

December 2, 1977
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 Organizational Meeting

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, met in special session on Friday, December 2, 1977, at 2:00 o'clock p. m., in the Board Room of the Educational Center for the organizational meeting, with Mayor John M. Belk presiding and Councilmembers Betty Chafin, Harvey B. Gantt, Pat Locke, James B. Whittington, Neil C. Williams and Joe D. Withrow present.

ABSENT: Councilman Louis M. Davis.

* * * * *

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Dr. Douglas W. Oldenburg, minister of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Locke, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously, minutes of the meetings of November 21 and November 28, 1977 were approved as submitted.

REPORT OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

The City Clerk presented the report of the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections as follows:

The Municipal Election was held on Tuesday, November 8, 1977. The following votes were cast for Mayor of the City of Charlotte, and Council Members of the City of Charlotte:

FOR MAYOR

James B. (Jim) Whittington (D)	19,491	
Ken Harris (R)	30,789	Elected

FOR CITY COUNCIL

At-Large

Betty Chafin (D)	29,050	Elected
Harvey B. Gantt (D)	27,593	Elected
John W. Harding (D)	12,744	
Milton Short (D)	24,472	Elected
Louis M. Davis (R)	22,673	
George Godwin (R)	12,414	
Pat Locke (R)	23,562	Elected
James B. (Jim) Rowe (R)	13,491	

District 1

Don Carroll (D)	2,827	Elected
Paul A. Horne (R)	676	

District 2

Charlie Dannelly (D)	3,434	Elected
W. S. (Sammy) Hamrick, Jr. (R)	756	

District 3

Ron Leeper (D)	2,047	Elected
Lilian P. McGrath (R)	1,356	

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District 4

Laura Frech (D)	3,422	Elected
Ted Arrington (R)	2,068	

District 5

Billie W. Stickel (D)	2,792	
Minette Conrad Trosch (R)	4,016	Elected

District 6

Kimm Jolly (D)	5,017	
George Selden (R)	5,171	Elected

District 7

Ray Tobias (D)	2,589	
Tom Cox (R)	9,035	Elected

REMARKS BY MAYOR BELK AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Mayor Belk stated that at a time like this you are bound to have mixed emotions and expressed thanks to the people who were present for making Charlotte the greatest city in America. That Charlotte has been very fortunate in the leaders she has had in the past; that three of the former Mayors are present - Ben Douglas, Phil Van Every and Stan Brookshire. Our city has been very progressive and he is sure the new Mayor and Council will continue this kind of leadership.

Mayor Belk shared with the audience the words of the Athenian Oath which have inspired him as a public servant:

"We will never bring disgrace to this city, by any act of dishonesty or cowardice, nor ever desert our suffering comrades in the ranks; we will fight for the ideal and sacred things of the city, both alone and with many; we will revere and obey the city's laws and do our best to incite a like respect in those above us who are prone to annul or set them at naught; we will strive unceasingly to quicken the public's sense of civic duty. Thus, in all these ways, we will transmit the city not only, not less, but greater and more beautiful than it was transmitted to us."

Mayor Belk stated he has considered his duties as Mayor more of a privilege than an obligation; and it is with pride that he has served. That it has been his privilege to have served with members of the City Council:

Betty Chafin - A scholar, politician, and a positive link between town and gown.

Councilwoman Chafin stated her remarks are to the four gentlemen present who will be leaving Council. That each of them have made significant contributions to this City, but more importantly to her, each of them has given her something in a very human way.

From Mayor pro tem Whittington, she has learned patience. For someone young and sometimes brash, that is an important quality. She has also learned from him the art of compromise which is the art of politics. That she believes that politics is, in fact, a noble calling. It is not a bag of dirty tricks; it is what makes government happen; it is what makes government respond to people. She has seen Councilman Whittington's dedication over the years; he has given a lot to Charlotte; she knows that he cares about Charlotte, that he cares about this City Council, that he will continue to serve Charlotte. She stated she hopes we can call upon him in the future for his sage guidance and advice.

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From Councilman Withrow she has also gained a lot. He has given to this Council, and to her personally, another very important quality - humor. Councilman Withrow has taught her that things are usually not as intense or as serious as they seem at the moment, and as she sometimes wants to make them. She has also gained from him the attention to the needs of the West side of our community. Mr. Withrow was elected to this City Council out of his concern for the Westside; that it has been a neglected area; that this Council has attuned itself to some of the needs of the area and she knows it will in the future. She has enjoyed very much serving with Councilman Withrow and the relationship she has had with him and the ability to communicate with him.

She stated the Good Lord was really taking care of her when He made sure that in her first term as a Council Member she was seated beside Councilman Neil Williams. He knew that Neil Williams and she were both Methodists and He knew that they both had graduated from Reynolds High School in Winston-Salem, so He knew they had to have something in common. She stated when she first came on Council she thought she knew a lot more than she really did; that when she discovered all the things that she did not know, she experienced some frustration. But Neil Williams was beside her, giving her the support that she needed, sharing with her the experiences that he had had only two years before as a new Council Member. That he is a very caring person, he is able to analyze some of the more complex problems and issues that they face as City Council Members, and bring logic at many times to what appears to be chaos and confusion.

Councilwoman Chafin stated that John Belk has not been a good Mayor - he has been a great Mayor! That he is probably more responsible than any person in this city for the tremendous revitalization that has occurred in our uptown area. We have seen dramatic change over the last eight years and Mayor Belk has been, often behind the scenes, making all this happen. He has also left the city with the best possible credit rating that we could have - a fine example of executive leadership. That several weeks ago she attended one of the several "John Belk Roasts" in which Mayor Belk's nephew said "John Belk has been Charlotte's best friend." That also several weeks ago when a number of the city officials were in Houston, Texas, she made the comment that "John Belk has been Charlotte's chief cheerleader." She cannot think of any finer tribute to a city than to be able to say about our mayor, "He has been our best friend and our chief cheerleader." That when she looks around the group and realizes that Councilmembers Locke and Gantt and herself are the only ones continuing, she is a little scared; then she turns behind her and sees the outstanding group of new people coming on and she feels very excited and very challenged.

Harvey Gantt - A very articulate Council Member, a very concerned and dedicated public servant.

Councilman Gantt stated one of the things that occurred to him while Councilwoman Chafin was speaking was that the two of them have been together on many of the issues over the last two years; that there will be an eleven-member Council now and that the Mayor always got a little edgy sometimes when the meetings tended to go to some length largely due to his ability to try to be articulate to the rest of Council. He also spoke of the dedication and concern for Charlotte of the outgoing Councilmembers. That sometimes we, as citizens, tend to forget that when their views are contrary to ours. He can attest to the fact that having served here for three years, he never once had the feeling that the men who are retiring did not have Charlotte's best interest at heart. That is a comforting feeling when one goes to bed at night, to know that they are concerned. That he cannot add anything to what Councilwoman Chafin has said about Councilmen Whittington, Withrow, Williams and Mayor Belk except to say that those who will be carrying on will have big shoes to fill and great responsibilities in front of them. It causes you to pause and wonder whether you have the stuff to make it go.

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Councilman Gantt stated he is also reassured when he looks behind him and sees the very, very sharp people who are beginning new terms on Council; that there is probably something about the American system of democracy - there is a genius in it - that allows us to have the kind of continuity we are about to see. That speaks well for Charlotte; it speaks well for America. He is proud to have had the opportunity to serve the last three years with Councilmen Whittington, Withrow, Williams and Davis (who is not present) and Mayor John Belk; he looks forward to the opportunity of serving with Mayor-elect Harris and other members of Council.

Pat Locke - A leader in COG and Common Cause and basically a consumer advocate.

Councilwoman Locke expressed her thanks to the citizens who felt she would be able to serve this community again. It was very rewarding to her. She also thanked those who served in her campaign - Angie DeVivo, Dot Presser Furr, Ray Hoffer, David Anderson and Bill Williamson. Most of all, her boys, who were her "wives" during the campaign - they washed her clothes and kept the house clean and kept her fed; they took her this place and that place and criticized her heavily which she probably deserved sometimes. But, they were the mainstay of her campaign and she is very grateful for their help.

She asked the citizens of Charlotte to be patient with the new City Council. She stated this great city has a long way to go, but we must remember that we have come a long way. That the Council Members must work together to see the good of the whole of Charlotte is served. That during the next two years they will see dissent; that she would remind them that dissent is not a bad thing, it brings about compromise through deliberation. That during the next two years they must address many critical issues with this inexperienced Council. They must look to a referendum for the airport expansion; they must ask the voters to give them the opportunity to use property tax dollars to subsidize the bus system; they must face head-on the issue of consolidation and let the voters decide.

She stated this Council can work together to solve common problems, even when they disagree. This will truly be two years of democracy in action. She says farewell to her leaving colleagues; welcome aboard to the new colleagues. She knows the next two years will be a grand experience.

Mayor Belk stated he is sorry that Councilman Louis Davis is not present; that he has been a very dedicated and a very concerned member of Council. Councilman Gantt stated that Mr. Davis called at the last minute to say he would not be able to attend because of some unforeseen business; that he wished everyone well.

Neil Williams - Also a very dedicated Council Member, very sincere in all decisions he has made, and a frustrated poet.

Councilman Williams stated advice is worth about what you pay for it. He feels a little as though he has heard his own obituary. He asked to be indulged for one last time of rumination. By way of a general observation about politics, he thinks it is the game of life magnified a hundredfold or more. There is all the joy of victory and all the disappointment of losing; all the frustration of striving and not succeeding sometimes; and the exultation when you are successful. There is also the element of luck and chance that you see a lot of in politics over which you have no control, but that is also part of life.

He stated he feels very fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve on this Council and to participate in local government; that it makes a person more aware, certainly, of how his local government operates; it makes a person more aware of the different problems different people have and how they sometimes conflict with each other. Another thing is that people seem to expect so much of you that sometimes you try to live up to their expectations and in so doing you actually perform better than you are sometimes

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capable of. You hear that in athletics when an athlete is said to be playing ball over his head. He stated people have said to him they are sorry he has to spend so much time on this and have apologized for intruding on his busy routine. He will tell them that he has not ever felt like a martyr about this job; it has been a great privilege for him to be part of it and he is very grateful to everyone who had anything to do with making it possible for him to have the job - his family, certainly; and his friends and a lot of unknown people who have given so much support and good will. It sometimes makes him feel a little bit inadequate.

He stated the past Council has been a good Council. Some of the people who debated with him during the district representation debates said that it was a bit ironic they felt that the district system would come about while this Council was sitting because they generally thought this Council was doing a pretty good job. He stated he feels the new Council will have a challenge to live up to, but he is confident when he looks at them that they will do a good job because they are very reasonable and intelligent people; he is glad to be able to turn his seat over to them.

Joe Withrow - A builder, developer, military leader, and a great family man.

Councilman Withrow expressed appreciation for having run on the ballot with Mayor Belk - the Mayor was first and he was last on the ballot. He also expressed his appreciation to the other Council Members for their kind words. He stated that citizens should call their Council Members and praise them for some of the good things that they do, the things that they appreciate. If they have ideas, call the Council Members and give them those ideas; that when people are elected to the City Council they do not become any smarter than they were before they were elected. A lot of the good ideas that would help this city are out in the citizenry; and those ideas could come into fruition if they were given to the elected officials.

He has learned in his eight and a half years on the City Council to be patient, to be understanding, with people. That if you want to know how a person feels about anything, if you can take time to project yourself into his shoes and look over his shoulders and through his eyes, things do not look the same to you. That he has tried to do. Although he was not for district representation, when he looks at this next Council he thinks it will work; he is going to expect a lot of the new City Council; he is going to call them too, and give them some ideas; and he is going to call them when he thinks they are doing a good job. He hopes this city goes forward.

Jim Whittington - Excellent leader of Council, dedicated politician and public servant. Has helped the young, the handicapped and many others. Has never been too busy to see anyone.

Councilman Whittington stated that to say this is not a difficult time for him would not be true. The truth is that the past 18 years have been very exciting, very frustrating, very challenging, but more importantly, very rewarding. He thanked the 19,491 people who voted for him; and stated to the people who did not that he understands. That the most gratifying thing that has happened to him in these 18 years has been what this city has accomplished and he is grateful that he had a part in those accomplishments. He stated to the other Councilmembers that they have made a real contribution to this city and he is sure the people appreciate it. To his friend, Mayor-elect Harris and to the new Council, he stated the game that they will be playing will not only be worth the candle it will be worth the whole bonfire. If he can help them he wants to do that.

To Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, he stated he appreciates everything that he has done as well as all of the department heads and the 2,000 or more people who work for the City. Every one of them have helped him to be a

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reasonably good City Councilman. That what makes this government so extremely good and efficient is that they work together as a team and no one is trying to be the quarterback. They know the job that is to be done and they do it. Anything that he has accomplished as a member of City Council has been because of the people who work for the City. It has also been because of the people in the room today and the people who live in this City who love it as he does.

The Mayor presented each of the outgoing Council members with a plaque symbolic of his term of office. Councilwoman Locke presented Councilman Whittington with a tape recording of tributes and good wishes from a number of his friends and supporters.

Councilman Whittington stated it has been his good fortune to sit on the right of John Belk for six of the eight years that he has been Mayor of this city. That when he came to City Hall as Mayor he was as nervous as he himself was the day he announced for Mayor several months ago. He stated John Belk has been an excellent mayor; that wherever he went and to whomever he talked he always said how fortunate he was to live in this city. He has been an inspiration to the people who live here. He will be needed in this city in the future and he hopes he will not retire and will continue to help the city as he has all of his adult life.

Councilman Whittington asked that Mrs. Claudia Belk and Mary Claudia join the Mayor as he presented him with a pictorial account of his years in office from members of City Council.

The three former mayors were recognized and each spoke a few words of thanks to the outgoing officials and good wishes to the new Mayor and City Council.

Mayor Belk again thanked the City Council members with whom he had served and asked for a moment of silence in memory of the late Councilmembers Pat Calhoun and Sandy Jordan.

Mayor Belk commended City Attorney Henry Underhill for his service to the City, stating he is the finest attorney for local government that anyone could have and he has seen a lot of them throughout the country; that he is glad he is our City Attorney.

He stated to City Manager David Burkhalter that he is an outstanding City Manager; that his peers who elected him head of International City Managers should have made that designation a permanent one. He recognized Mrs. Burkhalter also.

To Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk, he expressed appreciation for her patience, stating she would make an outstanding judge; that she has kept them in line, has never fallen asleep even with some of the long Council meetings. He thanked her for her dedication; he will miss saying to her "What is next?"

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KNIGHT OF THE QUEEN CITY AWARD PRESENTED TO MRS. KENNETH HARRIS.

Mayor Belk recognized Mrs. Kenneth (Sally) Harris, and presented her with the Knight of the Queen City Award. He stated this is the last time he will be able to present this award, and it gives him great pleasure to present it to the First Lady, Mrs. Sally Harris.

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO KENNETH HARRIS, MAYOR-ELECT.

Mayor Belk administered the Oath of Office to Kenneth R. Harris, Mayor-elect of the City of Charlotte at 3:05 p.m..

ENGRAVED GAVEL PRESENTED TO JOHN M. BELK IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICE AS MAYOR OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

Mayor Harris stated if anyone tried to count all of John Belk's accomplishments, it would take up the rest of the afternoon. He has looked over some of the many things, including the annexation of over 100,000 people, during his tenure of office.

Mayor Harris stated he will never be able to come up with the wit and humor John Belk has, but he will try to come up to his leadership.

He then presented the engraved gavel to John Belk in recognition of his service to the City of Charlotte as Mayor from May 19, 1969 until December 2, 1977.

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO COUNCIL-ELECT.

Mayor Harris administered the Oath of Office to the Council-elect at 3:10 p.m., as follows: Don Carroll, District 1; Betty Chafin, At-large; Thomas Cox, Jr., District 7; Charlie Dannelly, District 2, Laura Frech, District 4; Harvey B. Gantt, At-large; Ron Leeper, District 3; Pat Locke, At-large; George K. Selden, Jr., District 6; Minette Conrad Trosch, District 5; and H. Milton Short, Jr., At-large.

COUNCILWOMAN BETTY CHAFIN ELECTED AS MAYOR PRO TEM.

Councilman Gantt stated it gives him a great deal of pleasure to nominate a young lady who has served very well as a Councilmember of the City of Charlotte for the past two years, and the voters of this community expressed their love and support of her for the efforts she undertook as a Councilmember.

Councilman Gantt placed in nomination the name of Miss Betty Chafin as Mayor pro tem of the City Council. The nomination was seconded by Councilwoman Locke.

Councilman Selden moved the nominations be closed, which motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

The vote was taken on the nomination of Councilwoman Chafin as Mayor pro tem, and carried unanimously.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR HARRIS.

Mayor Harris stated for the last hour or so everyone has heard of the qualities of the leaders of the City for the past couple of years and going back over a decade. That they can see the leadership qualities which Council will have to live up to.

He stated he will ask Council, in their duties here as members of this Council, to take their responsibilities very seriously, but not to take themselves too seriously; to live and laugh a little bit and enjoy their services to the City.

Mayor Harris stated if they can do that, then they can acknowledge that they are good listeners as well as people with action in mind in the way of serving our city. That if they can all do that, then they can do a good job.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR PRO TEM CHAFIN.

Mayor pro tem Chafin stated she would like to thank Council for their vote of confidence in her. That she realizes she has very big shoes to fill and she will do her best to fill them.

She introduced several of her friends and campaign staff members and stated there are many, many others who supported her and were active in her campaign and that she is deeply grateful to all of them. She stated she would like to thank all the voters in the City of Charlotte for giving her the opportunity to serve them for two more years.

MAYOR HARRIS INTRODUCES MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY.

Mayor Harris introduced Mrs. Harris and three of their children, his mother-in-law, Mrs. Mary Seamons, and other members of his family.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMAN GANTT.

Councilman Gantt stated it is going to be a pleasure serving with Mayor Harris and the other ten members of Council. That he looks forward to giving his very best. He stated he is excited about what the future holds for Charlotte and feels that Council, as a group pulling together, can make a difference.

He thanked all who supported his re-election efforts and the citizens of Charlotte for what they have done and he will continue to try to do his best.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILWOMAN LOCKE.

Councilwoman Locke stated she will look forward to the next two years with great enthusiasm.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMAN SHORT.

Councilman Short stated he is reluctant to start introducing all those who are present who helped him in his campaign but he would like to thank a great many people in the audience who helped him a great deal. He introduced his mother, Mrs. H. M. Short and his daughter, Mrs. Smith Patterson.

He stated a good many years ago, Mr. Bill Veeder, who was the City Manager then, was telling the new City Council about the needs of Charlotte; he was saying Charlott was lacking here, not in good shape here and falling behind here, and soforth. Afterwards Mayor John Belk, in his own inimitable language, summed it up by saying it looks like Charlotte is getting behind on its future.

That it seems to him when a City does not do what it can to realize its potential, then that is a pretty good way to put it. That the town is getting behind on its future and the citizens of that town are going to suffer for it.

He stated they really do not care about what Atlanta and other cities do - that we do not need to be like them and do not want to be like them. But the comparison that this Council needs to make is what we are doing as compared to what we could do and what this City could do if it achieved its entire potential. That this should be the challenge for this Council and he would hope that this new Council can meet this challenge as well as the four "Belk" Councils and other Council under earlier Mayors.

Councilman Short stated he would hope this Council will aggressively debate and argue all sides of decisions it will have to make and then, after the decision is finally made, he would hope that members of this Council will close rank and go forward behind whatever side is the winner - without taking continuing potshot at an accomplished fact, like the Civic Center, or the Civic Center Authorities. That just because a Councilmember was not in favor of it at the outset, which weakens the effectiveness of the Council, he thinks this is a poor way to run a City. That as one who has been here for a number of years and is still hanging around, he would suggest to the new Councilmembers to debate the issues in ^{the} best and most intelligent way that they can and then close rank and go ahead behind the winning side.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMAN CARROLL.

Councilman Carroll stated he would like to take this opportunity to thank all of his friends and supporters, the people in District One and the people of Charlotte, for their support and the work that has been involved and the fact that he is here today.

He stated he is very thankful for the experience he has had so far. That it has been tremendously rewarding, and that has been because of the people who have made that process what it is.

That in the past few months, he has gotten to know all the people sitting before them and they are a great bunch. He stated he is awed by the responsibility of being a Councilmember but he looks forward to working with these people, to moving ahead and he is excited about the prospects.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMAN DANNELLY.

Councilman Dannelly thanked all of the members of his campaign committee. He asked them to stand and be recognized.

He introduced his wife, Mrs. Rose Dannelly and his son, Chuckie.

Councilman Dannelly stated he would like to say to the citizens of District Two, who have shown confidence in him by virtue of his being here and to all of Charlotte, that he will do his utmost to serve the needs of Charlotte and the concerns of the citizens and he will try to serve with distinction

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMAN LEEPER.

Councilman Leeper stated he considered it a real challenge to just learn the trait of being as long-winded as some of the previous Council and he feels some of the new members are already learning the practice.

He stated he would like to thank all of his supporters. He introduced his wife, his mother and brother and asked them to stand.

Councilman Leeper stated he considers this a real challenge and accepts the responsibility of trying to serve the entire citizenry of Charlotte. That he hopes to see the citizens appearing before Council, addressing their concerns. He hopes to be one of the most accessible Councilmembers that Charlotte has ever had.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILWOMAN FRECH.

Councilwoman Frech stated it is exciting to become part of Charlotte's government, but it is also with a sense of awe that she accepts this responsibility; the responsibility of making decisions for the people of Charlotte - decisions that will affect our future for good or for ill.

She stated she is well aware that it is a lot easier to sit in the audience with no responsibility, and criticize what is being done. That she is already becoming very aware of how difficult it can be to make the type of decisions they will be called upon to make.

Councilwoman Frech stated she would like to express appreciation for the good things and hard work that the previous City Council has done. She feels deeply honored that the people in District Four chose her to represent them on Council. They said they wanted a representative who would listen, learn and try to do what seems best for the entire city. She stated she will work very hard to carry out this mandate and knows they will help her by sharing their thoughts and ideas with her over the next two years.

She stated running for office is a unique experience. That during the campaign, she acquired a very large group of new friends - her campaign workers. They became like family. She stated for three months her campaign workers worked and in some cases, they almost lived together and the work they did was outstanding. Somedays she wondered if she would survive and she has not yet figured out how they survived.

She introduced her Campaign Manager, Nona Thompson, and her Co-Campaign Manager, Jackie Frost. She stated every candidate knows you feel a debt of gratitude to the people who helped to put you in office. There is just about no way you can repay - you can only say thank you very much. She looks forward to serving the people of District Four and the City.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILWOMAN TROSCH.

Councilwoman Trosch stated she sits in awe and humility, knowing the road traveled to this chair was not gained by her alone - but by many, many friends and supporters who worked many hours in her behalf. She stated there are many names she would like to call, but time prohibits it. That she would like to sincerely thank each and every one who gave their hours of support, caring and concern as active citizens in the City of Charlotte.

She introduced her mother, father, sister and two of her children.

Councilwoman Trosch thanked the citizens and pledged two years to Charlotte.

She then introduced her husband.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMAN SELDEN.

Councilman Selden introduced his wife and thanked her for supporting him and also the many people throughout District Six and many beyond the boundaries of District Six who believed in him.

He stated he would like to pledge to the people in District Six and to the people in the rest of Charlotte that he will work with the ten other members of Council in striving for a continually improving Charlotte.

COMMENTS BY COUNCILMAN COX.

Councilman Cox stated no one really knows, unless they have been through this, how physically and emotionally draining this kind of experience can be for the past three or four months. He stated no one really knows unless they sit on Council how much responsibility they feel. He thanked his father, Mr. Tox Cox, Sr. and his wife, Mrs. Millie Cox, for their help.

Councilman Cox stated he is sitting here because he loves Charlotte and wants to keep Charlotte a great place to live. That we are changing the form of government by which we arrived at the state we are in today.

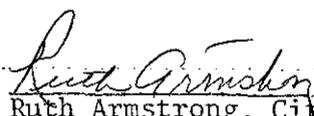
That he does not feel, however, knowing these people, that we are changing the spirit - we are just changing the numbers. There is nothing more American than District Representation - the thing we have to do is to pull ourselves together as the early thirteen states did - into a single, unified body that works for the City as a whole. He stated he commits himself for the next two years to accomplish this.

BENEDICTION BY REVEREND GEORGE BATTLE.

Mayor Harris called on Reverend George Battle for the benediction.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Gantt, seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.


Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk