

June 22, 1961

Page 1

Joint Meeting Report

REPORT OF A JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, N. C., AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C. ON JUNE 22, 1961.

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, N. C., and the Board of Commissioners for Mecklenburg County, N. C., met in joint session in the Council Chamber in the City Hall, on Thursday, June 22, 1961, at 2 p.m., for the purpose of discussing the appropriation of funds in the 1961-62 budgets for the Charlotte Life Saving Crew, Army and Air National Guard and Civil Defense.

Mayor Brookshire presided, and Councilmen Albea, Bryant, Dellinger, Jordan, Thrower and Whittington were present.

ABSENT: Councilman Smith.

Chairman McAden and Commissioners Blythe, Garrison, Lawing, and Lowe were present for Mecklenburg County.

ABSENT: None.

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APPROPRIATION OF \$3,000, ON 50/50 BASIS AUTHORIZED BUDGETED FOR CHARLOTTE LIFE SAVING CREW.

The request of the Charlotte Life Saving Crew for an appropriation of \$4,000.00 in their joint budget was discussed, it being an increase of \$1,000 over the total budget of \$3,000 budgeted last year.

Chief B. C. Flowers, Charlotte Life Saving Crew, advised the increase of \$1,000 is for maintenance of a building they propose to erect on a lot they have purchased to house their equipment; however, the building will be constructed with private funds donated them, and not from city-county funds appropriated them, which are used for operational expenses.

Mr Busby called attention that according to the Institute of Government, if the County appropriates funds to an outside activity, they should retain control over the funds and see that they are spent for the purpose appropriated.

Councilman Dellinger questioned the legal authority of the City and County to make appropriations for the maintenance of their proposed building. Mr. Thos. C. Ruff, County Attorney, advised the City and County can legally appropriate funds for the maintenance of property not owned by them if it is leased for use for public service, and the Life Saving Crew, being a non-profit chartered organization, does render a public service.

Mr Veeder, City Manager, stated he has checked into the matter of overlapping services with Charlotte Ambulance Company and tried to delineate between these services but did not obtain a clear-cut understanding between them.

Councilman Jordan stated he is familiar with the work of the organization and feels they do a worthwhile job and he does not believe there is overlapping of service by them, as they perform such service as draining and dragging lakes etc for drownings; welfare work; respond to second-alarm fires and their truck is equipped with heavy jacks for use in handling auto wrecks.

Councilman Dellinger moved that the Charlotte Life Saving Crew be appropriated \$3,000 in the 1961-62 budget, on a 50/50 basis, with the understanding that the City Manager and County Auditor confer with representatives of both the Life Saving Crew and the Ambulance Company and get an understanding that any overlapping services will be eliminated. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lowe, and unanimously carried.

APPROPRIATION OF \$12,600.00 AUTHORIZED JOINTLY TO ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD - \$6,000.00 BY CITY AND \$6,600 BY COUNTY.

Budget requests by the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard were discussed, and Councilman Whittington moved that these units be made the same appropriations as for 1960-61, which are as follows:

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|------------|---------------------|------------|
| By City: | Air National Guard | \$2,400.00 |
| | Army National Guard | \$3,600.00 |
| By County: | Air National Guard | \$2,400.00 |
| | Army National Guard | \$4,200.00 |

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garrison, and unanimously carried.

APPROPRIATION OF \$16,053.00 AUTHORIZED JOINTLY TO CIVIL DEFENSE - \$9,631.00 BY THE CITY AND \$6,422.00 BY COUNTY.

The request of the Director of Civil Defense for an appropriation of \$19,449.00 for the fiscal year 1961-62, with \$11,666.00 by the City and \$7,783.00 by the County, was discussed. Varied opinions were expressed as to the wisdom of futility of Civil Defense operations in Mecklenburg County. That if the Federal Government is going to step up its funds for Civil Defense, then the City and County should take advantage of a share in these funds and should show faith in the Government's efforts for security of the public.

Councilman Jordan moved that the Civil Defense joint budget be authorized at \$16,053.00, the same as for 1960-61. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garrison.

Councilman Albea offered a substitute motion that the 1961-62 joint budget be approved at \$19,449.00 as requested. The motion was seconded by Chairman McAden, and lost by a 6 to 4 vote by the joint bodies.

The vote was then taken on the motion by Councilman Jordan, and carried, by an 8 to 3 vote by the joint bodies.

VOTING ON JOINT BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS YET TO BE REVIEWED TO BE ON INDIVIDUAL MAJORITY BASIS OF THE JOINT BODIES.

The matter of the method ^{of} voting by the two boards on other joint budget appropriations to be reviewed, ~~was~~ considered, whether on a unit basis or a majority individual vote. Voting on the consolidation of the Tax Offices in 1960 was on a unit basis, in conformity with the provisions of the Consolidation Act, otherwise the voting has been done by majority vote basis, with the vote of each Councilman valued at 5/7th of a vote and the vote of each Commissioner having the vote of each Councilman valued at 5/7th of a vote and the vote of each Commissioner having the value of one vote.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, the decision was that the voting would be on a majority vote basis.

PREPARATION OF CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD AND CIVIL DEFENSE BUDGETS AND ADMINISTRATION THEREOF PLACED IN RESPONSIBILITY OF CITY GOVERNMENT.

On motion of Councilman Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, the preparation and administration of the City-County Planning Board and Civil Defense Budgets was placed in the responsibility of the City Government.

ADJOURNMENT.

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