

A regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Wednesday, January 3, 1951, at 11 o'clock a.m., with Mayor Shaw presiding, and Councilmen Aitken, Albee, Boyd, Coddington, Daughtry, Jordan and Wilkinson present.

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Dr. Jas. A. Jones, Pastor of Myers Park Presbyterian Church.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the last meeting on December 27, 1950 were approved as submitted.

ORDINANCE (NO. 127-X) ASSESSING BENEFITS IN THE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ON HAWTHORNE LANE FROM CENTRAL AVENUE TO KENNON STREET AND AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT WITH RESPECT THERETO, ADOPTED.

Relative to the Ordinance Assessing Benefits in the Improvement District on Hawthorne Lane, from Central Avenue to Kennon Street, and Authorizing Advertisement with Respect Thereto, which was introduced and read, and action deferred at the meeting on December 27th, the City Manager advised that the Board of Appraisers have reported that in appraising the said improvement district as to benefits and damages, they did not take into consideration the fact that the right-of-way had been given to the City by Textron Southern, Inc., as they assumed the rights-of-way were either owned by or had been purchased by the City.

Whereupon, Councilman Boyd moved the adoption of the Ordinance and that the assessments against the property of Textron Southern, Inc., be approved subject to giving them a credit of \$3,500.00 for right-of-way. Motion was seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried. Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 11, at Page 194-195.

NOTICE FILED THAT TAXICAB COMPANIES WILL SUE TO RECOVER AMOUNTS IN EXCESS OF \$15.00 PAID TO THE CITY FOR EACH LICENSED CAB.

Mr. Henry L. Strickland, Attorney, filed notice that the Victory Cab Company, and certain other cab owners, question the validity of Section 16 of Article 2 of the Taxicab Ordinance of Charlotte, wherein each taxicab owner that is granted a certificate shall pay to the City the sum of \$50.00 for each cab licensed, except where certificate is issued on or after July 1st the fee shall be \$25.00. That, therefore, the said Cab Companies give formal notice to the Council that they are paying the \$1.00 for City license plate, plus \$15.00 as allowed by Section 20-97 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, and the remaining portion, in the sum of \$35.00, so paid on each cab is paid under protest and that it is the intention of the said Cab Owners to sue to recover the amount so paid in excess thereof, and that their checks made payable to the City, or its Treasurer, or its Collector, shall be marked "Paid Under Protest", so that the said amounts may be recoverable in a suit.

Mr. John D. Shaw, City Attorney, stated that the \$50.00 is for the Certificate for the operation of the taxicab and not a license fee.

ANNUAL REPORT OF ASSISTANT COLLECTOR OF REVENUE FILED.

Mr. J. H. McLain, Assistant Collector of Revenue, filed with the City Clerk his Annual Report, as provided by law.

CLAIM OF THE WELSBACK CORPORATION FOR PATENT INFRINGEMENT ON HIGH INTENSITY LIGHTING SYSTEM AT AIRPORT REFERRED TO CITY ATTORNEY.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Coddington, and unanimously carried, the Claim of The Welsback Corporation for patent infringement on the high intensity lighting system at Douglas Municipal Airport was referred to the City Attorney.

SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM OF VIOLA HUEY.

Councilman Albea moved that the claim of Viola Huey for injuries sustained from falling into an open water meter box be settled in the amount of \$60.00, as recommended by the City Attorney after investigation. Motion was seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried.

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW SANITARY SEWER IN LANIER AVENUE.

Motion was made by Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Coddington, and unanimously carried, authorizing the construction of 130 feet of 8 inch sanitary sewer in Lanier Avenue, at an estimated cost of \$240.00, to serve one vacant lot, at request of John Crosland Company; that all costs be borne by the City and applicant's deposit of full amount be refunded as per the terms of the contract.

CONSTRUCTION OF DRIVEWAY ENTRANCES AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Coddington, seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried, the construction of driveway entrances was authorized at the following locations:

- (a) One 8-ft. driveway at 1640 Sterling Road.
- (b) One 12-ft. driveway at 2090 Sterling Road.
- (c) One 8-ft. driveway at 1740 Maryland Avenue.
- (d) One 15-ft. driveway at 2021 Norton Road.
- (e) One 30-ft. driveway at 600-602 South Mint Street.

CEMETERY DEEDS AUTHORIZED EXECUTED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Coddington, and unanimously carried, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute deeds for the transfer of the following cemetery lots:

- (a) Deed with Herbert G. Garrison and wife, for Lot 237, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$208.00.
- (b) Deed with Harry G. Garrison and wife, for Lot 231, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$156.00.

BIDS REJECTED ON THREE LOTS ON TRUMAN AVENUE.

Upon motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried, all bids on three lots on Truman Avenue were rejected.

CONFERENCE WITH DUKE POWER COMPANY RELATIVE TO BUS IMPROVEMENTS FIXED FOR JANUARY 24, 1951.

At the suggestion of the Mayor, the date for the conference with Duke Power Company Officials relative to the Bus Improvements and Extensions question was fixed for January 24, 1951, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., in the office of the Mayor.

CITY MANAGER AND CITY ACCOUNTANT TO DETERMINE IF SUFFICIENT UNAPPROPRIATED FUNDS ON HAND TO INCREASE SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES WITHIN CERTAIN SALARY BRACKETS.

Councilman Boyd asked if the Council would be agreeable to requesting the City Manager and City Accountant to determine if there are unappropriated funds on hand in an amount that would be sufficient to give City Employees, making \$250, \$300 or \$375 per month or less, a small raise in salary to help meet expenses due to the increased cost of living.

During the discussion, Councilman Albea indicated his willingness to make the request; Councilman Aitken stated he questioned the advisability of such action; the City Manager stated he believed such action, and the resulting publicity, would raise false hopes among city employees because he knows there is not sufficient unappropriated funds to give even a small increase to all employees within any of the indicated salary scales. Mayor Shaw stated it is his opinion that the City is paying salaries comparable to those of private industry; that he does feel that at the next budget period some consideration should be given to increasing the salary scale of Policemen.

Councilman Boyd then presented his suggestion as a motion, that the City Manager and City Accountant investigate and advise if there are sufficient unappropriated funds on hand to permit a raise in salary within the salary scales of \$250, \$300, \$375.00 or less. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

PURCHASE OF AUTOMOBILE FOR USE BY CITY OFFICIALS ON CITY BUSINESS AUTHORIZED.

Mayor Shaw stated he would like to see the City have a suitable car for use by City Officials on city business; that, speaking personally and he believes it to be true of other Officials of the City, he is using his car day and night and purchasing his own gasoline, etc., for the City's business. He cited many instances where it has been necessary to use a Police car or other worn and unsightly City car for transporting visitors.

Mr. Yancey, City Manager, concurred in the Mayor's statement and stated that he feels that an appropriate car is badly needed.

Councilman Daughtry asked for unanimous consent of the Council to present a motion for the purchase of a car, which was given upon motion of Councilman Coddington and seconded by Councilman Aitken. Councilman Daughtry then moved that the Council authorize the purchase of a suitable car for use by City Officials on city business and that the words, "City of Charlotte, N. C." and the City Seal be imprinted on the side of the car. Motion was seconded by Councilman Coddington, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Coddington, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.


City Clerk