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A Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber in the City Hall, on Wednesday, May 2, 1956, at 10 o'clock a.m., jointly with the Board of Commissioners for Mecklenburg County, with Mayor Van Every presiding, and the following members being present:

FOR THE CITY: Council members Albea, Baxter, Dellinger, Evans, Smith and Wilkinson.

ABSENT: Councilman Brown.

FOR THE COUNTY: Chairman McAden and Commissioners Garrison, Lawing, McEwen and McNinch.

ABSENT: None.

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

PURPOSE OF MEETING.

Mayor Van Every stated that the purpose of the meeting is to adopt the 1956-57 budget for the jointly operated activities of the City and County Governments, and such other business as may come before the Joint Boards by unanimous consent.

REQUEST THAT PORTION OF ABC SURPLUS FUNDS BE USED TO ESTABLISH JUVENILE DETENTION HOME TO BE STUDIED BY COMMITTEE.

Mayor Van Every advised there have been occasions when the ABC Board has had additional funds that the City and County could use for various activities. That there is now a surplus of \$94,000 each to the City and County and he requests that each body set aside one-half of these amounts to establish and maintain a Juvenile Detention Home for Mecklenburg County. He stated further the juvenile problem has become a major one and the City and County have a responsibility to the citizens to do something about providing the proper detention quarters. That he and Mr. McAden have met with the heads of the various departments involved and their recommendation is that a juvenile home be established at once.

Councilman Dellinger stated he is in full accord with the recommendation if the City can legally allocate the funds for this purpose.

Mr. John D. Shaw stated he would reply both as City Attorney and as a private citizen. First, he does not know of any authority that gives the City the legal right to build a juvenile home. That he will have to look up the law before giving a definite answer. Secondly, it has been the policy of the City Council ever since the establishment of the ABC Board never to do anything with the funds except put them in the general fund and, as specified by law, for bond retirement. That the present problem and need for the juvenile home is something that wrings the heart, and there will be something similar within another week since in government there are always such crises. That he asks as a citizen that the City not start dipping into these funds for this and other needs but rather that the money continue to go into the general fund and for bond retirement.

Mayor Van Every stated that Mr. Shaw's remarks may be true but the highest law in the land is the safety of the people. That it may be that legally the funds cannot be so allocated, but if the funds are now put aside, the Legislature can be requested to give the proper authority for their use. He called attention to the fact that the Committee who has studied the problem recommends the establishment of the home; that the State cannot be depended on to provide it, and the City and County have an obligation to the community to do something about existing conditions.

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Commissioner McNinch stated that the purpose for which the ABC funds would be used was set up originally and the citizens were sold on it, and even though the problem is serious, he is going to oppose the diversion of ABC funds except for reducing taxes. That the maintenance of a juvenile home is the responsibility of the State of North Carolina and he does not feel that the County is failing in its responsibility to the community at all.

Mayor Van Every stated that when the State cannot furnish sufficient homes to cover the situation, and when the need here is so great, then the governing bodies should act as a group. He urged that the funds be so allocated.

Commissioner McNinch stated he refuses to be tied down to provide ABC funds for this purpose by the vote of this joint body.

Chairman McAden stated he agrees there is a great need for the detention home, but he does not think the ABC funds should be specified to be used for this purpose.

Councilman Baxter moved that the Mayor's recommendation be accepted as information and a Committee be appointed to study the matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McNinch, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Van Every then appointed the Committee comprised of Commissioner McNinch, Chairman, Commissioner Garrison and Councilmen Baxter, Albea and Smith.

TAX LISTING DEPARTMENT.

Councilman Smith moved the adoption of the recommended budget of \$145,800.00 for the Tax Listing Department on a basis of 35% of the expense to be borne by the City and 65% by the County, the City's share being \$51,030.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McNinch, and unanimously carried.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND JUVENILE COURTS.

Mayor Van Every called attention to the request of Judge Willard I. Gatling for a salary increase.

Commissioner McNinch moved that the salary of Judge Gatling be increased to \$9,000.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans.

Councilman Wilkinson offered a substitute motion that the salary of Judge Gatling be increased to \$9,750.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Smith moved that a psychologist be employed at a probable salary of \$7,500.00. The motion was seconded by Chairman McAden, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Albea moved the adoption of the recommended budget of \$137,739.58 for the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Courts, on a 50%-50% basis, the City's share being \$68,869.79. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

WEIGHTS & MEASURES BUREAU.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Commissioner Garrison, and unanimously carried, the recommended budget in the amount of \$4,991.00 for the Weights & Measures Bureau was adopted, on a 50%-50% basis, the City's share being \$2,495.50.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE.

Chairman McAden moved the adoption of the recommended budget in the amount of \$11,895.00, for the Mecklenburg County Veterans Service Office, on a 50%-50% basis, the City's share being \$5,947.50. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans, and unanimously carried.

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COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT RENTAL AND SERVICES.

Commissioner McEwen moved the adoption of the recommended sum of \$22,180.00^{to} paid by Mecklenburg County to the City of Charlotte for space occupied in the City Health Building by the County Health Department and other services, and \$1,320.00 for telephone services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garrison, and unanimously carried.

Attention was called to the request of Dr. M. B. Bethel, City-County Health Officer, that his salary be increased to \$15,000.00. The matter was discussed, and it was noted that the salary of Dr. Bethel prior to taking over the combined operation was \$13,200.00, which was increased to \$14,100.00 as City-County Health Officer. Councilman Smith moved that his salary be increased to \$15,000.00 as requested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McEwen, and carried, with the votes cast as follows:

YEAS: Council members Albea, Baxter, Dellinger, Evans, Smith and Wilkinson, and Commissioners McAden, Garrison, Lawing and McEwen.

NAYS: Commissioner McNinch.

FIRE PROTECTION OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS.

Commissioner McNinch moved approval of the present arrangement whereby Mecklenburg County pays the City of Charlotte \$200.00 monthly stand-by charge, and \$50.00 per trip by the City Fire Department answering calls to fires outside the city limits. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garrison, and unanimously carried.

ELECTION BOARD OFFICE.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, the recommended budget of \$24,510.16 (which is exclusive of bond elections) for salaries, supplies and upkeep of the Election Board Office, on a 50%-50% basis, was adopted, the City's share being \$12,255.08; the City and County each to pay the full amount for its elections, and jointly pay registration expenses on a 50%-50% basis.

ANIMAL SHELTER.

Commissioner Lawing moved that the present arrangements for the operation of the Animal Shelter, whereby the City and County each provides its Rabies Inspector and helpers, and the County pays to the City a monthly rental of \$100.00 for space occupied in the City's Animal Shelter, be approved on a monthly basis as the County is constructing its own Shelter. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

PAUPER BURIALS.

Councilman Smith moved approval of the present arrangements for the expense of Pauper Burials, whereby the City furnishes the lots and grave openings at \$30.00 for white adults, \$41.60 for colored adults and \$15.00 for both white and colored infants, and the County furnishes coffins at \$60.00 for adults and \$25.00 for infants. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

MORRIS FIELD POLICING.

Chairman McAden moved that the present arrangements be continued for policing Morris Field, whereby Mecklenburg County pays the flat sum of \$6,000.00 per annum to the City of Charlotte. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

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VITAL STATISTICS BUREAU

Commissioner Garrison moved approval of the present arrangements for the operation of the Vital Statistics Bureau, whereby Mecklenburg County pays to the City of Charlotte the legal fee of 50 cents each for births and deaths, being approximately \$4,300.00 per annum, and \$40.00 per month on the salary of the statistician. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans, and unanimously carried.

EMPLOYER'S CONTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT EXPENSE.

Councilman Wilkinson moved approval of the City's reimbursement to Mecklenburg County of its pro-rata share of Employer's contribution to the N. C. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System, covering participating employees in the jointly financed departments of City and County government, estimated for 1956-57 at \$6,486.61. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried.

CIVIL DEFENSE.

Commissioner McNinch moved approval of the recommended budget of \$13,421.70 for Civil Defense, on a basis of 60% by the City and 40% by the County, the City's share being \$8,053.02. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Evans, and unanimously carried.

CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING COMMISSION.

Upon motion of Chairman McAden, seconded by Councilman Baxter, and unanimously carried, the requested budget of \$33,505.00 was adopted for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission, on a basis of 60% by the City and 40% by the County, the City's share being \$20,103.00.

LAND-FILL GARBAGE DISPOSAL.

Commissioner Garrison moved approval of the present arrangements whereby Mecklenburg County pays the City of Charlotte \$12,000.00 per annum for its use of the City's Land-fill Garbage Disposal facilities. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

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


Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk