

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR
DEALERS IN PRECIOUS METALS AND STONES.**

October 10, 1995

Council Chambers

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President Sandy F. Klebanoff called the hearing to order at 10:12 p.m.

Present were Councilors Robert Bouvier, Owen Eagan, Sandy F. Klebanoff, Charles R. Matties, Patrick McCabe, Madeline S. McKernan, Larry Price, Andy Schatz and Alfred Turco.

President Klebanoff: Mr. Feldman.

Mr. Feldman: Madam Mayor, the ordinance change originates from the Police Department. Some of the police officers that actually deal with the types of problems came to us a number of months ago and in working through the changes in Marge's office this proposal was submitted to you. I'm not sure if you want me to chronicle the changes but I can just quickly summarize and say one of the bigger concerns that I think that some maybe not all the officers had had to do with Section A on page 2 which requires instead of a five day retention of the goods, actually now that it be a ten day retention of the goods. I think that has to do with some of the investigatory things that may go on.

There are other things added to the ordinance as you can see. There is a license requirement. There is also a violation of, if this is not complied with, that is new language as well. I would be happy and I know Marge would as well, we would be happy if you should have questions as to changes offered in the ordinance and maybe some of the history but given the hour I will stop at this point.

President Klebanoff: Mr. Matties.

Councilor Matties: I think we understand why you are doing it but has there been no comment from the retailers? Are they aware of it?

Mr. Feldman: Madam Mayor, Mr. Matties, you asked a good question. I don't know whether the retailers are specifically aware of the changes. I don't know if this was sent to jewelers or people that deal with precious metals. If there is any concern on your part, I would be happy if you want to hold the hearing, I would be happy to make sure that the Chamber gets this and they can distribute it to their members if that would make you feel better, by all means.

Councilor Matties: It would make more sense because as I

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understand you, we are asking the dealers to hold it for an additional five days, whatever value they have, at no interest, and it might be hardship. I think we ought to give them a chance to respond.

Councilor Turco: Would it clearly apply to retail jewelers?

President Klebanoff: Mr. Feldman.

Mr. Feldman: That is a good question. Yes, I guess it would apply to those jewelers who deal in these types of commodities. I don't know if they all do or not. That is something I suppose the Chamber be able to help with but it is retail jewelers that deal in these types of commodities.

President Klebanoff: Mr. Matties.

Councilor Matties: Those who buy old gold?

Councilor Turco: We are dating ourselves.

Councilor Price: I would walk a mile for a camel.

President Klebanoff: Are there further questions or comments? We had nobody sign up. Is there anyone who wishes to address the Council on the subject of this public hearing? If not,

Mr. Feldman: Madam Mayor, before you slam the gavel, it was at least my understanding from Mr. Matties suggestion that you keep the hearing open.

President Klebanoff: I'm sorry.

Mr. Feldman: If you would pick another date for the subsequent part of this and I will make sure we get the information to Linda French at the Chamber and see if they can give us any feedback.

President Klebanoff: I would suggest the next Council meeting is the 24th so we could continue this to 7:50 p.m. Mrs. Wilder.

Mrs. Wilder: Pat helped me out. He worked with the police on this particular ordinance. The statute from which the ordinance refers says that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the purchase of such items from a wholesaler, by a manufacturer or retail seller whose primary place of business is located in this State. So it is a more limited kind of application than it appears to be.

Mr. Alair: Essentially, a jeweler who purchase and keeps jeweler for a stone from it an estate or something like that, it would apply as well but a retail jeweler purchasing

wholesale goods exclusively it would not apply.

President Klebanoff: Can you give us some idea of how many of these kinds of dealers we are talking about?

Mrs. Wilder: We will find out. You are going to keep the hearing open anyway, right?

President Klebanoff: Yes. So we will recess this public hearing until October 24th at 7:50 p.m.

The hearing recessed at 10:16 p.m.

Norma W. Cronin
Recording Secretary