

**Resolution No. 1954**

A RESOLUTION providing for an investigation of recent public statements of alleged irregularities in the Plumbing Division of the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, and in the administration and conduct of the Cedar River Watershed, made orally and included in certain unsponsored and unidentified political campaign literature.

INTRODUCED: APR 19 1954	BY: ALL MEMBERS PRESENT
REFERRED:	TO:
REPORTED:	
REPORTED:	
PASSED: APR 19 1954	SIGNED: APR 19 1954
FILED: APR 19 1954	
ENGROSSED:	FIRST PUBLICATION:
VOL. _____ FOLIO _____	BY:
COMPARED BY:	
	FILE NO.

*MCH*

RESOLUTION NO. ~~40210~~

A RESOLUTION providing for an investigation of recent public statements of alleged irregularities in the Plumbing Division of the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health, and in the administration and conduct of the Cedar River Watershed, made orally and included in certain unsponsored and unidentified political campaign literature.

WHEREAS, during the recent municipal election campaign certain statements were made orally and by the distribution of unsponsored and unidentified pamphlets concerning asserted irregularities, laxity and favoritism in the Plumbing Division of the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health and of irregularities in the administration and conduct of the Cedar River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is in receipt of a communication (Comptroller's File No. 224002) from the Chief Plumbing Inspector requesting a full investigation of such statements affecting said Plumbing Division; and also communications (Comptroller's Files Nos. 223849 and 223903) requesting legislation controlling and regulating campaign literature and requiring identification of the sponsors of the same; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it necessary in aid of its legislative function to become fully advised as to the source of and responsibility for such statements and as to the facts, through an investigation under its charter powers (Article IV, Section 4, Sixth and Ordinance No. 61433); Now, Therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE:

That the following matters are hereby referred to the Committee of the Whole for investigation and report to the City Council in aid of the legislative function thereof under Charter Article IV, Section 4, Sixth and Ordinance No. 61433, to-wit:

- a. Comptroller's File No. 224002 requesting an investigation of published statements of alleged irregularities, laxity and favoritism in the Plumbing Division of the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health made orally and included in unidentified and otherwise anonymous political campaign pamphlets.
- b. Oral statements, and published statements contained in anonymous pamphlets concerning asserted irregularities in the conduct and administration of the Cedar River Watershed, particularly in connection with logging operations therein.
- c. The control and regulation of such and other anonymous published written matter containing irresponsible statements and allegations reflecting on the integrity of city officers and others particularly referred to in C. F. Nos. 223849 and 223903.

Said investigation shall be public and all relevant testimony and documents shall be adduced to the end that the City Council may be fully

advised as to the facts concerning such published statements and the necessity, advisability and practicability of remedial legislation.

A full and complete record of said proceedings and all exhibits received and considered shall be made and filed with the City Council with the report of the Committee of the Whole thereon.

The date when said investigation shall begin shall be left to the discretion of said committee, but at least two weeks notice thereof shall be given to the public.

PASSED the City Council the 19 day of April, 1954, and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 19 day of April, 1954.

*Robert L. ...*  
President of the City Council

Filed by me this 19 day of April, 1954.

ATTEST: *A. Thomas*  
City Comptroller and City Clerk

BY: *W. A. Perine*  
Deputy

ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL

J. AMBLER NEWTON  
C. C. McCULLOUGH  
ARTHUR SCHRAMM  
GLEN E. WILSON  
JOHN A. HOMER  
JOHN A. LOGAN  
CHARLES V. HOARD  
CHARLES L. CONLEY  
GEORGE T. MCGILLIVRAY  
G. GRANT WILCOX

THE CITY OF SEATTLE  
LAW DEPARTMENT

515 COUNTY-CITY BUILDING

A.C. VAN SOELEN, CORPORATION COUNSEL

CITY PROSECUTOR  
BRUCE MACDOUGALL

LAW CLERK  
ROBERT STRONG

SECRETARY  
FAYE FORDE

CLAIM AGENT  
JOHN F. COOPER

April 19, 1954

Re: C.F. 223849, 223903  
and 22402.

Committee of the Whole  
City Council  
Seattle

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your oral request of April 5, 1954 as orally supplemented in conference on April 19, 1954, we herewith transmit proposed resolution providing for an investigation in connection with, and arising out of the matters referred to in Comptroller's Files Nos. 223849, 223903 and 22402.

Such matters are by the terms of said resolution referred to the Committee of the Whole for investigation and report to the City Council under Charter Article IV, Section 4, Sixth, and Ordinance 61433, which ordinance empowers said committee, pursuant to such reference by the City Council, to conduct such investigations and require the attendance of witnesses, etc., by subpoena issued in the name of said committee.

Section 3 of said ordinance provides penalties for failure to comply, which penalties are upon conviction enforceable by and thru the Municipal Court. We suggest that you scrutinize the terms of said resolution to see whether it complies with your directions in the matter.

Said Comptroller's files are herewith returned.

Yours very truly

*A.C. Van Soelen*  
A. C. VAN SOELEN  
Corporation Counsel

ACV:FF  
Encs