

JOINT MEETING

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A joint meeting of the City Council and Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, having been duly called, was held in the Mayor's Office City Hall, at 3:15 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, February 28, 1945.

Mayor Baxter presided and the following members of the City Council were present: Messrs. Albea, Atkins, Baker, Cope, Daughtry, Hovis, Painter, Slye and Ward.

Present for the County: Chairman McAden, Commissioners McDonald, McEwen and Porter.

PURPOSE OF MEETING.

Mayor Baxter stated the meeting had been called to discuss the proposed Library legislation and approve a Bill authorizing an election to provide funds to construct a new Library jointly with the County, and to provide for the annual maintenance thereof by tax levy.

EXPLANATION OF PROVISIONS OF BILLS.

County Attorney, C. D. Taliferro and City Attorney, C. W. Tillett, explained the provisions of the Bill as drawn by Attorney H. I. McDougale, which authorizes the County and City to call an election to issue bonds in a sum not to exceed \$300,000.00 each for the construction of a new library, and authorizing each government to levy a tax not to exceed five cents for library maintenance.

A companion Bill was also approved that provided that in the event the bond elections and maintenance levies were successful, that a Library Board be created to administer the affairs of the library, said board to consist of eight members, namely: the Mayor, Chairman of the Board of Mecklenburg County Commissioners, Superintendent of both the City and County Boards of Education, and two members to be named by both the City Council and the Board of County Commissioners; the Library Board to elect its own Treasurer, and monies for maintenance thereof to be turned over by the City and County to said Board.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED BILLS.

Councilman Atkins moved that the Bill as presented, with minor changes made at this joint session, be presented to Legislature for passage. Motion seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried.

APPOINTMENT OF JOINT LIBRARY COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE SITES FOR LIBRARY.

Commissioner McDonald moved that a joint Library Committee be appointed to investigate sites for the proposed library building. Whereupon, Chairman McAden appointed for the County Commissioners McDonald and McEwen, and Mayor Baxter appointed for the City Councilmen Slye and Ward.

EXPENSES OF ATTORNEY H. I. MCDOUGLE AUTHORIZED.

City Attorney C. W. Tillett expressed the opinion that provisions should be made for Attorney H. I. McDougale to spend as much time as needed in Raleigh to expedite the passage of the Bill by Legislature. Councilman Atkins moved that the City share equally with the County in all expenses incurred by Mr. McDougale in regard to the Library Bills. Motion seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Atkins, seconded by Commissioner McDonald, the joint meeting was adjourned.

Pellian R. Hoffman
City Clerk

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The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., on Wednesday, February 28, 1945, with Mayor Baxter presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Atkins, Baker, Cope, Daughtry, Hovis, Painter, Siye and Ward being present.

Absent: Councilmen Bullard and Price.

MINUTES.

The reading of the minutes of the last meeting was dispensed with.

SIX POINT PROGRAM PRESENTED BY REAL ESTATE BOARD AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION.

Mr. J. E. Barrentine, representing the Charlotte Real Estate Board and Property Management Association, presented a six point program on low cost and sub-standard housing. He outlined their program and Mr. Paul Guthery, Realtor, detailed the minimum requirements for a standard house in Charlotte in the future.

Mr. Frank Dowd and Mr. Harold Dillehay, of the Charlotte Housing Authority, and Mr. McAllister Carson, Insurance Representative, expressed their approval and endorsement of the program.

Mr. Barrentine requested Council to pass the necessary ordinances to effectuate Points 1 and 2 of their program, namely:

1. "The city should establish a "Standard House" with minimum requirements, for Charlotte, making such changes as are necessary in the codes.

2. The County of Mecklenburg and the City of Charlotte should give closer supervision to sub-divisions in order to prevent narrow streets and conditions that might develop that would hinder the future growth of the city. Sub-division maps should have the approval of a proper delegated authority before being placed on the records."

Mr. Barrentine urged that the Parks & Recreation program proposed in the recent Survey include Points 3 and 4, namely:

3. "Playgrounds and recreational facilities with careful supervision should be provided in congested slum areas. We suggest that these playgrounds be purchased in such areas and that old housing unfit for "Standard" improvements be included where practical in such purchases.

4. Social service work is needed in these areas to teach the citizens that live in such houses how to live, how to take care of a house and keep it clean, how to take care of their health, and their children. We suggest that an adequate but inexpensive community house be built on the plots of ground that are selected for playgrounds and that a trained social worker be employed for each community house, such a trained worker should be able to supervise the playground, keep a small library and do social work among the citizens."

In outlining Points 5 and 6 Mr. Barrentine stated they realized this portion of their program would, of necessity, have to wait until materials, etc., were available but they requested that the provisions in these Points be carried through as soon as possible:

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5. "The City should take over, light, improve and maintain all existing streets in these areas.

6. The City should establish a date as a deadline by which time existing housing must be brought up to "Standard" of minimum requirements, which "Standard" shall be in all respects the same "Standard" that is used for new construction insofar as is physically possible."

Councilman Baker moved that the Council go on record as approving Points 1 and 2, and take the proper steps to put them into effect. Motion seconded by Councilman Slye, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Baker moved that the Council go on record as approving in general the recommendations in Points 3, 4, 5 and 6. Motion seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried.

ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBERS AND STEAM FITTERS REQUESTS THAT PLUMBING CODE NOT BE AMENDED AS PROPOSED.

Mr. H. L. Kiser, representing the Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters, requested that the proposed amendment to the City Plumbing Code not be enacted. He stated a number of reasons for the request. Whereupon Mayor Baxter advised him that action would be withheld on the amendment until such time as the Association had had opportunity to study it and present their views on the subject:

EXECUTION OF DEED WITH THOMAS CADILLAC OLDSMOBILE, INC. AUTHORIZED FOR PROPERTY AT GRAHAM AND FIFTH STREETS.

The City Manager reported that bid made on property fronting on Graham Street by Frank H. Kennedy, Agent, and confirmed by Council at its meeting on May 24, 1944, had been assigned to Thomas Cadillac Oldsmobile, Inc., and this company was ready to pay the purchase price of \$18,000.00 and receive a deed to the property.

Upon motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Painter, it was ordered by unanimous vote that a proper deed and the usual warranties conveying this property to Thomas Cadillac Oldsmobile, Inc., be executed by the Mayor and City Clerk.

DIVISION OF VOTING PRECINCT OF WARD 6, Box 3 AND WARD 11 AUTHORIZED.

The City Manager presented a request from Mr. Chase Brenizer, Chairman, Mecklenburg County Board of Elections, that voting precincts of Ward 6, Box 3, be divided to provide for an additional Box, and that Ward 11 be divided to provide for two boxes instead of one as at the present time.

Councilman Alba moved that Ward 6, Box 3 be divided as recommended. Motion seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Cope moved that Ward 11 be divided as recommended. Motion seconded by Councilman Alba, and unanimously carried.

DEFERMENT OF EQUIVALENT ELIMINATION REQUIREMENT GRANTED FOR ONE YEAR.

The City Manager advised the Charlotte Housing Authority had granted a one year extension of the Equivalent Elimination Provision of their agreement with the City, said period being until March 25, 1946.

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ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF DEED FROM THE COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK OF CHARLOTTE, N. C., TO CITY OF CHARLOTTE FOR LOTS ON SCOTLAND AVENUE.

Councilman Baker moved the adoption of the following resolution, which was presented by Mr. J. H. McLain, Assistant Collector of Revenue. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the Commercial National Bank of Charlotte, N. C., is the owner in fee simple of twelve lots in Block 6 as shown on map of Pharrsdale recorded in Map Book 4, page 115, of the Registry for Mecklenburg County all fronting on Scotland Avenue, free and clear of liens and encumbrances other than the liens of taxes and special assessments, the lot numbers, street numbers, amounts of liens and assessed values for purposes of taxation of said lots being as follows:

Lot No.	St. No.	City Taxes	County Taxes	Total Taxes	Paving	Assessed Value
A	1401-09	\$ 98.78	\$ 39.83	\$ 138.61	\$ 863.42	\$ 625.00
B	1411-15	49.79	15.66	65.45	567.89	265.00
C	1417-21	43.81	12.11	55.92	567.89	200.00
D	1423-27	49.79	15.66	65.45	571.37	265.00
O	1607-11	50.76	16.97	67.73	531.05	300.00
P	1613-17	50.76	16.97	67.73	536.97	300.00
Q	1619-23	46.20	14.24	60.44	536.97	250.00
R	1625-29	41.59	11.52	53.11	531.05	200.00
S	1631-35	41.59	11.52	53.11	527.17	200.00
T	1637-41	41.59	11.52	53.11	534.94	200.00
U	1643-47	41.59	11.52	53.11	542.66	200.00
V	1649-53	32.15	8.20	40.35	386.03	150.00
		<u>\$588.40</u>	<u>\$185.72</u>	<u>\$774.12</u>	<u>\$6,697.41</u>	<u>\$3,155.00</u>

AND, WHEREAS, the said bank has proposed, pursuant to Amendment to Section 52 of the Charter of the City of Charlotte enacted by the 1943 Session of the Legislature of North Carolina, to execute and deliver a deed conveying all its right, title and interest in said lots and in a small triangular parcel of land on the southeasterly side of Scotland Ave., having a dimension of approximately 20 feet on each side and lying north-west of and adjacent to Lot V, to the City of Charlotte, subject to the lien of County taxes through the year 1945, in extinguishment of all tax and special assessment liens of said City against said property; and, whereas, the fair market value of each of said lots is at least equal to the aggregate amount of City and County taxes due thereon as hereinbefore set out, which amount includes interest and penalties to March 1, 1945.

RESOLVED, therefore, that the City of Charlotte accept the aforesaid proposed deed in extinguishment of the aforesaid liens; that the City Accountant be, and he hereby is, authorized and directed to set up each of the aforesaid lots on the real estate records of the City at a valuation equal to one-half the assessed value of said lot for purposes of taxation; that the City Accountant and City Treasurer be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to issue checks in the aggregate amount of the valuations at which said lots are set up on said real estate records in payment of the aforesaid County taxes, City taxes, the revenue stamp and recording fee on said deed and to apply on the special assessment accounts which constitute liens against said lots, the unpaid remainder of said special assessment accounts to be charged to the City.

PURCHASE OF ANHYDROUS AMMONIA.

Councilman Slye moved that Six 150 pound cylinders of anhydrous ammonia be purchased from the Research Products Company, at a cost of \$138.60. Motion seconded by Councilman Hovis, and unanimously carried.

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CITY TRUCK TRANSFERRED TO PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION.

At the request of the City Manager, Councilman Baker moved that the Diamond T 1 1/2-Ton Truck now loaned to the Park & Recreation Commission be transferred permanently to said Commission for their Use. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins, and unanimously carried.

BIDS ON GAS AND OIL REJECTED.

The City Manager submitted a report from the Purchasing Agent regarding bids for the estimated year's supply of gas and oil, submitted on February 20, 1945. The City Manager stated no bids on gas were received and the bids on oil were not in compliance with the specifications. Consequently, the recommendation was made that all so-called bids be rejected and the Council find that no bids were received which could be accepted. Councilman Albea moved that the City Manager's recommendations be approved. Motion seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and unanimously carried.

PAYROLL PAYMENT DATES CHANGED TO 3RD and 18TH OF EACH MONTH.

The City Manager stated that the payrolls are made up to include the 1st and 15th of each month and that employees are paid on said dates; this created confusion in the Accounting Department when personnel left the job between the time payrolls were made up and payment received. Following a general discussion of the subject, Councilman Atkins moved that the City Manager be authorized and directed to have the City Accountant make payroll payments on the 3rd and 18th of each month. Motion seconded by Councilman Cope, and carried.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT GRANTED JACK WILLIAM HUNTER.

Upon motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Cope, special officer permit was unanimously granted Jack William Hunter, for use on the premises of Lincoln Theatre, 408 East 2nd Street.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTY AUTHORIZED FOR STONEWALL STREET EXTENSION.

Mr. L. L. Ledbetter, City Treasurer, advised that all property had now been acquired for the extension of Stonewall Street with the expectation of three tracts, and made the following recommendations as to their purchase:

Tract 1. That property of Geneva Harrison at 601 South Morrow Street be purchased at \$3,000.00, permitting her to salvage the house.

Tract 3. That property of A. F. & L. S. Yandle be purchased at \$800.00 and the City build a retaining wall along edge of property abutting new street from intersection of Pearl Street toward Watt Street to the back corner of their house facing on Watt Street. That no paving costs be assessed against remaining portions of this property.

Tract 4. That property of Alphonso and Emma Morrow, at 1201 Brown Street be purchased at \$1,264.00 and the remaining portion of the lot be purchased from H. V. P. and L. B. Vreeland at \$350.00 and move the Morrow house onto said Vreeland property and deed same to Alphonso and Emma Morrow.

That \$4,659.11 be appropriated from the Emergency Fund for the purchase of these properties.

Councilman Hovis moved that the recommendations of the Treasurer be approved. Motion seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and unanimously carried.

CEMETERY DEEDS APPROVED FOR TRANSFER.

Upon motion of Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Hovis, the following cemetery deeds were approved for transfer:

William F. Young, Lots 175, 176 and 177, Section Y, Elmwood Cemetery, \$189.00
Mrs. O. E. Frodge, Lots 347 and 351, Section Y, Elmwood Cemetery, \$55.30.
Mrs. J. L. Butler, Lot 256, Section Y, Elmwood Cemetery, \$35.70/
Perpetual Care on Lot 256, Section Y, Elmwood Cemetery, \$25.50.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Albea, the meeting was adjourned.

Lucian R. Hoffman
City Clerk