

October 23, 1958
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Recessed Meeting from October 22, 1958

A Recessed Meeting of the City Council Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was reconvened at 3:30 o'clock p.m., on Thursday, October 23, 1958, in the Council Chamber, in the City Hall, with Mayor Smith presiding, and Council members Albea, Baxter, Brown, Dellinger, Evans and Foard being present.

ABSENT: Councilman Wilkinson.

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BUS STRIKE DISCUSSION CONTINUED.

Mayor Smith opened the meeting to discussion relative to the existing strike of the bus drivers of Charlotte City Coach Lines, Inc., by asking Mr. Merl C. Morrow, Vice-President of the Coach Company if he wished to make a statement.

Mr. Morrow stated he has not met with nor talked to Mr. W.F. Lester, Deputy President of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen today, nor has there been any labor meetings today. That he finds there are some things that are not as settled as he has thought, and he would like to discuss them further with Mr. Lester.

NEGOTIATIONS RELATIVE TO STRIKE TO CONTINUE UNDER SUPERVISION OF PROPER PARTIES, AND COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CALL AT ANY TIME.

Councilman Brown moved that negotiations continue under the supervision of the proper parties and further Council Meetings be subject to call at any time. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

Councilwoman Evans noted that Mr. Lester was not present, and stated that the Council should see that he is present at all meetings concerning the emergency and asked that he be advised of the time of all future meetings.

D. YATES HEAFNER, FEDERAL MEDIATOR, REQUESTS THAT REPRESENTATIVE OF CITY COUNCIL SIT IN ON ALL MEETINGS AT MEDIATION LEVEL.

Mr. D. Yates Heafner, Federal Mediator, stated now that the City Council has entered the proceedings, it would be anti-climactic for the matter to be thrown back to them without further benefit of the City Council's prestige. That he has welcomed the assistance, help, pressure and prestige of the Council, and feels that the matter is a joint duty, and thinks it would be the part of wisdom that at all future meetings on a mediation level a representative of the Council be present, who will then have first-hand knowledge of what transpires to report to the Council so they will know what they want to do next. He asked that a representative of the City Council be so designated. He stated further that these matters are much more easily gotten into than they are gotten out of, and suggested that the Council be sure that anything they throw their weight behind be something they will not have to back away from. Mr. Heafner advised further that the issues concerning fringe benefits and working conditions have come up, and while all issues should be pinned down, they should not create a large amount of trouble if all parties will meet across the table and come to some agreement. That, in his opinion, they were closer together last night than at any time before, and that as a public servant he is ready to go back into conference.

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MAYOR SMITH DESIGNATED TO CONTINUE REPRESENTING CITY COUNCIL DURING NEGOTIATIONS, WITH MAYOR PRO TEM ACTING IN HIS STEAD WHEN NECESSARY.

Councilman Brown stated that the Council has complete confidence in Mayor Smith continuing to represent them and he asked Mr. Heafner if Mayor Smith is present at their conferences if that is not sufficient? Mr. Heafner stated that he has enjoyed his participation with Mayor Smith and it is the Council's prerogative to designate whomever they wish to represent them.

Councilman Brown then moved that Mayor Smith continue to represent the City Council at the meetings. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Dellinger requested that Mayor pro tem Brown represent the Council at any meetings which the Mayor is unable to attend.

OFFICIALS PARTICIPATING IN NEGOTIATIONS COMMENDED ON CONDUCT UNDER THE STRESS OF THE DISCUSSIONS.

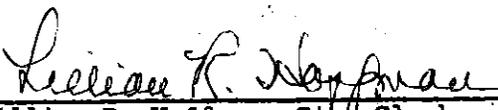
Councilman Dellinger stated that at times like this when long meetings and discussions are held, one is prone to become impatient and nerves to get on edge, and he would like for the Council to go on record commending Mr. Morrow, Mr. Lester, Mr. Heafner, Mr. Cilley and others for the manner in which they have conducted themselves at all times during the strike meetings. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and unanimously carried.

Mr. Morrow stated that everyone is tired from the many conferences but he is perfectly willing to continue burning the midnight oil to bring about a settlement.

Councilman Baxter asked that everyone concerned endeavor to settle the matter within the next 24 hours and get the buses running by Monday.

ADJOURNMENT.

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


Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk