

Attention

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM TAXPAYERS

Be sure to attend the obscurely announced hearing on the Confirmation of the Tax Assessment Roll for Parking Lot #5 (Wabeek-Jacobson Property) by your City Commission, Mayor and City Manager for the benefit of businessmen, Investment opportunists and other Assessed Taxpayers on next Monday Evening March 27, 1961 at the City Hall. Please call them for the exact time.

The issue in this meeting will be a living example of how the power to tax is applied and interpreted by your elected representatives as well as how they have contracted and committed (we) Taxpayers to buy out with public funds that belong to the Taxpayers an existing parking facility owned by the Wabeek-Jacobson interests. This is an excellent portrayal and illustration of what your Commission has done with our money and how it has pledged our credit for what it represents is a "Necessity". The parking lot is already there—where is the necessity? In the Commission's eagerness to give away our substance for this parking facility it is also closing a public street which it in recent years paved with concrete and for which it assessed an extra tax to cover its cost—another service we Taxpayers contributed without reimbursement. Also in its eagerness to serve the owners of the Parking Lot and relieve them of their capital investment, a Land Contract was unanimously approved by the City Commission. At this committee's own expense and research we found that Contract not in the best public interest. We advised the Commission of our findings and to its credit the commissioners acknowledged their error and so publicly revised the Contract to be executed, as reflected in their proceedings of March 6, 1961. The record further shows it was replaced with a contract containing provisions pursuant to suggestions and stipulations of this committee.

Could it be the City Commission and their advisors are using our money to liquidate ourselves to supply the capital for the businessmen and other Commercial Activities?

And what of the future? With sums of over a half million dollars at the Commission's disposal, what should we look for in the business investments they are likely to commit us for? As Taxpayers we sorely need relief. We don't want continued Tax Increases but we do want decreases. Perhaps we should have the opportunity to vote on what we can afford to pay rather than what the Commission says is good for us.

We have presented these facts and information to you so that more light can shine on both sides of the issues and a little fresh air introduced to clear the atmosphere. When out driving on a Sunday Afternoon, be sure to review your investment in Parking Lots and appreciate their beauty.

NOW IS THE TIME — STAND UP AND BE COUNTED OR STAND STILL AND BE SHORN!

This Message Paid For In The Public Interest By
COMMITTEE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT

William F. Thomas, Chairman