

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Wednesday, August 15, 1951, at 3 o'clock p.m., with Mayor Shaw presiding, and Councilmen Baxter, Boyd, Coddington, Dellinger, Jordan and Van Every present.

Absent: Councilman Albea.

-----  
INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Philip L. Van Every.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Van Every, seconded by Councilman Boyd, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the meetings on August 1st and 8th were approved as submitted.

LIONS CLUB GRANTED PERMISSION TO HOLD BROOM SALE FROM TRUCK PARKED ON STREET AND BY HOUSE TO HOUSE CANVASS.

At the request of Mr. George Woolley, the Charlotte Lions Club was granted permission to hold their annual broom sale, for the benefit of the Blind Association, from a truck to be parked on an uptown street from September 24th through October 7th, and by a house to house canvass, upon motion made by Councilman Van Every, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried.

PETITION FOR RELIEF FROM STREET PARKING SPACES ON NORTH BREVARD STREET BEING MONOPOLIZED BY EMPLOYEES OF HUDSON HOSIERY MILL, REFERRED TO CITY MANAGER.

A petition was presented by Mrs. W. C. Chapman, 709 North Brevard Street, bearing the signatures of fifty residents of North Brevard Street, requesting relief from all street parking spaces on North Brevard Street, between East 9th and East 11th Streets, being monopolized 24 hours a day by employees of Hudson Hosiery Mill. The petition stated further that the said employees are provided a private parking lot by the Mill which they do not use.

Councilman Boyd moved that the petition be referred to the City Manager with request that he contact the officials of Hudson Hosiery Mill and request that they instruct their employees to use the parking lot provided by the Mill. The motion was seconded by Councilman Van Every, and unanimously carried.

BRANDON CIRCLE TAKEN OVER FOR LIMITED MAINTENANCE.

Upon motion of Councilman Boyd, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the 2300 block of Brandon Circle was taken over for limited maintenance.

PAYMENT OF OVER-RUN IN CONTRACT AUTHORIZED TO HARVEY H. STEWART COMPANY, FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO HILLSIDE AVENUE.

Councilman Dellinger moved that payment of \$3,070.30 be authorized to Harvey H. Stewart Company representing an over-run in contract dated August 9, 1950 in the amount of \$26,354.74 for improvements to Hillside Avenue, due to extra excavation being necessary at the bridge site. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried.

STREET RUNNING OFF PARKER DRIVE NAMED "SIMS DRIVE".

Councilman Jordan moved that an unnamed street running off Parker Drive be named "Sims Drive" as recommended by the City Engineer and Planning Board. The motion was seconded by Councilman Van Every, and unanimously carried.

REMOVAL OF TREES FROM PLANTING STRIP IN 1400 BLOCK OF SOUTH BOULEVARD AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried, Duke Power Company was authorized to remove 17 trees from the planting strip in front of their property in the 1400 block of South Boulevard, which interferes with the wiring to their substation, and they were requested to replace the trees with smaller trees.

RECOMMENDATION THAT THE NAME OF MCARTHUR STREET BE CHANGED TO ROOSEVELT STREET DEFERRED.

Motion was made by Councilman Boyd, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried, that the recommendation of the City Engineer and Planning Board to change the name of McArthur Street to Roosevelt Street be deferred until the meeting on August 29th.

Mayor Shaw appointed Councilmen Dellinger and Coddington to investigate the change in the street name.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SANITARY SEWERS.

Motion was made by Councilman Coddington, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried, authorizing the construction of new sanitary sewers at the following locations:

- (a) 203 feet of sewer in Oak Street, at an estimated cost of \$350.00, to serve 2 family units and 3 vacant lots. All costs to be borne by the City.
- (b) 112 feet of sewer in N. Davidson Street from E. 34th Street toward E. 35th Street, at an estimated cost of \$390.00, to serve 2 family units and 3 vacant lots. All costs to be borne by the City.
- (c) 169 feet of sewer in Lancaster Street, from Camden Road toward South View Street, at an estimated cost of \$250.00, to serve 2 business units and 3 vacant lots. All costs to be borne by the City.
- (d) 150 feet of sewer in Oehler Lane, at an estimated cost of \$375.00, to serve 1 family unit and 1 vacant lot. All costs to be borne by the City, and applicant's deposit of \$175.00 to be refunded as shown in contract.
- (e) 350 feet of sewer in Oehler Lane, at an estimated cost of \$730.00, to serve 3 vacant lots. All costs to be borne by the City and \$600.00 of applicant's deposit of the full amount to be refunded as per the contract.
- (f) 2,927 feet of sewer and trunk in Ashley Park, at an estimated cost of \$8,060.00, to serve 57 vacant lots. All costs to be borne by the City, and applicant's deposit of full amount to be refunded as per terms of the contract.

CONTRACT AWARDED INTERSTATE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR GENERAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE ANIMAL SHELTER.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and carried, a contract was awarded Interstate Construction Company for the general construction of the new Animal Shelter, at a lump sum price of \$14,037.00, the votes being cast as follows:

AYE: Councilmen Baxter, Coddington, Dellinger, Jordan and Van Every.

NAY: Councilman Boyd.

## CONTRACT AWARDED BURROUGHS ADDING MACHINE COMPANY FOR BOOKKEEPING MACHINE.

Motion was made by Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to Burroughs Adding Machine Company for One Bookkeeping Machine, at a net delivered price of \$2,241.90.

## CONTRACT AWARDED FORD METER BOX COMPANY FOR METER YOKES.

Councilman Jordan moved that contract be awarded Ford Meter Box Company, Inc., for 1,500 Meter Yokes, as specified, on a unit price basis, representing a net delivered price of \$4,992.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Baxter, and unanimously carried.

## CONSTRUCTION OF DRIVEWAY ENTRANCES.

The construction of new driveway entrances was authorized at the following locations upon motion of Councilman Coddington, seconded by Councilman Boyd, and unanimously carried:

- (a) One 10-ft. entrance at 1404-06 Euclid Avenue.
- (b) One 8-ft. entrance at 1349 Kings Drive.
- (c) One 8 ft. entrance at 2209 Bucknell Drive.
- (d) One 8 ft. entrance at 2033 Norton Road.
- (e) One 8 ft. entrance at 2035 Norton Road.
- (f) Two 3-ft. entrance extensions on present drives at 321 East 7th Street.

## SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT AUTHORIZED ISSUED TO G. W. WALLACE.

Councilman Dellinger moved that a Special Officer Permit be issued to Mr. G. W. Wallace, 422 West 17th Street, for use on the premises of Highland Park Manufacturing Company. The motion was seconded by Councilman Van Every, and unanimously carried.

## UNFIT HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT FOR JULY PRESENTED, AND DIRECTOR OF SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAM REQUESTED TO BE PRESENT AT MEETING ON AUGUST 29th WITH REGARDS TO AMENDING UNFIT HOUSING ORDINANCE WITH REGARD TO HOT WATER FACILITIES INSTALLATION.

The following Unfit Housing Progress Report for the month of July 1951 was presented by Mr. Ledbetter, Acting City Manager:

Inspections made	274
Number of Housing Units brought up to standard	252
Number of Property Owners cited for hearings	10
Number of Housing Units Condemned	8
Number of Bathing Facilities Installed	238

Councilman Coddington called attention that the present ordinance does not require that water heating facilities be provided in connection with the installation of bath-tubs or showers.

Following the discussion, Councilman Baxter moved that Mr. J. E. Ritch, Director of the Slum Clearance Program, be requested to attend the Council Meeting on August 29th and submit recommendations relative to the installations of water heating facilities in sub-standard houses. The motion was seconded by Councilman Coddington, and unanimously carried.

## TRANSFER OF CEMETERY LOTS.

Upon motion of Councilman Van Every, seconded by Councilman Coddington, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Clerk were authorized to execute deeds for the transfer of the following cemetery lots:

- (a) Deed with Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Alexander, for Lot 50, in Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at a price of \$208.00.
- (b) Deed with Mr. Marshall Pickens and wife, for Lot 40, in Section 4-A, Evergreen Cemetery, at a price of \$122.85.
- (c) Deed with Mr. Ivey Pickens and wife, for Lot 41, in Section 4-A, Evergreen Cemetery, at a price of \$122.85.

- (d) Deed with Mr. L. O. Canipe and wife, for Lot 292, in Section 4-A, Evergreen Cemetery, at a price of \$81.90.
- (e) Deed with Mrs. Julius Stroud, Sr., for Lot B, in front of rows #13 and #14, in Section A, North Pinewood Cemetery, at a price of \$81.90.
- (f) Deed with Mr. E. A. Terrell and wife for transfer of Lot-74 Fraction, in Section M, Elmwood Cemetery, from W. B. Fincher and wife, at a cost of \$1.00 for transfer.
- (g) Deed with Mr. E. A. Terrell and wife, for Perpetual Care on Lot #74-Fraction, in Elmwood Cemetery, at \$120.00.
- (h) Duplicate deed to Heirs of John Davidson, for Lot 56, in Section H. 9th Street Pinewood Cemetery, at \$1.00 for deed.

PLAT OF COUNTRY CLUB VILLAGE SUBDIVISION APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Boyd, and unanimously carried, approving the Plat of Country Club Village Subdivision, being developed by Mr. John K. Civil.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO ADDITIONAL BUS ROUTES TO SERVE MYERS PARK HIGH SCHOOL.

Mr. Ledbetter, Acting City Manager, presented a resolution with regard to the establishment of two additional bus routes to serve Myers Park High School which has been submitted by Duke Power Company for adoption, and which the City School Officials has approved. The resolution provides that the buses will operate on all school days on a trial basis for 60 calendar days, and if after the expiration of this trial period, or thereafter, the operation is not found to be economically feasible, the service will be discontinued.

The resolution was read, and upon motion of Councilman Boyd, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, was adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 1, at Page 421.

RESOLUTION COMMENDING L. L. LEDBETTER, CITY TREASURER, FOR FAITHFUL AND EFFICIENT SERVICE TO THE CITY DURING THIRTY YEARS TENURE OF OFFICE.

A resolution commending Mr. L. L. Ledbetter, City Treasurer, for his faithful and efficient service to the City of Charlotte during his thirty years tenure of office, was introduced by Councilman Boyd. Following the reading thereof, Councilman Van Every moved the adoption of the resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 1, at Page 422.

RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO REQUESTING THE STATE HIGHWAY & PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION TO WIDEN CENTRAL AVENUE FROM THE PLAZA TO THE CITY LIMITS, AND PLAZA ROAD FROM MECKLENBURG AVENUE TO 36TH STREET.

A resolution entitled, "Resolution Relative to Requesting the State Highway & Public Works Commission to Widen Central Avenue from The Plaza to the City Limits, and Plaza Road from Mecklenburg Avenue to 36th Street" was introduced by Councilman Boyd. (He stated that the funds for these improvements will come from the State Highway Fund and will in no way affect the Powell Act money. He stated further that with the Plaza Road widening, and the eventual improvements to 36th Street, a badly needed cross-town traffic artery will be provided.)

Following the presentation of the resolution and the discussion, Councilman Dellinger moved the adoption of the resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 1, at Page 423.

## REVIEW OF TRUCK ROUTE SURVEY SCHEDULED FOR COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 12th.

At the request of Mayor Shaw, the Traffic Engineer Mr. Herman Hoose was present to discuss the proposed truck route, which he stated has been endorsed by the local Truckers' Association.

Councilman Baxter suggested that the discussion be deferred until the survey report submitted to the Council by Mr. Hoose may be more thoroughly studied and the Councilmen be familiar with the routes proposed.

Mayor Shaw urged that the matter not be postponed indefinitely but that a definite date be fixed for a review of the proposals by Mr. Hoose.

Councilman Boyd moved that the report be given by Mr. Hoose at the Council Meeting on September 12th, and that persons interested in the matter be invited to attend the meeting. He asked that Mr. Paul Ervin, Attorney, representing residents of Graham Street who have expressed disapproval of the routing of trucks via Graham Street, be notified of the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Baxter, and unanimously carried.

## OFF-STREET PARKING SURVEY DISCUSSED.

At the invitation of Mayor Shaw, Mr. David Craig Chairman of the Parking Authority was present to discuss the off-street parking program. Mr. Craig stated that the Authority has made a complete study of the matter and can go no further without facts and figures which can only be obtained from a survey to determine the need for off-street parking; that the requested appropriation of \$3,500.00 for the survey was not allocated by the Council, and that he is present today at the suggestion of the Mayor to ask that the matter of the survey be clarified. He stated that the Authority desires that the Council authorize the survey or else tell them that the City does not intend to go further into the matter of parking.

Councilman Boyd stated that with all due respects, it was his impression that the Council made their intentions clear when funds were not allocated for the survey in the current budget.

Mr. Craig stated that the Authority did not construe the Council's action in that manner; however, if it is the thought of the entire Council that the Authority serves no useful purpose, then they will be glad to disband.

Mayor Shaw asked that no action be taken today and the members of the Authority continue their service.

Councilman Baxter moved that the statements made by Mr. Craig be accepted as information and that further study be given the matter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Van Every, and unanimously carried.

## RECOMMENDATION THAT UNANIMOUS CONSENT POLICY BE RESTORED AND INFORMAL SESSIONS IN MAYOR'S OFFICE BE RESUMED, DEFEATED.

Councilman Coddington recommended that the policy of considering items not listed on the agenda for Council Meetings only with unanimous consent of the Council be resumed; that under the previous policy Councilmen were given an opportunity to postpone action and give thorough study to a proposal before voting, instead of being forced to act hastily without proper consideration.

Councilman Van Every stated he was in favor of returning to the previous policy in order that one have an opportunity, if desired, of discussing proposals with interested citizens to secure their view point, which he believes would make for better government.

Councilman Boyd expressed vigorous objection to the suggestion, terming the "unanimous consent rule" as undemocratic and un-American when one member of the Council is able to block the consideration of a proposal.

Councilman Coddington also suggested and moved the adoption of the Council resuming the practice of holding informal sessions, of an hour or 30-minutes duration, in the Mayor's office prior to the public Council Meetings, in order that the Council may discuss together various matters affecting the City's operations; to give careful consideration to matters to be voted on at the formal sessions, and to better carry out the Councils' obligation to the citizens. The motion was seconded by Councilman Van Every.

Councilman Boyd protested the restoration of the practice, stating that he is opposed to any type of secret meetings and prefers that all matters pertaining to the City be discussed in open sessions.

Councilman Coddington contested the statement that the informal meetings in the Mayor's office were secret sessions, stating that the representatives of the press are invited to sit in on such sessions, and they are at liberty to quote him at any time.

Councilman Baxter recommended that the present plan of holding all Council sessions in the open be continued and given a fair trial for six months or a year, since the change to the present plan was only made recently.

The vote on Councilman Coddington's motion was then taken, and was lost, with the votes cast as follows:

AYE: Councilmen Coddington, Dellinger and Van Every.

NAY: Councilmen Baxter and Boyd.

Councilman Jordan had been called from the meeting prior to the time the motion was presented, and therefore did not cast a vote.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO THE REVISION OF THE PRIVILEGE LICENSE TAX SCHEDULE.

Mayor Shaw stated that in view of the several protests relative to inequities in the Privilege License Tax fees, he would appoint a special committee to study the present schedule and make recommendations relative to revisions prior to the drafting of the new schedule of fees for the fiscal year 1952-53. He then appointed Councilmen Baxter, Van Every and Boyd as the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

  
City Clerk