

Grand Junction, Colorado

May 8, 1944

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, met in special session at 10 o'clock A. M. Councilmen present and answering at roll call were: Carson, Harris, Robb, Boston, Treece, Campbell and President Hoisington. Also present were City Manager Brownson, City Attorney Banks, and City Clerk Tomlinson.

It was moved by Councilman Carson and seconded by Councilman Harris that the 24-hour notice of special meeting be waived. Motion carried.

A committee from the Mesa County Labor Committee, with Carl Davis, County Agent, Chairman appeared before the Council in connection with securing the C.C.C. Camp for housing Mexican Nationals. Mr. Davis explained in detail the labor situation over the County for the next several months. He stated that the Mesa County Labor Committee were making arrangements for the labor for all the crops in the County. They were planning on bringing in the Mexican Nationals for labor in beet fields, tomato fields, and other places where they would be used. Also that they planned on bringing in German war prisoners for assisting in the canning plants, and these prisoners were to be housed at the C.C.C. Camp at Fruita. They were desperately in need of housing at the present time for the Mexican Nationals.

Messrs. Frank Reeds, W. S. Hallam, Rex Howell, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Powell all spoke in connection with the labor situation. They also stated that they had just come from the Chamber of Commerce where they had met with a committee from that body, and a resolution had been passed by them requesting the City Council to give serious consideration to this problem, and also that if permission was granted to house the Mexican Nationals at the C.C. Camp, or any other group, a cancellation clause be inserted in the lease so that if the property were used in connection with other proposed projects, possession could be had within a short time.

After considerable discussion, it was moved by Councilman Campbell and seconded by Councilman Harris that the City Manager work out something for the use of the Camp controlled by the Bureau of Reclamation, so that the Mexican Nationals can be housed there, with the understanding that the camp will be vacated within thirty days, if necessary. Motion carried.

It was also suggested that the Labor Committee proceed at once to find a new location where the buildings could be moved.

The meeting adjourned regularly.

/s/ Helen C. Tomlinson
City Clerk