

CIAL APPEAL

PAGES 17 TO 24

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(Also: Hadaway resigns papers, Paul Commission, See O-P, Journal, and files)

Expense Allowance Bid Fails As Backers Insure New Vote

By THOMAS JORDAN

A proposed ordinance asking voters to consider a \$300 monthly expense allowance for each City Council member was defeated 11 to 1 yesterday on third and final reading.

However, some councilmen who voted against the measure actually favored it. They voted against the measure to assure reconsideration, councilmen said later.

A councilman who votes on the prevailing side — in this case the side with the most votes — may request reconsideration of a measure.

Supporters voted against the measure after two unsuccessful attempts were made to postpone final consideration of the proposal until Councilman John Ford is present.

Voting on each of the two attempts to postpone was split 6 to 6. Seven affirmative votes are needed to postpone or to approve the measure, which would call a May 25 referendum on the question of the expense allowance.

Ford, who has supported the measure, also is a state senator. He was in Nashville attending the current session of the Tennessee General Assembly. His vote is the key to approval of the proposal.

Councilman Billy Hyman, who has supported the measure, noted the 6 to 6 impasse and said: "Let's go on and enjoy politics."

He said later: "Nobody was going to change his mind. The way you play politics is to vote on the prevailing side."

Councilman Fred Davis, sponsor of the proposal, cast the only affirmative vote.

Those councilmen voting to delay were Davis, Oscar Edmonds, Hyman, Ed McBrayer, J. O. Patterson Jr. and Glenn Raines.

Opposing postponement were Councilmen Mike Cody, Pat Halloran, Robert James, Thomas Todd, Pat Vander Schaaf and Chairman A. D. Alissandratos.

When his proposal came up for consideration, Davis, who apparently suspected the measure did not have seven affirmative votes, said: "Well I'm not quite sure what to do."

McBrayer then moved for postponement.

Patterson said: "We obviously know what the situation is — a 6-6 vote. Ford is not here and he is the seventh vote."

"You can vote it down if you want to, but it will be back on the agenda next

week and the seventh vote will be in town."

James said his vote against postponement was a "resentment vote."

"I think this is a little ridiculous for a city of 700,000 to have to endure the absence of a man who puts himself in two jobs at the same time," he said.

Patterson urged the council to delay consideration as a courtesy to Ford but Cody said: "To say this council has to be stymied on moving on a matter before us throughout the term of the General Assembly . . . carries courtesy too far."

In other business, Edmonds said he will offer a resolution next week urging the Shelby County congressional delegation to

draft a bill exempting the proposed Overton Park expressway from environmental protection regulations that have blocked its route through the park.

Council committees will study a suggestion by Halloran that the city pay for reassessment of property in Shelby County.

"If the county will not pay half the cost of reassessment, then we have to go ahead," he said.

The cost of reassessment, which would take two years, is about \$800,000, Halloran said. He estimated, however, that reassessment would produce about \$5 million more in annual revenue.

The council also adopted a resolution urging Congress to continue revenue sharing.