

December 8, 1948
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A regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4 p.m., on Wednesday, December 8, 1948, with Mayor Baxter presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Childs, Jordan, McKee, DeLaney and White present,

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman McKee, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the last meeting, on December 1st, were approved as submitted.

REGULATIONS FOR TAXICAB COMPANIES WITH REGARD TO (1) ADEQUATE TELEPHONE SERVICE TO PUBLIC. (2) FIXING CAB RATES, AND. (3) INSTALLATION OF TAXICAB METERS.

Opposition to the proposed requirement for Call System for taxicab companies and the installation of taxi-meters, was expressed by Mr. Uhlman Alexander, Attorney representing individual operators of cabs for Victory Cab Company, Mr. Ralph V. Kidd, representing the Victory Cab Company and Mr. Paul Erwin, representing Red Top Cab Company.

It was pointed out by these attorneys that the cost of installing telephone systems, and, also, taxi-meters would be prohibitive, and that the meters could not be secured at this time. It was stated that these cab companies receive their support from cruising pickups and the Call System will not serve the general public as under the cruising system. Mr. Erwin proposed that Taxi Stands be allowed at hotels and/or at curb spaces in the uptown area.

Mr. Brock Barkley, attorney for the Yellow Cab Company, stated this was the only taxi company in the city that would be affected by the proposed change to a 50 cent rate from the present rates of 50 cents inside the city and 75 cents beyond. He requested that should the requirement for taximeters be adopted that the present rate schedule be left in force until the effective date for the meter installations. He expressed the opinion that the Call Service rendered by the Yellow Cab Company was meeting the demand of the public under ordinary conditions, but that no utility or public carrier could meet such demand during peak hours.

Mr. Woods Morgan requested Council approval of the formation of a new taxicab company particularly for negroes. He stated the present service to negroes was inadequate.

Following the discussion, Councilman White presented the following resolution, and after it's reading moved the adoption thereof. Motion was seconded by Councilman DeLaney, and unanimously carried:

RESOLUTION WITH RESPECT TO ADEQUATE
TELEPHONE SERVICE TO PUBLIC BY TAXICAB
COMPANIES.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE:

That all Taxicab Companies shall furnish adequate telephone service to the public, and be prepared to answer calls, on or before February 1, 1949, as a condition of the renewal of their Certificate of Convenience and Necessity.

The following ordinance was then presented by Councilman Childs, who moved it's adoption following the reading thereof. Motion was seconded by Councilman White, and unanimously carried:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TAXICAB
ORDINANCE FIXING TAXICAB FARES.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE:

Section I. That the request of the taxicab franchise holders in the City of Charlotte for increase of fares in taxicab rates be and the same is hereby denied.

Section II. That Chapter 3, Article 3, Section 17 of the City Code of the City of Charlotte (O.B.10) be and the same is hereby amended by changing the period at the end thereof to a comma and inserting "provided that the taxicab fare in the territory comprising the City of Charlotte January 1, 1949, be and the same shall not exceed 50¢."

Section III. That the ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after January 1, 1949.

Councilman Jordan then introduced the following ordinance, and following the reading thereof, moved it's adoption. Motion was seconded by Councilman McKee, and carried, with the following votes cast:

AYE: Councilmen Childs, DeLaney, Jordan, McKee and White.
NAY: Councilman Albea.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TAXICAB ORDINANCE
OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE CHANGING THE
EFFECTIVE DATE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF
TAXICAB METERS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE:

Section 1. That Chapter 3, Article 4, Section 24 of the City Code of the City of Charlotte (O.B.10) entitled, "Taximeters", be, and the same is hereby amended by striking out January 1, 1947 (as amended January 1, 1949) and substituting in lieu thereof July 1, 1949.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption.

Mr. R. E. Crump, President, Yellow Cab Company, protested the reduction in rate of 75 cents for the perimeter area, ~~He stated that in his~~ business would be badly crippled by the reduction in rate to 50 cents and it would cost him from \$35,000 to \$50,000 to maintain service to the perimeter area until the installation of meters July 1st. He urged that no change be made in the rate at the present time, and stated he could put meters in his cabs at any time the Council required.

Mayor Baxter, and several Councilmen, assured the Taxicab Company representatives that it was not the desire of Council to injure them in any way, but rather to cooperate with them, while at the same time protecting the interest of the public. Mayor Baxter requested the Yellow Cab Company to file briefs immediately in support of their claim that the change in rates as of January 1, 1949 would bring serious injury to them; that the Council would be glad to review the brief at their meeting next week.

PAYMENT TO CHARLOTTE REAL ESTATE BOARD FROM EMERGENCY FUND FOR APPRAISAL OF STATESVILLE AVENUE PROPERTY.

Motion was made by Councilman DeLaney, seconded by Councilman McKee, and unanimously carried, authorizing the payment of \$114.00, from the Emergency Fund, to the Charlotte Real Estate Board for appraisal of property on Statesville Avenue.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR PUBLIC LETTING ON A LEASE ON A PART OF THE STATESVILLE AVENUE PROPERTY OF THE CITY.

A resolution entitled, "Resolution Authorizing Advertisement for Public Letting on a Lease on a Part of the Statesville Avenue Property of the City" was introduced by Councilman White, who moved it's adoption. Motion was seconded by Councilman McKee, and unanimously carried. Resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 1, at Page 150.

PAYMENT OF ANNUAL SERVICE FEE TO UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman White, and unanimously carried, payment of \$500.00 Annual Service Fee was authorized to the United States Conference of Mayors.

CONTRACT WITH M. LEE HEATH FOR WATER MAINS IN CRAIG AVENUE AND RICHLAND DRIVE.

Motion was made by Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman McKee, and unanimously carried, authorizing a contract with Mr. M. Lee Heath for water mains construction in Craig Avenue and Richland Drive, at an estimated cost of \$1,072.00, to serve 12 building lots. Construction costs to be borne by the applicant, and the City to maintain and operate said lines for the revenue produced.

CONTRACT WITH E. F. CRAVEN COMPANY FOR REPAIR PARTS FOR TRACTOR.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried, a contract was authorized with E. F. Craven Company for repair parts for the Allis-Chalmers Tractor, in the amount of \$287.30 f.o.b. shipping point.

CEMETERY DEEDS TRANSFERRED.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman DeLaney, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Clerk were authorized to execute deeds for the transfer of the following Cemetery lots:

- (a) Deed to Mrs. Parks M. King, for Lot 286, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$81.90.
- (b) Deed to Mrs. Mary P. Thomas for perpetual care on south half of Lot 139, Section S, Elmwood Cemetery, at \$72.00.
- (c) Transfer of southeast quarter of Lot 49, Section Q, Elmwood Cemetery, to S. K. Bennett by Mrs. S. V. Upchurch - cost of transfer \$1.00.
- (d) New Deed to Mrs. S. V. Upchurch for southwest quarter of Lot 59, Section Q, Elmwood Cemetery - cost of new deed \$1.00.

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion was made by Councilman DeLaney, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, adjourning the meeting.

Lucian R. Huffman
City Clerk