

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK

CITY HALL

OCTOBER 6, 1982

The Committee on Finance meets this day at 4:00 o'clock P.M. in Committee Room "A", City Hall.

Present: Chairwoman Brassil and Councilmen Dillon, Easton, Flynn, Mansolillo and Farmer.

Also present are Finance Director Baron, City Treasurer Napolitano, City Controller Corrente, City Council Internal Auditor Woerner and William Collins, Mayor's Assistant. (Rose M. Mendonca, Clerk).

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TREASURER, ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, TO BORROW FROM TIME TO TIME, IN SUCH SUMS OF MONEY AS MAY BE NECESSARY, NOT EXCEEDING FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$478,000.00) TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR CARRYING OUT THE OFFICIAL REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE EAGLE PARK RENEWAL PROJECT.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TREASURER, ACTING UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, TO BORROW FROM TIME TO TIME, IN SUCH SUMS OF MONEY AS MAY BE NECESSARY, NOT EXCEEDING ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,200,000.00) TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR CARRYING OUT THE OFFICIAL REDEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE WASHINGTON PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT.

Ted Spargo and Peter Merino, representatives of the Eagle Park Revitalization Commission are present.

Councilman Mansolillo reviews the project and states in July the City Council voted to approve the plan for redevelopment. Prior to that the Committee on Urban Redevelopment Renewal and Planning conducted a public hearing and the plan was reported out to the full Council. The Eagle Park plan is ready to begin. Appraisals must be made. The plan requires a small investment on the part of the City of Providence, \$478,000. in bond money.

The Committee, in cooperation with the Department of Planning and Urban Development and the Redevelopment Agency are at the point ready to proceed.

Since the Council has approved the Redevelopment Plan for Eagle Park, they need only to authorize the borrowing of the \$478,000 so the plan can be realized.

On motion of Councilman Mansolillo, seconded by Councilman Farmer, it is voted to approve the Resolution and transmit same to the City Council with recommendation of Adoption.

Mr. Woerner submits a list of projects the Department of Planning and Urban Development has on its agenda.

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He explains the effect the borrowings would have on the City and states in 1982-83 it would cost a tax rate equivalent of 63¢, 1983-84 - \$1.25; and 1984-85 \$1.25. The interest in the first year would be \$884,000. \$70,000 for Schools is not reflected on the list submitted.

Councilman Easton states in 1984-85 they would have to go to market if the time limit for selling the bond is June, 1984. Full payment would have to be made on the bonds in fiscal year 1984-85.

Councilman Farmer questions as to whether the approvals of the Resolutions should be made in order of priorities.

Chairwoman Brassil reminds him that is what the Committee discussed last week.

Councilman Mansolillo states he would like, for the sake of discussion, to include the Resolution pertaining to Washington Park. Redevelopment Plans have been approved by the Council and aired fully by the Committee on Urban Redevelopment Renewal and Planning.

He states the debate relative to the expenditure of \$478,000 for Eagle Park and 1.2 Million Dollars for Washington Park does not really belong to this Committee. The debate for Olneyville, Silver Lake, Trinity Gateway and other projects belongs to the Committee on Urban Redevelopment Renewal and Planning.

Redevelopment Plans for Eagle Park and Washington Park have been approved. This Committee is asked to take action on matters approved by the Committee on Urban Redevelopment Renewal and Planning and the City Council.

Councilman Easton states he has mixed emotions on this. He does feel the figures look fairly reasonable. He is not very familiar with the Eagle Park Plan, he is with the Washington Park Plan as it is in his Ward. He is of the opinion it is a well executed plan.

In that respect he is tempted to approve them on the basis that he is not sure they will make much of an error going ahead on this.

He states as a Member of the Committee on Urban Redevelopment Renewal and Planning, when they approve a project, they are saying it is well designed and meets the interest of the people

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and should go forward. They never say one is a greater need than another. They are ratifying the recommendation of the Department of Planning and Urban Development. It does not indicate it should go forward right away.

Councilman Dillon states they have gone through long discussions on these neighborhood projects and it has been debated at great length.

His feeling is each neighborhood project is a plan for spending money. The question is, are these the places that money should be put, or should it be put into sidewalks, acquiring property or lights? That is what the Committee on Urban Redevelopment Renewal and Planning decides on. Because of the financial crunch in the City, as a whole, they must look at the impact it will have on the tax rate.

He refers to the new City Charter acquisition and demolition of property, and states some of these plans could be funded by the Mayor's Office of Community Development.

He is of the opinion they should look at the whole picture of a capital budget for the City, put plans together and see the needs and where the money can come from. The least of all possible from the bond money. It is expensive. He has long been an advocate of merging the Department of Planning and Urban Development and the Mayor's Office of Community Development.

Everything should be looked at instead of each one as an individual. The only way that can be enforced is to hold these matters up. It is now October and not much construction can be done before cold weather. He is not prepared at this time to vote for these projects.

Councilman Mansolillo speaks at length reiterating his statements.

He further states if everything runs constant and there be no increase or growth in the City, they are looking at \$1.25 in taxes on the present tax rate and it will return to the City unteenfold.

Discussion ensues relative to the abandoned building on Hawkins Street to be acquired and Chairwoman Brassil questions as to who owns the building.

Mr. Spargo states Dr. Parente is the principle in dispute of ownership of the building.

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He states Eagle Park is a very unusual neighborhood and does not have problems. They are not here to solve problems. It is a quiet and stable neighborhood.

Many third generation people are operating businesses in the same building as mothers and grandparents.

He invites everyone here to tour with him and walk day or night as that is the kind of neighborhood it is. They are used to taking care of themselves, their people and their property. They are asking a minimal amount of money to accomplish quite a bit.

They would be delighted to have that property acquired in a private sale. They want to control what happens that is the reason the property is part of the plan. They are not certain if it will be demolished or rehabilitated.

The thing they cannot do themselves is to acquire the property and change the traffic patterns.

They need help to help themselves, not to bail them out of problems.

Councilman Mansolillo speaks at length relative to commercial areas and historic prospects.

Considerable discussion ensues and Chairwoman Brassil puts the motion as made by Councilman Mansolillo, seconded by Councilman Farmer for approval of the two Resolutions to a vote.

Councilman Dillon desires to be recorded as voting "No."

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE AND REPEALING CHAPTER 1982-43, APPROVED JULY 7, 1982.

Mr. Woerner, having been requested to review the above Ordinance, states he could not look at the entire personnel system in the City.

He submits a list of department head's salaries, fiscal positions and School Department.

Councilman Flynn states, in reviewing Mr. Woerner's list, that in 1979, all major department heads were receiving the same salary, it is now out of line.

Councilman Mansolillo states he mentioned at the previous meeting that some effort was made to judge the relative job responsibilities of the department directors. The functions, the responsibilities and capacities of each department head

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are different, He is not going to argue whether the members agree with the Administration, that some directors receive \$30,000 and others \$48,000. There is a comparison with the School Department which is traditional disparity. They enjoy a benefit package that is better than in the City Government. Their pension plan is not as good and their contribution is less. The Superintendent of Schools has a separate benefit package as part of his contract. They have a life insurance protection which is exclusive of compensation.

Councilman Easton is of the opinion the increases in certain directors salaries does not mean their responsibilities has increased. The reason for changing the salaries of individuals should be if their responsibilities change.

He refers to the Administrative Assistant of Public Works, where half of the work has been contracted out and yet increased some 75% in salary. In an extent is discriminatory, those in favor have been offered more, those less in favor, offered less.

He has to dispute the argument of the representative of the administration and re-emphasize the way to protect against that is uniformity of salary structures in the City.

He has no objection to certain department heads being compensated more for their services, other than uniformity should be kept in salaries and he does not think it is being done here, nor in the past. The time to start is now.

Councilman Farmer is of the opinion it cannot be simplified into equalizing Department Directors. The discrepancy that exists between Public Works Department and other department heads is justified due to the many problems and the number of people in the department. The Park Department is too low if they are going to introduce some type of equity, not just responsibilities have increased, but in terms of managing people and responsibilities. There are differences in department directors. Public Works Department is justified and the Park Department is not justified, it should be increased.

Chairwoman Brassil states all department heads should be kept in line and the City Clerk, Park Director, Recreation Director and Public Buildings have not been.

On motion of Councilman Mansolillo, seconded by Councilman Farmer, it is voted to amend the Compensation Ordinance by changing

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the annual salaries of the Director of the Park Department to \$31,500 and the City Clerk and Director of Recreation to \$30,800.

Discussion ensues comparing the pays of the School Department and various positions in the City making less and yet having more duties.

Councilman Flynn cannot understand the reasoning of the Mayor making only \$1,000 more than the Commissioner of Public Safety and the matter is discussed, together with numerous other positions in the City and their pays.

Councilman Farmer is excused at this time.

Chairwoman Brassil calls for a vote on the motion to amend and Councilman Easton and Councilman Dillion desire to be recorded as voting "No".

On motion of Councilman Mansolillo, seconded by Councilman Flynn, it is voted to approve the Ordinance, as amended, and transmit same to the City Council with recommendation of adoption.

Councilman Flynn is excused at this time.

Chairwoman Brassil calls for a vote on the motion for passage, as amended, and Councilman Easton and Councilman Dillon desire to be recorded as "Not Voting".

Councilman Mansolillo and Chairwoman Brassil vote "Aye".

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE WATER SUPPLY BOARD.

Discussion ensues relative to the Attorney for the Water Supply Board, whose salary has doubled and the Chairman and Members of the Water Supply Board, their monthly salary having doubled.

Councilman Mansolillo states the Members of the Water Supply Board felt the attorney's salary should be the same as the Assistant City Solicitors. He speaks of the work Mr. McGair has done for the Water Supply Board.

Mr. Baron states Mr. McGair attends every meeting of the Water Supply Board.

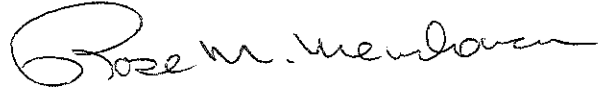
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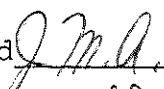
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Councilman Dillon desires to be recorded as voting "No."

Councilman Easton desires to be recorded as "Not Voting".

Adjournment: On motion of Councilman Mansolillo, seconded by Councilmen Easton and Dillon, the Committee adjourns at 6:45 o'clock P.M.

  
Clerk

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