

DEPARTMENT OF CITY CLERK

CITY HALL

FEBRUARY 25, 1975

The Committee on Finance meets this day in the Conference Room, City Hall, at 3:00 o'clock P.M.

Present: Chairman Lynch and Councilmen McKiernan, Garan, Crowley, Stravato, Councilwoman Brassil and Councilman Bradshaw.

City Solicitor Louis A. Mascia is also present. (Rose M. Mendonca, Assistant Clerk.)

Chairman Lynch informs the members that, as per invitation of the Committee, Richard Torchia, Director of Model Cities Agency; Ron Torbick of Model Cities Agency; and Vincent Porrazzo, are present at this time, relative to the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BOARD OF CONTRACT AND SUPPLY TO PURCHASE FROM THE PROVIDENCE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE SUM OF ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) THAT CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND SITUATED AT THE CORNER OF PRAIRIE AVENUE AND BLACKSTONE STREET; BEING A PORTION OF THE FORMER MARTIN LUTHER KING SHOPPING CENTER.

Chairman Lynch reviews the above Resolution and the reason the gentlemen are invited here today.

Mr. Porrazzo presents a map of the area involved and explains where the existing shopping center is and the portion to be transferred and the area to be advertised for sale for rehabilitation and commercial use.

He states there are two residential structures in the area which are now vacant. This area is within the Comstock Urban Redevelopment Project. The property in the area has been condemned and the Redevelopment Agency has title to it, but it is not all settled.

Chairman Lynch questions as to the purpose the City is taking the property over for.

Mr. Torchia states to convert that portion over to a neighborhood facility, Health Center, Elderly Center, Head Start and other offices such as C.P.O., etc. There will be a parking lot to the rear and a small playground for the Headstart Program in the property combined with the shopping center. The other portion is to be sold by the Redevelopment Agency for continuation of Commercial usage.

Discussion ensues relative to vandalism in the area and the future of that problem. It is brought out that with the construction of housing, etc. in the area, this should lend suitability to the neighborhood.

Mr. Torchia proceeds to explain as to how the neighborhood was in previous years as to now.

Councilman Bradshaw questions as to whether or not the City will be under obligation by taking title of the property over.

Mr. Torchia states the City will not be responsible in that they are hoping to have a sponsor to get in there and manage it. This will cost the City nothing.

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He states each of the occupants of the building will be paying some form of rent to maintain it and for utilities. If all of the funds were left and the sponsor left, the City would be the owners of this property, they could sell it, demolish it, or take it over themselves and operate whatever activity they may want. The ownership is there, the obligation to maintain it is there, but there are many people who want to maintain it and operate it.

Councilman Garan questions as to whether or not there will be tax revenue on the area and Mr. Torchia states not on this portion.

There being no further questions by the members present; Messrs. Torchia, Porrizzo and Torbick are excused at this time.

On motion of Councilman Stravato, seconded by Councilmen McKiernan and Crowley, it is voted to transmit the foregoing Resolution to the City Council with recommendation of Adoption.

Chairman Lynch states John E. Rogers, Chief Engineer of the Water Supply Board; Robert J. Paci, Legal Assistant for the Water Supply Board; and Michael A. Abatuno, Esquire, Attorney, for the Marievile Water Commission, are present for the following:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE, WITH THE TOWN OF NORTH PROVIDENCE, PURCHASING THE WATER SYSTEM IN THE MARIEVILLE SECTION OF NORTH PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

Chairman Lynch reviews the reason the gentlemen were invited to join the Committee. He requests explanation of the Resolution.

Mr. Abatuno: I represent North Providence. I was Town Solicitor and gave it up in 1966 or 1967, I held that office for twelve years. Since then I have been working on special projects in North Providence, of which this is one.

Negotiations started in 1965 with the Water Supply Board. They said, we have the capacity to give the water, but do not want to enter into a squabble with North Providence and Pawtucket. We were told that when we reach an agreement to come back. So for a period of nine and one-half years, there was very little discussion until we made our peace with Pawtucket, October 30, 1974 and entered into an agreement to purchase pipes, etc. for the Town of North Providence for \$495,000, payable to Pawtucket over a period of two years. \$50,000 down and \$50,000 when the trunk line is connected from Charles Street to the Reservoir, and the balance upon delivery of the deed.

North Providence is selling the same to Providence for one-half of what we paid for it. You cannot make money unless it is done on a volume basis. Our people want Providence water. Most of the town gets the Providence water but not the Marievile Section. We are not running their water down, but nothing matches Providence water for quality and we feel all our people should get quality water. North Providence does not want to go into the water business.

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We would like to sell the pipe, mains, valves, connections, hydrants, etc., which we call the system, to Providence for one-half of what we are paying, along the same schedule, it is all spelt out in the agreement. There are other matters the Water Supply Board has requested and North Providence has agreed to. For example, passing on all easements we received in the Agreement with Pawtucket. Providence anticipates expansion of Long Vue Reservoir.

We agreed for the next ten years that the total valuation of the land and buildings at the Long Vue Reservoir assessed to the Providence Water Supply Board is \$214,980 and that said total valuations for the land and improvements, including any extensions of said Reservoir by Providence in the future shall remain at its present total assessment of that sum for a period of ten years from the execution of this Agreement.

One of the reasons the Council has to approve this is because of the General Laws of the State of Rhode Island 39-15-11, which gives the Town Council the right to allow another municipality to lay pipes in the Street and only the Town Council can impose conditions to exempt the pipes and Reservoir from taxation.

No pipes for the Reservoir will be taxed and that is the basis we are making the agreement for, the only thing taxed is the land.

In this Agreement we have incorporated all language of an old Act that gives privileges to the City of Providence, Chapter 1278, Public Laws 1915.

In this law it says when Providence goes into another town it shall not pay the cost of repairing the streets. All of the language including liability of the third parties, etc., benefits Providence. You will be giving our residents the best water, Providence water.

Mr. Paci states: We agreed and I noted in my letter to the City Council the Water Supply Board has reviewed it and has recommended it be approved. If you will note, I did send a letter on February 3rd and added something to the Agreement; something that the attorneys involved did not see and we had Mr. Rogers go over everything. There was one problem and it was resolved. There is a borderline street between North Providence and Pawtucket and Pawtucket thought they should hold ownership of this main, servicing dwellings and buildings in North Providence, and we thought that should be part of Providence, and we resolved that, it was granted.

MR. ABATUNO: In the agreement, it provides North Providence will construct, at its own expense, a 16" feeder line from the Long Vue Reservoir to Charles Street to its existence in Pawtucket at its own expense. This is going to be in addition to the system we will construct the feeder line and it is 10,000 feet, there is a \$168,000 figure on that.

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This is the condition the Water Supply Board made to North Providence. We will construct a sixteen inch feeder line from the Long Vue Reservoir to the present system at Charles Street at our expense, but we want Providence to supervise the construction at their own expense. Providence is getting a very good deal.

If there is a discrepancy in the rates, we have to go to arbitration.

Discussion ensues on the foregoing Resolution.

On motion of Councilman McKiernan, seconded by Councilman Stravato, it is voted to recommend the foregoing Resolution to the City Council for adoption.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1 OF CHAPTER 1974-55, APPROVED DECEMBER 20, 1974, ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE CLASSES OF POSITIONS, THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN CERTAIN CLASSES IN THE CITY DEPARTMENTS".

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1974-58, ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE", APPROVED DECEMBER 20, 1974.

Chairman Lynch reviews the above Ordinances.

Discussion ensues relative to Henry F. Murray, Jr.'s appointment as Administrative Aide to the City Council.

Chairman Lynch states he would like an opinion from the City Solicitor under what power the Mayor refuses to place Mr. Murray on the payroll. The job has been created by the City Council and the money is provided for the present fiscal year to cover the salary and this is a position the Council felt was needed and was created on that basis. It is a question as to the right the Mayor has to withhold the name and why he is doing it.

On motion of Councilman McKiernan, seconded by Councilmen Crowley, Stravato and Councilwoman Brassil, it is voted to request an opinion from the City Solicitor relative to the above statement by Councilman Lynch.

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

On motion of Councilman McKiernan, seconded by Councilman Crowley, it is voted to Continue the above two Ordinances in Committee.

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

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE CHAPTER 1974-19, APPROVED JUNE 19, 1974, BY APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND (\$25,000.00) DOLLARS TO CONTINGENCIES 1-13-01 - ITEM 1.

Chairman Lynch reviews the above Ordinance and states it was continued from the last meeting of the Committee as Finance Director Izzo was not present, and the Committee had questions relative to the Ordinance.

He states Mr. Izzo will not be present today, but has left copies of a breakdown for the members present.

Following is an analysis of Contingencies for the fiscal year 1974-1975 in the total amount of \$90,000.00 budgeted which reveals the following break down:

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1. Amounts Paid to Date

a) Legal Fees	\$23,650.00
b) Arbitration	5,425.00
c) Study Retirement system-Peat-Marwick-Mitchell	30,909.00
d) Chapin Hospital Appraisal	3,000.00
e) Purchase Land-Rhodes Street	2,500.00
f) Bond Council Fees	1,275.00
g) Benefacts (Annual Statements) Fringe Benefits	6,000.00
h) Track Repairs	1,500.00
i) Uniforms-Park Dept.	1,062.00
j) Bonding Personnel	3,130.00

Some of the \$25,000.00 request for additional funds in contingencies will be used for:

1) American Public Welfare Association *(see letter attached)	6,314.00
2) Benefacts	9,000.00
3) Legal Fees-Contract Negotiations- Police & Fire	No estimate possible
4) Peat, Marwick, Mitchell-Auditing	5,000.00

The attached communication is from John J. Afflect, Director of the Department of Social and Rehabilitative Services, under date of May 30, 1974, as follows:

"As I promised, I am attaching hereto certain information regarding the American Public Welfare Association's proposal to LEAA for a project to strengthen the service delivery system in the treatment of juvenile delinquents. You will find a copy of my letter of invitation to the meeting which was held on January 22 and also a follow-up letter to you of February 1. It was most helpful to have the contributions of Major Trambukis and Captain Ricci at the January 22 meeting.

I shall be very grateful for your efforts in determining whether or not the City of Providence will be able to become one of the site locations for the project."

Councilman McKiernan states he would like to speak to Mr. Izzo on Item 1, the amounts already paid, to satisfy myself.

Councilman Garan questions the legal fees, for which there is no estimate.

Solicitor Mascia states he also does arbitration for the School Department.

Councilman McKiernan questions as to whether or not the City Solicitor's Department could handle the Legal work.

Solicitor Mascia states he could, but would need more help.

Councilman McKiernan is of the opinion the Mayor has requested a man be in that department full time.

Councilman Bradshaw states he believes the Mayor wants an Attorney on full time to take the City's position on any arbitration and to have a Secretary work with him. This will be introduced into the next Council meeting by himself, he states, at the request of the Mayor.

On motion of Councilman McKiernan, seconded by Councilman Crowley, it is voted to Continue the foregoing Ordinance in Committee and the Clerk is requested to inform Finance Director Izzo to be present at the next meeting for the Ordinance presented and other matters before the Committee.

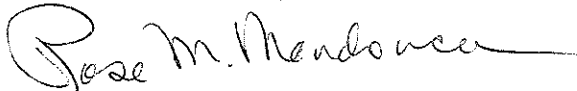
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RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE CITY SOLICITOR TO APPEAR BEFORE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AT ITS PRESENT SESSION AND URGE PASSAGE OF AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REMODELING, RECONSTRUCTING, REHABILITATING, MODERNIZING AND IMPROVING MUNICIPAL DOCK BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES OF THE CITY OF PROVIDENCE AND AUTHORIZING THE FINANCING THEREOF, INCLUDING THE ISSUE OF NOT MORE THAN TWO MILLION (\$2,000,000.00) DOLLARS BONDS THEREFOR.

Chairman Lynch states the above was passed at the 1974 General Election by a small margin and it now needs General Assembly approval of the Bond Issue before the City can proceed with it.

On motion of Councilman McKiernan, seconded by Councilman Stravato, it is voted to recommend the above Resolution to the City Council for Passage.

ADJOURNMENT. On motion of Councilman Stravato, seconded by Councilman McKiernan, the Committee adjourns at 3:55 o'clock P.M.


Assistant Clerk