

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber in the City Hall, on Monday, August 1, 1960, at 3 o'clock p.m., with Mayor Smith presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Babcock, Dellinger, Hitch, Myers, Smith and Whittington being present.

ABSENT: None.

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INVOCATION,

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Hitch, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the meetings of July 25th and July 28th were approved as submitted.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING PRESENTED TRAFFIC ENGINEER BY NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERS IN COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL.

Mr. Robert Burch, Secretary-Treasurer of the National Institute of Traffic Engineers, presented the City of Charlotte a Certificate of Recognition for the outstanding engineering done by the Traffic Engineer, Mr. Herman Hoose, in controlling traffic, reducing accidents and the movement of vehicles. He called attention that this is the second year in succession that Charlotte has received this award.

Mayor Smith expressed his pleasure at Charlotte receiving the award and congratulated Mr. Hoose on the fine work he is doing for Charlotte.

CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR COMMENDABLE SERVICE TO CITY PRESENTED JOHN D. GRAHAM AND EARL L. STRATTON, TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES.

As a token of the City's appreciation for their service, Mayor Smith presented Certificates of Recognition to Mr. John D. Graham and Mr. Earl L. Stratton, upon their retirement, who have served 32 years and 15 years respectively, in the Traffic Engineering Department.

REQUEST OF HENRY ERVIN TO PHOTOGRAPH CITY EMPLOYEES AND PRESENT CITY WITH PHOTOGRAPHS WITHOUT COST REFERRED TO CITY MANAGER AND PERSONNEL DIRECTOR FOR RECOMMENDATION.

Mr. Henry Ervin stated he has been a commercial photographer in Charlotte for some fifteen years, working mainly with school pictures and in the summer photographing manufacturing companies employees. He requested permission to photograph city employees and present their photographs to the City for its files without cost. He explained that his profit would be made in selling pictures to the individual employees, at \$3.50 per picture in lieu of his usual price of \$7.50. The City Manager pointed out that his collection for individual pictures should be made by him and not by

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the City; also, that he should photograph employees at their jobs instead of their having to leave the job and meet at designated places. Councilman Whittington moved that the request be referred to the City Manager and Personnel Director for a recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hitch, and unanimously carried.

CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER MAIN IN NORTH CALDWELL STREET APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Babcock, seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried, the construction of 665-feet of sanitary sewer main was authorized in North Caldwell Street, at the request of Charlotte Warehousing Corporation, at an estimated cost of \$1,670.00. All costs to be borne by the applicant, whose deposit of the entire cost will be refunded as per terms of the contract.

CONSTRUCTION OF DRIVEWAY ENTRANCES AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Babcock, and unanimously carried, authorizing the construction of driveway entrances at the following locations:

- (a) One 12-ft. entrance on East Morehead Street, and One 10-ft. entrance on Kenilworth Avenue, both for 1301 East Morehead Street.
- (b) One 14-ft. entrance at 1212 East 7th Street.
- (c) One 30-ft. entrance at 610 Anderson Street.
- (d) One 30-ft. entrance at 3630 N. Davidson Street.
- (e) Two 20-ft. entrances at 1501 Hawthorne Lane.
- (f) One 22-ft. and One 30-ft. entrance at 1631 W. Independence Blvd.

PETITION FOR ERECTION OF STREET LIGHT IN 5100 BLOCK OF EATON ROAD, AUTHORIZED.

Councilman Dellinger presented a petition signed by all residents of the 5100 block of Eaton Road for a street light. He requested that it be turned over to the proper department for the erection of the light.

CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS STREAM ON BELROSE LANE AUTHORIZED.

Councilman Dellinger advised that a count of the number of persons who will use the footbridge across the stream that divides Belrose Lane, which was requested last week, indicates there are 197 persons of whom 115 are school children; that the Superintendent of Schools advises the bridge is badly needed for children of the area who will attend Woodlawn, Sedgfield, Park Road and Myers Park Schools where space is available. The City Manager advised the Engineering Department has determined the cost of the bridge at \$1,100.00. Councilman Dellinger moved that the Engineering Department proceed with the construction of the bridge, and the cost in the amount of \$1100.00 be transferred from the Contingency Fund. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

REQUEST THAT POLICE DEPARTMENT ENFORCE LAW IN CONNECTION WITH THE USE OF SIDEWALKS, PLANTING STRIPS AND STREETS BY INDIVIDUALS.

Councilman Dellinger called attention that there are a large number of businesses utilizing the sidewalk, planting strip and street for personal use, particularly where cars are repaired. He stated he has a list of a number of these places which he will give the City Manager and requested that the Police Department be instructed to enforce the law at these and all other locations.

REQUEST THAT STREETS BE PUT IN PROPER CONDITION WHERE TORN UP FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEWER LINES.

Councilman Dellinger requested the City Manager to have the Engineering Department put in proper condition the streets that have been torn up for the installation of sewer lines.

CITY MANAGER REQUESTED TO CONTACT PIEDMONT & NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE OVER TUCKASEEGEE ROAD.

Councilman Dellinger called attention that the City has been endeavoring for three years to get a bridge constructed over Tuckaseegee Road. He asked the City Manager to again contact the P & N Railway Company and see if the work cannot be started. Mr. Veeder advised the plans have been returned to the Company three times in an endeavor to satisfy them, and have not been returned. He advised he will again confer with the officials of the Company.

ORDINANCE NO. 667 TO AMEND THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO CHANGE THE ZONING FROM R-1 TO B-1 ON PROPERTY ON THE NORTH SIDE OF HUNTLEY PLACE, ON PETITION OF MRS. ELIZABETH MYERS, DENIED.

Councilman Dellinger asked that a decision be made on the petition of Mrs. Elizabeth Myers for a change in zoning from R-1 to B-1, on property on the north side of Huntley Place, which was deferred at last week's meeting for further information as to whether the zoning line was established at 250 ft. or 275 ft. from Providence Road. Councilman Hitch presented a statement dated April 1, 1954 by Mr. T. E. Hemby, owner of the property at that time, to the Zoning Board of Adjustment, stating the B-1 zoning line was 250 feet from Providence Road and extending less than 14 feet to the R-1 zone at the back of the property, and requesting that the Board waive the requirement of the 14 feet and allow the full area of his property for business offices during the life of the present building on the property.

Councilman Dellinger moved that the B-1 zoning line be held at 250 feet and the petition for a change in zoning be denied. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hitch, and unanimously carried.

REQUEST THAT PARKING BE RESTORED ON ONE SIDE OF LILAC ROAD.

Councilman Whittington advised that the residents of Lilac Road are much upset over Mr. Hoose having removed parking from both sides of the street, and he asked if this is allowed without Council approval? Mr. Veeder explained that Mr. Hoose has the authority to do so for a trial period of 90 days, after which time Council action is taken. Mr. Hoose explained that Lilac Road is only 22 to 24 feet wide and very winding and it is difficult for Busses and Fire trucks to get through even when cars are parked on one side; also, it is much safer for children crossing the street as they have a clear view in both directions. He called attention that it is the only through street from East Boulevard to Park Road for many blocks in both directions and the no parking was initiated for safety reasons. Councilman Dellinger asked that a traffic count be given the Council at the end of the 90 days period.

USE OF TRAFFIC ISLANDS IN STREETS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES REFERRED TO CITY MANAGER TO HAVE POLICE DEPARTMENT STOP PRACTICE.

Councilman Whittington called attention to the danger of young boys

selling newspapers from traffic islands in the streets. Mr. Hoose, Traffic Engineer, advised he wrote the Charlotte News and Charlotte Observer, with copies to the City Manager and Chief of Police, expressing opposition of the use of these islands for commercial purposes; that it is a matter of law enforcement. Councilman Dellinger requested the City Manager to instruct Chief James to enforce the law and stop the practice.

TRAFFIC COUNT REQUESTED MADE AT CRAIGHEAD ROAD AND NORTH TRYON STREET WITH VIEW OF ERECTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL.

Councilman Whittington requested the Traffic Engineer to make a traffic count at the intersection of Craighead and N. Tryon Street with the view of erecting a traffic signal. Mr. Hoose stated a signal will be erected at this location as soon as the Highway Department sets some curb, which must be done before the signal poles can be set, and it should be only a matter of 30 days.

REQUEST FOR STREET LIGHTS IN 3900 BLOCK OF NORTH TRYON STREET.

Councilman Whittington asked that street lights be installed in the 3900 block of North Tryon Street. Mr. Hoose stated that street lighting will be installed on North Tryon Street to the city limits as soon as the work can be done and funds have been included in the budget for the work.

REQUEST FOR COST ESTIMATE OF TEMPORARY SIDEWALKS ON PARKWAY AVENUE AND NORWOOD DRIVE.

Councilman Whittington requested the City Manager to have a cost estimate made for constructing temporary sidewalks on Parkway Avenue and Norwood Drive.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD TO ASSUME OPERATION OF GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL AND PROCEED WITH PLANS FOR RENOVATION OF HOSPITAL.

Councilman Hitch reported that subsequent to Council action on last Monday that something be worked out to secure the support of Memorial Hospital towards cooperating in the operation of Good Samaritan Hospital until detailed plans are completed for them to assume full jurisdiction over the hospital, a meeting was held on Thursday with representatives of Memorial Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital, the City Manager and Mr. John Rankin, Hospital Consultant to the Health Study Committee of which Col. Francis Beatty is Chairman, in order to ascertain if the study being conducted by Mr. Rankin has reached a point where it is in the best interest of the community to proceed with the renovation of Good Samaritan Hospital, in view of the immediate need for improved facilities at the hospital as stated by Mr. Ervin Laxton, Chairman of the Hospital Board of Trustees. That in view of Council action on May 9th that none of the \$800,000 bond funds voted for improvements at Good Samaritan would be used until the Beatty Committee report was made, Mr. Rankin stated he would give his answer to Col. Beatty. Councilman Hitch presented the following letter from Colonel Beatty and one from Mr. Rankin to Colonel Beatty:

"Mr. Herbert Hitch  
125 East 3rd Street  
Charlotte, N. C.

Dear Herbert:

Under date of July 29th, 1960, I received from Mr. W. J. Veeder, City

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Manager, City of Charlotte, a request that our Community Health Study Committee make recommendations regarding the Good Samaritan Hospital.

Mr. John W. Rankin, under whose direction professional consultants are carrying out the study, was in Charlotte, and his opinion, in the form of a brief interim report, was requested.

I take pleasure in enclosing Mr. Rankin's recommendation. As you will note from his letter, he recommends that steps be taken immediately to implement the suggestions offered previously by you and your associates.

Sincerely yours,

Francis J. Beatty, Chairman  
Community Health Study Committee"

"Colonel Francis J. Beatty, Chairman  
Health Study Committee  
Charlotte, North Carolina

Dear Colonel Beatty:

You have inquired as to our preliminary findings with regard to the planning for modernization and remodeling at the Good Samaritan Hospital. Because of the time-consuming nature of such a renovation program and the immediate urgency for betterment of the physical plant at Good Samaritan, I am glad to make this interim report.

We have inspected the physical facilities of the Good Samaritan Hospital, have reviewed the February 10, 1960 report of the sub-committee of the Mayor's Fact-Finding Committee of Good Samaritan Hospital, have reviewed the February 11, 1960 letter to Mr. Herbert Hitch, Chairman of the Hospital Future Requirements Fact-Finding Committee, and Mr. Hitch's report to Mayor James Smith and members of the City Council, City of Charlotte, under date of March 7th. Included in this review is the report of Wilson & McCullough, Architects, signed by Mr. R. Edwin Wilson under date of February 10.

As Consultant to your Committee I wish to recommend that the proposals mentioned in the reports listed above be implemented as rapidly as possible as we can see no reason for further delay in bringing Good Samaritan Hospital up to minimum standards. Since the immediate improvement of the facilities of the Good Samaritan Hospital is necessary for the health and welfare of the citizens of this community, it is not deemed necessary that you await our complete report to begin this most urgent project. In order to retain the professional and technical personnel of the Good Samaritan Hospital or to recruit additional vitally needed personnel to supplement the existing staff, it is my opinion that immediate renovation of the plant is necessary.

Very truly yours,

John W. Rankin"

Councilman Hitch then introduced the following resolution:

"WHEREAS, the voters of the City of Charlotte have authorized the issuance of bonds for the renovation of Good Samaritan Hospital in the amount of \$800,000; and

WHEREAS, the City Council agreed to withhold the sale of said bonds until the Beatty Committee dealing with community health services had reviewed and concurred with the need for spending said money; and

WHEREAS, Col. Beatty has now notified the City Council that in the opinion of the consultants making the study and his committee it is in the community's best interest to proceed with the renovation of Good Samaritan Hospital.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

Section 1. The Board of Trustees of Memorial Hospital is requested to proceed with the preliminary steps attendant to said Board assuming full jurisdiction over the operation of Good Samaritan Hospital.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees of Memorial Hospital is requested to proceed with the detailed planning phase of renovations to be made to Good Samaritan Hospital with bond money voted by the residents of the City of Charlotte.

Section 3. Representatives of the Board of Trustees of Good Samaritan Hospital are requested to provide a form of deed to the property for review by the City Attorney, and the City Attorney, in turn, is requested to take appropriate steps to facilitate the transfer of the property in keeping with the view of the City's Bond Council."

Councilman Hitch moved the adoption of the resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Babcock.

Councilman Smith stated he is not against the Good Samaritan Hospital program but thinks the voters were lead to believe that none of the \$800,000 bond funds would be spent until the Beatty Committee made its report specifying what was needed to be done; that once the bond funds are committed without knowing about further expenditures, it will be in direct opposition to what the Council told the people. Councilman Babcock stated he voted to go along with the bond issue with the understanding no funds would be spent until a report was received from the Beatty Committee and he thinks this is the Beatty Report and recommendation. Councilman Hitch pointed out there are many things to be done before Memorial can take over the hospital and Memorial does not want to go ahead without some assurance from the Council, and it may be months before any of the funds are spent.

Following the discussion, the vote was taken on the motion for the adoption of the resolution, and carried by the following recorded vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Hitch, Babcock, Albea, Dellinger, Myers and Whittington.  
NAYS: Councilman Smith.

TEMPORARY INCREASE IN TAXICAB FARES MADE PERMANENT.

Councilman Babcock advised he has made an analysis of the statements finally received from the Taxicab Companies requested last November when a rate increase was approved subject to a study of their operating costs etc, and he finds Yellow Cab Company was making a 16 per cent return on its invested capital and did not need the increase, while Victory and Beatty Companies were losing money and Baker Cab Company was making only a small return, and these companies would have been bankrupt without the increase. He stated further the Companies statements show a wide variation in the percentage of depreciation allowed and in administrative and operating costs. That he does not see how the increase granted last

fall can be rescinded in view of the condition of the three companies but it should be a long time before another increase is granted and these companies will have to put their business in order and the citizens not be penalized because they cannot operate efficiently enough to make money. Councilman Myers moved that the increase in fares granted temporarily last fall be made permanent and the City Accountant be directed to obtain financial statements showing full operations, depreciations etc. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried.

COUNCIL MEETINGS AUTHORIZED HELD ON AUGUST 15TH AND 22ND AND NOT ON AUGUST 8TH AND 29TH.

Councilman Babcock moved that Council Meetings be held on August 15th and 22nd and not on August 8th and 29th. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF VACATION FOR CITY MANAGER.

The Council concurred in the request of the City Manager for a two weeks vacation during August.

APPRECIATION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO RECORDER'S COURT ROOM AND CLERK'S OFFICE EXPRESSED BY CLERK OF COURT.

Mayor Smith read a letter from Mr. Rogers, Clerk of Recorder's Court, expressing appreciation on behalf of the Court Officials and his office staff for the improvements made to the Court Room and his office.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk