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# HUNTINGTON BEACH HISTORY NOTES

REFERENCE

PAMPHLET

H.B.--  
Historical  
notes

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## City Clerk Connie Brockway



## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF JANUARY

January 3, 1911 - City Council adopts motion whereby when an alarm of fire is turned in, the first person reporting at fire hall with means of conveying chemical engine to scene of fire be allowed a prize of \$2.50.



January 29, 1912 - City Council schedules informal election to be held February 6, 1912 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the purpose of having the citizens of Huntington Beach express their choice for the following propositions.

1. Shall \$70,000 in bonds be voted to build a reinforced concrete pier?
2. Shall \$50,000 in bonds be voted to build a creosoted wooden pile pier and \$30,000 be used to build a Gas Plant?



February 6, 1912 - City Clerk submits canvass of votes:

\$70,000 Bond Issue - 354 Votes  
\$50,000 Bond Issue - 65 Votes

January 23, 1923 - The U. S. Long Distance Telephone Company, Pacific Telephone and Telegraph, inform the City Council of improvements to City's telephone service: (Three additional toll lines between Huntington Beach and Long Beach and a promise of three additional lines for direct connection to Los Angeles.)

January 18, 1932 - City Council directs that the Municipal Golf Course Fees be revised as follows: 50c per day - 35c after 3:30 p.m. - 12 plain tickets good for the purchaser and family members \$5.00 - monthly tickets good each and every day \$5.00.



January 20, 1933 - City Council informed that on the night of January 19th the pier boat landing had been washed loose from its moorings; that the landing had been recovered and repairs costing \$35 were being made.

January 18, 1954 - City Council receives report on the excessive amount of maintenance cost for the Pavalon building neon sign and that due to the disturbance caused by the pounding of the surf and the action on the building from the Pacific Electric freight trains passing; it has been suggested that the neon sign be eliminated and luminous letters and flood lights be installed.

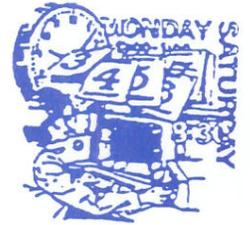
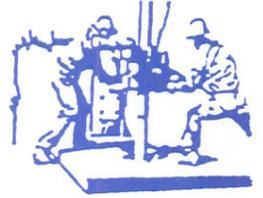


HISTORY NOTES FROM  
CONNIE BROCKWAY, CITY CLERK

## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF FEBRUARY

- February 2, 1931 - The request of the City of San Jacinto that Council pass a resolution condemning the practice of southern California receiving shipments of milk from northern California for the reason that competition would be detrimental was referred to Dr. Sutherland, City Health Department.
- February 1, 1932 - City Council approves recommendation of Police Chief for the installation of radios in the city police cars at a cost of \$35 per month plus \$40 installation for each car.
- February 1, 1943 - Councilman Henrickson stated that adverse publicity had been given to the fact that the Pav-A-Lon was being occupied indefinitely by the Army and that this had greatly reduced the number of dance patrons on Saturday night.
- February 5, 1951 - Petition signed by 56 residents in the vicinity of Lake Park requesting that the casting pool in Lake Park be retained at its present size and shape as a permanent lake to also be used as an official casting pool by the two local casting clubs with water to be aerated to comply with sanitary conditions.
- February 18, 1952 - City of Albany, California requests the Huntington Beach City Council to protest to State Representatives and to the Governor the ever increasing price of milk.
- February 18, 1952 - Councilman Talbert calls to the attention of City Council the provisions of Ordinance No. 500 which fixes the rate of automobile racing and midget automobile racing to the sum of 1% of gross gate receipts and liability insurance. He recommends a set license fee to be imposed with lower liability limits.

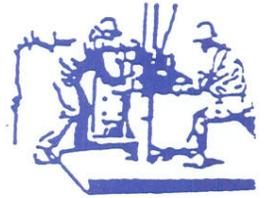


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## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF MARCH

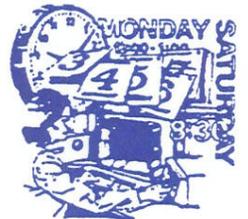
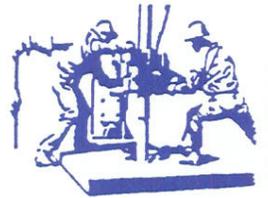
- March 10, 1919 - Fire Chief French reports that Volunteer Fire Department is organized and that fire trucks should be fixed so ladders can be carried. City Council to look the Fire Truck over after adjournment of meeting.
- March 10, 1919 - City Council establishes a Placement Bureau at City Hall where returned soldiers and sailors can register for jobs and where anyone wanting help can register their jobs.
- March 22, 1930 - City Council considers whether the splendid crop of barley should be permitted to mature and be sold as hay or whether the crop should be plowed under while still green and the ground re-seeded. City Council directs Department of Streets to obtain bids on the hay and also on the cost of plowing and re-seeding.
- March 15, 1933 - Council directs letters to be written to the following thanking them for their assistance following the Friday, March 10th earthquake: Governor James Rolph for his offer to assist in reconstruction of damaged public utilities; State engineers and building inspectors for examining damaged buildings, the pier and other structures, City of Pasadena which loaned two building inspectors, City of Alhambra one building inspector, City of San Diego two building inspectors, Joseph Post and Windsor Club for assistance in policing city and Standard Oil Company and Shell Oil Company for assistance.
- March 28, 1933 - Earthquake report received by City Council and City Engineer and Building Inspector directed to proceed with preliminary repairs to municipal pier by installation of two inch bolts.
- March 2, 1942 - Councilman Talbert informs the City Council that up to the present time he has not been able to secure a tenant farmer for the 40 acre tract owned by the City.
- March 3, 1952 - General Safety Committee of the City Department Heads recommend to the City Council that the Lifeguard Department be given two additional Davey lowering devices to be installed on pier to make it less hazardous for lifeguards to enter the water - as the trial device installed last year had reduced accidents to lifeguards to a minimum.



## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF APRIL

- April 21, 1919 – Dr. Shank, City Health Officer recommends that milk samples be more thoroughly inspected and sent to Santa Ana Hospital twice each month for bacteriological tests at a cost of \$4.00 per month. City Council requests Dr. Shank to investigate matter further and report back.
- April 3, 1933 – City Council adopts Ordinance No. 360 repealing all ordinances forbidding the sale of intoxicating liquors.
- April 20, 1936 – General Municipal Election – Shall Proposition IV authorizing the City Council to construct and/or acquire a Municipal Water System be adopted. Yes votes 771. No votes 608.
- April 1, 1940 – Mr. Bundy, President of Chamber of Commerce, requests City Council to acquire 49 acre tract at easterly portion of city for the purpose of inducing airplane manufacturers to locate in city.
- April 7, 1947 – City Council offers reward of \$50 for any information leading to arrest and conviction of guilty parties who ride horseback over the parks and run scooters over the lawns.
- April 26, 1948 – Harry Overmyer, City Engineer, informs City Council that his department has made survey of physical condition of all wooden derricks in the townlot area and 45% are unsafe and owners have been notified to repair same.
- April 4, 1949 – Petitions filed by 705 city residents requesting City Council to amend Ordinance No. 536 to allow churches and charitable organizations to resume their card parties and to also allow the operation of small draw poker games which have been in existence for a number of years.
- April 18, 1949 – Reverend Blume addresses City Council as a representative of the churches of Huntington Beach and presents a request that City Council ignore the petition as they have never sponsored card parties and the churches heartily endorse Ordinance No. 536.

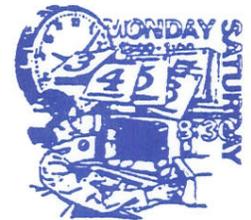


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## COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF MAY

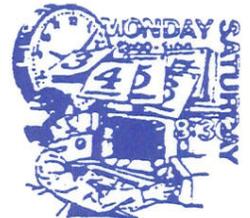
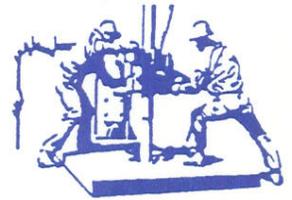
- May 17, 1909 - City Marshal reports that three hitch racks for horses have been placed in locations convenient to the public.
- May 6, 1912 - Canvass of Bond Election - Voter approval of Municipal Pier construction - 321 yes - 92 no.
- May 14, 1914 - City Council grants second application for permit to J. H. Lewis to run a Pool Room on evidence that door between pool room and store is nailed up.
- May 14, 1914 - City Clerk instructed to purchase 50 packages or a case of toilet paper for City Wharf and City Hall.
- May 23, 1921 - Farmers request for hitching rack in town referred to the Street Superintendent.
- May 1, 1922 - City Council approves petition from 80 residents for shelter station at 17th Street stop of the Pacific Electric Railway and approves sharing \$175 cost with Pacific Electric Railroad.
- May 22, 1922 - Assistant City Engineer Gates reports Pacific Electrics blueprints entirely unsuitable and City Council request cost estimate for City to build shelter on City right-of-way.
- May 2, 1927 - City Council appoints committee to investigate protest of noise caused by dances at Woman's Club held 'till after midnight and occasionally until 2:00 A.M.
- May 31, 1933 - Volunteer Fire Department given City Council approval to drill four nights per month - June, July and August only.
- May 26, 1941 - City Council receives request from War Department for campsites for troops passing through City - City Council authorizes City Engineer to negotiate with Huntington Beach Company/Standard Oil for site in the barley field.
- May 1, 1950 - City Council approves appointment of six Huntington Beach electors to the Redevelopment Agency (Robert Mandic, Sr., Collins Terry, Frank Hinshaw, James Sayer, and Chris King). (Redevelopment Agency formed by Resolution No. 1112 on 3/20/50.)



## COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF JUNE

- June 7, 1909 - Council approves ordinance accepting \$300 worth of suitable library material from the Huntington Beach Library Association, which provides for the establishment and maintenance of a free public library.
- June 2, 1919 - Street Superintendent advises Council that public camping ground will be ready for Saturday opening (Lots 1 through 7 - Inland side of Pacific Coast Highway between Main/Third/Walnut)
- June 7, 1919 - Council sets \$1 rental fee per week rental per lot. (On July 7 Council refunds money and makes camp ground free to public.)
- June 26, 1922 - Council grants permission to allow boxing matches in the Airdrome on July 4, 1922 - Airdrome located at Atlanta Avenue and Alabama Street.
- June 2, 1924 - City Council approves purchase of an extra lawnmower as it has been notices that the city has but one machine that is being carried back and forth between parks.
- June 27, 1927 - Police Chief directed to inform local truck companies to change routes to streets other than 6th and Orange & 11 & Orange between 11 A.M. and noon on Sundays at request of the Ladies Aid and Baptist Church.
- June 20, 1932 - During the Great Depression Council approves a request from Association of Unemployed that Council contribute weekly payments of \$50 toward food for needy families - County assistance to cease.
- June 1, 1935 - Complaint that members of the church located at 11th and Magnolia are creating disturbances late at night causing tenants to move out due to lack of rest - referred to Police Chief/City Attorney.
- June 6, 1935 - City Council approves the Fire Chief's request for a two week vacation.
- June 2, 1944 - Council instructs Superintendent of Gas Department to install four - 10¢ gas meters and four two burner hot plates under the pier for the convenience of the public.
- June 20, 1955 - Mayor & City Council send telegram to Governor J. Goodwin Knight urging his signature on SB 1729 providing funds for acquisition of Bolsa Chica beach.

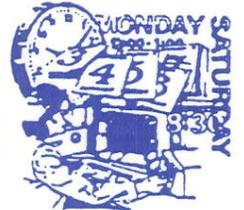
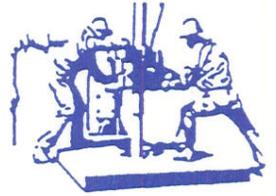


HISTORY NOTES FROM  
CONNIE BROCKWAY, CITY CLERK

## COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF JULY

- July 21, 1913 – Council accepts Engineer's report recommending approval of the request of Mercereau Bridge and Construction Company for a change in the shape of the pilings being used in the new pier.
- July 16, 1915 – Petition signed by 172 residents requesting Council not grant a license for conducting dances on Sunday – Four citizens spoke in favor of petition. In opposition to petition was Mr. Birnie who stated he would circulate a petition favoring dances.
- July 9, 1923 – Huntington Beach Oil Spill. It was reported that Huntington Central Oil Company was permitting oil to run upon the street. City Attorney to notify company to clean up oil and inform them this practice must be stopped.
- July 23, 1923 – Chart of soundings taken to extend the Municipal Pier. City engineer to contract Redondo Beach Pier Engineers for condition of bottom of ocean. City Attorney to contact War Department for requirements to extend Pier.
- July 2, 1934 – Clerk reads bids for furnishing Police Department with a new sedan. Motion to purchase 1934 Chevrolet Master 6 for \$855.62 loses. Ayes: Chamness, Warner. Noes: Marion, Tovatt, Talbert. Council authorizes City Police Department to cast secret ballot indicating the type of car they most desire. (Vote 4 to 1, Warner – no).
- July 3, 1934 – Clerk reads secret ballots of the nine member Police Department for their choice of police car:
- |                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1934 Oldsmobile 6, two door sedan  | - 1 vote  |
| 1934 Plymouth 6, four door sedan   | - 1 vote  |
| 1934 Ford V-8, four door sedan     | - 1 vote  |
| 1934 Oldsmobile 6, four door sedan | - 6 votes |
- Councilman Warner opposes expense of 1934 Oldsmobile. Council accepts bid of H. W. Hartley to furnish one new Oldsmobile 6, four door sedan for \$1,043.11. (Vote 4 to 1, Warner – no) Councilman Warner signs demand under verbal protest.
- July 20, 1936 – Police Chief's request to purchase new car for Police Department taken under advisement. Council authorizes City Controller to purchase one 1936 Chevrolet Master Sport sedan at total cost of \$922.10 taking as part payment the City's used Oldsmobile at a value of \$472.10. (Vote unanimous).

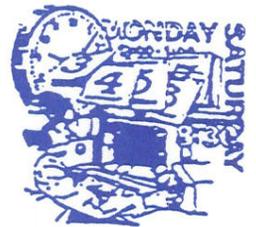
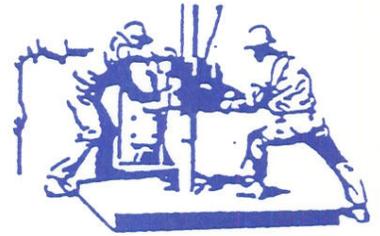


Note from City Clerk's Office Historical Data Book: The City of Huntington Beach grew by 48 residents between 1930 and 1940. Population 3,690 in 1930 and 3,738 in 1940.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF AUGUST

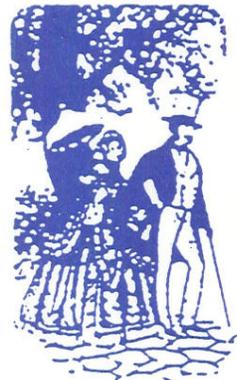
- August 14, 1922 – It was called to the attention of Council that the City did not own a typewriter for use in City Hall and the City Clerk was authorized to purchase a new typewriter suitable for the needs of the city's business.
- August 2, 1926 – Council approves motion allowing donkeys on the beach front in connection with amusement concessions up to and east of the municipal pier during low tide and kept back of second street during high tide.
- August 10, 1931 – City Council authorizes advertising for bids for Fire Department First Aid Wagon, Type Ford or its equivalent – fully equipped.
- August 7, 1933 – Fire Chief Sargent informs Council that conditions in the oil field are fast becoming a fire menace and that some protective measure must be taken immediately.
- August 6, 1934 – Councilman Chames reports letters had been received complaining that visitors use the tables and gas stoves on the beach front and in some instances individual parties would use the stoves and benches a half day or more at a time. Council referred matter to Beach Committee.
- August 27, 1934 – Complaint by Rose Griffith against an onion and garlic drying plant near the northerly city limits was referred to the Police Chief and City Clerk to remind the operators of their letter to Council agreeing to discontinue operation of the plant.
- August 12, 1935 – City Council receives a reply from Pacific Fire Insurance Company stating they are not opposed to the city exhibiting moving pictures in the Memorial Hall and will issue an endorsement permitting same.
- August 9, 1937 – Council approves the employment of WPA labor for the grading and leveling of Lake Park and designates the City Engineer as the City's Agent.
- August 8, 1938 – City Council directs City Clerk to inform Mrs. Burke that she cannot use Memorial Hall for private dancing lessons after 30 days from date of notice as there are numerous calls by citizens of Huntington Beach who have been in the past inconvenienced on account of the hall being taken.
- August 5, 1968 – Council approves establishment of a memorial bust of the late Duke Kahanamoku to be placed in the vicinity of the municipal pier entrance for a cost not to exceed \$500.



## COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

- September 4, 1912 City Council approved taking steps at once to provide for the city to levy and collect its own taxes for the ensuing year.
- September 5, 1922 Council approved V. U. Brown's bid for the city's garbage collection for a period of 3 years at \$120 per month. Council allowed V. U. Brown right to cancel contract due to a new law prohibiting the feeding of garbage to hogs.
- September 17, 1923 Council accepted HB Athletic Club's application (\$5) for permission to hold a boxing exhibition September 21 at 214 5th Street.
- September 8, 1925 City Clerk was instructed to advertise for bids for a Ford Roadster to be used for the Gas Street Lamps.
- September 17, 1928 Aldridge Land Company offered to sell to the City 80 acres of white water bearing land for \$80,000 - referred to City Engineer for report. On 10/1/28 meeting offer rejected as the Council was not interested in operating their water supply system.
- September 3, 1929 Council approved a new motorcycle for the Police Department not to exceed \$434.00.
- September 4, 1935 Mr. Ford asked permission to show newsreel pictures at the Horse Shoe Club at least once a week. The City Attorney reported on the use of the Memorial Hall Building for moving picture entertainment.
- September 5, 1950 Minnie Higgins, 505 Lake St, spoke of the need for a city fire ordinance and of her fear of fire because of a hay storage barn on the property adjacent to her home. The matter was referred to the Fire and Police Committee.



## COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF OCTOBER

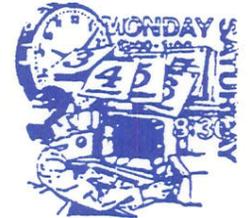
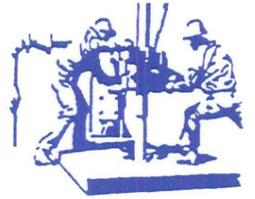
- October 7, 1912      Huntington Beach Company offered to donate toilets at the foot of Main St. to the city provided the city would keep same in sanitary condition. Council accepted and appointed Superintendent of Streets to maintain.
- October 2, 1922      It was moved by Councilman Onson, seconded by Councilman Macklin that G.E. Cluett of Del Mar Cafe's request for permit to conduct Social or dinner dances in his cafe be granted.
- October 3, 1927      Council directed the City Engineer to lay out and install tennis court and croquet grounds at corner of 6th and Main St.
- October 2, 1933      Council approved the application of Ralph Gustafson to operate a junk yard at 1018 13th St.
- October 18, 1933      Council adopted Resolution 398 – an emergency exists in that the municipal pier due to the 3/10/33 earthquake and subsequent tidal damages is in grave danger of collapsing. Authorization to proceed with repair.
- October 5, 1942      The Clerk read a letter from William Gallienne, Director of Citizen's Service Corp. re the difficulty of collecting junk in Huntington Beach because of the City's \$100.00 license fee.
- October 22, 1942      Dr. P. E. Sheehan addressed the City Council re construction of glassed-in area for watchers in tower on Memorial Hall. Council referred request to Building Committee and City Engineer to submit estimate of cost.
- October 4, 1943      Council approved Dewey L. Batterton's application for license to operate a taxi. He had successfully secured an Office of Defense Transportation Certificate for gasoline to operate his taxi.
- October 1, 1945      City Clerk was directed to endeavor to secure buyers for the discarded heaters in the City Hall building.
- October 1, 1945      The Fire Department was authorized to use the fire siren in the future.
- October 1, 1945      Council authorized the Chief of Police to have car #29 painted and fenders repaired at Culbertson Garage in an amount not to exceed \$119.25.
- October 21, 1946      Clerk read letter from Martin School of Aviation thanking the lifeguard crew and crash crew for rescuing one of their flyers and plane from the ocean.



## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

### MONTH OF NOVEMBER

- November 6, 1911 A communication from the City Council of Black River Falls, Wisconsin asking for financial aid for their citizens who had lost all in a flood was read and discussed at length. City Council unanimously issued a \$25.00 warrant payable to the Mayor of Black River Falls, Wisconsin.
- November 6, 1912 The Deed to the city from the Huntington Beach Company to Lake Park was read and accepted and a vote of thanks tendered to the Huntington Beach Company.
- November 14, 1927 City Council authorizes the purchase and installation of an official Rain Gauge on the City Hall grounds.
- November 9, 1932 City Council directed the City Clerk to advise the U. S. Post Office Department that the City of Huntington Beach would donate a site of the required size for the new post office on Block 505.
- November 13, 1933 City Council authorizes City Attorney to attend meeting of attorneys at Glendale for the purpose of discussing plans for the control of liquor traffic upon the repeal of the 18th Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- November 3, 1939 Dean of Santa Ana College sends City Council a check in the amount of \$10 to cover damages done to Memorial Hall on the night of the Junior College dance together with assurance to City Council that every precaution would be taken in future to safeguard property.
- November 6, 1939 Mayor McCallen announced that he had contacted officials of the sugar factory (Garfield/Gothard) and had been assured that the nuisance from decaying beets would be abated in a few days.
- November 7, 1949 City Council granted the following application for business license: Young Turkey Ranch, Santa Ana, California to conduct the business of delivering turkeys.
- November 20, 1950 The request of the Associated Telephone Company for permission to install private phone service at the Municipal Trailer Park on the city beach was approved by the City Council.
- November 2, 1953 City Council instructed the City Engineer to proceed with the planting of barley on approximately 15 acres of city-owned land along Hwy 39; the cost not to exceed \$100.
- November 6, 1961 City Council directed City Administrator to inform Orange Coast College that it would be premature for the City to formulate a policy regarding construction of "fallout shelters" as the matter was being considered at State and Federal levels and to extend an offer of cooperation in working out a plan of mutual benefit.



## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS OF YEARS PAST

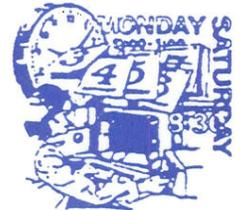
### MONTH OF DECEMBER

December 26, 1922 - City Council directs all fountains and horse troughs turned off except those at Walnut and Main and at the Pier as city is paying water rental to the Huntington Beach Water Company and with one or two exceptions the fountains and troughs are not operating.



December 3, 1923 - City Council accepts bid of \$479.20 for a 1923 Ford Touring Car for the Police Department and rejected the following bids: Four Cylinder Buick \$1,160 and Star Touring car \$630.

December 17, 1923 - City Engineer instructed to publish a notice in the Huntington Beach News warning all oil companies to tighten guy wires about their derricks and see that all sheet irons and boards are securely nailed and weeds and grass removed from about the grounds to lessen the fire hazard.



December 6, 1926 - City Council approves application of Charley E. Merryfield to install and operate a six alley bowling parlor at 216 Fifth Street.

December 19, 1932 - City Council appropriates \$100 for a Christmas Fund, payable to the Huntington Beach Volunteer Fire Department for the relief of the needy and children.



December 19, 1932 - City Council receives petition signed by a number of citizens and property owners living in the vicinity of Yorktown and Hampshire Avenue objecting to the odor coming from a garlic grinding plant and unsanitary conditions existing in and around the pepper drying plants.

December 30, 1932 - City Attorney instructed to bring action against State Superintendent of Banks for recovery of city funds on deposit with First State Bank now in liquidation.

December 8, 1941 - Mayor McCallen declares a State of Emergency to exist within the city due to the city's close proximity to the world's richest oil deposits.



December 4, 1944 - City Council grants request from the Chamber of Commerce to allocate the sum of \$100 for the Christmas fund to be used in caring for military personnel during the Christmas season.

HISTORY NOTES FROM  
CONNIE BROCKWAY, CITY CLERK