

Grand Junction, Colorado

December 3, 1945

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

It was moved by Councilman Carson and seconded by Councilman Treece that the twenty-four hour form notice of meeting be waived. Motion carried.

Previous to the Council meeting, a meeting had been held at which time, members of the Chamber of Commerce Water Committee, State of Colorado Water Board, Bureau of Reclamation, and others interested in Grand Valley Water Development. All members of the City Council, the City Manager, City Attorney, City Clerk, Asst. City Engineer, and Building Inspector were also present. Mr. Harris presided at the meeting.

Mr. Jex of the Bureau of Reclamation explained the proposed Plateau Valley Water project upon which the Bureau has been working and making surveys for some time past. He stated that the Bureau contemplates the construction of a large reservoir on Plateau Creek which would service the 20,000 acres of irrigable land in this district and release the waters from Mesa Creek, Bull Creek, Cottonwood Creek and Big Creek for use in the Grand Valley. He estimated that there was eight second feet in Mesa Creek, eight in Bull Creek, fourteen in Cottonwood Creek and fifteen in Big Creek, with an addition 5300 acre feet available for storage in the Big Creek reservoirs. This would be in comparison to the 7.83 feet which the City now has prior rights to, in Kannah Creek. Mr. Jex stated that the Bureau was contemplating the construction of a pipe line from Big Creek to the Palisade water treatment plant, where the City could take over, together with the Metropolitan Water District, which is to service the greater part of the Grand Valley.

Judge Clifford Stone of the Colorado water conservancy board spoke and pledged the cooperation of the members of the Board in developing this project. Other speakers were Mr. Williams, Supt. of Grand Mesa National Forest; Mr. Fritz, City Manager; Mr. Frank Merrill, Colorado River Engineer, who stated, that the Colorado River supply is already appropriated, and that Grand Junction can not, in the future look to either the Colorado or Gunnison Rivers for supplemental water supplies. Mr. Patterson, engineer for the water conservancy board of the State, pointed out several things in connection with a municipality serving users outside of their corporate limits. He also pointed out that Grand Junction wasn't the only municipality in the State that was having water problems, especially in connection with expanded municipal territory.

The question was asked as to whether or not it would be within the province of the Bureau of Reclamation to continue their study further, and estimate the cost of a pipe line from Palisade which would serve the greater part of the Grand Valley, also whether or not this work could be done by the Water Board, and Judge Stone stated that this would have to be determined by a study of the laws regulating such matters. He also stated that they would investigate as to whether or not it would be necessary to have special legislation in order that a metropolitan water district might be created.

When the Council meeting was convened, it was shown that additional engineering services will be required in order to see what the needs of the City would be and the type of distribution system necessary. It was moved by Councilman Carson and seconded by Councilman Treece that the City Manager be authorized to negotiate with consulting engineers for their services in conducting this investigation and survey, and to make a report to the Council at a later date. Motion carried.

It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the meeting adjourn.

/s/ Helen C. Tomlinson
City Clerk