

SPECIAL MEETING  
 December 23, 1947  
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A special meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Tuesday, December 23, 1947, at 10 o'clock a.m., due notice having been given each Councilman in accordance with the requirements of the City Charter. Mayor Baxter presided, and Councilmen Albea, Childs, DeLaney, Jordan, Lambeth, McKee and White were present.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

PURPOSE OF MEETING.

Mayor Baxter stated the meeting had been called for the purpose of considering the purchase of sufficient quantities of fuel oil, including kerosene, to alleviate the suffering of citizens and to take such action in connection therewith as may be expedient and necessary.

The Mayor stated that the oil companies had cooperated to the best of their ability in supplying fuel oil to the consumers, but the emergency had now reached such proportions that the Governing Body must act to relieve the suffering of citizens from lack of fuel oil for heating and cooking. He stated that within the past few days since the emergency calls have been tabulated, 1,500 families have indicated their need for fuel oil, and the oil companies have been able to supply only 2,500 gallons per day. That on the basis of supplying the needs of even these 1,500 families with 50 gallons of oil every two weeks, the demand will be 75,000 gallons of oil.

He stressed the responsibility of the Governing Body of a municipality to its citizens, particularly in a time of needs, as now exists.

Mayor Baxter complimented Mr. Yancey, City Manager, for having proposed the plan as outlined in the resolution which was now presented and read.

RESOLUTION - FINDING AN EMERGENCY TO  
 EXIST - PROVIDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF  
 FUEL OIL.

WHEREAS, it is cold and many of our citizens are without means of heating their homes and cooking their food, and

WHEREAS, there is grave danger of illness and the welfare of the City of Charlotte is in danger.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Charlotte in special meeting assembled:

Section 1: That it is hereby found as a fact that an emergency exists in the City of Charlotte and within one mile beyond the city limits in that many of our people are without fuel with which to heat their homes and/or cook their food, and the general health and welfare of our City is in danger.

Section 2: That the Mayor and the City Manager be, and they are hereby, authorized in the name of the City of Charlotte -

(a) To purchase fuel oil, including kerosene, during the existence of the present emergency;

(b) To set up ways and means of distributing the same to our citizens and those within one mile of our city limits or residing upon city property, in an equitable and fair manner to insure no discrimination among those of our citizens whose health is in danger;

(c) To provide for the collection from such citizens moneys to defray the cost of such fuel as and when sold and delivered, and to prohibit profiteering in connection therewith.

Section 3: That there is hereby appropriated \$20,000.00 from the Emergency Fund and/or unappropriated surplus with which to purchase said fuel, and the City Accountant is directed to set up a special account with reference to this emergency program.

Section 4: That when the emergency ceases to exist such fund shall be closed and moneys therein shall be transferred to the Emergency Fund and/or unappropriated surplus of the City of Charlotte.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

John D. Shaw  
 City Attorney

Councilman White moved the adoption of the resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea.

Upon the request of Councilman White, the legal position of the City in the matter was explained in detail by Mr. Shaw, City Attorney.

Following a general discussion of the emergency and the details covered in the resolution, together with the method of handling the distribution of the fuel oil, a vote was taken on the motion, and was unanimously carried, and the resolution was adopted.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman DeLaney, seconded by Councilman Jordan, the meeting was adjourned.

Lillian R. Hoffman  
 City Clerk