

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS

Special Meeting

September 8, 1953

2:30 P.M.

Council Chamber, City Hall

The meeting was called to order with MAYOR McADEN presiding.

Roll Call:

Present: Councilmen Long, Pearson, Thompson, White, Mayor McAden

Absent: None

Present also: W. E. Seaholm, City Manager; W. T. Williams, Jr., City Attorney; C. G. Levander, Director of Public Works; Noble Latson, Assistant Director of Public Works; Mike Mahoney, Planning Engineer.

Present also: Members of the Subdivision Committee: Howard Kuhlman, Chairman; Martin Kermacy, C. A. Dye, Tom Graham, Trueman E. O'Quinn, Clyde Copus, Bill Bullard, Frank Montgomery, A. B. Beddow, and Mrs. Frederick Meyers.

The Mayor announced the purpose of this meeting was for considering and receiving the report of the Special Committee relative to Subdivisions.

The Council had before it the Memorandum from the General Subdivision Committee, regarding Committee Reports and Recommendations on Proposed Subdivision Ordinance, dated August 28th:

"August 28, 1953

"Honorable Mayor and City Council

City of Austin

Austin, Texas

Re: Committee Reports and Recommendations on Proposed Subdivision Ordinance

Gentlemen:

"Attached herewith you will find final drafts of the findings and recommendations of the special Sub-committees appointed by the City Council at a special meeting August 18, 1953.

"The General Subdivision Committee met with the Sub-committees on August 21, 1953, and the reports of the Sub-committees were heard. After exhaustive study and discussion the Sub-Committee reports were unanimously accepted by the General Committee as given in the final drafts attached hereto.

"It is the suggestion of the Committee that a copy of this letter and of the Sub-committee reports be placed in the hands of the proper departments as soon as possible and that a new ordinance be drafted at an early date in accordance with the recommendations of your Sub-committees.

"It is further suggested that no copies of the new draft be made public until the entire Committee membership has had opportunity to review and accept the final draft before its presentation to the City Council.

"May I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to the Committee members, the City Department Heads, and all others who so diligently worked on this project and who have so generously given their time and effort.

"While the Committee is not recommending on matters of fiscal policy, it strongly urges that the City Council make known its fiscal policy before the adoption of the ordinance.

"Respectfully submitted,

General Subdivision Committee
(S) Howard P. Kuhlman
Chairman"

(Enclosures Review of Planning Commission Recommendations, Report on Classification of Subdivisions, Report on Procedures, Report on Paving Specifications on file in City Clerk's Office under SUBDIVISION - COMMITTEE)

Discussion was held on community sewage disposal systems on questions of when the separate units would be used instead of the city sewage systems; and on the city's help in securing easements to run the storm sewers.

MRS. FREDERICK MEYERS gave a report from the paving sub-committee, stating the recommendation was adopted 11-1. Various types of paving were discussed in detail. The Assistant Director of Public Works gave his reasons for recommending against the lighter type of pavement. The cost of maintaining the cheaper types would prevent and slow down the paving of the 400 miles

of streets. MR. COLLINS, Collins Construction Company, as a matter of economy urged that the streets be constructed right the first time, as the materials, labor, excavation, etc., amounted to the same up to the surfacing. MR. HOWARD KUHLMAN felt that the Committee majority should be considered, as it had talked with experts on paving and had exhausted its means of obtaining more information.

Councilman Thompson commended the committee and its individual members, noting it a rare thing when intelligent, responsible busy citizens would take their time off and take on a job like this, and do a thorough job like this Committee had done. He stated the Committee had done a wonderful service, and had encouraged other citizens to do likewise in the future when there is a job to be done. Councilman Long moved that the Council give the Committee a vote of thanks for doing a fine job on this matter. The motion, seconded by Councilman Thompson, carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmen Long, Pearson, Thompson, White, Mayor McAden
Noes: None

MR. CLYDE COPUS expressed appreciation for the comments. He asked that before the Subdivision Ordinance was passed that the fiscal policy of the city be made known. The Mayor replied that the fiscal policy was drawn up, and would be considered very shortly.

There being no further business, the Council adjourned at 5:35 P.M.

APPROVED:

CA McAden
Mayor

ATTEST:

Chas. Hoosley
City Clerk