

-13-  
4-65

P/c.

Deup

4-13-65

# Barry Fears St. Jude May Leave City

(Continued From Page 1)

hot issue for years, touched off a discussion that lasted for an hour and a half. Ingram and other members of the commission clashed with sharp words and often interrupted each other.

Joining in the free-for-all were citizens both for and against the present highway routing in the St. Jude and Overton Park areas.

When Ingram announced his veto, he said he wanted a public hearing on the matter next Tuesday. This brought sharp objections from Commissioner Armour.

"How can you call a public hearing when we don't have all the facts?" Armour asked Ingram, referring to studies on the St. Jude and Overton Park questions still being conducted by the state. If you're going to have that sort of hearing, I'm not going to be here."

## PROCEDURE

The City Commission is expected to override the mayor's veto. This can be done by a majority (3-2) vote at the next

meeting. The vote may wait, however, on the public hearing, if Ingram continues to insist on it.

The City Code states that if the mayor disapproves a resolution or ordinance, he has a week to present his reasons in writing. If he does so, the rest of the commission must override his veto. If he doesn't bring back reasons in writing, no further action is necessary for passage.

By custom, however, the City Commission has never considered the mayor's vote against an ordinance or resolution as a veto, except in cases when the mayor stated that he was vetoing the action.

## NO DATE

The meeting ended without a date for the public hearing being set. Ingram said it would be called as soon as possible.

Edward F. Barry, attorney, who worked closely with actor Danny Thomas in bringing about St. Jude Hospital, urged the commission not to take any stand approving the East-West leg as presently planned. He said vibrations from the high-

way would damage instruments and fumes would create a health hazard because of its close proximity to the hospital.

There has been some talk that St. Jude might move to another city unless the expressway is shifted. "The hospital could have been built in any one of 1,000 cities," Barry said.

## LOCATION

"It would be the greatest tragedy of my life if something happened to St. Jude Hospital," Barry said he is not opposed to the East-West leg as a project, only to the location at St. Jude.

W. Percy Brooks, executive vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, urged the commission to do "whatever necessary" to assure Pack of support for the East-West leg.

Dr. A. I. Smith, acting chairman of Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, said city officials "should be buying parks, instead of selling them."

## \$10 MILLION

Questioned by Commissioner Lane, Dr. Smith said he would favor spending the estimated

\$10 million which Pack has said it would cost to re-route the expressway around the park rather than take any park land for the road. "I think we can afford it," Dr. Smith said.

In a letter to the City Commission supporting the expressway, W. C. Mieber, president of the Chamber of Commerce, said St. Jude located at its present site with full knowledge of the proposed route, and that the plans have been changed once to accommodate the hospital. A copy of the letter went to President Johnson.

William Shelton, representing the Downtown Association, backed Sisson's resolution.

Mrs. William Deupree spoke strongly against the route through the park.

"You've had the wool pulled over your eyes," Mrs. Deupree said. "You've forgotten that beauty is more important than money. The mind that conceived a six-lane highway through Overton Park was that of a frankenstein. You're just being stubborn, stupid and money-minded," she told the commissioners.

Refer to St. Jude study.