

June 15, 1960
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 Joint Meeting

An Adjourned Meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, in the City Hall, on Wednesday, June 15, 1960, at 3 o'clock p.m., jointly with the Board of Commissioners for Mecklenburg County with Mayor Smith presiding, and the following members being present:

Councilmen Albea, Dellinger, Myers, Smith and Whittington.

ABSENT: Councilmen Babcock and Hitch.

County Commissioners McAden, Chairman, Brown, Garrison, Lawing and McEwen.

ABSENT: None.

Also present were Mr. Veeder, City Manager, Mr. Shaw, City Attorney, Mr. Livingston, City Accountant; Mr. Dockery, County Attorney and Mr. Busby, County Auditor.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

PURPOSE OF MEETING.

Mayor Smith stated the purpose of the meeting is to consider the budgets for jointly operated activities of the City and County Governments for the fiscal year 1960-61.

He stated further that the voting will be as a single unit with the exception of matters pertaining to the Consolidated Tax Collecting Department, which will be as separate units.

At the request of Mayor Smith, the County Auditor, Mr. Busby, presented and explained the budgets to be reviewed and considered. He advised the budget material with the exception of the budget for the consolidated tax department, is on the same basis as last year. He stated further that salary increases included were requested by the Department Heads, and where none are shown, the Department Head relied on the two Bodies to make whatever increase they saw fit.

SALARY OF TAX SUPERVISOR FIXED AT \$7,500.00.

Councilman Dellinger moved that the salary of Mr. Rufus Grier, Tax Supervisor, be fixed at \$7,500.00, as recommended, on the basis of 35% by the City and 65% by the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried.

ACTION ON SALARY OF COLLECTOR OF REVENUE AND ASSISTANT COLLECTOR DEFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION OF CITY MANAGER AND CHAIRMAN OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

It was stated that the matter of salaries for the Collector of Revenue

and Assistant Collector was referred to the City Manager and Chairman of the Board of Commissioners at the joint meeting on May 10th. Mr. Veeder, City Manager, advised that they have no recommendation at this time and suggested that the matter be deferred.

Whereupon, on motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, the matter was postponed until the recommendation is received.

BONDS FOR COLLECTOR OF REVENUE AND ASSISTANT TO BE CARRIED BY BOTH CITY AND COUNTY.

Mr. Shaw, City Attorney, advised that the Company with whom city employees are bonded has called with regard to the bonding of the Collector of Revenue and the Assistant Collector for the Consolidated Tax Department, and suggests that the City and County each carry separate bonds on them, in whatever amount each government desires. Mr. Veeder, City Manager, concurred in the suggestion.

SALARY OF JUDGE OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT FIXED AT \$10,860.00.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, the salary of Judge Willard I. Gatling, Domestic Relations Court, was fixed at \$10,860.00, as recommended, to be shared on a 50%-50% basis.

SALARY OF DIRECTOR OF CIVIL DEFENSE FIXED AT \$7,000.00.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lawing, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, fixing the salary of Mr. Kenneth D. Williams, Director of Civil Defense, at \$7,000.00, as recommended, to be shared on a basis of 60% by the City and 40% by the County.

SALARY OF DIRECTOR OF THE PLANNING BOARD FIXED AT \$11,000.00.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried, the salary of Mr. W. E. McIntyre, Planning Director, was set at \$11,000.00, as recommended, on a basis of 60% by the City and 40% by the County.

SALARY OF VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER FIXED AT \$7,500.00.

Councilman Whittington moved that the salary of Mr. Vernon O. Tucker, Veterans Service Officer, be fixed at \$7,500.00, as recommended, to be shared on a 50%-50% basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

SALARY OF ACTING HEALTH DIRECTOR FIXED AT \$15,000.00 WITHOUT CAR ALLOWANCE.

Mr. Busby, County Auditor, advised that since these budget recommendations were prepared, the City Council increased the salary of Dr. Elizabeth Corkey, Acting Health Director \$200.00, bringing the salary up to \$15,000.00, on the request of the State Merit System Commissioner. He stated further that a car allowance of \$900.00 was budgeted last year for the Health Director. Attention was called that Dr. Corkey drives a

county-owned car. Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Chairman McAden, and unanimously carried, a salary of \$15,000.00 was budgeted for the Acting Health Director, as recommended, on the basis of 2/3 by the City and 1/3 by the County. Councilman Whittington moved that a car allowance not be budgeted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

SALARY OF CHIEF HEALTH SANITARY ENGINEER FIXED AT \$9,120.00, AND ACTION ON CAR ALLOWANCE DEFERRED.

Motion was made by Commissioner Lawing, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, fixing the salary of Mr. Tom Bivens, Chief Health Sanitary Engineer, at \$9,120.00, as recommended, to be shared on a basis of 75% by the City and 25% by the County.

The car allowance of \$1,260.00 budgeted for last year was discussed, and Councilman Whittington moved that the matter be deferred at this time and Mr. Veeder and Mr. Busby confer and make a recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown.

Mr. Busby suggested that in view of the large amount of the car allowance it would be better to purchase a compact car; that the County is using them to great advantage and one can be purchased for not more than \$1,700.00 and will last three years. The City Manager concurred in the suggestion.

A substitute motion was made by Councilman Smith that a compact car be purchased for the use of the Chief Sanitary Engineer. The motion lost for lack of a second.

The vote was taken on the main motion to defer action for the recommendation, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Dellinger requested that Mr. Veeder and Mr. Busby also report on the breakdown on all cars used in joint operation and as to whether advisable to require a weekly report of car expenses.

SALARY OF SUPT. OF NURSES FIXED AT \$6,240.00 AND ACTION DEFERRED ON CAR ALLOWANCE.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried, the salary of Miss Elizabeth Kissiah, Supt. of Nurses, was fixed at \$6,240.00, as recommended on a basis of 75% by the City and 25% by the County.

Councilman Myers moved that the matter of a car allowance be deferred for the recommendation of the City Manager and County Auditor. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McAden, and unanimously carried.

BUDGET OF \$192,400.00 ADOPTED FOR OFFICE OF THE TAX SUPERVISOR.

At the request of Councilman Myers as to the increase in the salaries of the regular clerical help, Mr. Busby explained that in view of the added responsibility and work brought about by the property revaluation program, a review was made of salaries for tax listing services in other counties of the State, and they were found to be much higher than here, and during 1959 the three top personnel in the department were promoted to Assistant Tax Supervisors and each given a salary increase

of \$50.00, with the understanding they would receive no increase in the 1960-61 budget; that these increases plus the usual merit increase for employees in the department results in the increase in the salary account for the department.

Councilman Smith called attention to the salary of a tax clerk, Mr. Johnny Watkins, who has had no increase in three years. Mr. Busby explained that altho Mr. Watkins has been with the department for a period of some ten years, his duties under job classification call for a minimum salary of \$190.00 and a maximum of \$270.00, which he is receiving. Councilman Smith stated he would like to see him receive a \$10.00 per month increase. Mr. Busby stated it would be out of line under the classification for the job, and should a vacancy occur in a higher classification, the Tax Supervisor could promote Mr. Watkins if he saw fit to do so. Following the discussion as to salaries of various persons in the lower income bracket, Councilman Whittington moved that the recommended budget of \$192,400.00 be adopted, on a basis of 35% by the City and 65% by the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried.

PURCHASE OF COMPACT CARS TO BE CONSIDERED WHERE PRACTICAL.

Councilman Myers suggested it would be well to have the County Garage Superintendent appear before the Commissioners and discuss cars and equipment used in joint operations.

Commissioner McEwen moved that the purchase of compact cars be considered wherever practical. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

CONTRIBUTION TO PROPERTY REVALUATION PROGRAM DENIED BY COUNCIL.

Councilman Dellinger moved that the Property Revaluation Program be financed and operated by the County, according to law. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea.

Councilman Dellinger stated that the listing of property for taxation is solely a function of the County, and the City should not contribute to the cost. He called attention that last year in order to get the program started the City contributed 35% of the cost and was told by the County through the newspapers that the City had nothing to do with the program, and he feels it is unfair and unreasonable for the City to contribute anything again.

Councilman Myers concurred in the opinion, and stated his main reason is that residents pay taxes for the revaluation of their property in their county tax bills and they should not do so again in city taxes.

Councilman Smith stated the Board of County Commissioners represents all of Mecklenburg County, including Charlotte, and as this is a county-wide function, it is the County's responsibility to finance it.

Mr. Busby stated that the expense of the revaluation in 1952 was on a basis of 30% by the City and 70% by the County. That the City tax bills in 1963 will reflect the benefit of this revaluation program and it is an integral part of the work of the Tax Supervisor's office, 35% of which is paid by the City. Councilman Dellinger maintained that the City's share in the Supervisor's office is for scrolls, tax bills, etc. for which the City pays a fee.

The vote was taken on the motion, with the Council voting unanimously in favor of the motion and the Commissioners voting unanimously against the motion.

The City Attorney ruled that if the City does not want to go into something, they just do not do so, and the Council has voted unanimously not to participate in financing the Property Revaluation Program.

Councilman Smith stated there is a concept here that holds since 1776 that the Council represents the City and the County Commissioners represent the people outside the City of Charlotte, and this concept must be changed and the Commissioners realize they represent all of the people of Mecklenburg County; that the revaluation of property is a county-wide program and a County function and everyone should share equally in the cost.

BUDGET OF \$165,904.00 ADOPTED FOR OFFICE OF COLLECTOR OF REVENUE SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENT.

Mr. Busby explained that the proposed joint budget of \$165,904.00 for the Department of the Collector of Revenue is based on the requests of Mr. Yarborough to both the City and County to be shared on the basis of 39.52% by the City and 60.48% by the County as agreed upon at the previous joint meeting on May 10th and it is not possible to make a definite determination of the cost of operating the newly consolidated department until a decision is reached as to the number of employees that will be required and their salaries fixed.

The City Manager recommended that in order for Mr. Yarborough to be in position to make the decision, that Mr. Yarborough, the City Personnel Director and he confer with the County.

Mr. Busby stated there are presently two Assistants to the Collector of Revenue, Mr. Driggers with the City and Mr. Davenport with the County and the Commissioners feel there is no need for two assistants. He stated further that it is necessary that the City have a Tax Investigation Supervisor, which position is occupied by Mr. Loven, and the Commissioners suggest that the classification be retained and a decision reached as to whether Mr. Driggers or Mr. Loven will occupy the position, which will cause an adjustment in the salary and position of the one not selected.

Councilman Dellinger expressed strong opposition to the demotion or reduction in salary of anyone in the two offices, and stated it was agreed in the previous joint meeting this would not be done. Councilman Myers stated his understanding was that all personnel would be utilized and no salary reductions would be made, and the administrative heads would work out these personnel problems; that to demote a man in title is one thing and in salary is another.

At the request of Councilman Dellinger, Mr. Yarborough, Collector of Revenue, stated since the department will not be consolidated in one office for another year, it will be necessary to have the two assistants, Mr. Driggers at the City Hall and Mr. Davenport at the Court House.

Commissioner McEwen moved approval of the budget for the office of the Collector of Revenue, in the amount of \$165,904.00, as recommended, subject to adjustment, on the basis of 39.52% by the City and 60.48% by the County. The motion was seconded by Councilman Myers, and unanimously carried.

Mr. Dockery, County Attorney, stated the contract between the City and County provides that the office shall be operated as at present until the new Court House Office Building is completed.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT BUDGET OF \$52,382.00 ADOPTED, BEING EXCLUSIVE OF REQUESTED CLOTHING ALLOWANCE TO BE PRESENTED LATER.

Judge Gatling introduced two members of his staff, Mr. Raymond Castner, Director of the Diagnostic Center and Mr. Eugene Deal, Chief Probation Counselor, whom he stated are most efficient in their work and he considers the City and County fortunate to have their services.

Councilman Whittington moved the adoption of the budget for the Domestic Relations Court, in the amount of \$59,155.00, as recommended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garrison.

Upon the inquiry of Councilman Dellinger as to the requested increase in the clothing allowance, Judge Gatling advised it has been the custom for a number of years for the Deputy Sheriffs for his Court to receive a clothing allowance and he has included an increase in it from \$300.00 to \$600.00, frankly, in order to give the two Deputies a raise in salary, as they are receiving the maximum pay under the County's job classification; that they work long hours, having served over 2000 papers last year, and they are entitled to a salary increase. He stated further if this increase is not allowed then he must have another Deputy to relieve them of some of the work.

Strong opposition to this method of going about securing a salary increase was expressed by members of both Boards. Mr. Busby stated the Deputies in the Sheriff's Department are given a clothing allowance of \$150.00, the same as these Deputies, which compares favorably with that allowed in other counties. He stated further that the salaries of these two Deputies are \$375.00 and \$405.00, and if merit increases are allowed this year they will each receive an increase of \$15.00 per month. Commissioner Lawing called attention that there are some 30 to 40 Deputies in the Sheriff's Department, who together with employees in the Jail and Animal Shelter receive clothing allowances and if the Deputies in the Domestic Relations Court are permitted this clothing increase, the County will be placed in a bad position.

Councilman Myers suggested if the work load is excessive, then consideration should be given to employing another Deputy. Commissioner Garrison offered a substitute motion that another Deputy be employed for the Court. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington.

Councilman Dellinger offered a second substitute motion that the Commissioners and Judge Gatling confer regarding both the clothing and salary accounts and see if they cannot work out a solution and present it later. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Whittington then moved the adoption of the Budget for the Court in the amount of \$52,382.50, being exclusive of any clothing allowance, to be shared on a basis of 50%-50%. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried.

JUVENILE COURT BUDGET OF \$153,941.00 ADOPTED.

Judge Gatling stated he is requesting that Mr. Eugene Deal, Chief Probation Counselor be given the position of Director of Court Services

under job classification which will increase his salary from \$6,600.00 to \$6,900.00.

Councilman Smith moved that the request be granted and the recommended Budget in the amount of \$153,941.00 be adopted, to be shared on a 50%-50% basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McEwen and unanimously carried.

ELECTION OFFICE BUDGET OF \$48,462.00 ADOPTED.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried, the Election Office Budget in the amount of \$48,462.00 was adopted as recommended, to be shared on a 50%-50% basis.

RETIREMENT & SOCIAL SECURITY BUDGET.

The City Manager called attention that because of the elimination of the City's participation in the Property Revaluation Budget, the City's total share in the Retirement and Social Security Budget will be \$19,119.00 instead of \$24,258.00. Councilman Whittington moved the adoption of the Budget, in the amount of \$59,108.00, the City's share of which is \$19,119.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing and unanimously carried.

CIVIL DEFENSE BUDGET OF \$15,955.00 ADOPTED.

Councilman Whittington moved the adoption of the Civil Defense Budget, in the amount of \$15,955.00, as recommended, to be shared on a basis of 60% by the City and 40% by the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Brown, and unanimously carried.

PLANNING BOARD BUDGET OF \$56,920.00 ADOPTED.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, the Planning Board Budget in the amount of \$56,920.00 was adopted, as recommended, to be shared on a basis of 60% by the City and 40% by the County.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE BUDGET OF \$14,520.00 ADOPTED.

Motion was made by Councilman Albea, seconded by Commissioner Garrison, and unanimously carried, adopting the Budget of \$14,520.00 as recommended, to be shared on a 50%-50% basis.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT RENTAL & SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,500.00 AUTHORIZED PAID TO CITY BY COUNTY.

Commissioner Lawing moved that the County pay the City the sum of \$32,180.00 for rental of space in the Health Center and services to County patients, and \$1,320.00 for telephone service, for the County Health Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

PAYMENT TO CITY FOR FIRE PROTECTION OUTSIDE CITY ELIMINATED.

The City Manager recommended that payment to the City for fire protection

outside the city limits be eliminated because of the mutual aid basis on which the Charlotte Fire Department and Volunteer Fire Departments are operating.

Commissioner Lawing stated he has heard that the City Fire Department has been instructed not to go outside the city limits, which would prohibit the residents from enjoying city rates. Mr. Veeder advised the Department will go outside the city limits when called on by the Volunteers after they make the first response, and the Volunteers do the same for the city. Upon motion of Commissioner Lawing, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, payment to the City for fire service outside the city was deleted from the budget on a mutual aid agreement.

PAYMENT OF \$6,000.00 AUTHORIZED TO CITY FOR POLICING MORRIS FIELD.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, payment of \$6,000.00 by the County to the City for furnishing police service at Morris Field was authorized.

PAYMENT OF \$12,000.00 AUTHORIZED TO CITY FOR GARBAGE LANDFILL PRIVILEGES.

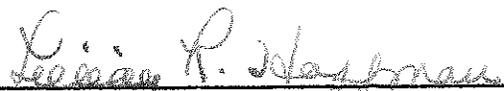
Councilman Albea moved that payment of \$12,000.00 be made to the City for the use of the City's Garbage Landfill facilities. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

PAYMENT OF \$5,540.00 AUTHORIZED TO CITY FOR VITAL STATISTICS SERVICES AND SALARY.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, payment to the City was authorized in the amount of \$5,500.00 for recording births and deaths by the City's Bureau of Vital Statistics and \$40.00 per month on the salary of the Statician.

ADJOURNMENT.

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



Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk