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The regular weekly meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Wednesday, April 15, 1936, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., Mayor Ben E. Douglas presiding, and present: Councilmen Albee, Boyd, Baxter, Durham, Hovis, Huntley, Sides, Tipton and Wilkinson.

Absent: Councilmen Hudson and Nance.

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Minutes of April 6th meeting approved.

On motion of Councilman Albee, seconded by Councilman Baxter, the minutes of the meeting of April 8, 1936, were approved as read.

Lieutenant-Governor Graham Presented.

Mayor Douglas introduced Lieutenant Governor Graham, a visitor to the Council, who stated that he was happy to be present at this time.

Taxicab Insurance.

H. L. Strickland, attorney, who stated he represented all the dime taxicab owners in Charlotte, presented to the Council a plan for the formation of a corporation of all the dime taxicab owners, whereby a Trustee would be appointed to handle the fund to be created, which would have $3,000.00 available to start with and each cab driver to pay the sum of $5.00 each week until a sufficient fund was accumulated to insure the sum of $2500.00 for one accident, and $5000.00 for two or more accidents. He stated that figuring on the basis of 50 cabs, the sum of $10,000.00 would be accumulated the first year. He also stated that they propose to put governors on all the cabs which would insure greater safety to the public.

Mr. Frank Sims, attorney for three twenty-five cent cabs, opposed the plan of Mr. Strickland, stating that it was not feasible and that the cancellation now of the insurance on the companies he represented would cost them more than $3,000.00.

Councilman Boyd stated he would like to see something done for the cab operators, and Mr. Basil Boyd, City attorney, was called upon to give his opinion on the proposal of Mr. Strickland. He stated that he did not think it practicable, feasible, legal or workable.

Mr. Strickland requested the Council to amend the present ordinance and allow the proposed fund to take the place of the required insurance or bond, or else suspend the ordinance and let them operate under this plan for a period of ten days to demonstrate its feasibility.
A discussion by the Council followed, a number of Councilmen stating that they would like to help the cab operators but they had nothing tangible to go on inasmuch as no new ordinance had been presented and no further action was taken.

REPORT OF CITY MANAGER

HEALTH ORDINANCE PRESENTED.

An ordinance submitted by the Health Department to regulate and control the distribution of the sale of drugs for the prevention of venereal diseases, was presented. Dr. Rea was present and explain the advantage of adopting this ordinance, but the Chairman of the Health Committee, Councilman Albee stated he had been unable to get his Committee to meet and would like to have the passage of the ordinance postponed for one week.

Councilman Sides moved that the adoption of the ordinance be postponed for one week. Motion seconded by Councilman Wilkinson and unanimously carried.

RESOLUTION RELATIVE TO METHOD OF LEVYING ASSESSMENTS ON WEST MOREHEAD STREET.

The following resolution was introduced, and upon motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Durham, was unanimously adopted:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, RELATIVE
TO STREET WIDENING AND PAVING ASSESSMENTS ON WEST MOREHEAD STREET BETWEEN TRYON AND CHURCH STREETS.

WHEREAS, on the 21st day of August 1935, at 5:25 o'clock P. M., the City Council of the City of Charlotte in regular session, confirmed, approved and adopted the assessment roll for the widening and paving of West Morehead Street between Tryon and Church Streets, and

WHEREAS, said resolution did not specify the number of years in which the payments could be made by the property owners as by law provided but simply stated that the payments could be made in installments of not less than five years and not more than ten years, and

WHEREAS, the books in the office of the Collector of Revenue for the City of Charlotte have been set up providing for the payment of these installments in five annual payments, as shown by Street Assessment Records No. 9542 to No. 9557 inclusive in said Revenue Collector's Office, and
WHEREAS, IT WAS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS THAT THE INSTALLMENTS WERE TO BE PAID IN TEN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS, AND

WHEREAS, IT IS THE DESIRE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE THAT THE PROPERTY OWNERS ON WEST MOREHEAD STREET BETWEEN TRYON AND CHURCH STREETS BE PERMITTED TO PAY THESE ASSESSMENTS IN TEN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS INSTEAD OF FIVE ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS, AS NOW SET UP IN THE OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF REVENUE.


PETITION FOR PAVING CHEROKEE ROAD HELD UP.

THE CITY MANAGER REPORTED PETITION HAD BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE PAVING OF CHEROKEE ROAD FROM COTTAGE PLACE TO A POINT NEAR BILTMORE DRIVE, WHICH IS SIGNED BY E. C. GRIFFITH COMPANY, EXPLAINING THAT IF THIS PETITION IS PUT THROUGH IT WILL BE NECESSARY FOR THE CITY TO ALSO SIGN THE SAME FOR THE EASTOVER SCHOOL PROPERTY. THE ESTIMATED COST OF THIS PAVING WOULD BE ABOUT $30,000, AND THE CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDED THAT THIS STREET NOT BE PAVED AT THIS TIME.

COUNCILMAN ALBEA, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HUNTLEY, MOVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION BE COMPLIED WITH. MOTION CARRIED.

LAWN MOWER PURCHASE D FOR ELMWOOD CEMETERY.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILMAN HUNTLEY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN TIPPTON, THE MAYOR AND CLERK WERE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN CONTRACT WITH E. J. SMITH, CHARLOTTE, FOR POWER DRIVEN LAWN MOWER SUITABLE FOR MOVING PATHWAYS IN ELMWOOD CEMETERY, AT A PRICE OF $268.37, THIS BEING THE LOW BID.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT.

UPON APPLICATION FROM MYERS AUTO SERVICE CO., FOR SPECIAL OFFICER'S PERMIT FOR MR. WILLIAM C. TAYLOR, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE CHIEF OF POLICE, COUNCILMAN WILKINSON MOVED THAT THIS PERMIT BE GRANTED. MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN TIPPTON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.
REQUEST FOR TOPSOILING AND TAKING OVER FOR CITY MAINTENANCE WINTER STREET HELD IN ABYANCE.

On motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Boyd, the request of Mr. Clarkson and Mr. Wesley Heath to have Winter Street topsoiled and taken over by the City for maintenance was held in abeyance.

PAST DUE ACCOUNTS DUE ON ARMORY-AUDITORIUM.

The City Manager reported on several past due accounts of the Armory-Auditorium which accumulated during the past several years, amounting to about $845.60, which he stated he felt there was nothing else to do but to charge them off the books, although there were a few that might be compromised.

Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, moved that the matter be left to the discretion of the City Manager to compromise or charge off as he could. Motion unanimously carried.

SUIT OF MRS. T. N. MCGUIRT VS. CITY OF CHARLOTTE REPORTED.

The City Manager reported notice of suit of Mrs. T. N. McGuirt for $15,000.00 against the City of Charlotte for injuries alleged to have been sustained by falling in a ditch on the Pineville Road near the City limits, had been referred to the City Attorneys for handling.

OBSTRUCTIONS ON SIDEWALKS.

Councilman Sides asked if there was not a City ordinance governing obstructions on the sidewalks of Charlotte, and upon being told there was, he stated the newstand at the corner of Trade on Tryon was a menace and hazard and would like to see same removed. Mr. Sides was informed that this particular newstand, as well as all other street stands, were on private property, and he asked the City Manager to ascertain if this property at the corner of Trade and Tryon could not be purchased by the City in order that this newstand might be removed.

RESOLUTION UPON THE DEATH OF OFFICER W. M. BEATTY.

The following resolution was presented to the Council, and upon motion of Councilman Boyd, seconded by Councilman Huntley, was unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, IN THE DIVINE WISDOM OF THE ALMIGHTY GOD, HE HAS BEEN FIT TO REMOVE FROM OUR MIDST WILLIAM M. BEATTY; AND

WHEREAS, MR. BEATTY LOYALLY SERVED THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AND PASSED AWAY WHILE IN SERVICE, IT IS WITH DEEP APPRECIATION AND RESPECT THAT WE HONOR HIS MEMORY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: FIRST, THAT WE AS MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE BOW IN HUMBLE SUBMISSION TO HIS WILL, KNOWING THAT HE IS TOO KIND TO WILLINGLY AFFLICT WITHOUT CAUSE.

SECOND; THAT WE EXTEND TO HIS FAMILY OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAY GOD'S BLESSINGS TO REST UPON THEM.

THIRD: THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SPREAD UPON THE MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND A COPY BE SENT TO THE FAMILY OF THE DECEASED AND COPIES FURNISHED TO THE NEWSPAPERS IN THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC SCHOOL.

COUNCILMAN BOYD, STATED HE WISHED TO REPORT ON THE TRAFFIC SCHOOL BEING CONDUCTED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, THAT THE POLICE COMMITTEE HAD MET AND THAT THE TRAFFIC INSTRUCTOR IS TAKING THE MATTER UP WITH OTHER CITIES AND WOULD REPORT BACK AT A LATER DATE.

ADJOURNMENT.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILMAN WILKINSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ALBINA, AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THE MEETING ADJOURNED.