

questioned that your Honorable Body authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission to enter into contracts as follows:

(1) With Detroit Federation Umpires, Inc., covering umpires' services for the 1957 season at rates established by your Honorable Body.

(2) With Detroit Scorers Association covering scorers' services for the 1957 season at rates established by your Honorable Body.

Funds for these services are provided in account 116-5220-241.

Respectfully submitted,
HOWARD CROWELL,
 Administrator.

By Councilman Beck:

Resolved, That the Parks and Recreation Commission be and it is hereby authorized and directed to enter into contracts with Detroit Federation Umpires, Inc., and Detroit Scorers Association covering umpires' and scorers' services for the 1957 season in accordance with the foregoing communication.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas — Councilmen Beck, Lincoln, Rogell, Smith, Van Antwerp, Youngblood, and President Miriani—7.

Nays—None.

Department of Police

Honorable Common Council:

Gentlemen—The year's accomplishments reflect the results of the improvements which have been instituted in all phases of the Police Department's operations. Detroit led the major cities of the nation in traffic safety during 1956 with fatalities reduced to a total of 197. Representing a 14% decrease below the previous year's total, it was the best safety record established since compilation of accurate traffic records was begun more than thirty years ago. Accomplished through the united efforts of city officials and departments, Traffic Court, the press, radio-TV, Traffic Coordinating Committee, and various civic organizations coupled with splendid driver-pedestrian cooperation, this pace-setting civic endeavor gives promise of even greater safety to our citizens in 1957.

Major crime, although rising 7% over a year ago, still compared favorably with the national urban average. A substantial decrease was noted in murders, which dropped 25%. Auto thefts declined 3% below the previous year's figure. Robberies led the crimes which increased, gaining 12%, followed by burglaries, 10%, and larcenies, 9%. Although inaugurated late in the year, the potential effectiveness of the Special Patrol Force should bring greater control over street crimes by furnishing greater police protection in the areas of highest crime incidence.

Departmental efficiency was fur-

ther increased by the acquisition of two armored vehicles for use in combating barricaded gunmen; an integrated plan of operation at the scene of bank robberies, developed in cooperation with the F.B.I.; and the establishment of a master index criminal file, a prerequisite for the consolidation of arrest and fingerprint records. When completed, a greater saving of labor and an increased efficiency in criminal identification will be gained. The continued survey of forms and reports has resulted in their further reduction and simplification and has expedited the writing of reports throughout the department.

Greater understanding and cooperation with the youth of the city was furthered through mutual discussion of juvenile problems at a series of high school meetings. Thousands of pamphlets outlining the teen-agers' own views on civic responsibility were distributed to interested groups. Rowdysm and gang activities have been reduced to a minimum and no longer constitute a threat to the city's peace.

The consistent interest and hearty cooperation shown throughout the year by Mayor Albert E. Cobo, members of the Common Council, City Officials, and the citizens of Detroit are gratefully acknowledged in behalf of all the members of the department.

The following Annual Report for 1956 is herein submitted in compliance with the provision of the City Charter.

Respectfully submitted,
EDWARD S. PIGGINS,
 Commissioner.

Received and placed on file.

Department of Public Works
 March 12, 1957.

Honorable Common Council:

Gentlemen—We are returning herewith the petition of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, Petition No. 11360, requesting the vacation of a portion of alley at the west end of the east-west public alley south of Seven Mile Road and east of Rondo Avenue. The petition was approved by the City Plan Commission with the recommendation that sufficient land be deeded on the south side of said alley at the same location to maintain the original alley width. The petition was then referred to this office for investigation and report.

We wish to advise that our investigations are completed.

The petitioner on March 11, 1957, paid into the City Treasury the sum of \$148.17, Receipt No. B-32677, credited to the Public Works Maintenance Fund Code No. 143-0000 (6241), to reimburse the City for the original cost of paving the east one-

half of Rondo Avenue at the intersection of the alley to be vacated.

The petitioner also deposited with the Permit Division of the Department of Public Works the sum of \$400.00, Receipt No. 79930, said amount being the estimated cost of removing existing driveway and curb, and installing new driveway at the new dedication. The petitioner requested that the paved return at the entrance to the portion of alley to be vacated remain in its present status as the petitioner plans to utilize same, and has agreed, by letter filed with the original petition, to pay all costs incidental to the removal of the return at such time as the removal becomes necessary.

We are in receipt of a Warranty Deed whereby petitioner dedicates land to be used for alley purposes in accordance with the City Plan Commission's recommendation. Said deed was approved as to description by the City Engineer and it is attached for your Honorable Body's acceptance.

All other City Departments and privately owned utility companies reported that they will be unaffected by the vacation of said portion of alley.

We recommend the adoption of the attached resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

GLENN C. RICHARDS,
Commissioner.

By Councilman Beck:

Resolved, That all that part of the east-west public alley south of Seven Mile Road and east of Rondo Street as platted in Schmitz Subdivision of part of the N. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the N. $\frac{1}{2}$ of the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12, T. 1, S. R. 12 E., Gratiot Township, Wayne County, Michigan, as recorded in Liber 38, Page 65 of Plats Wayne County Records and Pfent Estate Subdivision of Part of the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12, T. 1, S. R. 12 E., City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, as recorded in Liber 62, Page 59 of Plats Wayne County Records more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of lot 18 of the above mentioned Schmitz Subdivision, thence southerly along the extended west line of said lot 18, 10 feet to a point; thence easterly and parallel to the south line of said lot 18, 25 feet to a point; thence northeasterly along a line to a point in the south line of lot 17 of said Schmitz Subdivision, said point being 5 feet easterly of the southwest corner of said lot 17; thence westerly along the south line of lots 17 and 18 of said Schmitz Subdivision 35 feet to the place of beginning, be and the same is hereby vacated as a public alley to become a part and parcel of the adjoining property; and further

Resolved, That Warranty Deed of the Elmira Realty Corporation, a Michigan Corporation to the City of Detroit, a municipal corporation deeding land for alley purposes, said land being, "Part of lots 17 and 18 of Pfent Estate Subdivision of Part of the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12, T. 1, S. R. 12 E., City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan, as recorded in Liber 62, Page 59 of Plats Wayne County Records, more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the S.W. corner of the north 15 feet of said lot 17; thence along the west line of said lot, northerly 15 feet to the N.W. corner of said lot; thence along the northerly line of lots 17 and 18, easterly 60 feet; thence southerly, parallel to the westerly line of said lot 17, 5 feet to a point; thence southwesterly to a point on southerly line of the northerly 15 feet of lot 17, which point is distant easterly 25 feet from the westerly line of said lot 17; thence along the southerly line of the northerly 15 feet of lot 17, 25 feet to the point of beginning, excepting therefrom the northerly 5 feet of the land herein described, which portion has heretofore been conveyed to the City of Detroit for alley purposes," be and the same is hereby accepted and the City Controller be and he is hereby directed to record said deed in the office of the Register of Deeds for Wayne County, subject to the following provision:

Provided, That the above deed be approved as to form and execution by the Corporation Counsel.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas — Councilmen Beck, Lincoln, Rogell, Smith, Van Antwerp, Youngblood, and President Miriani—7.

Nays—None.

Department of Public Works

March 13, 1957.

Honorable Common Council:

Re: Contract: PW-2848.

For: Recapping Lynch Road from Mt. Elliott to Van Dyke.

Adjusted Contract Price:

\$66,228.05.

Contractor: Louis Garavaglia.

Gentlemen—This is to certify that all work required of the Contractor in the performance of this Contract has been fully completed and found acceptable under the terms and conditions thereof, and that the total value of such completed work, including all Contract Changes duly issued, is that stated above as the Adjusted Contract Price.

The Contractor has submitted an affidavit that all payrolls, material bills, and all other indebtedness incurred by him in connection with the work have been paid.

It is therefore recommended that the total value of the work, as above stated, less the total amounts previ-