

Grand Junction, Colorado

August 19, 1959

**ROLL CALL**

The City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, met in regular session at 7:30 o'clock P. M., August 19, 1959. Councilmen present and answering roll call were Meacham, Hadden, Dean, Colescott, Strnad, and President Orr. Councilman Wright was absent. Also present were City Manager Cheever, City Attorney Ashby, and City Clerk Tomlinson.

**MINUTES**

It was moved by Councilman Strnad and seconded by Councilman Meacham that the minutes of the regular meeting held August 5, 1959 be approved as written. Motion carried.

**PLANNING COMMISSION** - R. T. Harras & Abbott Tessman apptd for 6 yr terms - to 8-1-65

President Orr stated that it would be necessary for him to leave early, and that he would like to appoint Mr. Rudy Harras as a member of the Planning Commission for a term of the next six years. Mr. Harras had been appointed in March to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Howard McMullin. He also appointed Mr. Abbott Tessman for a term of six years to take the place of Mrs. Estelle Brumbaugh whose term expired August 1, 1959 and who had so ably filled the position for the past few years. President Orr expressed his appreciation, and also the Council's, to Mrs. Brumbaugh for her tireless effort in behalf of the Planning Commission.

**WATER COMMITTEE APPTD** - Colescott, Chairman Strnad, Wright & Orr

President Orr also appointed a committee of the Council to consider matters concerning water, naming Councilman Colescott as Chairman, Councilman Strnad, Councilman Wright and himself as members.

**IMPR. DIST. #56 BIDS** - Silmon Renick Sched I \$8,562.20 Corn Const Co Sched II & III \$42,998.75

The following tabulation of bids received and opened at 10:00 A. M. was presented:

Mr. Silmon Renick was the apparent low bidder on Schedule I which included the construction of sidewalks, his bid being \$8,562.20, and the Corn Construction Company was the apparent low bidder on

Schedules II and III, their bid being \$42,998.75. City Engineer Alstatt explained the bids and recommended that Schedule I be awarded to Silmon Renick and that Schedules II and III be awarded to Corn Construction Company.

It was moved by Councilman Colescott and seconded by Councilman Strnad that contracts for the construction of Improvement District No. 56 be awarded to Silmon Renick for Schedule I in the amount of \$8,562.20 and to Corn Construction Company for Schedules II and III in the amount of \$42,998.75 as the apparent low bidders. Roll was called on the motion with all members of the Council present voting "AYE." The President declared the motion carried.

**IMPR. DIST. #56 - BONDS** - To be advertised for \$64,000 Sept 2, 1959 at 7:30 PM

It was moved by Councilman Strnad and seconded by Councilman Colescott that Mr. Fred E. Hagie, City Treasurer, be instructed to advertise for bids for approximately \$64,000 of Improvement District No. 56 bonds; the bids to be opened at 7:30 P.M. at the next regular meeting of the City Council, Sept. 2, 1959. Motion carried.

**AIRPORT** Inst. # Airport Grand Valley Aircraft Inc. Approve assignment of lease & agency agreement of G.J. Aircraft Co., Inc. to Loyd Files & Jones - Rental increased \$100 to \$150 per mo - Inst. # Airport Grand Valley Aircraft Inc.

Mr. Loyd Files and his partner, Mr. Jones, have taken over the operation of the Grand Junction Aircraft, Inc. at Walker Field. The lease under which the Grand Junction Aircraft Co., Inc. have been operating should be assigned to the new partnership including a raise of \$100 a month in rentals making the payment to the City \$150 per month. This raise is to compensate for paving in front of the building. City Manager Cheever stated that he would like to rent a small corner of the hangar to house the crash truck at a rental of \$50 a month. The City should also enter into an agency agreement with Messrs. Files and Jones for the purpose of selling gasoline at Walker Field.

It was moved by Councilman Colescott and seconded by Councilman Dean that the City Council authorize City Manager Cheever to sign the assignment of the lease of the Grand Junction Aircraft Co., Inc. at a rental of \$150 per month and that he also be given permission to sign an agency agreement with Messrs. Files and Jones appointing them as agents of the City for the purpose of selling gasoline; this action to be subject to the approval of the Airport Board and the County Commissioners. Motion carried.

Rent corner of hangar \$50 mo for housing crash truck

It was moved by Councilman Strnad and seconded by Councilman Hadden that an agreement be entered into with Messrs. Files and Jones for the use of a portion of their hangar for the purpose of housing the crash truck at a rental of \$50.00 per month subject to approval by the Airport Board and the County Commissioners. Motion carried.

RESOL SUPPORTING URANIUM INDUSTRY

Mr. Gordon Weller presented the following Resolution which was passed by the Gunnison City Council and asked that the City Council of Grand Junction pass a similar resolution:

G U N N I S O N      R E S O L U T I O N

Concerning the Continued Domestic Uranium Market Through the Year 1966

WHEREAS, the uranium industry has been developed through the urgent requirements of the United States defense program, and the promise of a highly productive "Atoms for Peace" program, and

WHEREAS, the United States Atomic Energy Commission on May 24, 1956, issued positive assurance to the domestic uranium industry that a market for uranium concentrates would be assured through the calendar year 1966, with properly defined production limitations, and

WHEREAS, hundreds of uranium operators and mining companies have made substantial investments based upon the assurances that were issued by the A.E.C., of which the May 24, 1956 announcement cited above is only one example, and

WHEREAS, substantial progress has been made since 1956 in the perfection of nuclear reactors for the production of electric power, and the propulsion of vessels and vehicles through the water and air, and on the land, thereby assuring the continuing and growing market for uranium for peaceful uses, and

WHEREAS, the United States has been buying uranium concentrates from the Dominion of Canada and from other foreign sources for the past five years at prices 25 to 40% above the average price paid for concentrates to the domestic industry, and the A.E.C., within the past few months, has extended its commitments to Canada at a time when increasing limitations were being imposed upon the domestic industry, and

WHEREAS, the development of the uranium industry has involved the employment of thousands of skilled and semiskilled people, the investment of millions of dollars in plant and mine facilities, and the expansion of many western communities to accommodate the housing and trade requirements of the newly developed uranium industry, now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Atomic Energy Commission and the United States Congress maintain the required markets for uranium through its raw materials procurement program to permit the industry to operate at the level which has now been established in existing and negotiated mill capacities and concentrate production levels, through the calendar year 1966.

2. The Atomic Energy Commission and the United States Congress continue to support such research and development programs in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy and of uranium as a nuclear fuel, to speed the achievement of economic uses of uranium for the growing energy requirements of this Nation and of the other friendly countries throughout the world.

3. The Atomic Energy Commission and the United States Congress authorize no further commitments for the procurement of uranium from sources outside the United States so long as procurement from domestic sources is restricted.

Adopted by \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

It was moved by Councilman Meacham and seconded by Councilman Hadden that because uranium is a very important part of the community's economy, the Council should go on record as supporting the Gunnison resolution as presented by Mr. Weller and it should 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.

The Council authorized the City Clerk to sign certified copies of this Resolution to be sent out to various firms and interested parties by Mr. Weller.

**REGIONAL PLAN. COM.** - Strnad apptd as Council rept

Councilman Strnad was appointed to continue representing the City Council at Regional Planning Commission meetings.

**HEARINGS-LIQ. LICENSES** - Sept 2, 1959

The retail liquor store license applications of Earl E. Fix for the 8 Ball Drive In Liquor Store at 240 So. 5th and for Craig Taylor, 801 North Avenue, were set in error for hearing on September 16th. It was moved by Councilman Colescott and seconded by Councilman Hadden that September 2 be set as the date for hearing on these applications. Motion carried.

**MEDICAL EXPENSE FOR JAIL PRISONERS**

In various instances prisoners have been sent to St. Mary's Hospital by the Police Department, and it was felt that the Council should adopt some policy as to the payment for their expenses. City Manager Cheever explained that he was just giving the Council something to think about in order to know whether to put funds in the 1960 budget to provide for payment of such expenses.

It was moved by Councilman Hadden and seconded by Councilman Meacham that each individual bill be brought to the City Council for their study and determination as to whether the Council should pay the claim. Motion carried.

**PRES. COLESCOTT PRES. PRO TEM.**

It was moved by Councilman Dean and seconded by Councilman Strnad that Councilman Colescott be appointed as President Pro Tem. Motion carried, and Councilman Colescott took the chair and President Orr left the meeting temporarily.

**LIQUOR LICENSE** - Change of address Moose Lodge fr 523 1/2 Main St. to 201 Belford - 9-16-59

The Moose Lodge requested permission to transfer their club liquor license from 523 1/2 Main Street to 201 Belford. It was moved by Councilman Meacham and seconded by Councilman Hadden that this application for transfer be advertised for hearing on Sept. 16th. Motion carried.

**FILE LETTER FROM B. R. DELP**

A letter from Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Delp concerning the zoning between 9th and 12th on North Avenue was read which was accepted and filed.

**EMPLOYEES TO BALLOT ON UNION REPRESENTATION** by 9-14-59

Mr. A. J. Stucker, Representative of the Teamsters Union, Local No. 16, asked about consideration of his letter requesting that he be considered to act as bargaining agent for the employees who had signed cards appointing him as such bargaining agent. Action on his request had been tabled pending the report of the Committee appointed to make a study on wages. The following report was presented by the wage study committee:

#### **REPORT OF WAGE COMMITTEE**

After hours of discussion and research on our part, we find the following:

1. Grand Junction City Employees, on the whole, are being fairly well compensated in relation to cities of Colorado and surrounding states, also in comparison of comparable jobs in private industry.
2. We realize the difficulties facing the City Administration; taxes are high; the taxpayer is being taxed about all he can stand.
3. We do find some unrest and dissatisfaction among the City employees. Most of this is caused by:
  - a. No hourly increase for several years.
  - b. The jobs are not properly classified, and as a result, some employees are not being paid in relation to what they produce.
  - c. There also were some complaints, we think justified, regarding lack of tools with which to work. We had other complaints, but our opinion is that the hourly wage scale, the classification for jobs, and the lack of small tools were the only ones justified.

Therefore, we recommend:

1. Look into the small tool situation and try to see that the men have the proper equipment.
2. Appoint a committee of some type to help reclassify all City employees in an attempt to see that each employee is properly compensated for his work in comparison to his job and responsibility.

For instance: Three department heads in the City are not paid as much, or very little more, than a skilled laborer in his own department. When the hourly employees in these departments work overtime, they are paid for overtime but the department head works the same hours and is not paid extra for it. We recommend

that these department head's salaries be increased or the jobs be reclassified and they be paid on an hourly basis.

We feel that general government department heads are being amply compensated for their work, however, some reclassification of their jobs may be desirable.

3. We suggest that the starting wage for policemen and firemen be \$350.00 per month and raised at the rate of \$5.00 per month per year for the first 10 years, thereby reaching \$400.00 per month. We suggest that some adjustment for supervisory officers may be necessary to compensate them for their responsibilities.

4. We recommend that hourly rates up to \$1.88 be given approximately a 10% increase and those above, approximately 5%.

5. After discussion with representatives from the Library, we feel that they should be reclassified in line with other City employees and according to their job; thereby receiving the same amount of benefit as other City employees.

We feel the system the City Manager is working on for classifying City jobs should be completed. Also, salary people should be properly classified and no over-time allowed except for hourly employees. We are of the opinion that any supervisor not desiring to work under these conditions should give up the responsibilities and should return to the hourly wage bracket. In summary, we think the City of Grand Junction is being operated very well. We want to thank the City Manager and his office for the cooperation and help given to us. We realize these recommendations will cost us more money, but we think they are justified and that Grand Junction will be a better City if these recommendations are followed.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank the City Council for allowing us to serve on this committee and hope that we have rendered a service along the lines requested by the Council. Also, we wish to thank all the City Employees for the courtesy they have shown us during the study.

Sincerely,

Signed T. S. Campbell

Signed R. B. Evans

Signed Howard Stewart

City Clerk reports on meeting of employees

City Clerk Tomlinson reported that City Manager Cheever had held a meeting of all City employees on Wednesday, Aug. 12th, at which time he presented and explained the report to them. He proposed a plan to them that each department elect one member from their department to form a committee to meet with him to work out problems of reclassification of jobs and that the majority of employees had indicated by a show of hands that they would be willing to go along with his suggestion. City Manager Cheever stated that He would like to make this reclassification of jobs to see if they could come up with something that would be acceptable to both the employees and to the Council. Also, that members of the Committee had been elected and had held an organizational meeting and agreed that they wished to work with Mr. Cheever on reclassification of jobs.

A letter was read from W. W. Wallace, District Representative of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 9, asking the Council to consider their union to represent all workers coming under their jurisdiction including operators of power driven equipment such as power shovels, tractors, rollers, graders, loaders, etc. and the maintenance of this equipment.

Councilman Dean stated that he thought they were getting involved in two different subjects and suggested that the matter of union representation should be handled similarly to any other labor organization even though federal laws do not apply; that an election be held as a democratic process, and that a deadline be set when all unions who are interested could ask for representation and ballots be presented and employees vote on whether or not they wish to have any union representative and, if any, which one they wish to have as their bargaining agent.

It was moved by Councilman Dean and seconded by Councilman Meacham that the date of September 14th be set as a deadline for labor organizations wishing to represent the City employees to show evidence to the City Manager that the City employees have indicated them as their choice; and that prior to the 16th of September that the names of all union representatives be placed on a ballot; also a space of "no union" and when these ballots have been presented and employees have voted, the results be tabulated and given to the Council. Roll was called on the motion with all members of the Council present voting "AYE." The President Pro Tem declared the motion carried.

#### **ANONYMOUS LETTERS**

Councilman Meacham stated that he had received a card that was not signed from a City employee, and that he would be glad to talk to any employee at any time but that he would not consider any anonymous letters or cards in the future.

**SEWAGE PLANT ODOR** - City Mgr. to take steps to see that the plant is efficiently operated

Councilman Hadden stated that he represented a contingency of people concerning the odor at the west side sewage disposal plant. He stated that he had made an intensive investigation with the people who live in that area and they had determined very definitely that there is odor coming from that plant, and he thought that positive steps should be taken to see that the plan is working properly. Several of the people who live in that vicinity also spoke concerning this matter including John Davidson, Mrs. Norman Billings, Karl Billings and others who stated they did not believe the plant was being properly taken care of.

City Manager Cheever stated that he would be glad to go down to the plant at any time with any of the Councilmen and go over the plant with them to determine if there was inefficiency in the operation. It was moved by Councilman Hadden and seconded by Councilman Strnad that the City Council authorizes the City Manager to maintain operators at the plant to determine whether the odor can be controlled. Motion carried.

**GARBAGE & TRASH** Reports of inefficiency

Councilman Dean brought up the matter of inefficient garbage pick up and Councilman Meacham stated that it had been reported to him that trash pick up on Houston Ave. was not satisfactory.

**PRES. ORR** returned to the meeting.

**CITY PROPERTY USED BY CLYMERS DAIRY ON OM** - CM & CA to make report to bring back to Council

Pres. Pro Tem Colescott reported that he had talked to Mr. Fred Clymer regarding the leasing of City property which he now uses on Orchard Mesa near the Municipal Cemetery. He stated Mr. Clymer is quite anxious to get the matter settled in order to plan for his future improvements on the property. City Manager Cheever stated that he would have a report ready for the Council by the next meeting showing just how much land is involved and how it lies. Councilman Hadden stated that he thought the City should retain the land as it might be more valuable in future years. It was moved by Councilman Orr and seconded by Councilman Hadden that the City Manager and City Attorney be authorized to prepare a report on this matter and bring it back to the Council at the next meeting of the Council. Motion carried.

It was moved by Councilman Dean and seconded by Councilman Hadden that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.

/s/Helen C. Tomlinson  
City Auditor & Ex-Officio City Clerk