APPRO. NO. 357

AN ORDINANCE (4110)

APPROPRIATING \$1,046.25 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND, VARIOUS DEPTS., FOR INDEPENDENT HIRE OF TEAMS AND TRUCKS.

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APPRO. NO. 358

AN ORDINANCE (4111)

APPROPRIATING \$173.70 OUT OF 1946 GENERAL FUND, STREET MAINT. DEPT., TO PAY THURMAN BARRETT FOR 3474 CUBIC YARDS OF GRAVEL.

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In each case on recommendation of the City Engineer, and on motion of Comm. Hein, seconded by Comm. Anderson and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent), the Council approved the following plats: Lifshutz Subdivision No. 1, submitted by Sam B. Lifshutz.

Plats vacating and resubdividing certain lots in County Block 5604, Somerset Place Addn., first filing, submitted by Frank R. Gonzales.

Plats vacating and subdividing lots in County Block 5718, submitted by Thos. D. Scott.

Plats vacating and subdividing lots in NCB 7121, submitted by General Investment Corp., Ben Nathan, President.

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In each case on recommendation and motion of Comm. Anderson, seconded by Comm. Hein and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent), the Council granted the following petitions for gasoline installation permits at the stated locations:

Magnolia Petroleum Co., at 402 Buena Vista St. and at corner of Essex and S. Cherry Sts.
Rejino Verastequi, at 1603 Castroville Rd.

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On recommendation and motion of Comm. Anderson, seconded by Comm. Hein and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent), the Council granted the Petition of Texas & New Orleans Railroad Co. for permit to construct, maintain and operate industrial spur track in, upon and across Medina Street, and instructed the City Attorney to draw the necessary ordinance. Comm. Anderson said this petition was studied and approved by the Police Traffic Bureau.

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

APPRO. NO. 359

AN ORDINANCE (4112)

REPEALING \$114.30 OF COUNCIL APPROPRIATION NUMBER 301.

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APPRO. NO. 360

AN ORDINANCE (4113)

APPROPRIATING \$12,922.23 OUT OF POLICE & FIREMEN'S PENSION FUND FOR PAYROLLS.

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Comm. Anderson said he would recommend the following two sewer connection ordinances because they were in sewer districts which had been taken over by the City. The third was approved by the Committee of the Whole on September 30.

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AN ORDINANCE (4114)

TO USE THE CITY SANITARY SEWERS BY A CONNECTION OUTSIDE OF THE CITY LIMITS, ON THE PETITION OF W. R. HARRIS.

AN ORDINANCE (4115)

TO USE THE CITY SANITARY SEWERS BY A CONNECTION OUTSIDE OF THE CITY LIMITS, ON THE PETITION OF PAUL M. SMITH.

AN ORDINANCE (4108)

TO USE THE CITY SANITARY SEWERS BY A CONNECTION OUTSIDE OF THE CITY LIMITS, ON THE PETITION OF JOHN W. AND GLADYS F. ASHLEY.

Mayor Mauermann introduced the following ordinance, which was passed and approved by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent). The Mayor explained this work was necessary in order to get for the City its share of the C.A.A. appropriation for the National Air Plan.

Appro. no. 361

AN ORDINANCE (4116)

MAKING A CONTRACT WITH J. W. BERETTA ENGINEERS FOR REPORT COVERING AIR PLAN FOR SAN ANTONIO METROPOLITAN AREA; AND APPROPRIATING \$2500.

Comm. Hein told the Council that Comm. Steffler had telephoned him that morning and had taken the position he would be unable to repair the Mitchell Lake Dam, or allow the use of his equipment to do it.

City Engineer Coghill estimated the repairs to the Dam might cost \$35,000, "if we have good weather." He added that it was a very hazardous job and "could run lots more".

The Mayor and Comm. Anderson both suggested the matter be given further discussion by the Committee of the Whole, the Mayor adding that a written report should be made to the Committee of the Whole by the Engineer.

Comm. Hein moved that the City Engineer be instructed to make a written report to the Committee of the Whole on Mitchell Lake Dam as quickly as possible. After a second by Comm. Anderson, the motion was carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent).

The Mayor added, for the record, that Comm. Steffler had also telephoned him and told him all Street Dept. equipment was needed for repairs inside the City Limits, and that he had more street and bridge repair work than he could do.

Comm. Anderson said Comm. Steffler told him he had found more and larger breaks in the dam than previously reported, one being 300 feet wide. He suggested someone look into the possibility of getting aid, trucks and machinery from the army or surplus property administration. He said he thought the army had an interest in Mitchell Lake as well as the City.

Comm. Hein said he had sought help from the War Assets Administration, had contacted Houston and Dallas offices, and was trying in every way to get equipment. Later, during the meeting, Comm. Hein left to take a long-distance telephone call and returned to report the Dallas War Assets office had located six trucks for him at Texarkana and was willing to help him obtain other equipment. He said he was sending a man to Dallas and other towns to check equipment reported to him by the War Assets office.

City Engr. Coghill reported buttresses and approaches had been fixed on all main bridges damaged by the flood, and that part of the lumber from the washed-out bridges was being recovered.

Comm. Anderson reported on the part played by Olmos Dam in the flood, said it was as safe as the skill of engineers could make it, and gave high praise to the dam and the men who

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operated it. The Mayor joined him in this praise, pointing out that the bulk of the damage was done by waters that did not come down the river.

Comm. Anderson suggested the City Engineer make a report, to reassure some people, after a survey of the dam to see if any damage was done to it by the record amount of water. He added that an Engineer had reported to the City early in 1939 on a study made of Olmos Dam and this report had showed the City was in danger of just such floods below the dam as that which just occurred. He suggested a review of this report and other flood plans by competent engineers, to be inaugurated by this administration and used for future guidance of the City.

Comm. Anderson moved that the Mayor be empowered to contact and have preliminary negotiations with capable engineers, using all available data already compiled, looking to such future plan for guidance of a City flood control program. After a second by Comm. Hein, the motion was carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent).

The Mayor reported that the day after the flood he had talked with Col. Lilly of the Planning Board concerning just such a plan. He said he was going to take this up with the Planning Board and ask them to find a capable engineer and finance such an undertaking.

Following further discussion and praise of the various organizations, such as the Army, Red Cross, U. S. Surplus Property Custodian, and others who aided the City in the flood emergency, Comm. Anderson moved that the Mayor, in behalf of the City, thank the various organizations which aided in this emergency. After a second by Comm. Hein, the motion was carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent).

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Mayor Mauermann reported, for the record, that he had met with officials of the National Bank of Commerce, as authorized by the Committee of the Whole on September 30th, and that the bank had voted to extend to the City the additional credit requested, a total of \$430,000, divided as follows: \$210,000 for flood damage repairs, and \$220,000 for the other emergency expenditures as agreed in the September 30th meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

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Comm. Anderson moved that the Mayor send a letter of sympathy, on behalf of the Council, to Comm. Callaghan and his family due to the death of his sister. After a second by Comm. Hein, the motion was carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent).

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Mr. John Zeller reported that it had been decided the baseball park matter would be gone into for further discussion before asking Council approval.

The Mayor said he would like to add, just for the sake of clarification, that "we never intended to sell revenue bonds for temporary improvements." He added that he did not believe anyone would buy such bonds for temporary improvements.

Mr. Zeller said the office of H. B. Zachry had told him no such statement was ever made from that office as was quoted in the newspapers.

The Mayor added that the Chamber of Commerce Committee which had studied the baseball park matter had given its recommendations in writing.

Comm. Anderson read a note which he said was from Mr. Zachry's office: "It would be difficult to build a 12,000-foot ball park for \$300,000. Approximately 4000 feet would have to be of temporary construction", he read.

The Mayor stated the Chamber of Commerce Committee had said the park could be built for that sum, and he had the Clerk read the minutes of the Council Meeting of September 12, when

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the Chamber of Commerce Committee appeared before the Council and recommended and discussed the baseball park with the Commissioners. The Mayor concluded that the report on the park plans was not ready to come back to the Council, adding: "You gentlemen know as much about it as I do."

Comm. Anderson and Mr. Zeller engaged in a further exchange, Mr. Zeller saying the St. Louis baseball club officials, after conferring with Comm. Anderson the previous Saturday, had "left in disgust".

Comm. Anderson replied that the "disgust was mutual".

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One bid to purchase the pecan crop in the City parks was opened and publicly read and referred to Comm. Hein.

One bid to furnish rubber runners for the Auditorium Dept. was opened and publicly read and referred to the Purchasing Agent.

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On motion of Comm. Hein, seconded by Comm. Anderson and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Hein and Anderson; Nays, Callaghan (absent) and Steffler (absent), the meeting was recessed to 11:00 o'clock, A.M., Monday, October 7, 1946.

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PURSUANT TO THE RECESS of the Meeting of October 3, the Council reconvened in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 11:00 o'clock, A.M., on Monday, October 7, 1946.

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

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The Clerk read a letter to the Mayor from Brig. Gen. Russell E. Randall, Commanding, Army Air Forces Military Training Center, inviting the Mayor and Commissioners to visit that installation. Comm. Anderson moved that the Mayor accept the invitation and make the necessary arrangements. After a second by Comm. Callaghan, the motion was carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson.

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At the request of Comm. Steffler and on motion of Comm. Hein, seconded by Comm. Anderson and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, the Council authorized the Purchasing Agent to make emergency purchases of lumber needed by Comm. Steffler for repairing flood damage.

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At the request of Comm. Callaghan and on motion of Comm. Anderson, seconded by Comm. Hein and carried by roll call vote, to-wit: Ayes, Mauermann, Callaghan, Hein, Steffler and Anderson, the Council authorized the emergency purchase, from government surplus if possible, of furniture and fixtures needed by the Taxation Dept.

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Comm. Hein reported that he had conferred with Mr. Jim Turner of the S.A. Transit Co. on the possibility of obtaining for the City the grandstands to be removed from Tech Field. He said Mr. Turner told him he had three offers for the stands and would accept bids for them in November, after the lease of the St. Louis Browns expires.

The Mayor said he did not think the City was in financial position to bid for them.

Comm. Anderson said he had also talked with Mr. Turner and received the impression that the baseball park would remain intact for a year or more. The stands, he added, are not fireproof.

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