

77
January 15, 1952.

City Hall,

January 15, 1952.

The Finance Committee meets this day at 12:10 o'clock P.M. This is continued from meeting of January 14, 1952.

Present: Chairman Mariani and Messrs. Moakler, Laudati, Loughran and Lazarus. Also present are, Assistant City Solicitor McManus, City Controller Keegan, Finance Director Cashman, Traffic Engineer Myers and City Assessor Gallotta. (W. E. McWilliams, Assistant Clerk)

REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF PARKING GARAGE PROJECT 1, ACCOMPANIED BY A COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR REYNOLDS AND MR. MYERS. (Referred to Committee on Finance for study, report and recommendation following recommendations for adoption by Committee on Public Works)

Solicitor McManus outlines the travel of this matter to date and reads report submitted by Ramp Buildings Corporation. He calls attention to Chapter 2514 of Public Laws, 1950 and refers particularly to Sections 8, 9 and 10 of the Act.

The Act apparently requires that the City Council provide the cost of preliminary studies from general funds and then before the City Council can authorize any borrowing, there must be a definite plan to build a planned building at a definite location. He says these matters cannot be left to an administrative officer or even to the Board of Contract and Supply. The necessity for the project is the responsibility of the City Council and not of any subordinate body, and the costs for land and building are their sole responsibility.

He also calls attention to the so-called Home Rule Amendment which requires any future borrowing authorized by the Legislature to be submitted to the people at an election, and suggests that this may be embarrassing if costs exceed the proposed plan as general funds from taxation may not be available.

With respect to the Off-Street Parking Amendment, he suggests that even this amendment does not clear the Ramp Company project as the amendment is very limited in scope.

Mr. Dwight Myers states that the City has had two appraisals, one from Charles J. Mason and one from John B. Carpenter. He states that the appraisal of Mr. Mason is \$614,000 and that of Mr. Carpenter, \$628,500, but they are said to be casual appraisals. Mr. Gallotta states he has seen these appraisals, but he has made

January 15, 1952.

no appraisal. The Committee is not satisfied with this, stating they should have definite land values, complete specifications, and the other items required by Sections 8 and 9 of the Act.

The Committee decides they must have the Bond Counsel's opinion before authorizing the proposed expense and that the whole matter must be further studied legally as the plans calls for stores. The Law Department advises that this matter has been taken up with the Bond Counsel. It is the consensus of opinion that the Committee should wait for information from Bond Counsel.

With a view to providing funds from general tax revenues for preliminary plans and specifications, on motion of Mr. Laudati, seconded by Mr. Moakler, it is voted to present the following Ordinance to the City Council for meeting of January 17, 1952:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 533 BY APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$50,000.00 TO THE TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, ITEM 7.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE:

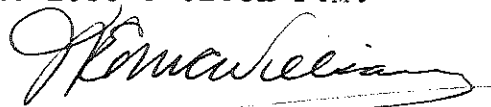
SECTION 1: Chapter 533 of the Ordinances of the City of Providence as approved September 21, 1951, and entitled "An Ordinance Making Appropriation of \$27,566,988.87 for the Support of the City Government for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 1952", as amended, is hereby further amended by appropriating the sum of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars to TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, ITEM 7, for off-street parking purposes.

SECTION 2: The said sum of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars as thus added and appropriated shall be obtained by authorizing and directing the City Controller and City Treasurer to transfer a like amount from the Reserve for Extraordinary Expenditures Account to the Receipt Account.

SECTION 3: The Estimated Receipts from Reserve for Extraordinary Expenditures is hereby increased by Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars.

SECTION 4: This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage.

On motion of Mr. Laudati, seconded by Mr. Moakler, it is voted to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 o'clock P.M.


Assistant Clerk.

Copied S. H. M.

Compared R. M. C.