

Grand Junction, Colorado

December 3, 1947

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, met in regular session at 7:30 P.M. Councilmen present and answering at roll call were Harper, Hoisington, Bagby, Colescott, Martin, and President Carson; Councilman Harris was absent. Also present were City Manager Fritz, City Attorney Banks, City Clerk Tomlinson, and Chief of the Department of Public Works and Planning Bennett.

The minutes of the regular meeting held November 19 and the regular adjourned meeting held November 24 were read and approved.

Mr. Earl Louthan, Manager of the Mountain States Telephone Company, appeared before the Council requesting that they take action on the request which was made some time ago for an increase in telephone rates. The Colorado Public Utilities Commission has indicated that it will take no action on their request filed with it for such increase in rates until home rule cities have acted upon the increase. Several home rule cities have acted favorably in the past few weeks. Mr. Louthan presented the following resolution and it was read to the Council.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company has submitted to this Council a schedule of rates to be charged and collected for telephone services within the corporate limits of the City of Grand Junction, and

WHEREAS, this Council has examined said rates and has been fully informed as to the necessity of the filing of said schedule and making of such charges and has found that said rates are fair, reasonable, and equitable;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that it shall be lawful for The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company to charge and collect for telephone service within the corporate limits of the City of Grand Junction in accordance with the said schedule of rates submitted with its letter of July 5, 1947, and

PROVIDED FURTHER that this resolution shall not become effective unless and until the application of The Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company to the Public Utilities Commission for a similar increase in rates in the vicinity outside of Grand Junction served by its exchanges is likewise made effective and granted by the Public Utilities Commission of Colorado.

These rates to be effective the first billing period after the effective date granted by the Public Utilities Commission.

It was moved by Councilman Harper and seconded by Councilman

Bagby that the resolution be passed and adopted as read. Roll was called on the motion with all members of the Council present voting AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

This was the date set for the hearing on the Moose Lodge Club liquor license. Chief of Police Keith reported favorably on the location and stated that the officers of the Lodge were apparently of desirable character. There were no protests filed in connection with this license. It was moved by Councilman Colescott and seconded by Councilman Martin that the license be granted. Motion carried.

Mark Hamilton presented an application for the renewal of his liquor store license at 450 North Avenue. It was moved by Councilman Bagby and seconded by Councilman Martin that the renewal be granted. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councilman Harper and seconded by Councilman Bagby that John Cadez, who operates the Grand Liquor Store at 357 Main Street, be notified to appear before the Council at the regular meeting on Wednesday, December 17 to show cause why his license to operate a liquor store should not be revoked. Motion carried.

It was suggested that the Police Department be instructed that whenever a liquor dealer is brought into court for violation in operating his establishment the Council should be notified.

Dr. Cleere of the State Health Department, and the Board of County Commissioners of Mesa County have agreed to approve the city-county-state health arrangement under which Dr. Vagneur's salary will be paid 40 per cent by the State, 20 per cent by Mesa County and 40 per cent by the City. During the last few days it has developed that the local Cancer group, the Tuberculosis Association, the Crippled Children's group, Mesa County and the City of Grand Junction would jointly rent the Reynold's Building at 618 Rood Avenue as a Health Center. They have requested that the City participate in the cost of operating the building to the extent of approximately 25 per cent. It was moved by Councilman Hoisington and seconded by Councilman Bagby that the City authorize the expenditure of \$600 for the year 1948 for rental of the building to be used for the Health Center. Roll was called on the motion with all members of the Council present voting AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

Mr. E. H. Carter appeared before the Council and stated that the Hogchute Reservoir would cost far more than anticipated. He blamed City officials for having no pre-audit system by which the exact cost of the project could be determined at all times. Mr. Bennett presented a report showing that the estimated cost of the reservoir at this time was \$355,800 and that it might go a trifle higher, depending upon the final settlement with Mr. Schmidt on equipment repair. The Council were very dissatisfied that they had not been notified that the cost of the reservoir was to exceed the

estimated amount which was decided upon at the time they agreed to go ahead early in the summer. Further figures and breakdown will be available within a few days.

The proposal for increased water rates was presented to the Council but, as they had had no time to conscientiously study the set-up, and Councilman Harper called attention to the fact that meter rates would be higher than flat rates for the same service, it was decided to postpone any action on the new rates until the next meeting of the Council.

The Public Service Company presented a schedule showing an approximate reduction of 5 per cent in rates within the City of Grand Junction effective January 1, 1948. It was moved by Councilman Harper and seconded by Councilman Bagby that the proposed reduction in city light rates be accepted with pleasure. Motion carried.

Dr. Mahn desires to lease the building at 531 Rood Avenue and to make improvements on this building which will be in variance with building code restrictions. These variances include the installation of windows in the building wall which is located on the property line. The code prohibits this in the business district on account of the fact that a building located on the adjacent lot would constitute a fire menace if openings were permitted. Dr. Rigg, who owns the parking lot adjacent to this building has given Dr. Mahn an easement permitting uninterrupted access and enjoyment of light and air over and across the east 10 feet of Lot 7, said easement being cancellable upon 60 days notice. If this cancellation occurs, the west wall of the building on Lot 8 would have to be replaced in accordance with conforming conditions. It was moved by Councilman Colescott and seconded by Councilman Martin that building variance be approved by the expressed condition that, if any building is ever constructed within 10 feet of the building wall for which this variance is granted, or if the easement for light and air should be revoked, then this variance shall be revoked and the building wall shall be replaced in its present condition so as to conform with the present building code requirements. Motion carried.

The following resolution was presented and read:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the City of Grand Junction, in order to pay for sewer tile and preliminary engineering costs prior to the final organization of Sanitary Sewer District No. 10, was forced to expend the sum of \$6,348.49 out of its sewer fund during the year 1947; and

WHEREAS the said Sanitary Sewer District No. 10 has now been organized and the said money should now be transferred from the Sanitary Sewer District No. 10 fund back to the sewer fund;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Grand Junction, that the sum of \$6,348.49 shall be and it is hereby transferred from the Sanitary Sewer District No. 10 fund back to the sewer fund in repayment of the moneys thus advanced.

It was moved by Councilman Hoisington and seconded by Councilman Harper that the resolution be passed and adopted as read. Roll was called on the motion with all members of the Council present voting AYE. The President declared the motion carried.

A letter was read from the Full Gospel United Workers League requesting that they be given permission to solicit funds from house to house. It was the consensus of opinion of the Council that requests of this kind should not be granted.

The matter of the Grand Avenue dumping grounds was brought up and the City Manager was instructed to close this dump at once and to lay off the man in charge. Other dumping facilities further out of town should be used and the dump should be kept open at all times so that the public can use it whenever they desire.

A letter from Francis I. Stringer, City Treasurer, was presented in which he tendered his resignation as Treasurer effective on or about January 1, 1948. It was moved by Councilman Bagby and seconded by Councilman Hoisington that the resignation of Mr. Stringer be accepted with regret and that the City Clerk be instructed to write a letter to Mr. Stringer setting forth the Council's appreciation for his services.

The matter of City employees having taken down street lamps at 4th and Rood Avenue was brought up and the Council were assured that the lights would be replaced at the earliest possible moment.

It was moved by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Colescott that the meeting adjourn until Tuesday, December 9, at 7:30 o'clock. Motion carried.

/s/Helen C. Tomlinson
City Clerk