

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Monday, March 15, 1965, at 2 o'clock p.m., with Mayor Brookshire presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Bryant, Dellinger, Jordan, Smith, Thrower and Whittington present.

ABSENT: None.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission sat with the City Council and as a Joint Body held Hearings on Petitions for changes in the Zoning Ordinance and/or Map. The following members of the Commission were present: Mr. Sibley, Mr. Gamble, Mr. Jones, Mr. Stone, Mr. Suddreth and Mr. Turner.

ABSENT: Mr. Ervin, Mr. Lakey, Mr. Olive and Mr. Toy.

* * * * *

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by the Reverend E. B. Hicks, Pastor of Hoskins Avenue Baptist Church.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the last meeting on March 8, 1965 were approved as submitted.

PETITION NO. 65-29 FOR CHANGE IN ZONING OF TRACT OF LAND ON THE WEST SIDE OF KILBORNE DRIVE, WITHDRAWN BY PETITIONER ED GRIFFIN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

Mr. Ben Horack, Attorney, advised that his client, Ed Griffin Development Corporation, wished to withdraw his Petition for a change in zoning of a tract of land on the west side of Kilborne Drive, beginning approximately 765' north of Central Avenue, from R-9 to R-9MF. Councilman Dellinger moved that the request be granted, which was seconded by Councilman Bryant, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Albea commented that in the future he would like to know why a petition is being withdrawn, that he is not asking in this particular case as the vote has been taken.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 65-24 FOR CHANGE IN ZONING OF LOT FRONTING ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF REDWOOD AVENUE, BEGINNING 165' EAST OF SUGAR CREEK ROAD.

The public hearing was held on Petition No. 65-24 by Frank O. Ratcliffe, for change in zoning from R-6MF to B-2 of a lot fronting 117' on the south side of Redwood Avenue, beginning 165' east of Sugar Creek Road.

The Planning Director advised that the petition covers one lot on Redwood Avenue which runs off Sugar Creek Road, and is the first lot off Sugar Creek Road that fronts on Redwood Avenue on the southerly side of the street. The lot is adjoined on both sides by residential structures; diagonally across Redwood there is a church structure and in the vicinity there are established businesses along Sugar Creek Road. The zoning of the property is R-6MF and is adjoined on one side by R-6MF and on the other side by B-2 zoning.

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Mr. J. M. Scarborough, Attorney for the Petitioner, stated that all up and down Sugar Creek Road the zoning is Industrial and on one side of the property in question the zoning is B-2 and you look out and all you see are factories and warehouses. That there is a colored church in the area and all of the surrounding property has been condemned. That Mr. Ratcliffe wants his property changed from a residential zoning to put in a retail business, and there is no reason on earth why he cannot use his property for business.

No objections were expressed to the change in zoning.

Council decision was deferred for one week.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 65-25 BY F. M. STOKES FOR CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF OFF-STREET PARKING FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES ON LOT AT 404 WESTWOOD AVENUE.

The public hearing was held on Petition No. 65-25 by F. M. Stokes for Conditional Approval of Off-Street parking for business purposes on lot now zoned R-6MF at 404 Westwood Avenue, to which a protest was filed signed by owners of more than 20% of the area of an adjoining lot, sufficient to invoke the 20% rule, and by 13 other property owners in the neighborhood.

The Planning Director advised that the petition covers the first lot on Westwood immediately behind the lot fronting on Cliffwood Place, which is occupied by an Auto Service and Repair Garage; the lot in question is occupied by a single family dwelling and other properties on Westwood are occupied by single family dwellings, and there are generally business and industrial type operations on Cliffwood Place. The lot in question is zoned R-6MF and is adjoined on Westwood by R-6MF zoning and the property fronting on Cliffwood Place is zoned Industrial and B-2.

Mr. Frank Teague, Attorney for the petitioner, stated his client wishes the lot rezoned so that he may use it for parking; that he owns the adjoining property fronting on Cliffwood Place and also on the southeast corner of Cliffwood Place and Westwood Avenue, and these two lots are zoned for business. He advised that the Petitioner, Mr. Stokes, has a number of employees at his garage and they are having to park their cars on Westwood Avenue, which is only a 24 foot street and if the petition is granted these cars will be removed from the street to the parking lot. Mr. Teague advised that Mr. Stokes will comply with all City requirements relative to the erection of a brick or concrete wall between the parking lot and the adjoining residence.

Councilman Smith asked if Mr. Stokes intends to park trucks on the parking lot, and Mr. Teague replied that it will be used primarily for parking employees cars; of course if a customer brings in a car or truck to be repaired, naturally they would pull into the lot. Councilman Thrower asked if any work will be done on the lot and Mr. Teague stated they do not anticipate doing so. Councilman Smith asked the City Attorney if the lot should be rezoned to permit parking would there be any restrictions as to the type of parking, and Mr. Morrissey replied there would be no restrictions at all. Councilman Dellinger asked how close to the adjoining house, occupied by Mr. Hope, are cars now being parked? Mr. Stokes replied they are being parked to the property line.

Mr. C. C. Hope, Jr., representing the persons opposing this change in zoning classification, stated their position is practically the same as two months ago when the Petitioner requested that the zoning of the property be changed to a B-2 classification. The street is entirely residential, with fourteen

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houses on it, six occupied by retired persons and four by widows, many of whom have lived in these houses for the greater part of their adult lives. They feel to put a parking lot beneath the windows of the house is wrong. It would mean that trucks of various sizes would be entering and leaving the lot all during the day and they think this would be the first encroachment into a beautiful residential neighborhood. They think this is spot zoning and ask for the full and serious consideration of Council. He stated further they do not think there is a big parking problem here, as parking is restricted on Cliffwood Place only two hours in the morning on one side and in the afternoon on the other side for two hours, otherwise there is sufficient parking there.

Council decision was deferred for one week.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 65-26 BY PYRAMID MOTOR COMPANY FOR CHANGE IN ZONING OF PROPERTY AT SOUTHEAST CORNER OF NORTH DAVIDSON AND EAST FIFTH STREETS.

A public hearing was held on Petition No. 65-26 by Pyramid Motor Company for change in zoning from O-6 to B-2 of property at the southeast corner of North Davidson Street and East Fifth Street, fronting 193 feet on North Davidson Street and 154 feet on East Fifth Street.

The Planning Director advised the property is "L" shaped at the intersection of Davidson and East 5th Streets, and presently has two buildings on it not in use, one a warehouse type building and the other a retail store type, otherwise it is vacant, and is immediately behind a Used Car Lot fronting on Davidson Street. The zoning of the property is O-6 and it is adjoined on two sides and across Fifth Street by O-6 zoning, and on the other two sides the zoning is for Business.

Mr. W. H. Bobbitt, Jr., representing the Petitioner, stated Pyramid Motor Company owns and retains title to the main plant where LaPoint Chevrolet Company operates, and it is zoned B-3. The corner property fronting on Trade Street is owned by Mrs W. H. Belk and the adjoining lot is owned by Mr. Paul Guthery and both lots are zoned B-2, and both are presently occupied by LaPoint Chevrolet Company. That the rear of the property adjoins the property of the Petitioner on Fifth Street, which they are requesting changed from O-6 to B-2, as no automobile business of any sort is permitted in B-2 zones, except the operation of service stations. He stated the property surrounding the property in question is zoned B-3; the property diagonally across the corner is occupied by Southern Bell Telephone Company, the property directly across East 5th Street consists of an old-unkept-four-family apartment, and it is adjoined by old duplexes. East 5th Street has become a four-lane thoroughfare, with no parking on either side, so they do have a natural demarcation down the middle cutting off the O-6 property on this side from the larger area zoned O-6 to the north, so there would not be an island of B-2 in the middle of an O-6 zone. He stated that LaPoint Chevrolet Company occupies the bulk of the property that the Petitioner is seeking to have rezoned, and prior to the comprehensive zoning changes the vacant areas on this property were used for parking and storage of cars, and, in fact, is so used now, as a non-conforming use. Mr. Bobbitt stated the planned use if the change in zoning is permitted is that the property would be improved, certainly by the removal of these antiquated structures, and would be used entirely by LaPoint Chevrolet. That it is not yet finalized what type building would be put there but it would be used for the purpose of servicing new cars which are being stored on the lot now.

Councilman Smith asked if he has asked any of the other property owners on the the street if they would go along in the request for rezoning to B-2,

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and Mr. Bobbitt replied that he did not personally and as far as he knows it was not done. Councilman Smith commented that his thought is that the property facing on Trade Street would be coming up on several occasions probably, wanting to extend all through the block and he wondered if they had been approached with the idea of getting away from the present zoning in the block. He asked Mr. McIntyre if another hearing would have to be held if the Planning Commission should want to rezone the entire block, and Mr. McIntyre replied that another hearing would have to be held.

No opposition was expressed to the proposed rezoning.

Council decision was deferred for one week.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 65-27 BY JAMES E. JONES AND G. H. WEBB FOR CHANGE IN ZONING OF FOUR LOTS AT 2308-2312 DOUGLAS STREET.

A public hearing was held on Petition No. 65-27 by James E. Jones and G. H. Webb for change in zoning from I-1 to R-6MF of four lots at 2308-12 Douglas Street.

The Planning Director advised the lots are located adjacent to Douglas Street, which extends westerly off Beatties Ford Road and are presently occupied by dwellings, and are adjoined by dwellings practically in all directions. He stated the property will be affected by the Northwest Expressway which will take a portion of several lots and this petition is for the rezoning of the balance of some of these lots. The zoning of the property is I-1 and is adjoined on the Sanders Street side by R-6MF and across Campus Street by Industrial zoning.

Mr. Glenn stated he is handling the property for Mr. Jones and Mr. Webb, who own adjoining properties, Mr. Jones owning two duplexes facing Douglas Street and Mr. Webb owns three properties facing Campus Street and it is all zoned Industrial. That the purpose of that Industrial zoning was because of the Railroad but now the Railroad is being moved for the Expressway it will no longer be required for industrial usage, and they can develop the property for residential use, which is badly needed in the area, and which will upgrade the community.

No opposition to the proposed change in zoning was expressed.

Council decision was deferred for one week.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 65-28 BY PHILLIP J. AND ANGELO J. FORLIDAS FOR CHANGE IN ZONING OF TRACT OF LAND ON THE WEST SIDE OF EASTWAY DRIVE, BEGINNING 200 FT. SOUTH OF ARNOLD DRIVE.

A public hearing was held on Petition No. 65-28 by Phillip J. and Angelo J. Forlidas for change in zoning from R-9 to R-6MF of a tract of land 190' x 591' on the west side of Eastway Drive, beginning approximately 200' south of Arnold Drive.

The Planning Director advised the land is vacant and adjoins the rear line of the lots used for residential purposes fronting on Arnold Drive, a street that intersects with Eastway Drive. The property between the subject property and Arnold Drive is occupied by single family units and duplexes and across Eastway Drive the property is vacant, with single family dwellings in the near vicinity. The zoning of the property is R-9 and adjoins R-6MF zoning on the Arnold Drive side and across Eastway the zoning is R-6MF, otherwise it is R-9 zoning.

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Mr. Phil Forlidas, one of the Petitioners, stated the property adjoins a creek which is a natural boundary between the subject vacant land and the residential area on the opposite side of the creek; all the property across the street and at one side is zoned R-6MF, two of which lots are for sale. He stated they understand that Eastway Drive will be widened, at the present time there are about 7,000 cars a day on the street and their small development would not add more than 1% more to this already heavy traffic. He advised they plan to build a 2-story luxury apartment building, with 38 units, and swimming pool, with off-street parking; that the lot contains a little over two acres and is too large for a single-family unit.

Mr. Forlidas stated he was told by the Planning Commission staff that the property would have been rezoned R-6MF had it been divided, since the creek is a natural boundary.

No opposition was expressed to the proposed rezoning.

Council decision was deferred one week.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 65-30 BY CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING COMMISSION FOR CHANGE IN ZONING OF PROPERTY ON BOTH SIDES OF PENCE ROAD.

The public hearing was held on Petition No. 65-30 by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission for change in zoning from R-12 and R-15 to I-1 of property on both sides of Pence Road, beginning about 650' east of Bandy Drive and extending eastward to a point 400' east of the Durable Wood Preserving Company property. A protest petition having been filed by owners of property constituting more than 20% of the area to be rezoned, by owners of property constituting more than 20% of the area of the lots adjoining three sides, sufficient to invoke the 20% rule, and by 80 other residents of the neighborhood.

The Planning Director stated this petition covers the property of Durable Wood Preserving Company on Pence Road, which occupies a portion of the property presently zoned I-2. The subject property surrounds Durable Wood Industry on all sides, and extends for considerable distance in a westerly direction, and is traversed by the Railroad. Directly across Pence Road there are about four houses; a short distance to the east of the property there is the new Orchard Park Subdivision in which houses have been established. The adjacent property is generally vacant, and in the near vicinity Bandy Drive has some houses on it and some vacant property. The zoning of the subject property is R-15 and is adjoined on all sides by R-15 zoning, except the Durable Woods Industry property is zoned I-2.

Councilman Smith stated he believes the property is across from some pretty nice houses and Mr. McIntyre replied there are some new houses down Pence Road about 400' from the boundary they are proposing.

Mr. H. A. Berry, Attorney representing the J. H. Gunn Community Association and also the owners of the larger portion of the land included in the area proposed for rezoning by the Planning Commission, stated they represent, in reality, three classifications of clients; (1) those who reside in the J.H. Gunn Community near the school which is about 3/4 of a mile from the edge of the subject property, (2) people who live in Orchard Park, and (3) the majority of the property owners in the area proposed to be rezoned, who are Mr. Kirkpatrick, Mr. Redfern, Mr. Ervin and Mr. Morgan. All of these property owners protest the change in zoning, they are in no way dissatisfied with

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the existing residential classification, and have in no way thought to develop their land for industrial use and do not seek the approval of the petition. They are all members of the J. H. Gunn Community Association, and it is well known that the Community is one of the oldest semi-residential communities in Mecklenburg County and has repeatedly won first place award by the Piedmont Area Development Association, and it is important that this be borne in mind as their objections are considered. They are much concerned about the effects of further industrial use of property within the geographical borders of their community because they are convinced this is not the right way to protect the existing residential use nor to encourage further improvement in the community, and it would be most harmful to Orchard Park Development of which they are very proud. Mr. Berry distributed to the City Council pictures of the 12 to 15 houses in Orchard Park, and stated they believe if the zoning change is permitted the chances of the development of Orchard Park will be diminished considerably. He stated they read in the paper that Mr. McIntyre said the Petition was prepared by the Commission in order to provide a buffer area between the existing residential use and the existing industrial use, but they think it is an unsatisfactory way to provide a buffer by furthering the industrial use, and would be equally as logical to make the existing industrial use non-conforming, and prevent further industrial usage of the area. Mr. Berry asked the members of 60 families of the 94 families in the community who were present at the meeting to stand. He read a letter from the President of the J. H. Gunn School PTA addressed to the Mayor and City Council, which said it was their considered opinion that any industry in their community could prove hazardous to the safety of the students who walk to school; that the proposed rezoning is only 3/4th of a mile from the school and would be detrimental in the standards the community has set up. Mr. Berry said the people who would be most directly affected by the proposed change in zoning and who would have to live with it, are legitimately concerned about the effect on their community as a place to live and rear their children, and they urge the Council not to grant the rezoning.

Councilman Whittington asked the size of the Durable Wood Industry tract, and Mr. McIntyre stated it is approximately 25 acres, and Mr. Berry advised they are not occupying all of that area.

Mr. Tom Forshaw representing Forshaw Chemicals located on the property of Durable Wood Preserving Company, stated they urgently need space to expand; that they started their business about 3 years ago and 1 1/2 years ago they bought property across the road from Durable Wood Industry depending upon it being in an Industrial Classification, later they found this was not the case. Durable Wood Company area was classified I-2 in October 1964 and at that time he asked Mr. Fred Bryant about the rezoning of a larger area and asked the Planning Commission to look into it. They are very interested in this and tried to push the Planning Commission to look into it more closely and they have done so. He presented pictures of the area directly opposite the area they hope will be rezoned I-1. He stated their plant is on the same side as Durable Wood Company; that the area presently comprising the I-2 classification is about 89 acres, which was rezoned by the Council in October 1964. That in the small area near their 2 1/2 acres they plan to put a plant of Light Industry Classification and also an Office and a Laboratory and this is the closest location they can get to their property. Mr. Forshaw read a letter from Dr. Grady Ross addressed to Mr. McIntyre, stating as an owner of property across from Durable Wood Preserving Company he heartily endorses the action of the Planning Commission in classifying this area as I-1.

Councilman Whittington asked if there is space for them to expand on the property presently zoned I-2 belonging to Durable Wood Industry? Mr. Forshaw replied there might be back in one area but he has not been able to get a lease on it as Durable Wood Company uses it for storage of lumber etc, and it would be far from his plant, and would require cutting a road through the area.

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Mr. Berry, Attorney for the opposition, pointed out that the Petition for the change in zoning was not filed by Mr. Forshaw, who apparently is seeking the rezoning for himself.

Mr. Charlie Carson, Carson Realty Company representing property owners to the east of the subject property, spoke in favor of the change in zoning. He stated they feel it would help their property and give them a buffer zone. Since Durable Wood Company's property is zoned I-2 and adjoins their property, they feel if the subject property were zoned I-1 it would give them a buffer between the I-2 and the residential area, which is zoned R-15, and is presently raw acreage and as yet not a recorded subdivision.

Mr. Kellen with Durable Wood Preserving Company speaking in favor of the petition stated the land out there is cut by the Railroad and by the right of way of the long distance lines of Southern Bell Telephone Company, and he wants to point out it would be practically impossible for anything to be done with the land right across from them and at the sides and he thinks it would be better for the community to have Light Industry zoning there.

Mr. J. S. Cagle, with Norfolk-Southern Railroad Company, stated they need more industrial property along their tracks in this area, and if Council can help them towards that end, they will greatly appreciate it.

Council decision was deferred one week.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 65-31 BY PURE OIL COMPANY FOR CHANGE IN ZONING OF A TRACT OF LAND ON THE WEST SIDE OF SHARON-AMITY ROAD.

The public hearing was held on Petition No. 65-31 by Pure Oil Company for change in zoning from B-1 to B-2 of a tract of land 80' x 125' on the west side of Sharon-Amity Road, beginning 206' south of Monroe Road.

The Planning Director advised the property is located between a Service Station on one side and a Roofing & Sheet Metal Company on the other side and across the street from a Cemetery. It is adjacent to the Sharon-Amity - Monroe Road intersection where business is generally located, and is adjoined on all side by B-1 zoning.

Councilman Thrower asked for what purpose they want the B-2 zoning and Mr. McIntyre replied they wish to establish a repair service.

No opposition was expressed to the proposed zoning change.

Council action was deferred for one week.

MEETING RECESSED FOR TEN MINUTE PERIOD.

The Mayor declared a ten minute recess at 3:27 p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED AT 3:37 P.M.

The meeting was reconvened at 3:37 p.m., and called to order by the Mayor.

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JOHN C. BENNETT REQUESTS THAT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS JUNIOR LEAGUE HOCKEY BE GIVEN PRIORITY AT COLISEUM OVER PRIVATE SHOWS.

Mr. John C. Bennett stated he has noticed over the last couple of years that there seems to be more privately produced shows at the Coliseum than otherwise and they should be produced by private capital. That several years ago there was Junior League Hockey at the Coliseum, but it has been frozen out and the management says they will have to play in the streets because they are getting ready for private shows, such as Rock and Roll. That it is a public building and was designed for public use, yet this worthwhile activity is frozen out, while Greensboro has it at its Coliseum. He suggested that Junior League Hockey be scheduled at the Coliseum and if it interferes with Jim Crockett's shows, let him put up his own building. That he does not object to Mr. Crockett's shows nor their being at the Coliseum, if community activities are given priority and an opportunity to use this public building. He asked that the situation be reappraised and community activities given an opportunity.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON MARCH 29TH ON APPLICATION OF BAKER CAB COMPANY, INC. FOR ISSUANCE OF TEN CERTIFICATES OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR THE OPERATION OF TAXICABS IN THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

Upon motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, a Resolution entitled: Resolution Providing for Public Hearing on March 29th on Application of Baker Cab Company, Inc. for Issuance of Ten Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Operation of Taxicabs in the City of Charlotte, was introduced and adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 5, at Page 11.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON APRIL 19TH ON PETITIONS NO. 65-32 THROUGH 65-38 FOR ZONING CHANGES.

A resolution entitled: Resolution Providing for Public Hearings on April 19th on Petitions No. 65-32 through 65-38 for Zoning Changes, was introduced and upon motion of Councilman Bryant, seconded by Councilman Smith, was unanimously adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 5, at Page 12.

CLAIM OF MRS E. B. PRESSLY FOR INJURIES DENIED.

Upon motion of Councilman Thrower, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the claim of Mrs E. B. Pressly, in the amount of \$297.00, for injuries and damages incurred when she fell on the walkway in front of the City Animal Shelter, was denied, as recommended by the City Attorney who advised the City has not committed any breach of its duty to the claimant.

CONTRACT AUTHORIZED WITH ALFRED E. SMITH FOR APPRAISAL OF PROPERTY ON EAST 11TH STREET IN RIGHT OF WAY OF NORTHWEST EXPRESSWAY.

Councilman Jordan moved approval of a contract with Mr. Alfred E. Smith for the appraisal of one parcel of land at 117 East 11th Street, in the right-of-way of the Northwest Expressway. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried.

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APPROVAL OF REQUEST OF C. D. SPANGLER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY TO CONNECT PRIVATE SANITARY SEWER LINES IN SEABOARD INDUSTRIAL CENTER TO CITY'S SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

Motion was made by Councilman Thrower, seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried, approving the request of C. D. Spangler Construction Company to connect private sanitary sewer lines in a portion of the Seaboard Industrial Center, outside the city limits, to the City's Sanitary Sewerage System; the said lines to become the property of the City of Charlotte when the area is annexed to the city.

CONTRACTS AUTHORIZED WITH HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY AND ED GRIFFIN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF WATER MAINS.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the following contracts were authorized:

- (a) Contract with Humble Oil & Refining Company, for the installation of 850 feet of water mains in North Graham Street, at an estimated cost of \$2,900.00. The City to finance all costs and the applicant will guarantee an annual gross water revenue equal to 10% of the total cost.
- (b) Contract with Ed Griffin Development Corp. for the installation of 7,340 feet of water mains and 5 hydrants to serve Central Park Sub-division, at an estimated cost of \$23,000.00. The City to finance all construction costs and the applicant will guarantee an annual gross water revenue equal to 10% of the total cost.

TRANSFER OF CEMETERY LOTS APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Clerk were authorized to execute deeds for the transfer of the following cemetery lots:

- (a) Deed with Mr. Thomas M. Brown, for Grave 8, Lot 13, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$50.00.
- (b) Deed with Howell H. and Flora B. Entrekin, for Graves 4, 5 and 6, Lot 247, Section 2, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$180.00.
- (c) Deed with M. H. and Jessie P. White, for Graves 1, 2 and 3, Lot 247, Section 2, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$180.00.
- (d) Deed with Mrs Eunice W. Broadhurst, for Graves 2, 3 and 4, Lot 140, Section 2, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$180.00.
- (e) Deed with Miss Helen R. Hoyle, for Perpetual Care for the north half of Lot 6, Section "S", Elmwood Cemetery, at \$100.80.

CONTRACT AWARDED T. A. SHERRILL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR SANITARY SEWER CONSTRUCTION IN BILLINGSLEY PARK.

Councilman Thrower moved the award of contract to the low bidder, T. A. Sherrill Construction Company, for the construction of 2,200 feet of sanitary sewers in Billingsley Park, as specified, in the amount of \$8,535.00, on a unit price basis. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and

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unanimously carried.

The following bids were received:

T. A. Sherrill Construction Co.	\$8,535.00
C. D. Spangler & A. V. Blankenship	9,081.00
Howie Crane Service Company	9,272.50
C. M. Allen Construction Co.	9,356.00
Sanders Brother Company	9,889.00

CONTRACT AWARDED PITNEY-BOWES, INC. FOR AUTOMATIC CODER SORTER MACHINE.

Motion was made by Councilman Thrower, seconded by Councilman Bryant, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to Pitney-Bowes, Inc., the only bidder, for one Automatic Coder Sorter Machine, as specified in the amount of \$3,064.25.

APPLICATION AUTHORIZED SUBMITTED TO F.A.A. FOR IN-RUNWAY LIGHTING AND RELATED FACILITIES AT DOUGLAS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.

Councilman Smith moved that an Application be submitted to the Federal Aviation Agency for in-runway lighting and related facilities at Douglas Municipal Airport. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thrower, and unanimously carried.

CHARTER AMENDMENTS RELATIVE TO CIVIL SERVICE BOARD DISCUSSED AND ADOPTED.

The proposed Charter Amendments were discussed, and Councilman Whittington, referring to the Chapter on Civil Service, called attention to Sec. 3 - "Notice of time and place of every examination shall be given by the Board for one week preceding such examination in a newspaper published in the city and such notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the office of the said Board for at least two weeks preceding such examination", and stated he has no quarrel with this section but would like to recommend that Council give consideration to taking this part away from Civil Service because it seems to him, and he says this in all due respect to Mrs Hoffman and to the Board, that they do not know how to write advertisements to try and recruit and secure personnel for the Fire and Police Departments. He thinks with the shortage of personnel being as acute as it is, this phase of recruiting should be handled by another agency other than the Civil Service Board only because he thinks we need professional people to handle this, and it be done as the Army or Navy would do it, where they make billboards with pictures of the service men, et cetera, for the purpose of trying to recruit people. He thinks it should be handled by the City Manager and whoever he may appoint or the City hire someone to render this service, agreeing that it would be an additional cost, but makes good sense with the one thing in mind that we are having difficulty recruiting men.

Councilman Dellinger stated he has noticed the advertisements and his only suggestion would be that they might be in 8 point print, and he thinks they accomplish the purpose.

Councilman Albea commented that he thinks the Civil Service Board members can do as well as anyone else, unless an expert is hired, and he is opposed to stripping the Board of any of its authority, and they can get any help they want about writing an Ad.

Councilman Smith remarked that he does not think Mr. Whittington is hitting the basis of the problem. That he understands from Mrs Hoffman and some members of the Civil Service Board they have a number of applicants, sometimes 24 and only 5 will be qualified, or will take the job after they find out what the job entails, and the only way it can be combatted is to raise the pay in order to get the quality of men that are needed in the Police Department. Just as other cities have had to do, and it will have to be faced at budget time. That he does not think anything would be accomplished by getting someone else to write the Ads, he thinks they are qualified to draw the Ads and if they need professional help in drawing the Ads they can certainly get it.

Councilman Whittington asked Mr. Morrisey what would be wrong with writing this section so if the Civil Service Board needed to get professional assistance in their recruiting program they could do so with Council approval? Mr. Morrisey replied the Board can do that now without the necessity of inserting any such language in the Charter.

Councilman Bryant commented that he thinks a good portion of the recruiting problems will be solved with what Mr. Smith is speaking of as far as the pay is concerned; and secondly, a real strong administration who can get out and do a good job of publicity and attract these men by their own efforts. That he believes that would be more efficient than any type of advertising program that the Civil Service Board could do.

Councilman Whittington stated under Section 4.42, Mr. Morrisey has re-written this at the suggestion or thought of the majority of the Council which says generally the Chief of either department cannot remove, dismiss or discharge an employee first without written charges going to the Commission and the Commission then hearing this; then after they make their decision action is taken. He asked the City Attorney if this is the way it is worded? Mr. Morrisey replied this is the way it is worded, the same as it has been. Councilman Whittington stated he is opposed to it as written. That he feels any employer - whatever business - should have the authority to take action against a member of his personnel without first having to give written charges and the man taken before the Commission. That he says this for the reason that in almost every case the Chief of either Fire or Police, and he is not dealing in personalities, is always the one that is on trial and not the individual who has been cited before the Board. That he thinks this is taking the very "meat" out of Civil Service and not giving the Chief the strength and backing that he needs to run his department efficiently. That he has discussed this with both Chiefs and they both told him they thought it should be put in there that they would have the right to remove, dismiss or transfer a man with the employee having the right to appeal; and of course, the charges would be presented and then the burden would not be on the Chief, as he understands it, but would be on the individual who would then have to present his own case, his own defense, to prove that the Chief was wrong. In the past it has been the other way around, and the Chief of the Department was the person on trial. Other than those two things he has no objections to Civil Service staying like it is, but he thinks this is important and his understanding is, in his discussion with the two chiefs, they would like to see it in there.

Councilman Bryant stated he is in perfect agreement on this point and has talked with Mr. Morrisey about it and he says as it is now written, it would be very difficult to form such language to make this a fact. It is implied that this is the case now, where in reality it works the opposite. And as a result unless Council changes the whole section, it is going to be difficult to write this into the present section.

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Councilman Thrower remarked that he thinks to do this would in effect kill Civil Service as we know it today. To further this, Council has increased the probation time from six months to a year and after a year if the department head doesn't know whether the man is any good or not, then something is wrong.

Councilman Jordan stated he feels the Chief is going to have to defend himself anyway if this man is brought before the Board, so he will be on the spot one way or the other. That he personally prefers that it stay like it is now.

Councilman Bryant commented it would be pretty difficult for him to fire a man that would be working for him, then he would say, oh no, you've got to prove it before somebody else rather than having to prove why he shouldn't be fired. That he is the one paying his salary, and again he thinks this is poor business.

Councilman Whittington stated he has stated his position on this and he does not want to vote for the Civil Service as it is now presented. That he does not want to be in a position of voting against the whole thing, but this particular thing he does not want to vote for. He asked if there is any way it can be included. He stated what he is proposing is that the chiefs of either department can suspend, dismiss, remove or discharge a man and present the charges to the Board, then it is the man's responsibility to decide whether he wants to go through with the charges or with an appeal. Mr. Morrissey stated at present the Chief can suspend an officer up to 30 days without pay and the officer can take an appeal to the Civil Service Board. The burden is on the officer. He asked if Mr. Whittington wishes to add that the Chief could also fire the man and the man could take an appeal to the Board? Councilman Whittington replied he is suggesting that it be worded like it was when it was presented to Council by the Charter Review Commission.

Councilman Smith asked suppose the Chief felt that he had a policeman that was lazy, who barely did his job and he would say to him in the interest of the efficiency of the department you are dismissed. Then this man appealed to the Civil Service and repudiated the fact that he is just lazy and was just barely doing his job. Wouldn't that be putting a big burden on the Civil Service to determine this? They would have to back the chief in every instance. You could get a certain Chief in there and he could clean out the Police Department if they didn't kowtow to him pretty quickly, and the Civil Service Board would be helpless to do much to protest the men. That the idea of Civil Service is to protect the employee, not the employer. This is the concept that is just like a dictator to do something more quickly and efficiently than a democracy, but whether or not the end results would be healthy is the question.

Councilman Bryant stated Civil Service tends to promote mediocrity. Councilman Smith stated this is true but the other thing is aristocracy where few people control everything.

Councilman Whittington stated the Civil Service Board is suppose to sit as an unbiased body and hear the facts and then take action. They are not there to back the Chief or to back an individual in the department.

At the request of Mayor Brookshire, the Charter Commission's recommendation was read by Mr. Morrissey:

"It is a part of the duties of the Civil Service Board to hear appeals from any disciplinary action resulting in suspension without pay or dismissal of

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any employee other than probationary employees below the level of department head. The Board may confirm, reverse or modify the disciplinary action appealed from. The Board's decision shall be final."

Mr. Morrisey stated this is what the Charter Commission finally recommended.

Councilman Albea moved that Council adopt the wording as submitted by Mr. Morrisey after Council had considered the recommendation of the Charter Review Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thrower, and carried by the following recorded vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Albea, Dellinger, Jordan, Smith and Thrower.
NAYS: Councilmen Bryant and Whittington.

AMENDMENT TO CHARTER ADOPTED RELATIVE TO ELIGIBILITY OF CANDIDATES FOR CHIEF OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Councilman Dellinger remarked that the old Charter contained a clause reading, "no candidate shall be eligible for Chief of the Fire Department unless he has been a member of said department for at least two years prior to the said election" and this has been left out of the Amended Charter, and he moved that it be included. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and carried by the following recorded vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Albea, Dellinger, Jordan, Smith, Thrower and Whittington.
NAYS: Councilman Bryant.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHARTER RELATIVE TO APPOINTMENT OF POLICE AND FIRE CHIEFS BY CITY MANAGER.

Councilman Bryant stated he proposed to offer a motion that the City Manager appoint the Police Chief and the Fire Chief after he has discussed it. That he admits he has come 100 percent around, 180 degrees on this from the time he started considering it with the Charter Review Commission. That the real key phrase, as far as he is concerned, that has changed him is in the term "dual accountability". Eliminate all present personalities, and for sake of an example go to 1990, you have a Police or Fire Chief who is not doing the best job that should be done, while supposedly he is accountable to the City Manager; the City Manager goes to him and says, "Chief you are just not doing the job, try to find yourself another job somewhere for we are going to get another man", and the chief says, "No thanks, I really don't care for that, I think I want to stay here and I have the majority of the Council with me, go and peddle your wares elsewhere" - this is absolutely a possibility under the present Charter and a matter of being accountable both to the City Manager and to the City Council is just not an adequate type of administration in his opinion, and as a result he moved that that portion be included in the Charter which says that the City Manager shall among others appoint the Police Chief and the Fire Chief.

Councilman Albea commented that just because he votes for a man for Police Chief and for Fire Chief does not make them accountable to him, and he wants that thoroughly understood, and that he has never gone to the Police Chief, the Fire Chief or any other Department Head and tried to tell them how to run their business.

Councilman Bryant remarked that you cannot write a Charter based on the present personalities, you have also got to protect the situation from maybe an unscrupulous group that can conceivably be elected to various offices.

The motion did not receive a second, and lost.

CHARTER, ON BASIS OF PRESENT READING, APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION TO LEGISLATURE.

Councilman Thrower moved that the Charter be submitted to the Legislature for its approval, on the basis of its present reading. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea.

Councilman Bryant commented that he is vigorously opposed to certain portions of it; however, he thinks it has been updated, and he thinks it is an improvement over the present Charter, and as a result he will vote for it.

Councilman Smith stated he has been more than pleased with the work the City Manager has done here, and he will go on record for him 100 percent, and this was his main reason for not wanting to put him in the position of appointing the Police Chief, as he thinks he would be in hot water within a matter of months, and he sincerely believes this.

Councilman Jordan remarked that he goes along with what Mr. Smith has said and he thinks we all have the highest regard and respect for our City Manager.

Councilman Dellinger commented that the Police Chief and the Fire Chief are accountable to the City Manager the same as all other Department Heads, and the City Manager to the Council. Since he has been a member of the City Council we have had no more trouble with those two departments than we have had in other departments.

Mayor Brookshire asked Mr. Dellinger if he is stating that for a fact, then he would like to know why he does not want it written into the Charter? Councilman Dellinger replied that he sees no need for it; he thinks everything has been going along very smoothly and he has had the privilege of serving on the Council for a number of years, and does not see the need for this change in the Charter.

Councilman Whittington commented that he thinks the point is that since 1939 what we are doing today is a big step forward, and he thinks it is a step in the right direction. That the only part he objected to is he thought the advertising should be handled by the City Manager and the Chiefs should have the right to hire and fire, but he will vote for the whole Charter.

Councilman Albea remarked that it has been 26 years since the Charter was rewritten but it has been amended every two years when the Legislature met, and, in fact, he has never seen anything too much wrong with the present Charter.

The vote was taken on the motion, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Brookshire remarked that he is glad to have the matter disposed of, and he thinks some progress has been made and future Councils can debate the merits of things which have been left out, which were recommended to Council.

Councilman Jordan moved that Council express its appreciation to Mr. Morrisey, City Attorney, for all the arduous work he did on the Charter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

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CONSTRUCTION OF TEMPORARY SIDEWALK ON WEST SIDE OF MILTON ROAD, BETWEEN THE PLAZA AND EXISTING SIDEWALK NEAR BRIAR CREEK AND ON THE NORTHWEST SIDE OF THE PLAZA BETWEEN MILTON ROAD AND FAIRMARKET PLACE, AND TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM GENERAL FUND, CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT FOR THIS PURPOSE.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Smith, and un-animously carried, the construction of a temporary sidewalk on the west side of Milton Road, between The Plaza and the existing temporary sidewalk near Briar Creek, a distance of approximately 1,200 feet, and on the north-west side of The Plaza, between Milton Road and Fairmarket Place, a distance of approximately 1,200 feet, at a total estimated cost of \$4,090.00 and the transfer of \$4,090.00 from the General Fund, Contingency Account for this purpose, was authorized.

ACQUISITION OF FOUR TRACTS OF LAND AND CONDEMNATION OF ONE TRACT, AS RIGHT OF WAY FOR THE NORTHWEST EXPRESSWAY, AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, authorizing the acquisition of the following four tracts of land, and the condemnation of one tract, as right of way for the Northwest Expressway:

- (a) Acquisition of 31,360 sq. ft. of property at 1018-24 Elizabeth Avenue and 1013-27 East Trade Street, at a price of \$96,000.00 from John V. Hanford, Sr., and John V. Hanford, Jr., for right of way for the Northwest Expressway.
- (b) Acquisition of 5,500 sq. ft. of property at 1005-07 East 9th Street, at a price of \$5,200.00, from Nancy Kerr Freeman and Jane Kerr Williams, for right of way for the Northwest Expressway.
- (c) Acquisition of 4,800 sq. ft. of property at 925-27 East 8th Street, at a price of \$4,500.00, from Mrs Bleeka R. Kerr and Mrs Betty K. Sherrill, for right of way for the Northwest Expressway.
- (d) Acquisition of 18,117 sq. ft. of property at 619-23-27 East 11th Street, at a price of \$20,000.00, from Nancy Kerr Freeman and Jane Kerr Williams, for right of way for the Northwest Expressway.
- (e) Condemnation of 9,430 sq. ft. of property at 711 North Pine Street, owned by J. R. Grady, Sr. et al, for right of way for the Northwest Expressway.

BILLS PERTAINING TO VETERANS RECREATION AUTHORITY, FIREMEN'S RETIREMENT SYSTEM, AND FIREMEN'S RELIEF FUND APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION TO STATE LEGISLATURE FOR APPROVAL.

Upon motion of Councilman Thrower, seconded by Councilman Albea, and un-animously carried, the following Bills were approved for submission to the State Legislature for approval:

- (a) Bill entitled: An Act to Amend Section 165-36 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, to provide authority to the City of Charlotte to appropriate non-tax funds for maintenance and operation of Veterans Recreation Projects.
- (b) Bill entitled: An Act Amending Chapter 926 of the 1947 Session Laws of North Carolina Establishing the Charlotte Firemen's Retirement System, as Amended, to provide authority to invest Retirement System funds in common and preferred stocks.

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- (c) Bill entitled: An Act to Amend Section 837 of the 1947 Session Laws of North Carolina, to permit the Board of Trustees of the Firemen's Relief Fund to retain \$40,000 before paying excess to the Firemen's Retirement System.

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND HONORING THE MEMORY OF E. MCARTHUR CURRIE.

A resolution entitled: Resolution Expressing Sympathy and Honoring the Memory of E. McArthur Currie, was introduced by Councilman Albea, and read, and upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, was adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 5, at Page 13.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ASSIST POLICE DEPARTMENT AND AID IN DECREASING CRIME.

Councilman Whittington stated he wanted to discuss with Council the subject of crime and what we may do to help our Police Department; that he has discussed his ideas with two or three members of the Council, with Chief Hord and talked with the City Manager, and they do not agree with everything he is recommending and he certainly does not expect the Council to do so, but he wants to share his ideas with Council, and his only interest is that we do all we can to help our Police Department.

First, he wants to say that he is in no way being critical of our Police Department. That he is convinced that we as the Governing Body of this City must now take certain steps to implement the Police Department. If we fail to do this, then we are derelict in our responsibility to the citizens of Charlotte.

No one can argue with the facts. Crime is on the increase here, as well as elsewhere. But, because the crime picture is true elsewhere, as it is here, does not mean that we should sit back and do nothing. We must take concrete steps to reduce crime and to remove the cause where possible.

That he makes the following recommendations with the hope that this Council and the Police Department, as well as the citizens of Charlotte, will concur, and at least part of the recommendations be implemented.

- (1) Our Police Department is now short 18 men. We authorized 24 men in the last budget, of which about 5 new men were hired, and some of them have since left the Department. The answer to this problem, as he sees it, is to give serious consideration to the Police pay scale, and he recommends that the starting pay of Police personnel be increased, and all the ranks be considered for changes in the pay scale to take care of that starting pay. That he realizes this would be something for the administrative folks to take care of.
- (2) A new recruiting program, and this is what he was talking about in the amended Charter - and as he stated he does not think this should be a function of Civil Service. It should be done by professional people, supervised by our City Manager, with the Personnel Director and certainly with the cooperation of the Training Division of the Police Department, the Chief of Police and Civil Service Board. This should be done in such way that posters would be used in other cities, similar to the way the armed forces recruit men and women. Age requirements, wages, and all other pertinent information should be on the poster. That he mentions that because in many instances men have come in here, having read these Ads, and did not have their birth certificate or high school diploma

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and had to make two or three trips down here and about the second trip they gave up and said they would just forget it. The Newspapers, Radio and T.V. should be utilized. That he recommends that we recruit at Fayetteville, N. C., Columbia, S. C., and at Camp LaJuene, in an attempt to secure military personnel about to be or after they are discharged.

Councilman Smith asked how this would affect the 35 age limit, and if Mr. Whittington is talking about people leaving the service or retiring? Councilman Whittington replied he is talking about both; it would be the people who are being discharged that we are really after but there are exceptions to a man retiring at the age 35. Councilman Smith asked if the age limit would not hinder getting real qualified people who have gone through a military career? Councilman Whittington stated he does mean to exclude Asheville and other cities, but he thinks there should be some emphasis at towns near military bases where a man has had 4 years of service and 25 years old and some background in military training that would help him in his police work, and talking about age, he thinks it should be increased to 41 years to take care of men who are coming out on retirement or who had served ten or twelve years and were discharged. Councilman Smith asked if he would advocate a 41 year age limit? Councilman Whittington replied that he would; that he would do this thinking only of military personnel; a man 40 years old who has been in service 20 years would be in better shape than many of us. He stated his purpose was to get at the man who is now in Service, not of his own choosing, and is about to be discharged. And if this was done, the examinations and interviews should be given in those cities by the Civil Service Board or someone representing the Board.

- (3) A Police Academy for young high school graduates. You have read in the bulletins we get from American cities, the League of Municipalities and others, this is being done as close to us as Jacksonville, Florida, where these boys after they come out of high school, on a voluntary basis recruited by Police, come into the Police Department, perhaps to work in records, relieving some of our Policemen in this department for regular police work. When these men reach the age of 21, they could then take the Civil Service Examination and become regular Police if they will qualify. The idea here is only trying to build reserves toward eventual policemen.
- (4) Encourage our Auxiliary Police and attempt to recruit more men for this arm of the Police Department.
- (5) Increase our training program with assistance from the FBI and State of North Carolina, and he is not referring to the SBI, he is referring to the Institute of Government. That this should be in-service training, and he realizes that some of this is being done now, he is talking about more.

Councilman Smith stated this is one thing he has heard that Major Goodman and several others have a very fine and high rated program on, and they have been cited for the fine work they are doing in in-service training. Mr. Veeder, City Manager, stated we have engaged in a number of worthwhile in-training activities; however, he would not say we have gone as far as we might, and the Police Department would be the first to agree. Councilman Smith commented that he heard somewhere that the FBI had praised our training programs as one of the outstanding in the southeast. Councilman Whittington remarked that he was not aware of that, that all he is saying is if we can do more, we should.

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- (6) That Chief Hord agreed with this - that more crime is committed on week-ends and holidays. For this reason he would recommend taking six of the nine holidays the policemen are now receiving and making monetary compensation in lieu of time off. Chief Hord told him he was at the Station the other night and at Roll Call there were 38 men short on one shift, on vacations, sick leave and approved time off.
- (7) Urge the department to take steps to utilize personnel to the best advantage; he means by this give all able-bodied policemen an assignment, and he is thinking particularly of Desk Sergeants, any Court Room Guards and Detectives. For example, replace the Court Room Guards and Desk Sergeants with civilian personnel, and these men would then be put out to patrol traffic.

Councilman Smith asked if he means to substitute civilian personnel for these jobs? Councilman Whittington replied that you cannot put in all civilian personnel, someone with Police training would have to know what is going on, but this is nothing new, it has been discussed as long as six years ago, and two years ago when we took Policemen out of Jail and put civilians in.

- (8) Develop a personnel system so that disabled personnel could be taken care of through retirement in order that the department would not be handicapped and new men could take their place on the force.
- (9) Serious consideration to creating a canine squad - - which has been discussed before and he only mentions this to point out that we could patrol our downtown business area if we had dogs, with one man, better than with patrol cars and men trying to cover the same beat on foot.

Councilman Dellinger commented that when this was first mentioned by a former Policeman he did not think much of it, but he has followed the action of these dogs in other cities, and he thinks this is one of the most important things Mr. Whittington has mentioned. Councilman Whittington stated he agrees. For example, in Philadelphia at Gimbel's and some big Department Stores they just leave the dog in there at night instead of a guard.

Councilman Smith mentioned that they had a dog and they were training him and they found out it comes back to personnel shortage, these dogs are trained with one man only, so you tie up a man when you have a dog, and we did not have the personnel to do that, and this is the only reason this is not done today.

- (10) Interview men who are resigning, and find out why and try to prevent this from happening again. He stated in some cases they do not know why a man resigned and took another job, and if we had this in his record, perhaps we would have a better picture of the reasons.
- (11) Complete understanding and cooperation between the Council, the Police and the Crime Prevention Commission, which he believes is trying to bring these facts out to the public and doing what they can do to eradicate crime in many areas.
- (12) Arouse public concern and interest, ask their help in pointing out our trouble spots and festing areas of crime.
- (13) More street lights in our slum areas in future budgets.
- (14) Give the Solicitors additional duties of consulting with Police concerning how to draw warrants and prepare their cases. He commented that a good example of this is that many times a policeman will draw a warrant wrong, and if he had the advice of the Solicitor, the crime may not have been listed as a serious crime.

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Councilman Smith commented that he thinks the Judge has had this kind of schooling with the officers. Mr. Veeder, City Manager, stated he is sure there have been numbers of incidents where this has been done. Councilman Whittington remarked he thinks an example of this, the way our Police Department makes records and crime reports, and they are to be commended for this, is based on the way the warrant is drawn, in many instances, which makes the picture look worse than it is. If they had the advice of the Solicitors to help them, when they need the help, that again would help.

- (15) Ask for legislation to increase Jurors pay so that citizens will serve more readily. Councilman Whittington remarked that this would be something that would have to come from the County Commissioners.
- (16) Request both Lower and Higher Courts to expedite cases being tried in order that witnesses will not be involved for days and sometimes weeks, thereby losing money away from their work, and making it very difficult to get Jurors and witnesses, and this is true in almost all of our cases in Superior Court.
- (17) Develop a plan whereby the Fire Department and the Health Department in their home inspections and visitations could alert police if they find any irregularities.
- (18) Encourage the local National Guard and Reserve Units to teach basic police work in the event they are needed to assist our police. The Police Department should know what Reserve Units we have here that would be available if some emergency occurred.
- (19) Urge the Courts to render harsher fines and sentences to repeat criminals. He commented this is something you read every day, from Police Chiefs and everyone else, asking for this sort of help.
- (20) Engage an architect and move forward with the Police Building.

Councilman Whittington stated he realizes most of these problems will cost money, but he thinks we all agree that we must be objective. It is everyone's problem and he urged the Council to consider all of these things and if even two or three of them were done he believes it would be of help.

Councilman Bryant asked if in view of the recent report which did show a marked increase in the crime rate in Charlotte, has the present Police Department Administration come to the City Manager or to the Mayor with any suggestions or recommendations as how to remedy this poor situation?

The City Manager advised that Chief Hord has discussed with him a number of things that would relate to this directly and some indirectly. Several of the things Mr. Whittington has mentioned today have been discussed with Chief Hord and some will undoubtedly be brought to Council's attention for the dollar impact in the upcoming budget.

Councilman Dellinger commended Mr. Whittington on the time he spent in compiling these points.

Councilman Smith commented that he thinks this shows a real interest on the part of Mr. Whittington and he is sure the Council is very much interested and wants very much to get to the heart of it. That he believes the two outstanding features to accomplish what this report is asking Council to back, are (1) more policemen and (2) better facilities and he thinks there are other points that have been missed - (1) be sure the Desk Sergeant speaks politely to the citizens who call up, and (2) that the local press

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help us rather than hurt us, and many other things, but he thinks the two essential things are the facilities and more pay, because he has had any number of citizens come to him and tell him they were involved in an accident and our Policemen came out, and he has never heard one yet who has not said, the Policeman was a fine gentleman and assisted in every way he could and he was proud of him. That he thinks one of Mr Whittington's main points is that citizens get behind the Police Department and back them up and share some of this responsibility. That when he looks at Selma, Alabama, he thanks God for Charlotte.

Councilman Dellinger asked the City Manager about the starting salary of the Police and said we are not bad off on starting pay? Mr. Veeder replied that we were not the last time a thorough check was made in the process of making a survey. Councilman Bryant commented it depends on what it is compared with, we were very comparable to most cities our size, but that does not mean it is adequate to attract the type man any city wants.

Mayor Brookshire remarked that he thinks crime is a community-wide problem, and he is certainly glad to hear members of Council express a concern and interest in doing what the Council can do, and certainly Council can do some of these things Mr. Whittington has underscored; they are not necessarily new but he has given them emphasis by underscoring, and he would like to see Council do those things that is within their power when it considers the new budget. At the same time, community wide all citizens can give proper support to the Police Department, and he thinks the citizens in Charlotte are more cooperative than in some communities he knows about. Substandard housing, lack of education, training and job opportunities all have a bearing on crime and he does believe our community is moving constructively to combat some of these causes of crime.

PROGRESS REPORT ON BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM.

Councilman Bryant informed Council that by the end of the week they expects to have three of their plantings in the Beautification Program complete, and he hopes the fourth by next week. One is at the intersection of Independence Boulevard and Stonewall Street; another on Freedom Drive and Thrift Road, and the third at Providence Road and Queens Road; and the other will be at the end of the median strip going out of town on The Plaza, if they can squeeze the money sufficiently.

ADJOURNMENT.

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


Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk