

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

June 29, 1964

The Honorable City Council
City of Providence
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island

Gentlemen:

The Providence Redevelopment Agency in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph II of Chapter 1419 of the Ordinances of the City of Providence approved August 11, 1961; and Title 45, Chapter 32, Section 5 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, hereby reports concerning the proposed sale of real property within the Central-Classical Project No. R. I. R-2.

The Agency proposes to sell to All Saints Memorial Church, a Rhode Island non-profit institution, one (1) parcel of land 44,392 square feet in area for a total sale price of Nineteen Thousand Eleven and 00/100 (\$19,011.) Dollars. This tract of land is designated as Disposition Site No. 2 in the Central-Classical Project.

The All Saints Memorial Church proposes to develop this Site into a parking area that will accommodate approximately 57 cars. The parking area will be surfaced with asphalt concrete and will include such landscaping features as planting, walks and walls which are designed to be compatible with the proposed Classical-Central Education Center as much as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy A. Purcell
Timothy A. Purcell
Vice-Chairman

IN CITY COUNCIL
AUG 13 1964

READ:
WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.

Vincent Vespia
CLERK

AUG 13 1964
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APPROVED

AUG 17 1964

James J. ...
ACTING
MAYOR

IN CITY COUNCIL

JUL 2 1964

FIRST READING
REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON
.....CITY PROPERTY.....

Vincent Vespia, CLERK

1. The City Council has received and read the report of the City Engineer, dated June 1, 1964, regarding the proposed construction of a new sewer line from the intersection of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, and the City of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, to the intersection of the City of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and the City of Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

2. The City Council has received and read the report of the City Engineer, dated June 1, 1964, regarding the proposed construction of a new sewer line from the intersection of the City of Providence, Rhode Island, and the City of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, to the intersection of the City of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and the City of Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

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DEPT. OF CITY CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R.I.
JUN 26 2 50 PM '64

FILED

EDMUND M. MAURO
Chairman

TIMOTHY A. PURCELL
Vice Chairman

CHARLES M. SMITH
Secretary

ALBERT HARKNESS
JOSEPH E. ADELSON

JAMES F. REYNOLDS
Executive Director

PROVIDENCE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

410 HOWARD BUILDING • PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

TELEPHONE 831-6550

MEMORANDUM

Date : August 7, 1964
To : Vincent Vespia, City Clerk
From : Robert H. Yeremian, Acting Land Disposition Officer
Re : Nohel Manufacturing Corporation

Attached herewith is a copy of a Report to the City Council in reference to the proposed sale of land within the Huntington Expressway Industrial Park to the above referenced firm.

We would desire to have such report placed on the docket for the City Council Meeting of August 13, 1964.

Thank you for your cooperation.

FILED

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DEPT. OF CITY CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

EDMUND M. MAURO
Chairman

TIMOTHY A. PURCELL
Vice Chairman

CHARLES M. SMITH
Secretary

ALBERT HARKNESS
JOSEPH E. ADELSON

JAMES F. REYNOLDS
Executive Director

PROVIDENCE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

410 HOWARD BUILDING • PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02903

TELEPHONE 831-6550

August 7, 1964

Report to the City Council

The Honorable City Council
City of Providence
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island

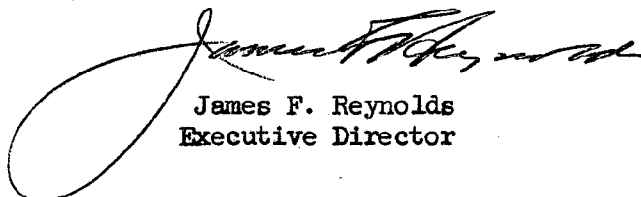
Gentlemen:

The Providence Redevelopment Agency, in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 12 of Chapter 1375, as amended, of the Ordinances of the City of Providence, Approved December 2, 1960; and Title 45, Chapter 32, Section 5 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956; hereby reports concerning the proposed sale of real property within the Mashapaug Pond Redevelopment Project.

Nohel Manufacturing Corporation, the prospective purchaser, manufactures infants' and children's sneakers for nationwide distribution, proposes to erect an initial building of 40,000 square feet with a proposed expansion to 136,000 square feet. The present employment figure of about 150 will be increased with the proposed new construction.

The Agency proposes to convey to Nohel Manufacturing Corporation, a Rhode Island corporation, a parcel of 217,800 square feet at \$.25 per square foot for a sale price of \$54,450.

Respectfully submitted,



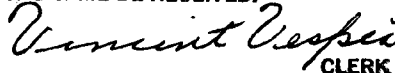
James F. Reynolds
Executive Director

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rhy

IN CITY COUNCIL
AUG 13 1964

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.


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PROVIDENCE, R.I.

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CITY OF PROVIDENCE - RHODE ISLAND - Walter H. Reynolds, Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Robert B. Strong

Director

Peter P. Granieri, Jr.

Deputy Director

CITY HALL

July 23, 1964

City Council
City Hall
Providence, Rhode Island

Gentlemen:

The curb and grading assessments for lots 29 and 4 on Assessor's Plat 75 must be changed because of a condemnation by the State of Rhode Island.

This condemnation was filed with the Recorder of Deeds on April 17, 1964 according to information on State Plat No. 1375.

The assessments for this street were calculated on April 23, 1964, based on the information from the Assessor's Office as of April 22, 1964.

Since the frontages of these lots were shortened by said condemnation, the assessments must be reduced accordingly.

Curbing	Lot 29	Owner - John A. D. Harris 19.15 L.F. of Str. Curb
	Lot 30	No Change
	Total for lots 30 and 29 - 59.15 of Str. Curb	
Grading	Lot 29	20.00 L.F. @ \$0.502 = \$10.04
	Lot 30	40.00 L.F. @ \$0.502 = \$20.08
	Total for lots 30 and 29 - 60.00 L.F. @ \$0.52 = \$30.12	
Curbing	Lot 4	Owner - City of Providence 614.0 L.F. of Str. Curb
Grading	Lot 4	634.98 L.F. @ \$0.502 = \$318.76

Respectfully submitted

W. H. Reynolds
Chief Civil Engineer

IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 13 1964

APPROVED:

Vincent Vespia
CLERK

FILED

JUL 28 9 44 AM '64

DEPT. OF CITY CLERK
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

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RECEIVED

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Providence, R. I. July 2, 1964

Cost of curbstones set on Collyer Street from Cemetery Street to Matilda Street

under resolution of the City Council, passed April 19, 1963, ascertained by the Director of Public Works of the City of Providence, and submitted to the City Council of said City, in compliance with Chapter 73, Section 30, of the General Laws of 1938, for approval.

Assessor's Plat	Number Lot	NAME	QUANTITY			AMOUNT		Date of Demand	Date of Payment
75	4	City of Providence Collyer Park <i>Dept. of Recreation</i> Park Dept. Roger <i>61 Fountain St.</i> Williams Park <i>Prov., R.I.</i>	614.00' St. curb	2.89	1774.46	1815	66		
			9.30' 10' rad. cb.	4.43	<u>41.20</u>				
75	30	John A.D. Harris	40.00' St. cb.	2.89	115.60	170	94		
75	29	" " " "	19.15' St. cb.	2.89	55.34				
			59.15 St. Cb.	<u>2.89</u>	<u>170.94</u>				
IN CITY COUNCIL AUG 13 1964 APPROVED: <i>Vincent Vespi</i> CLERK						Total, \$		1986	60

Robert B. Strong
Director of Public Works

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Providence, R. I. July 2, 1964

Cost of grading Collyer Street from Cemetery Street to Matilda Street

under resolution of City Council, passed April 19, 1963, ascertained by the Director of Public Works of the City of Providence, and submitted to the City Council of said City, in compliance with Chapter 73 of the General Laws, of 1938, for approval.

Assessor's Plat	Number Lot	PROPERTY OWNER	Frontage Lin. Ft.	Unit Cost per Lin. Ft.	AMOUNT	Date of Demand	Date of Payment
75	30	John A.D. Harris 78 Concord St.	40.00	0.502	20 08		
75	29	" " " "	20.00 60.00	" "	10 04 30 12		
75	4	City of Providence (Collyer Park) Park Dept. - Roger Williams Park, <i>Dept. of Recreation</i> <i>161 Fountain Street</i> <i>Providence, R. I.</i>	634.98	"	318 76		
IN CITY COUNCIL AUG 13 1964 APPROVED: <i>Conant Vespi</i> CLERK			Total, \$ 348 88				

Robert B. Strong
Director of Public Works

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ONPAGE 1

O R D I N A N C E S

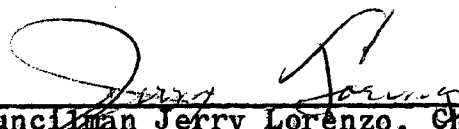
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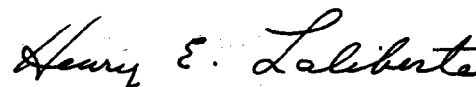
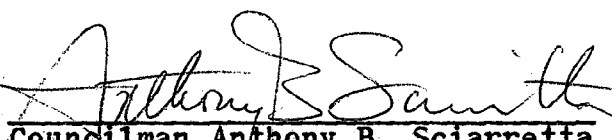
Gentlemen:

Attached is Majority Report of members of said Committee, whose signatures are affixed hereto, upon the Resolution introduced into the City Council on July 10, 1963 by Councilman Donald C. Kelley, which called for an investigation of the administration of the Police Department with the view of better administration between the administrative officers and the personnel.

Respectfully Submitted

FOR THE COMMITTEE


Councilman Jerry Lorenzo, Chairman

Councilman Edmund Wexler
Councilman Henry E. Laliberte
Councilman Anthony B. Sciarretta

IN CITY COUNCIL

AUG 13 1964

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.
CLERK

REPORT CONCERNING RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT IN ORDINANCE COMMITTEE OF PROVIDENCE CITY COUNCIL

TRAVEL

The following resolution was introduced in the Providence City Council on July 10, 1963, by Councilman Donald Kelley:

"RESOLVED, That the Committee on Ordinances be requested to investigate the administration of the Police Department with the view of better administration between the administrative officers and the personnel."

The resolution was referred by the City Council to the City Council Committee on Ordinances. Committee hearings on said resolution were commenced on July 25, 1963, and continued on August 16, 1963, and September 13, 1963. The committee hearing convened with an opening statement by Councilman Kelley who stated in effect that the department is "fouled up" and that "... the man (Commissioner) is running that department so lopsided that it is pathetic." Remarks had previously been made to the effect that money was being thrown into the sewer in some Departments of the Police Department.

Appearing as witnesses before the Committee were retired Commander William Holt, formerly of the Providence Police Department; Mr. Eric Parker, Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner of Public Safety; Commissioner of Public Safety, Francis A. Lennon; Colonel Howard Franklin, Providence Chief of Police; Colonel Walter E. Stone, Superintendent of Rhode Island State Police, and other superior officers.

Testimony before the Committee centered upon several aspects:

1. Deployment and use of authorized personnel and equipment of the department.
2. Police training school, promotional methods, and interdepartmental personnel relations, and
3. Recording of crime statistics.

Commander Holt detailed his many years of service with the Providence Police Department and indicated that he had been Commander of the Division of Personnel Training from

1953 to 1959. He differed sharply with the present method of preliminary screening for attendance at schools and promotion. Apparently, his view was that the physical requirements in some of the schools are too stringent. The Commander also indicated that the present method of preliminary screening before a board of policemen was inferior to the former method employed, namely, preliminary examination conducted solely by the Division of Training.

The Commander's testimony was as follows:

Q. "Is there a board there?"

Commander Holt: "Now they are interviewed by a Board. If they don't pass that board, they are eliminated,"

Q. "Then instead of Division of Personnel, you have this Board of Commission?"

Commander Holt: "They had a man in charge of Division of Training, his subordinates were on the board and it was conducted by the Division of Training. There is a trial board set up. If a policeman gets into trouble they go before a hearing board of policemen. Before it was the Division of Training that handled the investigation."

Q. "Do you feel this change is detrimental?"

Commander Holt: "It is no good for the morale. It is playing one man against the other, no cooperation."

Q. "If a man gets into trouble, a patrolman, Sergeant and Lieutenant are appointed for his hearing?"

Commander Holt: "It depends upon the rank that is being brought before the hearing."

The Commander also testified as to the manner and method of recording crime statistics. At one point he indicated that in some instances where multiple breaks in one building had occurred, he had been advised that only one statistical entry had been made. This situation was later clarified when Colonel Franklin produced records indicating how multiple breaks in several of the downtown office buildings were handled

in accord with the accepted procedures. The Commander also testified as to the deployment and use of departmental personnel. His conclusion appearing to be that more personnel would be required, in his opinion, to adequately police the City. The Commander also commented upon the use of police cars during the day time, but stated under questioning that since there were more personnel employed during the evening hours than the day time hours, more car would be employed during the evening hours thereby leaving a number of unused cars during the day time hours.

Mr. Eric Parker, Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner, next testified as to the deployment and management of personnel within the Department. He produced statistics (included in the record) which purportedly were current and taken from a survey made in Atlanta, Georgia. It subsequently was shown that the statistics, in fact, were exactly similar to those contained in a manual on police methods published many years ago. The witness, on being confronted with this fact, agreed to produce his source of information stating it to be an up-to-date report.

The Committee has not yet received any such confirming source.

The Providence Police Department produced a chart indicating deployment and management of personnel in thirty cities in the United States with populations approximately that of the City of Providence. Commander Walter Cahill advised the Committee that the information incorporated in the Chart was forwarded to the Providence Police Department by the various city police departments in response to its written request. (copy in record).

The survey report indicates that the Providence deployment and management of personnel compares favorably with those of the other cities. The superiors commanding the various departments within the Providence Police Department appeared

before the Committee and were impressive in their knowledge and presentation of the overall operation of the Department and particularly in their own divisions.

The Division of Training produced various records, forms and instruction pamphlets used in its activities (same have been entered into the record). Study of said training data and material, with full consideration of the usage of preliminary screening Promotional Boards and the curriculum and methods presently in effect lead the Committee to find that the promotional school is administered impartially, and that the existing rules and regulations safeguard the interests of Police personnel in those areas. It was demonstrated to the Committee that crime statistic recording as presently effectuated within the Providence Police Department is in complete conformity with the methods suggested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Colonel Walter E. Stone, Superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police, former Chief of the Providence Police Department, and one of Rhode Island's most respected law enforcement officers, in testifying before the committee stated, "If you want to remember, you have no organized crime in Providence, you have no bank robberies, you have no organized gambling.....so, from my way of looking at it, I would say that you have the best Department in the East....most certainly, the best run department.."

CONCLUSION

The undersigned members of this Committee find that no competent factors or evidence have been produced substantiating the allegations of inefficiency and waste within the Providence Police Department. It is therefore the recommendation of the undersigned that the Providence City Council not investigate the administration of the Police Department.

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON

PAGE 1

O R D I N A N C E S


TO THE HONORABLE THE CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen:

Attached hereto is Minority Report of a member of said Committee, whose signature is affixed hereto, upon the Resolution introduced into the City Council on July 10, 1963 by Councilman Donald C. Kelley, which called for an investigation of the administration of the Police Department with the view of better administration between the administrative officers and the personnel.

Respectfully Submitted

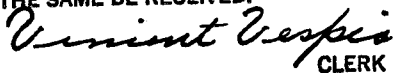
For Himself


Councilman Thomas W. Pearlman

IN CITY COUNCIL
AUG 13 1964

READ:

WHEREUPON IT IS ORDERED THAT
THE SAME BE RECEIVED.


CLERK

13
REPORT CONCERNING RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF
THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IN ORDINANCE COMMITTEE OF PROVIDENCE
CITY COUNCIL

INTRODUCTION

On July 10, 1963, Councilman Donald Kelley introduced a resolution in the Providence City Council which was subsequently referred to the Ordinance Committee. This resolution reads as follows:

"RESOLVED, That the Committee on Ordinances be requested to investigate the administration of the Police Department with the view of better administration between the administrative officers and the personnel."

The Committee met on several occasions and heard witnesses and testimony as to whether this resolution should be passed and this investigation undertaken. These hearings commenced on July 25, 1963. The hearings opened with a preliminary statement by Councilman Kelley. He stated that he received numerous reports concerning the bad morale in the Police Department and citizens' complaints in trouble spots in the City, and mismanagement in the Police Department. The first witness was Commander William Holt. On August 2, 1963, Eric Parker, Secretary to the Police and Fire Commissioner was called as a witness and answered questions. On August 16, 1963, Commissioner Lennon, Colonel Franklin and other superior Providence police officers appeared and gave statements. The final hearing was on September 13, 1963 when Eric Parker and several superior Providence Police officials reappeared. At the time of this writing, no formal action has been taken on this resolution, and further hearings apparently terminated.

DISCUSSION

Commander William Holt, who had recently retired after about 40 years of outstanding and exemplary service in the Providence Police Department, was an impressive witness. He had developed and supervised the Police School which has a national reputation. He was also Commander of the Uniform Division. The highlights of his testimony were: (1) that he believed crime statistics in Providence could not be accurately kept in light of sudden and unexplained sharp decreases; (2) that the police training school and promotional methods were not as objective

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and efficient as they formerly were; and (3) that there was misuse and mismanagement in police manpower in the Providence Police Department. He cited (a) the need for more patrolmen in certain trouble sport areas, (b) too many personnel in headquarters and not enough in the field; and other police management shortcomings.

The next witness called was Eric Parker, who has been associated with the Providence Police Department for over 30 years appeared to be unusually well versed about police methods and procedures. His background included services as a consultant in police matters in other communities. His testimony in answer to specific inquiries by members of the committee follows:

(1) Too many personnel in police headquarters and (2) more foot patrolmen were needed in trouble spot areas; and (3) that there was a need for a complete and thorough survey of the Providence Police Department by a professional organization such as The Field Service Unit of the International Association of Police Chiefs and/or the Institute of Public Administration.

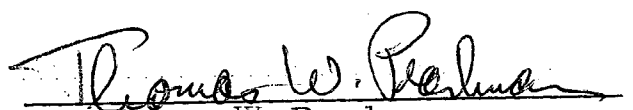
Commissioner Lennon and his various officers took the position that everything was being done by their department that should be done, that an investigation by a professional police agency would be a waste of time and money, and that compared to other cities and towns of a similar size to the City of Providence, Providence was doing very well.

Still unanswered because of the lack of study and time was the unprecedented drop in the crime rate statistics in Providence in 1960. Only a detailed audit of the records of the Police Department at that time could verify reports of statistic juggling. A photostat of what has recently happened in other communities, such as Yonkers, New York, in this regard is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Recent Congressional hearings have elicited testimony which indicates that Rhode Island has many notorious criminals connected with New England and National Crime syndicates. Many of those mentioned live and operate in the City of Providence. The latest F.B.I. crime statistics indicate that the crime rate in the City of Providence has risen 13% for the first six months of 1963. State Police Superintendent Colonel Walter Stone, when he appeared before the Ordinance Committee, indicated that he had the highest respect and regard for the integrity and police knowledge of both Commander Holt and Eric Parker. Thus, the information presented to our Committee should not be disregarded just because present police superiors say there is not any basis for it.

It is the duty of the members of the City Council to make every effort to leave no stone unturned to make Providence a safer city and a better place in which to live. It is only natural for present police leadership to defend its position enthusiastically. Enough evidence and facts have been produced at our hearing to present a prima facie case for serious concern. This makes us duty-bound to go further. The whole story should be heard and the records checked. A complete and thorough investigation of the Providence Police Department should be made. The approach should be toward constructive suggestions and improved operations, - not negative and critical. Personalities should be avoided. This should be done by a professional and recognized police specialist. I believe it should be done as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas W. Pearlman

CITY OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

August 13, 1964

To the Honorable the City Council
of the City of Providence

Gentlemen:

In accordance with Section 108 of the Charter of the City of Providence, I am presenting herewith a budget for the fiscal year 1964-1965.

Anticipated revenues total \$46,229,560. Proposed expenditures amount to \$46,159,931 leaving a net estimated surplus of \$69,629. Compared with the budget for the current fiscal year the proposed budget anticipates a 3.73% increase in receipts amounting to \$1,661,892 and a 3.80% increase in expenditures amounting to \$1,691,687.

Estimated receipts for the fiscal year 1964-1965 are forecast substantially as follows:

The property tax collections proposed in the 1964-1965 budget will account for 64 1/2% of the City's income. This is 1 7/10% less than the current year dependence from this source. It will be more than offset by the increase in the State grant for public welfare.

While this downward trend of percentage of total City income may seem encouraging, I must point out that this source of income still will provide 64 1/2 cents of every City cost dollar. Traditionally, our City property taxpayers have financed the major burden of municipal costs of government. In our modern day reliance upon this source for two-thirds of municipal revenue is outmoded. There are two possible solutions for the correction of this dependency. They are first, larger state grants and second, the take-over by the State of functions now being financed by the City such as the Charles V. Chapin Hospital. While property taxes to be collected in the next fiscal year are expected to increase by \$310,000 this should not be viewed as a happy reflection for our immediate future income from this revenue source. I reported to you in my last budget message that the removal of the Brown & Sharpe Manufacturing Company, one of our principal taxpayers, and the decline of core area values will be somewhat more than offset by increments to our tax base from private investments anticipated in Lippitt Hill, the Central-Classical Project, Mashapaug Industrial Park and Weybosset Hill. This was a long range observation which will no doubt materialize with the passage of time. It should be observed that this budget includes not only the Brown & Sharpe taxes, but also a large portion of those for the Mashapaug Industrial Park. Hence there is a short term, non-recurring gain which will be eliminated with the removal of Brown & Sharpe. This is likely to be followed by a period of decrease until such time as Lippitt Hill, Weybosset Hill and other projects become assessable. Our principal tax base valuation gain was in tangible personal property in the amount of \$5,181,000 of which automobiles accounted for \$3,500,000.

It is expected that state shared taxes will produce \$2,045,000 in City revenue. This category will be, therefore, 7.8% less than the current year. The major funds involved here are receipts from horse racing and the general city purposes grant (the purpose grant being one of the reasons for the enactment of the original state sales tax). The original sales tax was 1% and has been increased from time to time, resulting in a current rate of 3 1/2%. However, no corresponding increases for city and town general purposes have been enacted. As I reported to you one year ago, the reasons for the combined decreases are that the formulae for the distribution of these funds is based upon proportional tax valuations and levies. I am sure you are all aware of the rate of construction outside the confines of Providence, thereby decreasing our relative share in the distribution of these funds.

It is expected that receipts for Business and Non-Business Licenses will be less than the current year by \$11,200 or 2.4%. Of this amount \$10,000 is primarily the result of a declining number of liquor licenses. Sewer Assessments will be down \$2,000 reflecting a somewhat smaller program of sewer construction. Fines, Forfeits and Escheats will remain approximately the same as the current year. Grants-in-Aid from the State of Rhode Island will be increased by slightly more than 28 1/2% amounting to \$1,514,535. There are two main reasons for this increase. First, the School Department will receive an increase of 22 3/5% amounting to \$692,809 from the State of Rhode Island for Aid for Education due principally to a 1964 State Act increasing the minimum aid from 25% to 30% of School costs. Secondly, it is anticipated that the State grant for General Public Assistance will be increased by \$845,750 over the current year. The reason for the increase is that, except for local administrative costs, the State reimburses 100% of the costs of this category, whereas it formally financed only 70%. Obviously this is now a negative item in our budget since any increase or decrease in revenue will have a corresponding effect on our expenditures. Revenue from Donations is expected to increase 11 4/5% amounting to \$2,125 over the current year. This item is income on Principal Trust Funds Investments. The fact the current yields on securities are generally higher accounts for this increase. Rents and Interest income is expected to increase by about 3 4/5% amounting to \$13,500 due to estimated added revenue of two items in this category, Interest on Overdue Taxes and Sewer Assessments \$3,000 and Income on General Fund Investments \$10,000.

Estimated revenue from General Departments which accounts for over 4 1/2% of our anticipated receipts, exclusive of water, will be down from the current year by 6 1/2% or \$133,800. Following is an explanation for this net decrease.

Revenue from Parking Meters will be less than the current year by \$26,000. As a result of State Highway Department activities and construction of more off-street parking, thereby providing additional traffic lanes for the movement of motor vehicles in a more expeditious manner, the total number of parking meters in our City has been reduced. This reduction accounts for the decrease in revenue receipts from this source.

Charles V. Chapin Hospital will account for \$45,000. I am happy to report this estimated decrease.

Because of the advancement of medical knowledge due to stepped-up research by dedicated professional individuals the treatment and control of communicable diseases has improved to the degree that our hospital patient load has been lessened. Our own Health Department through its polio program of mass inoculations and dosages has played no small part in accounting for this decrease.

General Public Assistance will account for \$15,000. This decrease is of no consequence since it will be offset by reason of the State 100% participation.

Municipal Golf Course is expected to be less by \$12,000. In the past three to four years, four new nearby golf courses have been created and they are located within a thirty minute automobile ride from our own course. The natural result is we have fewer players and less revenue.

Public Schools departmental receipts are anticipated to be less than the current year by about \$61,000. This decrease is caused by the loss of tuitions due to the construction of Town high schools.

The following departmental revenues are expected to produce increases as follows:

Probate Court Fees	\$2,000
Police Court Fees	8,000
Miscellaneous	15,000

These revenue estimates have been increased because of our current year experience.

While estimated Water Department revenues have been increased by \$150,000 their appropriations have been increased by a like amount.

During the current year this City Council established a "Reserve for 1964-1965 Debt Service" by transferring the sum of \$191,938 from the "Reserve for Expenditures". This reserve is included as a receipt in this proposed 1964-1965 budget.

Appropriation requests submitted by all departments and divisions have been carefully screened and examined in order to determine the minimum dollar needs for equipment, manpower and other improvements to properly serve the citizens of Providence. The total appropriations recommended, exclusive of those for the Water Department, add up to \$42,859,931. A careful resume of the foregoing analyses of revenue receipts, exclusive of water, plus the receipt from the "Reserve for 1964-1965 Debt Service" will disclose that they amount to \$42,029,560 or \$830,371 less than net appropriation requests. While I do not infer this to be good budget practice, I am forced as I have been in prior years to use from our estimated current year surplus the sum of \$900,000 as a receipt from the "Reserve for Extraordinary Expenditures." This surplus represents the results of good fiscal management policies and the continued determination of all our department heads and their employees to provide the citizens of Providence with the best possible service with the least possible cost.

Recommended appropriations to provide for 1964-1965 City expenditures will amount to \$46,159,931. This total includes \$3,300,000 for the self-supporting water department, leaving a balance of \$42,859,931 which must be financed with general fund receipts exclusive of those for water. My comments, therefore, will be in connection with the net appropriation requirements, namely \$42,859,931.

The cost of wage increases and new positions in the amount of \$931,500 are part of this proposed budget. Rate increases are included for the following categories:

Weekly wages up to \$81.20	-	6%
Weekly wages from \$81.21	-	5%
to \$101.50	-	4%
Weekly wages over \$101.50	-	

The total of \$931,500 comprises rate increases of \$780,000, increases in present positions totalling \$15,800, changes in classifications amounting to \$24,000 and new positions at a cost of \$68,600. Annual increments, to which employees would be entitled even though no general wage increases were adopted will require \$29,500.

Proposed salary increases for the elected officials including the Mayor and Councilmen will cost an additional \$13,600. However, large as these wage changes may appear to be, the total added appropriation for wages in this proposed budget is only \$636,000 more than for the current year. This is mainly due to the excellent job done by Mr. Philip J. Holton, Jr., who, as Director of Public Works, consolidated the functions of that department, increased its efficiency and most substantially reduced its payrolls.

Legislative, Judicial and General Administrative Activities will decrease roughly 1.3% or approximately \$11,500. The biennial decrease in the appropriation for the Board of Canvassers reflecting a non-election year amounts to \$46,300, however, wage increases account for the lessening of this amount to the \$11,500 figure.

Finance Administration will require an increase of about 9.5% or approximately \$86,000. Aside from general rate increases there are two main reasons for this added cost. First, as a result of a careful and well thought out analyses of the various office staffs in the divisions of the City Controller, Employees' Retirement and Data Processing, it was determined not only that additional positions should be provided, but also that increases should be granted to certain of the current staff rendering specialized services such as data processing. Second, it was deemed necessary to add new positions in the office of the City Assessor in order to maintain accurate and up-to-date assessment of tax base properties.

Public Safety will be increased by a little under 5%, or approximately \$349,000. Appropriations for Services Other Than Personal, Materials and Equipment have been reduced by about \$50,000 from the current year. However, wage increases including overtime pay are expected to require added expenditures of \$399,000.

The total appropriation requirements in this 1964-1965 proposed budget for Public Works Activities are some 6% or approximately \$340,000 less than this current year. Dollar decreases are reflected in overall department wages by \$117,000, costs for electricity and chemicals in the Sewage Disposal Section by \$40,000, incinerator repairs by \$65,000 and street lighting \$25,000 as a result of assumption of maintenance costs on the Huntington Avenue Expressway, Dennis J. Roberts Expressway and Cohan Boulevard by the State of Rhode Island.

Also, we will spend \$125,000 less next year for construction of sewers. Increases of about \$45,000 will be necessary for various outside services and materials, of which \$25,000 will be used to purchase additional salt for Snow Removal purposes.

Health Activities are up by \$56,000. This amount reflects wage increases of \$68,000 and a decrease of \$12,000 in the estimated cost of equipment for the Charles V. Chapin Hospital. The Hospital appropriation for repairs to buildings amounts to \$79,900, the greater portion of which is the second year requirement of the five year program to completely overhaul the institution's electrical system, the ultimate cost of which is presently estimated at \$300,000.

Welfare Activities in the proposed 1964-1965 budget are as follows: administrative costs, for which the City is responsible for 100% financing, are estimated at \$53,240 which is about 1 1/2% or approximately \$800 less than the current year. The balance of these appropriations, for which the State is responsible for 100% financing, are estimated to be \$2,254,000, up about 12% or approximately \$244,000 over the current year. However, this increase of \$244,000 is offset by a like amount in City Revenues.

Recreation Activities including parks and the golf course will show an increase of slightly more than 1 1/4% or approximately \$16,000 over the current year. This is accounted for by wage increases of \$61,700, offset by decreases in outside services and equipment in the amount of \$45,400.

The 1964-1965 proposed appropriations for educational activities will be increased over the current year by \$830,200 or about 6.6%. This increase is primarily accounted for as follows: An increase of \$63,400 in the 1.1% Strayer formula originating from the increase in total assessed valuations of real and tangible personal property, a \$692,800 increase in State Aid for Education, as a result of the increase from 25 to 30 percent in state aid effected by the 1964 General Assembly. Further we propose to increase the City's annual appropriation over the 1.1% formula by \$135,000. Last January, this City Council made an additional appropriation of \$35,000 for current year school purposes, resulting in the allocation of \$938,988 of City revenue over the amount that was required by the Strayer Act. The proposed 1964-1965 budget includes the same amount to be appropriated to the account entitled "School Department".

In addition to this extra money, I am proposing to appropriate the sum of \$100,000, but to a new and separate appropriation account which will be entitled "School Department - Books and Equipment Account". This appropriation will not be paid over to our School Fund until after the City Controller and Finance Director are assured that the School Department has purchased and paid for books and educational equipment in the amount of \$367,580, which is \$100,000 more than the amount for these purposes included in the School Department proposed budget submitted to the City Finance Director under date of June 23, 1964. The School Department has estimated that its departmental revenue will result in a decrease of \$61,000 under the current year.

Grants to Outside Agencies and Institutions will be increased by \$40,000 over the current year. This is due to an increase in the appropriation for the Rhode Island Hospital bringing it up to an even \$100,000. While it would appear that this is an increase in our annual grant to the Hospital, this is not so, because, prior to the 1964-1965 year, we were allowed to use as part of our grant, 30% of our indigent hospitalization costs, which approximated \$40,000. Since this is no longer a City responsibility, this amount will be added to the grant. The proposed budget provides for public library grants amounting to about \$419,700 in this section, and there is also included in this budget an additional sum of \$129,000 for debt service costs for outstanding library bonds, bringing the total City library costs to \$549,600.

Pension requirements are down about 4.5% or approximately \$98,700 under the current year. This is due in the main to increased retirement investment earnings and the normal annual death experience.

The Debt Service appropriation requirements in the proposed budget shows a 5.2% or approximately \$262,000 increase over the current year. This is due mainly to the first year retirement of \$250,000 of \$5,000,000 worth of redevelopment bonds.

Miscellaneous Activities are increased by about \$107,700 or some 11.4%

This increase is accounted for by wage increases of \$43,400, an appropriation of \$80,000 for the Westminster Mall, and a decrease in the North Burial Ground appropriation of \$19,000 due to higher yields on the investments of the North Burial Ground Perpetual Care Fund and increased sales of burial lots.

The recommended expenditures for the self-supporting Water Supply Board show an increase of \$150,000 over the current year, but their revenues show a corresponding increase.

In summary I wish to make the following observations concerning some financial problems of the immediate future years.

(1) It is my considered judgment that Providence is entering a period covering the next several years during which it will experience a lessening of property tax collections. As I have already mentioned, the loss of the Brown & Sharpe Manufacturing Company as a City property taxpayer will have a serious effect on this source of revenue. At this very moment the United States Rubber Company is contemplating closing its Providence plant. Now I appreciate that it is not unreasonable to expect that new construction, in Lippitt Hill, the Central-Classical Project, Mashapaug Industrial Park and Weybosset Hill, will enhance our property tax revenue, however, let us face up to the fact that it will take several years for full accomplishment.

(2) However diligently our department heads continue to analyze the cost of municipal services in order to effectuate economies, the immediate future years will require increases in appropriations. One example I will cite is our Capital School Debt which is now about \$9,784,000. Our Debt Service costs in next year's budget for this account is over \$1,254,500. We now have authorized but as yet unissued School Bond authorities amounting to \$12,250,000. Should these bonds all be sold at the same time the annual debt service could conceivably be increased by more than \$1,000,000.

(3) I fully realize we all hope for and look forward to the establishment of new industries within our City.

How good are our chances when we know our property assessments for tax purposes are 75% to 80% of fair market value with a tax rate of \$39 per \$1,000 of assessed value while at the same time, considering modern means of transportation a nearby community whose tax assessment valuation is about 58% of fair market value with a tax rate of \$28 per \$1,000 of valuation? A new \$2,000,000 plant would pay Providence an annual tax of \$58,500 whereas it would be required to pay the nearby town only \$32,480, an annual saving of over \$26,000. One solution to this unfortunate condition is to have a meeting of minds of the leaders of both political parties and create a single state-wide property taxing authority administered by our State government. There should be a uniform assessment formula and a uniform tax rate. The State of Rhode Island would be required to distribute monies collected to the 39 cities and towns according to local needs. While industrial sites in Providence have the advantage of centralized geographical location, and a full complement of necessary utilities, it will become increasingly difficult for Providence to compete for larger firms without a state-wide approach to tax problems.

(4) As the center of a metropolitan complex we must increasingly expect - and indeed demand - further functional consolidation at the state level. An excellent beginning was made in this direction last year in the field of health. This is, however, no more than a beginning. Other functions eligible for the approach must be examined and summarily consolidated, both to afford uniformity of service to citizens of our state, and to provide an equitable sharing of resultant costs.

As Mayor of the City of Providence, it is my responsibility to the taxpayer to present a budget which will provide the maximum of service for the tax dollar. Gentlemen, I look to your assistance, I thank you for your attention, and trust that you will carry out the business of Government as you have so ably done in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

IN CITY COUNCIL

Walter H. Reynolds
Mayor of Providence

WHR:jca

AUG 13 1964

READ:

Committee

CLERK