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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., Wednesday, June 21, 1944, with Mayor Baxter presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Atkins, Baker, Bullard, Cope, Hovis, Painter, Price, Slye and Ward being present.

Absent: Councilman Daughtry.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Atkins, the minutes of the meeting of June 7, 1944 were approved as read.

GIFT MADE BY ANONYMOUS DONOR FOR RECREATIONAL BUILDINGS FOR RETURNING WAR VETERANS.

Mayor Baxter stated that on last Saturday a citizen, who wished to remain anonymous, asked him to call at his office; that the citizen complimented the City Council on starting a movement to establish a Center for returning War Veterans and stated he desired to make a substantial contribution to the worthy cause. The Mayor read the following letter from the citizen:

Charlotte, N. C., June 21, 1944

Mayor H. E. Baxter and
Members of City Council
Charlotte, N. C.

Gentlemen:

According to my information, out of the approximately 20,000 service men sent overseas from Mecklenburg County, some 600 or more have already been returned to their homes here, tragically some of them badly maimed and injured, others honorably discharged on account of developed physical defects which rendered them unfit for service.

I further understand that as yet neither the city of Charlotte nor Mecklenburg county has made provision looking to the establishment of adequate recreational facilities that we should and must provide without unnecessary delay for these gallant service men.

They will, in all probability, be returning to us in increasing numbers very shortly due to the European invasion, resulting we are told in large casualties among the American soldiers and sailors who participated in the invasion.

Having the urge to make a substantial contribution to this worthy cause, I would like to make the City Council a proposition as follows:

If the City will donate lots decided to be suitable, preferably to be located within three or four blocks of the Square, I will donate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) for a Recreation building for the returning white service men and the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for a Recreation building for returning Negro service men. Further, I should like to impose the condition that the lots and buildings be deeded outright and unencumbered to the two corporations to be organized by the two groups of service men, to own them.

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Doubtless both the white and colored organizations will want to perfect their own management personnel, and in my opinion that will be desirable. Shall expect this proposal to be handled anonymously. Should this offer be found acceptable, at your convenience, kindly advise me.

Very truly yours,

Curtis B. Johnson

P. S. The lot on which the building for the white service men would be erected should in my judgment contain not less than 15,000 square feet. You will probably agree that the building should be two-story in height. One-half of this space on the first floor (7500 square feet), I think, should be applied to a large and comfortable lounge, writing and reading room, consisting perhaps of from 3,000 to 3,500 square feet. The remainder of the 7500 square feet on the first floor would not be too large for dining room, kitchen and lavatories.

The 7500 square feet on the second floor could be utilized for a game room. This space would provide for two or three bowling alleys, limited gymnasium equipment, shower baths, billiard and pool tables, card and writing tables and perhaps other amusement features.

Am not at all certain that a building of the size suggested can be had for the \$40,000 -- in fact I have been told by one of the leading contractors in the city that building costs at this time are much higher than they were a few years ago. However, the City may find itself in a position to legally supplement the funds proposed if the amount is found to be insufficient.

The lot for the Recreation hall for returning Negro service men should, of course, be of commensurate size and should be carefully located in a section most suitable for such a building.

The Mayor then stated that this gift was not given to the City, but was given to the returning Veterans organizations, provided that the City furnishes the lots mentioned in the letter.

✓ Councilman Baker moved that the generous offer of the Donor for the benefit of service men be accepted, and that the City will provide adequate lots for the two recreational buildings, and that the Mayor be authorized to appoint a Committee of Council to work out details and report same to the City Council for its approval. All of which will then be presented to the Donor for his final acceptance. Motion was seconded by Councilman Atkins, and unanimously carried.

Expressions of deep appreciation on behalf of returning Veterans and on the generosity of the Donor were voiced by Mayor Baxter, Councilmen Bullard, Baker, Price and Albaea.

Mayor Baxter then stated he wished to appoint a Committee to work out the details composed of Councilmen who have sons in the Armed Forces and Councilmen Baker, Slye, Painter and Bullard were so appointed.

SALE OF SCRAP LUMBER TO Z. L. EADDY.

Councilman Albaea moved that scrap lumber taken from the City Health Building during the remodeling program be sold to Z. L. Eaddy of Charlotte for \$8.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Painter and unanimously carried.

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PURCHASE OF PURCHASE FORMS FROM EGRY REGISTER COMPANY.

Upon motion of Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Bullard, authority was given to purchase 10,000 Purchase Order Forms from the low bidder, EgrY Register Company, at a net delivered price of \$161.27.

CONTRACT AWARDED BENJAMIN C. DAY FOR PHOTOSTATIC MACHINE AND DRIER.

Councilman Hovis moved that a contract be entered into with Benjamin C. Day for a Hunter Electro Copyist Photostatic Machine and a Drier for the Machine, for use by the Health Department, at a total cost of \$258.25 f.o.b. Syracuse, N. Y. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea and unanimously carried.

ACTION RESCINDED AWARDED CONTRACT FOR PUBLICATION OF REVENUE ORDINANCE TO NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY AT \$465.01 AND NEW CONTRACT AWARDED THEM AT ACTUAL COST OF \$459.38.

At the request of the City Manager, Councilman Ward moved that action taken on May 31, 1944 awarding contract to the News Publishing Company for publication of the Revenue Ordinance at \$465.01 be rescinded, and a new contract be authorized to them at the actual cost of \$459.38. Motion seconded by Councilman Hovis, and unanimously carried.

PURCHASE OF CRUSHED STONE FROM CALDWELL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY APPROVED.

Councilman Bullard moved that the purchase of two carloads of No. 2 Crushed Stone from Caldwell Construction Company, at a total cost of \$198.65 be approved. Motion seconded by Councilman Painter, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT AWARDED CATHEY LUMBER COMPANY FOR 8-INCH TERRA COTTA PIPE.

Councilman Albea moved that one carload of 8-inch terra cotta pipe be purchased from Cathey Lumber Company at 26.3 cents per foot, for an estimated amount of \$417.38, and contract for same be executed. Motion seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried.

PURCHASE OF 6-INCH TERRA COTTA PIPE FROM ISENHOUR BRICK & COAL COMPANY.

Councilman Albea moved that 1,100 feet of 6-inch terra cotta pipe be purchased from Isenhour Brick & Coal Company, at 15.9 cents per foot, at an estimated amount of \$174.90. Motion seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried.

PAINTING RADIO TOWERS AWARDED W. D. HENDERSON.

Councilman Albea moved that the job of painting the two radio towers be awarded to W. D. Henderson, at \$150.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Price and unanimously carried.

APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING CONTRACT WITH J. N. PEASE & CO. INC. FOR WORK ON THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW PUMPING UNIT AT CATAWBA STATION.

Councilman Slye moved that contract be awarded J. N. Pease & Company, Inc., for the engineering work on the acquisition and installation of a new pumping unit at Catawba Station, at a cost of 5% of the total cost, but not to exceed \$1,044.00, same to be charged to the Water Fund Emergency Appropriation. Motion seconded by Councilman Ward and unanimously carried.

MORROW STREET TAKEN OVER FOR MAINTENANCE.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Painter, Morrow Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets was taken over for city maintenance.

REQUEST OF THE MORRIS PLAN BANK FOR PORTION OF CITY'S BANKING BUSINESS.

The City Manager read a letter from Mr. H. C. Sherrill, President of The Morris Plan Bank of Charlotte, in which he requested that the said bank be given a portion of the City's banking business. Mr. Sherrill further stated that The Morris Plan Bank pays approximately 8% of the taxes paid by the five banks in Charlotte. The matter was referred to the Budget Committee for consideration.

OFFER SUBMITTED BY S. W. ELLIS FOR TAX FORECLOSURE PROPERTY AT 857 BELMONT AVENUE.

The City Manager advised that a letter had been received from Mr. S. W. Ellis, submitting a price of \$300.00 for a vacant lot located at 857 Belmont Avenue, which was taken over by the City in a tax foreclosure suit, being Suit No. 226, City of Charlotte vs. City Ice Delivery, et al. The matter was referred to the Evaluation Committee for investigation and report.

SCHOOL BUDGET FILED WITH CITY CLERK. FOR FISCAL YEAR 1944-45.

In compliance with the law, the City Manager reported that the Budget of the Board of School Commissioners was filed today with the City Clerk, and a copy of the estimated current expense budget for 1944-45 furnished to each member of the Council and the Mayor and City Manager.

BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1944-45 SUBMITTED.

In accordance with the Charter requirements, the City Manager submitted a copy of the Budget Estimate of the City of Charlotte for the fiscal year 1944-45 to each member of the City Council and the Mayor, and filed same with the City Clerk for public inspection.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING ACCEPTANCE OF BID ON TAX FORECLOSURE ACQUIRED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1100 NORTH CALDWELL STREET.

Councilman Hovis moved the adoption of the following resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea, and the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the City is the owner of a house and lot at 1100 North Caldwell Street, having acquired same at a tax foreclosure sale, and, whereas this property formerly belonged to Warren Realty Company which was adjudicated a bankrupt, and in the said bankruptcy proceedings this property was abandoned to the City, and, whereas, the house located upon the said premises is dilapidated and in such a condition as to create a public hazard and, whereas, the said building has been offered for sale privately to a number of persons who might be interested, and the following bids have been received: L. A. Norman and H. L. Strube.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the bid of L. A. Norman for the purchase and removal of the said house for \$40.00 be, and it is, accepted, and that the City Manager be, and he is, instructed to sell the same to the said party at the said price.

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ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING SPECIAL PEACE OFFICERS JAMES S. ROSS AND ARMISTEAD M. HOUSTON.

Councilman Baker moved the adoption of the following resolution. Motion seconded by Councilmen Cope, and the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the necessity for having special peace officers who are Negroes, in certain areas of the City, as set out in a Resolution adopted on the 9th day of July, 1941, and recorded in Minute Book 9, beginning at page 98, continues: and

WHEREAS, Walter F. Anderson, Chief of Police, has recommended that James S. Ross and Armistead M. Houston be reappointed as special peace officers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

I.

That James S. Ross and Armistead M. Houston be, and they hereby are, appointed special peace officers under section 66 of the Charter of the City of Charlotte -- being Chapter 366 of the Public-Local Laws of 1939;

II.

That they shall hold said positions during the pleasure and at the discretion of the Council, but not longer than one year from July 21, 1944;

III.

Their compensation, to be paid by the City, shall be and it is hereby, fixed at \$150.00 per month each, payable semi-monthly;

IV.

They shall, subject to the general supervision and direction of the Chief of Police of the City, police and guard the public and private premises within the area and boundaries set forth and described in the aforesaid Resolution of July 9th, 1941, to which Resolution reference is hereby made and the descriptions therein contained are incorporated herein by reference.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING SPECIAL PEACE OFFICERS GEORGE T. NASH AND JOHN ALBERT LYLES.

Councilman Baker moved the adoption of the following resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Painter, and the resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, the necessity for having special peace officers who are Negroes, in certain areas of the City, as set out in a Resolution adopted on the 9th day of July, 1941, and recorded in Minute Book 9, beginning at page 98, continues: and

WHEREAS, Walter F. Anderson, Chief of Police, has recommended that George T. Nash and John Albert Lyles be reappointed as special peace officers,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

I.

That George T. Nash and John Albert Lyles be, and they hereby are, appointed special peace officers under section 66 of the Charter of the City of Charlotte -- being Chapter 366 of the Public-Local Laws of 1939;

II.

That they shall hold said positions during the pleasure and at the discretion of the Council, but not longer than one year from July 21, 1944;

III.

Their compensation, to be paid by the City, shall be and it is hereby, fixed at \$140.00 per month each, payable semi-monthly;

IV.

They shall, subject to the general supervision and direction of the Chief of Police of the City, police and guard the public and private premises within the area and boundaries set forth and described in the aforesaid Resolution of July 9, 1941, to which Resolution reference is hereby made and the descriptions therein contained are incorporated herein by reference.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT GRANTED ROME HARRIS, FOR USE ON PREMISES OF CHARLOTTE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION.

Upon motion of Councilman Hovis, duly seconded by Councilman Albea, a Special Officer Permit was granted Rome Harris (colored) for use at Morgan Park of the Charlotte Park & Recreation Commission.

TAXICAB OPERATORS PERMITS GRANTED.

Councilman Albea moved that permits be issued the following men to operate taxicabs in the City of Charlotte. Motion seconded by Councilman Slye, and unanimously carried:

Fred C. Allen 110 Woodlawn	C. Lynn Dunn 622 N. Caldwell	E. W. Hucks 1905 Isom St.
C. M. Allison 320 Piedmont Court	O. O. Funderburk 2329 Bay St.	A. P. Homesley 119 N. Cedar St.
Clyde Bolton, Jr. 2017 Wren St.	Raymond T. Franks 715 Lexington Ave.	Clarence Hickok 508 N. Pine St.
J. D. Bronson 600 Mercury St.	James A. Callman 427 E. 11th St.	R. F. Helms 1401 E. 10th St.
Leon J. Biggers Route #1	Carl A. Gosnell 194 Piedmont Ct.	Clyde R. Hudson 1014 S. Tryon St.
D. J. Belk 2735 Rozzelle Ferry Rd.	Hazel Gordon Route 3, Box 388	Joseph R. Irwin 118 E. 8th St.
J. A. Beach 400 E. 4th St.	A. W. Gibson 750 W. 5th St.	R. T. Jones 119 S. Myers St.
R. W. Carter Route #8	K. L. Glenham 223 E. Blvd.	F. W. Jones 1506 $\frac{1}{2}$ Central Avenue
F. D. Collins 1111 Opal Ave.	W. A. Goodwin 508 E. 11th St.	Paul Leopard 1025 McCall Street
George S. Chipley 104 N. Brevard St.	E. J. Hubbard 1735 W. Trade St.	John G. Lowry 1236 N. Tryon Street
J. A. Crabtree 924 E. Trade Street	M. C. Herndon 2700 N. Brevard St.	Jesse F. Lee 1100 West 1st Street

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W. F. Little 418 N. Dotcher Ave.	M. C. Pressley 1124 N. Tryon St.	W. T. Smith 309 W. 5th St.
Johnnie Miller 67 Piedmont Ct.	Gilmer M. Rowell 1008 E. 9th Street	H. G. Seegers 814 E. 5th St.
Johnnie Q. Marze 819 E. 15th St.	J. G. Roddy 208 E. 8th Street	W. R. Stenhouse 308 E. Worthington
Mendel Lee Morris 1221 N. Davidson St.	Roy A. Scott 1015 S. Caldwell St.	R. I. Thompson 2334 Greene St.
J. N. Owens 400 E. 4th St.	E. F. Simmons 742 W. Trade St.	O. G. Thomas Piedmont Hotel
T. J. Pigg 611 E. 5th St.	John Sloop 218 W. 6th Street	B. F. Turner 626 Linden Lane
Grover C. Pressley 915 E. 10th St. Apt. #4	W. E. Steelman 504 E. Tremont Ave.	John R. Todd 919 E. 4th St.
G. L. Putnam 112 N. Clarkson St.	Walter H. Waitt 237 Piedmont Ct.	Johnnie B. Wayne 1001 E. 10th St.
		A. J. Williams 528 E. Worthington

CEMETERY DEEDS APPROVED FOR TRANSFER.

Councilman Albea moved that the following cemetery deeds be approved for transfer. Motion seconded by Councilman Hovis, and unanimously carried:

Mrs. Mamie B. Dale and Mrs. Sara J. Jenkins, North Half Lot No. 51, in Section A-Annex, Elmwood Cemetery, \$75.95.
Perpetual Care on above lot, \$54.25.
Mrs. Mary Pappas Alexander, South Half Lot No. 31, in Section A-Annex, in Elmwood Cemetery, \$72.10.
Perpetual Care on above lot \$51.50.
Mr. L. T. Lindsay, Lot No. 279, in Section Y, Elmwood Cemetery, \$35.00.
Mrs. Elizabeth Rodgers, Lot No. 283, in Section Y, Elmwood Cemetery, \$35.00.

HOLIDAY GRANTED CITY EMPLOYEES ON JULY 3rd and 4th.

Councilman Albea moved that City Employees be granted a holiday on July 3rd and 4th in observance of the Declaration of Independence. Motion seconded by Councilman Slye, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

Councilman Albea moved that the meeting adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried.

Lillian R. Hoffman
City Clerk.