The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, met in regular session on Monday, August 25, 1975, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., in the Council Chamber, City Hall, with Mayor John M. Belk presiding, and Councilmembers Harvey Gantt, Kenneth Harris, Pat Locke, Milton Short, James Whittington, Neil Williams and Joe Withrow present.

ABSENT: None.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission sat with the City Council, and, as a separate body, held its public hearings on the zoning petitions, with Chairman Tate, and Commissioners Boyce, Heard, Finley, Jolly, Marrash and Royal present.

ABSENT: Commissioners Ervin, Kirk and Ross.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Reverend George Battle.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Upon motion of Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the last meeting, on August 11, 1975, were approved as submitted.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 75-20 BY GEORGE P. GREENOE AND E. V. MARTIN FOR A CHANGE IN ZONING FROM R-6MF TO I-2 OF PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE SOUTHWEST SIDE OF EAST 16TH STREET, BETWEEN NORTH DAVIDSON STREET AND NORTH CALDWELL STREET.

The public hearing was held on the subject petition.

Mr. Fred Bryant, Assistant Planning Director, stated the area requested rezoned extends all the way through the block from North Caldwell Street coming away from the downtown area and through Davidson Street, along East 16th Street. It is two separate lots, each of which are about 50 feet in length and extending completely through the block.

He stated there is a structure on the property at 16th and Davidson which appears to be used for residential purposes. The remaining part of the property is being used for industrial type activities - that being primarily the relationship to a fairly significant part of the remainder of the block which is used for a moving company operation, a lot of vans and tractors and storage buildings associated with the moving and storage operation.

There is still a scattering of residential uses in the area, on the out-of-town or North Charlotte side of the area. It is single family residential on Caldwell Street and scattered down Davidson Street. On 15th Street there is an apartment building immediately adjacent to the subject property and there is some single family housing back to 15th Street. In general the area is a mixture of light industrial and residential scattered usage.

He stated there is industrial zoning which begins at the railroad and extends all the way out between Davidson Street and Caldwell Street, leaving the subject property between the industrial zoning and 16th Street, and from that point on it picks up a pattern of R-6MF that extends for several blocks. There is other industrial zoning along Davidson Street, and there is no residential zoning north of Caldwell Street.
Mr. Bryant stated the line is drawn where it is at present because it relates back a number of years to a request for rezoning which was filed and was granted changing much of the area to I-2. At that time, the request went to the subject property, but did not include these last two lots coming out to 16th Street and this for many years has remained R-6MF. The owners now want it changed to I-2.

Councilman Short asked if changing the zoning would result in knocking down the two houses, and Mr. Bryant replied most of the property at the present time is associated with the trucking operation and the storage operation in the area now. There is an old structure at the intersection of 16th and Davidson which appears to be used for a two family residence.

Mr. George Greenoe, one of the petitioners, spoke to the petition, stating they started off in this old house 15 years ago as Southern Packing Company, a mechanical packers, mainly asbestos and rubber products. They want to take that old house down and put a metal building up. As long as it is zoned residential they have to stay 20 feet away from the line. When the property was rezoned to Industrial some 11 years ago, they did not own the property at the corner, nor the lot behind him. They do not want to build anything on the lot in the corner, they want to fix it so they can replace the old house with a steel building.

No opposition was expressed to the proposed rezoning.

Council decision was deferred for a recommendation of the Planning Commission.


Councilman Short moved the adoption of the subject ordinance changing the zoning from I-1 to I-2 of the property adjacent to I-85, that the request for change from R-9 to I-1 along the northerly portion of the tract be denied, and the majority of the property be approved for B-D classification, all as recommended by the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 22, at Page 306.

PRESENTATION OF SUMMER PROGRAM IN FIVE POINTS AREA BY REVEREND GEORGE BATTLE.

Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, stated the Five Points Area conducted a summer program under funds from Community Development Revenue Sharing. That Reverend Battle is present to make the report to Council on the results of the program.

Mr. Steve Pitts stated he coordinated the program for the street academy, and he presented slides showing the program in process. One hundred and eight students were served; 53 received academic credit and 55 attended simply to take part in the program; he stated they are from the Sixth grade through the 12th Grade. Mr. Pitts stated the 53 receiving credit had failed a grade and did not have the money to go to Garinger this summer.

Ms. Ida Wield stated she was in charge of the school program for TAPS (Teen Age Parents Services), and their program was for those children who had failed a subject or needed new work. They served approximately 65 girls from the target areas. She presented slides indicating the location of TAPS the year round, and showing the classes in progress with staff members.
Reverend Battle stated they have nothing in their area that would involve children in educational or recreational activities. He then recognized three ladies who told what the program did for the community. Speaking were Mrs. James McKimmon, Mrs. Herman Kerns, and Mrs. Berdine Wear.

Reverend Battle stated they served over 207 children during the summer program. There was one family and all members had crippled legs. These children were taken to the Health Department and they were fitted with braces. They have been told that treatment will be given to all of them. This is something they would not have received if they had not been interested in this summer program.

Councilman Whittington stated this is the best example of what local government should do; and he hopes we will see more of this as the community development program goes on, all over this community. This is what it is all about.

Reverend Battle stated they do not want to take all the credit; they would like to thank Mr. Burkhalter and his staff; Mr. Sawyer and his staff, and the School Board. That this was the community being involved; that he thinks a lot of friends have been made in this area because of this involvement. He stated there were a lot of volunteers who worked with them without salary, and they should be commended also. Reverend Battle presented slides showing the children and the church's involvement in the program, and stated the church also provided some funds, bus, and some facilities for the program.

Councilman Gantt stated this raises the question of why a third grader has not learned to read in the public school system and can learn to read in a short summer session.

Councilman Withrow asked if anything has been done about the park in that area; that he asked several weeks ago that the Park and Recreation look at this park and not do any more work on that creek bank, but to do something about the area where the people could make use of it. He asked if anything has been done about that? Reverend Battle replied he has not heard anything from them; that at the time he talked to them he was told they had spent $35,000 in that park but the children could not use it because there was not even a fence around it. He stated that was just a waste of money to his way of seeing it. That during the time of their summer program, he checked the park daily and only six people used the park. That this is dangerous and it is a hazard to the health for any child to be playing in the park and to explore and try to find out what is at the bottom of the hidden well or whatever it is out there.

Councilman Harris stated he is a great believer in the Five Points Street Academy. That he would like to have some points about the TAPS program clarified. He stated in the report it mentions the mentally retarded. He asked if it is primarily a mentally retarded program? That he thought it was for teenage parents? Ms. Wield replied there are two requirements to enter their program. (1) You must be a student in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg system; and (2) you must be pregnant. That the mentally retarded get pregnant also, and they must provide school programs for all the students whether they are in special education or whether they are in SAT. She stated last year they served 465 girls. They served 65 during the summer program, and they were limited by the target areas; they could only take students this summer from the target areas. As a result they could not serve as many girls that applied for this service. They received 140 or more applications, and they had to go through these and they found 24 in the target areas. The staff then went out in these areas and begged the children to come and take advantage of what was being offered this summer.

Mayor Belk expressed the appreciation of the Mayor and Council for the presentation today, and thanked each one involved in the program, and those who came to present it today.
RECESS AND RECONVENED.

Mayor Belk called a recess at 3:35 o'clock p.m., and reconvened the meeting at 3:50 o'clock p.m.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, IN THE EDUCATIONAL CENTER FOR ZONING CHANGES.

Motion was made by Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject resolution providing for public hearings on Monday, September 15, at 7:30 o'clock p.m., in the Educational Center on East Second Street on Petitions No. 75-22 through 75-27 for zoning changes.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 11, at Page 58.

BIKE PATH APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED BY TRAFFIC ENGINEER, PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY EXPLORER GROUP, AND STAFF REQUESTED TO BRING COST ESTIMATES TO COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Mayor Belk recognized John Yates, Mayor of the City Explorer's Group to present the group's findings and recommendations on bike trails.

Mr. Yates stated he is currently a student at Duke University and has been affiliated with City Government Explorer Post 258 for two years and presently serves as mayor. He thanked Council for this opportunity to address and present a proposal for Council action.

Explorer Post 258 has been interested in bicycle paths for a year and a half. Through discussions with Mr. Ulysses Ford, Advisor of their Post, enough interest was generated to create a bicycle explorer post. The need for adequate bike facilities then became evident. For the past four months the post has conducted extensive research, examining and discussing bicycle path material with city officials and local citizens. The post's first governmental contact was with Mr. Ford, assistant to the Director of Public Works. Mr. Ford supplied some pertinent bike material used by Public Works and Traffic Engineering. They proceeded to have Mr. Corbett, Director of Traffic Engineering, as a speaker at post meetings to examine studies conducted by his department as well as review with Mr. Stephen Griffin the Planning Commission's work with the bicycles. Additional studies and materials were acquired from Mr. Han: and Park and Recreation; Major Killman, Law Enforcement Center, and a member of the School Board staff. Mr. Curtis Yates of the State Department of Transportation supplied the post further reports from the bike path,a development throughout the State.

Through examination of past Council minutes in the City Clerk's Office and a discussion with Mr. Richard Hunter of the Budget Department, post members were aware of Council activity concerning bicycle path construction. Meetings were also held with Assistant City Managers Bobo and Stradinger, at which time previous Council actions with regards to bicycle paths were discussed. After having exhausted the City's research and study relating to bike paths, the purpose was to study work done by persons in the community interested in cycling. Following leads supplied by City Officials and department reports, members of their post contacted representatives of local community groups. They spoke with members of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Task Force, Tar Heel Cyclists, bicycle shop owners and Bicycle Explorers Post. Interested persons from UNCC were also contacted. They met with Mr. Larry Elliott of the Urban Institute as well as Mr. Ward of the Dimensions for Charlotte-Mecklenburg and Mr. James McLaughlin, a local citizen. After further researching the bicycle path situation, post members met individually with City Council members.
Today they would like to recommend that Council begin implementation of the comprehensive bicycle plan by constructing the first priority route as designated by the Planning Staff's Bicycle Trail Master Plan. Today, approximately $185,000 has been appropriated for the construction of bicycle paths. Creation of the first priority route, which includes a local and community college, public schools and neighborhood playgrounds and parks, will provide an adequate facility for the cycling needs. Implementation of this bike route will also show Council's concern for the cyclists' well-being by helping to stimulate a positive community reaction to completing a comprehensive bike route plan. Now is the time to begin our bikeway system, a system included in the 1995 comprehensive plan and the dimensions program. Considering the gas crisis, automobile pollution, the increasing number of bicycles and the climbing accident rate among cyclists, bicycle path construction is a necessity. We must also consider the diminishing value of appropriated funds due to increasing construction costs. We request that Council take positive action this afternoon to allocate funds to continue construction of the first priority bike route presented by the Planning Commission staff. Thank you for the opportunity to make this presentation before Council. He would like to acknowledge the assistance rendered by members of the various city agencies, the Explorer Post and the local citizens that have been contacted by his organization. He would also like to thank the Mayor and Council for affording their time to meet individually with the Explorer Post representatives. He hopes that action will be taken today and construction will begin in the near future.

Mr. James McLaughlin stated they all know he is for bicycle trails. This was part of 20 projects in this money he is talking about and he would like to see Council do something with that money. He does not care what they do with it. If you cannot build a bicycle trail where it was originally to be put, they need a park awfully bad out there in that area. This was one of a group of projects in which each part of the City got their share and the bicycle trail he thinks was partly held up because it was outside the City and there was some question about that - he is not complaining about that - he would like to see the bicycle trail going where it was originally asked for. If not there, a compromise anywhere, as long as it can be policed, as long as it can be built wide enough for two bicycles to pass on it - he doesn't want to see any 4-ft. bicycle trails. He wants to see them get at it. He wants to see them do it and he really cannot impress on them enough that he agrees totally with these gentlemen. They have done a good job and it is a necessary thing to face sooner or later. Please have it policed, because no bicycle trail that will be a pilot project will help you or anyone else if it is not an adequate facility.

Councilman Gantt asked Mr. McLaughlin if he was not originally interested in a bicycle path being built somewhere off Eastway Drive out to the University. Mr. McLaughlin replied yes. Councilman Gantt asked if he was saying now that he would simply be interested in seeing a good policed bicycle trail go anywhere as a part of the overall bicycle plan.

Mr. McLaughlin stated after three years of waiting, he gets the message that they don't want to spend the money outside the city limits and he does not blame them much. That $185,000 would go a long way in making a Park on Plaza Road, but this is one of many projects and the original trail was to go to the University. There are 1500 students out there who do not have a car, live in the dormitory and walk or ride a bicycle. If we had 1500 citizens that were isolated anywhere else it would be considered an emergency to get them loose. If they need the basic necessities of life at the University and the University store is not open, they cannot get it. The only way we have of taking advantage of the University is if we get the good citizens or the good students at the University and keep them as citizens in our community. The only way we can do that is involve them in the community, and this is the first step as far as he is concerned.
Councilman Short stated that he had an idea about this, he thinks that most citizens of Charlotte consider the University to be a part of Charlotte and it is located outside the city limits just from necessity. He thinks Charlotteans take tremendous pride in the University at Charlotte. He does not think it is out of order to think of a bike trail in connection with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, built with Charlotte revenue sharing money. He is going to suggest and move that we ask the City Manager, Public Works, Planning Commission, and Traffic Engineering to investigate the possibility of building a bike trail along Harris Boulevard, Hickory Grove Road, Dillard Drive and North Sharon Amity Road, using the $135,000 originally set aside for this purpose as a part of the construction that the State has agreed to build in that area. It seems to him that by building such a bicycle facility along with the construction of this road, which is No. 2 on the State's priority for Mecklenburg County, we might get a more valuable bicycle facility, better than anything we could get otherwise just trying to use existing streets that are already built. Part of this motion is that we use the rest of this money, which is $50,000 or so much as is needed, to investigate a part of a bike plan that was proposed on John Yates's map. This would be essentially one that would run from Johnson C. Smith University to Central Piedmont Community College. He believes that this tends to channel the money where it was originally designated for and makes a real good use of it, perhaps the best use that we could make of it for bicycles.

Councilman Short so moved. Councilman Gantt seconded the motion stating he has some hesitation because he would like to look at what they are talking about as he is not sure that it is an idea that they might want to kick around a little more and have a professional to evaluate what would be the benefits of the route just talked about. Councilman Short stated he is just asking the City Manager to look into this. He may come back and say it is all wet, or Council may say it is all wet.

Councilman Withrow stated about three years ago we started out with $130,000; then it got up to about $750,000. At one time it was going down Independence and out to 49; and then it was going out Monroe Road; and then some said down the railroad track. That is why it has been three years. Then when we build the road Councilman Short is talking about, and make the environmental impact studies, we are five years away. Why cannot we get another $135,000 to do what Mr. Short is talking about when the road is built; and right now go with the $185,000 and do something right now.

Councilman Withrow made a substitute motion that we use the $185,000 now, and later when this road is feasible and after the environmental impact study has been made, $135,000 be taken out of revenue sharing to make a study of the other bicycle paths.

Councilman Withrow reworded his motion to read that $185,000 be spent to begin work on the bikeway from Johnson C. Smith, Phase I. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Locke.

Councilman Whittington stated he does not think the amount should be stated; that he thinks they should be built. He asked if Mr. Corbett or Mr. Hopson could show then on a map what is being talked about.

Mr. Yates referred to a map stating it basically starts at West Charlotte High School, off LaSalle Street, and comes down Beatties Ford Road, but not down the road itself, but off side streets to keep it off the main traffic on Beatties Ford Road. It parallels Beatties Ford Road, past Johnson C. Smith, runs off Bruns Avenue, comes down and its Trade Street and between Trade and Fourth Streets, there is a bikeway which is completely separate from this road. That comes over to Fourth Street, runs down Fourth Street and Third Street, across McDowell, down Elizabeth, then along 74, coming all the way down to Pecan Avenue, cuts down Commonwealth Avenue to Woodland Street, and basically ends up at Eastway Junior High School. Included in the area are two more public schools, Johnson C. Smith and Central Piedmont Community College.
Councilman Whittington asked if this is the bike trail proposed in the bicycle plan presented to Council a year ago by Mr. McIntyre and Mr. Corbett? The reply was it is and they agree with this recommendation; it was recommended in the overall bikeway plan as the first priority. Councilman Whittington asked what the $185,000 will do? Mr. McIntyre replied the total route as outlined was estimated to cost about $210,000; these were not engineering costs estimates; they were unit costs applied to the whole system. You would not really know what it would cost until the design and engineering has been done. Mr. Corbett stated he agrees with this also.

Councilman Harris asked if this is not what was defeated in the bond referendum? Mr. McIntyre replied to the extent that specific paths were identified in the bond election this would have been one of them. Councilman Harris stated the presentation made of the route in the bond election included Commonwealth and Johnson C. Smith. That he wonders if we are going right back in fact of the voters again.

Councilman Harris asked Mr. McLaughlin if he is speaking for the people in Eastway? Mr. McLaughlin replied he has been on this ever since it started, and he has one request. If this plan is used, then go to the east end and start instead of the west end. The biggest problem is going to be the downtown area. You must have a system when you go through the downtown area and you are building something new. If the problems are not worked out when you go into the downtown area; then you will defeat the purpose. Downtown is more expensive to build than in the residential area. If you build your efficient portion first, you can solve your problem without nearly the expense you have downtown.

Councilman Harris asked how much it will cost to build on the west side. Has the cost been broken down from that standpoint? Mr. Corbett replied he does not have the information with him. He would suggest that we start in the residential area going towards the center, and go as far as they can. It is possible that it can be built within the $185,000. They will make every effort to build it within what we have.

Councilman Gantt stated there is only $185,000 to spend. If you are going to continue with this, it seems that a directive needs to be given to staff to implement the first phase of this particular plan. Then staff can come back to Council and give a cost, rather than specifying exactly where the route is going to be or how it is going to work out. This all needs to be looked at before we continue. We do not know whether we are dealing with a path or trail or a separate right of way.

Councilman Harris asked if this is not coming through the area of the west side. If that is true, then what Mr. McLaughlin is saying about using some of the money on the east side, and with CDRS money, perhaps the whole route can be done.

Councilman Withrow withdrew his substitute motion, and Councilwoman Locke agreed to the withdrawal.

Councilman Withrow stated Council is going to let the contract for the Randolph Road widening. He asked if a bicycle path has been planned along this road at the same time the new construction is being done. It seems if we are going to have bicycle paths, then this is the time to have them put in. Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, replied if we are going to build bicycle paths that are very special paths for bicycles, of course this is the time to do it; but it is very expensive. Councilman Withrow stated if we are talking about bicycle paths as a mode of travel in the future, then this is the time to do it. It is cheaper than it would be later.
Councilman Short stated on the original motion, it would seem that what should logically be done in the area mentioned in the original motion as well as the area detailed here, be examined further by our staff and that information on both of these be made available to Council. With Councilman Gantt's permission, he would like to amend the original motion in this way. Councilman Gantt stated the only thing is that CDRS funds for physical improvements have to be approved by the people in those areas. Councilman Harris stated then if they do not want to approve them, we could not build them.

Councilman Short restated his motion as follows: that the outlined pathway here as well as the path that would involve Harris Boulevard, Hickory Grove Road, Dillard Drive and North Sharon Amity Road be examined by staff and that as quickly as possible they give us some information about costs and other matters on these two pathways. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gantt.

Councilman Whittington stated Council should be on record today with a priority, and that the first priority should be for the bike paths that were recommended by staff which is inside the City. He will not vote for the motion unless that is added.

Councilman Short stated he wants to include both because the purpose of the study is to make it possible to evaluate them.

Councilwoman Locke requested that staff ask for input from Mr. McLaughlin.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Short, Gantt, Harris, Locke, Williams and Withrow.
NAYS: Councilman Whittington.

Mr. Burkhalter stated this is going to take a long time to do Hickory Grove Road; it took months to do the one out to the University; they had to find the right of way and who owns the right of way.

Councilman Gantt stated he is concerned about the amount of time; that he does not want this to drag out another year. Councilman Whittington stated it has already taken three years, and now we have a new trail that we are going to work on.

He stated he is not talking about going into any detailed engineering study of that particular path from Harris Boulevard all the way to Dillard Drive. Councilman Short stated he is a little surprised at the comment here because it seems to him we had three plans all evaluated within a period of just a few weeks; one was along the railroad tracks; one was along 29/49 and one was along the Old Concord Road, both sides of the street. If that is not accurate, some how or other within a matter of a few weeks, we had comments on the feasibility and considerable detail on three plans.

Mr. Burkhalter replied he will do whatever they say. He just wants to know what Council wants to do. The only way to know what it will cost is to get a design; the rule of thumb has been used already.

Councilman Harris stated we would have had that work done before the bond referendum. We voted on this same area. Would we not have had some idea of the cost? Mr. Burkhalter replied yes; that was $205,000 but it was based on unit cost only.
Councilman Whittington stated he thinks someone will remember that someone set a price of $750,000 on this bike trail to the University; that Mr. McLaughlin was one of the people who came and objected to what was recommended by the Planning Commission.

Councilman Whittington moved that Council approve this bike path here today as recommended by Mr. Corbett, the Planning Commission, and these young people, and that staff bring back to Council, as quickly as possible, the cost and then go ahead on the bike path as recommended by all these agencies. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harris.

Councilman Williams requested that the motion include that the construction start on the east side. Councilman Whittington and Councilman Harris accepted the amendment.

During the further discussion, the City Attorney was asked how this motion would affect the first motion which has been passed? Mr. Underhill replied the effect of the passage of the second motion would be to set priorities for the Manager, and the effect of it would be to negate the portion of Mr. Short’s motion that would seem to require equal study of both paths before presentation. Councilman Gantt stated he will support the motion but he does not think they would put any more powers on the people studying this particular project in terms of saying which side of town it should begin on. After discussion, it was decided that the amendment was not necessary at this time so it was deleted from the motion.

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

Councilman Withrow stated if we are serious about bicycle paths as a mode of transportation in the future, he cannot see in our planning where we are building a thoroughfare from Randolph Road to Sardis, all the way in to the center of the City, why do we not put a bicycle path there if we are serious. If we are serious, then we should do some planning.

Mr. Burkhalter stated we are building bikewalks on all of these roads. They are ramped, and they have sidewalks and they are all usable for bicycles. They are not called bicycle paths. They are five feet wide sidewalks. We are building what in our lingo is called bike paths, and they do serve this purpose. If Council wants something different, they should tell them now because it requires additional right of way and a lot of other expense. All of these ones we are building now have these features.

LITTLE ROCK A.M.E. ZION CHURCH SELECTED AS DEVELOPER OF BLOCK NO. N, PARCEL NO. 1, IN THE FIRST WARD URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT.

Motion was made by Councilman Harris, and seconded by Councilman Whittington to approve the selection of Little Rock A.M.E. Zion Church, a non-profit organization, as developer of Block No. N., Parcel No. 1, in the First Ward Urban Renewal Project, and authorized the Director of Community Development Department to negotiate the sale of this property with the Church.

Reverend W. M. White, Minister of the Church, stated the Little Rock congregation has been committed to remaining in the First Ward area for the past several years in view of the fact that the church was established in the area in 1884 and was moved and built in the local community in 1907 and in its local setting in 1911.
The present membership consists of 550 adults, 90 to 100 youth and 150 children, and the membership is growing rapidly on all levels. They predict the membership growth will double within the next eight to ten years. The congregation is highly motivated with a genuine spirit of love and unity. They are particularly interested in the property between McDowell and Myers Streets; Eighth and Seventh Streets. It is their belief that this parcel of land will afford ample space for the proposed new facility and adequate parking. They have retained the services of the Clinton B. Gowdy, and Associates of Greensboro, N. C. Architects; they have completed the preliminary drawings of the whole facility and these drawings have been approved by the Board of Trustees and the membership of the Church. The budget for the complete facility is $1,126,000. At this time, they have enough in their budget to help begin in a very substantial and tangible manner. They have paid money in terms of architectural fees, and other things that have been necessary. They have great prospects for the approval of loans, hopefully in the local community. They have the full backing and support of the AME Zion connection and its financial department, which has at least a $200,000,000 budget, so they are not alone.

The architect then explained the plans for the church. He stated the new facility will face McDowell Street; they will have entrances on McDowell, Myers and Eighth Streets. The building is designed with the sanctuary section, educational portion and administrative wing with a porch built between the two areas. Most of the parking will be off Myers Street, with some off McDowell Street. The entrance to the facility would be where they enter off Eighth Street from the Parking area. They propose to use white brick, pre-tested concrete panels and bronze metal roof. They will have facilities for the handicapped, parking facilities, ramps, and so forth.

Dr. C. D. Rippy, Member of the Congregation, stated he wished he had the power to transmit the kind of enthusiasm that the Little Rock members have at this time about getting this property and building this church. They are sure if they get the property they can put on the kind of program in that area that would make Charlotte proud. They have people in their congregation, some of them here today, such as Mr. David Hunter, Vice President of Central Piedmont Community College; Miss Wilson, Social Service Committee, and many others who have pledged themselves that they will give their time and services to work on a kind of social program - social, religious and spiritual program - that will make Charlotte proud. He stated they are sold on this, and hope they can sell the City on it, and they are ready to go out and make Charlotte the kind of safe place everyone wants it to be.

Mr. Sawyer, Director of Community Development, stated under the North Carolina Urban Redevelopment Law you can negotiate sales to non-profit institutions operating for certain purposes. Religion is one of those purposes. He stated Council is not asked today to approve the sale of this property; they are asked to reserve this property for this church, and then eventually after the details are worked out, he will come back to Council and ask that a date for public hearing be set, and then recommend that the sale be approved. He stated they have been working with this church and its members for a long time. At present they have a church located right across Myers Street from this site, the Little Rock AME Zion Church. He is talking about the block bounded by North McDowell, Seventh Street, Myers and Eighth Streets. This is a full block of property just across Myers Street from the present church. There are other churches in the area who wish to remain in the area, but he feels there is enough land to go around, and he is recommending that Council reserve this site for this church, and authorize him to negotiate the details that they need to negotiate and bring a recommendation to Council for a final sale.

The vote was taken on the motion, and carried unanimously.
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Councilman Whittington asked for a status report on the houses that are to be preserved in this area? Mr. Sawyer replied they are moving on those; they are getting further estimates and one is out for bids. That he will be glad to bring a full report to Council. Councilman Whittington stated all of Council is vitally concerned about the preservation of these homes, and people getting back in them. As has been stated before, destruction is pretty rapid down there.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN LEAA GRANT APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE RELATIVES DEFERRED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 8.

Councilman Whitting stated he has a conflict of interest on this matter, and he asked that he be allowed to abstain from voting.

Councilman Harris moved that Councilman Whittington be excused from the vote. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Locke moved that the subject resolution for a grant application in the amount of $29,092.00 be deferred until September 8. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harris, and carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Locke, Gantt, Harris, Short, Williams and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Councilman Whittington abstained from voting.


Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Williams, and unanimously carried, the subject resolution was adopted authorizing the filing of the preliminary application with the Department of Transportation, U. S. of America, for operating assistance funds under Section 5 of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964, as amended November 26, 1974.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book II, at Page 59.

CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE CHARLOTTE AUDITORIUM-COLISEUM-CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSFER OF GENERAL REVENUE SHARING FUNDS FROM THE CITY TO THE AUTHORITY PROVIDING FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CIVIC CENTER.

Motion was made by Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, approving a contract between the City and the Charlotte Auditorium-Coliseum-Civic Center Authority, in the amount of $63,000, providing for the transfer of General Revenue Sharing Funds from the City to the Authority for physical improvements at the Civic Center which included a portable communications system, dressing rooms, installation of refrigeration system, lighting improvements and related physical improvements to the Center.

CONTRACT WITH CONSOR, TOWNSEND & ASSOCIATES FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS, AUTHORIZED.

The subject contract for engineering services in an amount not to exceed $200,000 for certain public works projects to be funded under the Community Development Program Act was presented for Council's consideration.
Councilman Short asked how this firm was selected? Mr. Sawyer, Director of Community Development, replied sometime ago when they were getting into the program, they interviewed a number of engineering firms with the capability of providing the planning, the environmental assessment and the engineering needs of the program. They interviewed four firms at that time, none of which were local; Consoer, Townsend & Associates, Hensley Schmidt Associates, Wilbur Smith & Associates and Eric Hill and Associates. They recommended to Council and Council approved two firms; Eric Hill Associates and Hensley Schmidt Associates to work together to do the environmental assessment work and the planning work.

Mr. Sawyer stated Consoer, Townsend & Associates is the firm that he and Mr. Hopson agreed upon to recommend to Council for the engineering services. One of the considerations was the amount of work that other firms, both local and out of town, had with the City. This is the firm which has no active contract at this time; however, it was the engineer of the firm that did the work on the Randolph Road Improvement Project. The Public Works Department has been assigned the responsibility of providing the engineering services and the provision of construction for all the public improvements in the Community Development Program.

He stated this firm will have a wide range of services including engineering studies, survey work, design work, engineering design work and so forth. It does not mean this firm automatically has all of the work. It has the work that the Engineering Department assigns to it in connection with the program. That Mr. Hopson has stated it is the intent of his Department to do most of the work, or as much of the work as possible. But both he and Mr. Hopson realize that the Community Development Program is supposed to be a fast paced program. We are moving it as fast as we can, and we may need the engineering services of this firm as Mr. Hopson's staff may be too tied up to do it.

Councilman Gantt stated while this says not to exceed $200,000, we are likely to come right up to that amount. Also it seems Mr. Hopson's staff is going to do a lot of the work. This goes back to the original criticism he had of the program; that $200,000 is going to be spent for consulting services in this area, along with the expense attributable to the City staff to do more engineering for what amounts to about $7.0 million worth of public improvements. Calculated on a scale that comes to about five, six or seven percent for administration. He stated he is hoping that we can look for ways to limit the cost to keep down the cost of the administration end of this program, and deliver as much of these services to the people in terms of deliverable goods. He is just not sure that much of the work cannot be done in Mr. Hopson's Department and that by dealing with small firms on an as needed basis that we do not spend $200,000.

Mr. Hopson, Public Works Director, stated there is only one firm available in Charlotte and that is Whitehead; that Whitehead has the Kings Drive Project, Tyvola Road and some other projects for the State here in the area. He stated they are trying to spread the work around with these firms that are qualified. That the $200,000 is just a figure; they hope it will not come even close to that, but this is an outside figure. Since these road projects are nearing an end and they will be under construction they hope the City staff can handle quite a bit of the work and deal with the neighborhoods as the construction is underway. Hensley-Schmidt is doing the environmental impact work and some of the work with the neighborhood and they are doing a very fine job in that field. They wanted this firm on the board so they could start setting in with the Hensley Schmidt group, with the neighborhood groups and others to get the feel of the problems and to help us as we need it. The City will do the minor work such as sidewalks. When it comes to the major street projects, major engineering projects, then Consoer, Townsend can do it. These will be primarily street projects.
Councilman Harris stated he has raised this question before. That this is giving a blank check. This has nothing to do with getting involved in questioning you or your staff members' decision, but he thinks it is incumbent on Council in the whole CDRS area. That a few weeks ago there was a similar thing and we approved a blanket amount of money for a project, and there is no recall back to Council on the expenditure, and he was told at that time, of the funds as they were allocated. This project is large, and it is important that these projects be broken down specifically and they say that engineering work is needed on this, this and this. That it is important that Council approve this money for this project so that it has a feel for it.

Mr. Hopson replied there is a three year deadline facing us. That staff will be happy to give a monthly report to Council, whatever they request of the Manager. These areas are spread throughout the city, there are eight of them. That we intend to use staff first - it will be the frontline. Councilman Harris stated again he does not like the idea of giving a blank check from the standpoint of services and we do not have to put this out for bids. Mr. Hopson replied it is almost a bid; they discussed this with the three or four firms and the rates and thing and this is the best. The only firm large enough in Charlotte to do the work is Whitehead and Associates, and they have several city jobs at the present time. He stated he would come back to Council with a full report on just exactly what they are doing just as soon as they get these people on board. That we need their help to help staff do this. That we are not going to overspend this $200,000; that he does not believe we are going to even come close to it; but we had to have some figure.

Councilman Gantt suggested that $150,000 be used. Mr. Hopson replied that is all right with him. This firm did agree they would not charge any expenses, and this makes them equivalent to an intown firm. Councilman Whittington suggested that this be approved without using a figure. Mr. Underhill, City Attorney, replied there has to be some consideration stated in the agreement.

Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager stated that everything they design, everything they do has to come back to Council before awarding the bid. Councilman Harris asked if Council will be able to approve the contracts - in other words, every dollar that is spent? Mr. Burkhalter replied every dollar that is spent under this contract.

Motion was made by Councilwoman Locke, seconded by Councilman Harris, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to Consoer, Townsend & Associates for certain public works projects under the CDRS.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE AND MECKLENBURG COUNTY GIVING COUNTY-WIDE JURISDICTION TO SPECIFIED UNITS OR OFFICERS OF THE CHARLOTTE POLICE DEPARTMENT, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Williams, seconded by Councilman Harris, and unanimously carried approving the following units or positions for county-wide jurisdiction:

1. Field operation division commander.
2. Field operation division bureau commanders.
3. Team commanders.
4. Team sergeants.
5. Team investigators.
7. Tactical operations.
   a. Criminal investigations section.
   b. Special investigations section.
   c. Helicopter unit.
   d. Criminal Intelligence unit.


9. County wide jurisdiction to Charlotte Police Officers.
   a. When requested to assist the County Police Department in an emergency.
   b. When hot pursuit resulting from crime committed inside city leads officer into county.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF CERTAIN TAXES IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,719.30 WHICH WERE LEVIED AND COLLECTED THROUGH CLERICAL ERROR AGAINST FIVE TAX ACCOUNTS, ADOPTED.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, a resolution authorizing the refund of certain taxes in the amount of $3,719.30, which were levied and collected through clerical error against five tax accounts, was adopted.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 11, at Page 61.

LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND THE WESTSIDE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES, LTD., FOR 1,616 SQUARE FEET IN THE EAST INDEPENDENCE PLAZA FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS, BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 1975 AND ENDING JULY 31, 1978, AT AN ANNUAL COST OF $9,696, OR $808.00 PER MONTH FOR THE THREE YEAR PERIOD, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Gantt and seconded by Councilman Withrow to approve a Lease Agreement between the City of Charlotte, Community Development Department and The Westside Professional Associates, LTD, for 1,616 square feet in the East Independence Plaza for a term of three years, beginning August 1, 1975 and ending July 31, 1978, at an annual cost of $9,696, or $808.00 per month for the three year period.

Councilman Harris asked why this building is selected at six dollars a square foot? Mr. Sawyer, Director of Community Development, replied this is the same space that Medco was using. We now have the community organization for Economic Development Unit, which is essentially the same operation that Medco had, and they were located here, and it is recommended that we lease the same space. That the Economic Advisory Staff will be located here. Councilman Harris asked if there is no other space available in other buildings we have? Mr. Sawyer replied there is some other space but it is not as well located, or it is not as well arranged. The staff has been occupying this since August 1 as they had no other place to go.

The vote was taken on the motion, and carried as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Gantt, Withrow, Locke, Short, and Whittington.
NAYS: Councilmembers Harris and Williams.
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**AUTHORIZATION FOR ADVERTISING THE SALE AND REMOVAL OF ONE BRICK RANCH STYLE HOUSE, CITY OWNED PROPERTY, FROM THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SHOPTON ROAD AND BEAM ROAD, 2800 BEAM ROAD, APPROVED.**

Upon motion of Councilman Short, seconded by Councilwoman Locke and unanimously approved, authorization for advertising the sale and removal of one brick ranch style house, city owned property, from the northeast corner of Shopton Road and Beam Road, 2800 Beam Road, approved.

**ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENTS AUTHORIZED.**

Motion was made by Councilwoman Locke, seconded by Councilman Williams, and unanimously carried, approving the following encroachment agreements:

(a) Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation permitting the City to construct an 8-inch sanitary sewer line within the right of way of Ottawa Lane.

(b) Agreement with the North Carolina Department of Transportation permitting the City to construct an 8-inch fire line crossing East Independence Boulevard, northwest of Margaret Wallace Road.

(c) Agreement with Independence Square Associates granting the landowner the right to encroach on portions of the City's right of way for the purpose of constructing sidewalk surface finishes composed of 8" x 8" carnelian broken edge granite blocks, a decorative material.

**ACQUISITION OF EASEMENT AT 6100 & 6200 BLOCK OF FARM POND LANE, FROM FOUR SEASONS III APT. CO., FOR CAMPBELL CREEK OUTFALL SANITARY SEWER.**

Motion was made by Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, approving the acquisition of a 30' x 965.63' easement at 6100 & 6200 block of Farm Pond Lane, from Four Seasons III Apt. Co., at $1,170.00, for Campbell Creek Outfall Sanitary Sewer.

**PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS AUTHORIZED.**

Upon motion of Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Hithrow, and unanimously carried, the following property transactions were authorized:

(a) Right of Way agreement for 30' x 3,408.66' of property, at 1701 Stoneyridge Road, from Pine Island Country Club, Inc., at $15,000, for Sanitary Sewer to serve Long Creek Outfall.

(b) Acquisition of 15' x 276.49' of easement, at 3500 block of Carolina Avenue (unopened), from Realty Syndicate, Inc. for Sanitary Sewer to serve Jason Street, Carlotta Street and Connelly Circle.

(c) Acquisition of 15' x 2,114.80' of easement, at 6800 Dwightware Boulevard (off Albemarle Road), from The Westminster Company, at $1.00, for Sanitary Sewer to serve Eastwoods, Section I.
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(d) Option on 9.16' x 296.68' x 18.87' x 312.34' of property, 4.56 acres southwest side of Randolph Road, from E. C. Griffith Company, at $2,000, for Randolph Road Widening.

(e) Option on 4.18' x 220.00' x 29.22' x 32.75' x 200.34' of property, plus construction easement, at 439 Wendover Road (corner of Randolph Road), from Sidney Kosch and wife, Gertrude G., at $1,000, for Randolph Road Widening.

(f) Option on 55' x 130' x 55' x 130' of property, at 800 E. 16th Street, from W. C. Wallace, et ux, Yurika G., at $1,850.00, for Irwin-Sugar Creek Park - Phase II.

(g) Acquisition of 4.95' x 18.43' x 6.98' x 18.63' of drainage easement, at 4601 Shamrock Drive, from Ida Moore Alexander, (single), at $100.00, for Sharon Amity Road Widening.

(h) Option on 6.00' x 109.59' x 6.00' x 109.56' of property, at 4321 North Sharon Amity Road, from Carl Joyce-Williams and wife, Ada V., at $750.00, for Sharon Amity Road Widening - Section III.

(i) Option on 6.00' x 109.59' x 6.00' x 109.56' of property, at 4321 North Sharon Amity Road, from Carl Joyce-Williams and wife, Ada V., at $750.00, for Sharon Amity Road Widening - Section III.

(j) Right of Way Agreement on 10' x 8.5' x 12.89' of property, at Southeast Corner East Fifth Street and Hawthorne Lane, from Presbyterian Hospital, at $1.00, for Proposed Right of Way East Fifth Street at Hawthorne Lane.

(k) Option on 33.48' x 200.00' x 33.29' x 200.13' of property, plus construction easement, at 301 Remount Road, from G. Howard Webb and wife, Louise K., at $15,000, for Remount Road Widening.

(l) Option on 33.48' x 200.00' x 33.29' x 200.13' of property, plus construction easement, at 301 Remount Road, from G. Howard Webb and wife, Louise K., at $15,000, for Remount Road Widening.

MAYOR LEAVES CHAIR.

Mayor Belk left the Chair at this time, and Mayor pro tem Whittington presided during his absence.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS FOR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THOMPSON ORPHANAGE.

Councilman Short moved adoption of a resolution authorizing condemnation proceedings for the acquisition of property belonging to Thompson Orphanage located at 1111 East Third Street in the City of Charlotte for the purpose of establishing a Park, Playground and/or Recreational Area. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Locke.
Councilman Gantt stated he asked about the availability of funds for acquisition of the park on the northwest side of town, and it was pointed out that we have a million dollars funded for land acquisition of which we have lent the Public Housing Authority some $200,000; this left about $777,000 in the Public Land Acquisition Fund. He asked if we enter condemnation proceedings do we put up approximately $500,000 of this $777,000 for the purpose of acquiring this property from the Thompson Orphanage? Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, replied the procedure would be to put down the amount of money that our appraisal price was. Mr. Underhill, City Attorney, stated you have to deposit your estimate of fair market value based upon two appraisals.

Councilman Gantt stated he concludes the Council has already said they want to apply this in some previous action? Councilman Short replied that is right; that he believes it was the '73 or '74 general revenue sharing.

Councilman Harris asked if there is any way to make sure this is maintained as a green area? Councilman Short replied this will do it. Mr. Burkhalter stated he would say the best way and only way is to buy it. Councilman Harris stated we are buying it; but he means in the future if someone wants to build a parking lot or a city office building or anything else they could do it. His point is, if there is any way to make sure that this is maintained as a green area. Councilman Gantt stated Council has already voted it as an historic property. Councilman Harris stated there are four acres of land that could be developed into anything.

Councilman Gantt stated it makes sense for the city to have some control over the use of the land. That he thinks it would be a great place to have a park; on the other hand the only objection is that we have so many demands all over town for parks and there is only $1.0 million in Public Land Acquisition funds and we eat up probably 60 percent of it when we finished with this particular site, he questions whether or not we settled wisely with the funds we have.

Councilman Short stated this would be an assist to the freeway, an assist to Central Piedmont and an assist to the public in general. It is well worth it and will not penalize other park development. Councilman Gantt stated he is going to vote for the motion because a previous council decided this was something of value, and he does see the value of a park in that location; but it points up that we should do something in the future about increasing funds to buy up park land. That he can see objections from northwest Charlotte, northeast Charlotte and other places where people feel we should be spending money on parks for their children to have more access to them.

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

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book II, at Page 63.

MAYOR BELK RETURNS TO THE MEETING.

Mayor Belk returned to the meeting at this time and presided.
RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, a resolution was adopted authorizing condemnation proceedings for the acquisition of the remainder of the property belonging to Nick D. Kaperonis and wife, Pearl N. Kaperonis; Robert A. Howie, Trustee; and Cole Properties, Inc., located at 301 West Trade Street in the City of Charlotte for the Poplar Street Widening Project.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 11, at Page 64.

Motion was made by Councilman Gantt, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, adopting a resolution authorizing condemnation proceedings for the acquisition of property belonging to J. R. Renfrow, Jr. and wife, Myrtle P. Renfrow; Helen R. London and husband, John London; Nina R. Wiggins (widow); George N. Wilson (widower); George N. Wilson, Jr. and wife, Celeste R. Wilson; John R. Wilson and wife, Suzanne R. Wilson; J. R. Renfrow, Jr., Trustee, and wife, Myrtle P. Renfrow; and Helen R. London, Trustee, and husband, John London, located on Sardis Road North at Monroe Road in the City of Charlotte for the Sanitary Sewer to serve Sardis Oaks Subdivision Project.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 11, at Page 65.

Councilman Whittington moved adoption of a resolution authorizing condemnation proceedings for the acquisition of property belonging to Jack Harold Mattox (Minor); Jeanette Elizabeth Mattox; John Raymond Mattox; and James Ormand Mattox, Jr., located at 1101 Wendover Road (corner of Randolph Road and Wendover Road) in the City of Charlotte for the Randolph Road Widening Project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 11, at Page 66.

STREETS TAKEN OVER FOR CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE BY THE CITY.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and unanimously carried, approving the following streets for maintenance by the City:

(a) Delta Road, from Lawyers Road to 100 feet south of Baraway Drive.
(b) Baraway Drive, from Delta Road to 250 feet west.
(c) Planter's Place, from LaSalle Street to 890 feet south.
(d) Kingstree Drive, from Old Reid Road to end, 1400 feet west.
(e) Patrick Place, from Old Reid Road to Kingstree Drive.
(f) Longford Court, from Patrick Place to end, 140 feet north.
(g) Frederick Place, from Kingstree Drive to 130 feet south.
(h) Hillock Court, from Strangford Avenue to 600 feet east.
(i) Strangford Avenue, from 192 feet south of Langley Road to 945 feet south.

ORDINANCES ORDERING THE REMOVAL OF WEEDS, GRASS, TRASH AND BRUSH FROM PROPERTIES IN THE CITY.

Motion was made by Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, adopting the following ordinances:

Ordinance No. 825-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot between 3921 and 3933 Plainview Drive and adjacent to vacant lot at 3928 Plainview Drive.
Ordinance No. 826-X ordering the removal of brush and trash at 2125 Yadkin Avenue.

Ordinance No. 827-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot at corner of Tarrywood Lane and Auburndale Road.

Ordinance No. 828-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot adjacent to 3025 Simpson Drive.

Ordinance No. 829-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass at 1101 Sedgefield Road.

Ordinance No. 830-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass at 2200 Yadkin Avenue.

Ordinance No. 831-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass at 216 Mill Road.

Ordinance No. 832-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot adjacent to 2006 Russell Street.

Ordinance No. 833-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot adjacent to 409 Wake Street.

Ordinance No. 834-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot adjacent to 723 East 17th Street.

Ordinance No. 835-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass at 1205 South Church Street.

Ordinance No. 836-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot adjacent to 3040 Ridge Avenue.

Ordinance No. 837-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass at 2000 Barringer Drive.

Ordinance No. 838-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lot adjacent to 519 East Boulevard.

Ordinance No. 839-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass from vacant lots at corner of Grafton and Albemarle Road.

The ordinances are recorded in full in Ordinance Book 22, beginning at Page 307, and ending at Page 321.

ORDINANCES AFFECTING HOUSING DECLARED "UNFIT" FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

Upon motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the following ordinances were adopted affecting housing declared "unfit" for human habitation:

Ordinance No. 840-X ordering the demolition and removal of unoccupied dwelling at 2257 Blanton Street.

Ordinance No. 841-X ordering the unoccupied dwelling at 3510 Avalon Avenue to be closed.

Ordinance No. 842-X ordering the occupied dwelling at 2438 Columbus Circle to be vacated and closed.

Ordinance No. 843-X ordering the occupied dwelling at 4018 Oakwood Road to be vacated and closed.

Ordinance No. 844-X ordering the unoccupied dwelling at 306 Katonah Avenue to be closed.

The ordinances are recorded in full in Ordinance Book 22, beginning at Page 322.
PHASE II AND PHASE III OF PROPOSED SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION WITH 1975 BOND FUND APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Short, and seconded by Councilwoman Locke, to approve Phase II and Phase III of proposed sidewalk construction with 1975 bond funds, as recommended by the Public Works Department.

Council was advised the list includes 63 locations for a total of approximately 22 miles of sidewalks; 43 serve schools directly, and four serve parks directly, and the remainder serve high volume streets with strong evidence of heavy pedestrian traffic feeding into shopping areas, public housing, medical facilities and commercial areas.

Councilman Williams stated he would like to urge that the sidewalks to serve the Archdale Drive housing sites be done at some point. Mr. Hopson, Public Works Director, stated they are working with the Housing Authority on this to see where their portion comes to, and they will pick up from there. The City Manager stated he is very aware of Council's desires on this, and they are keeping on top of it.

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

WATER AND SEWER CONTRACTS, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and unanimously carried to approve the following water and sewer contracts:

(a) Contract with Horace H. Pittman, for 245 linear feet of 8" sanitary sewer to serve Albemarle Road and Reddman Road (Wachovia Bank), inside the City Limits at estimated cost of $3,980.00. The applicant will construct the entire system at their own proper cost and expense. The City is to own, maintain, and operate said system and retain all revenue. There is no cost to the City, and no funds are needed.

(b) Contract with George and Eddie Salem, for 230 linear feet of 8" sanitary sewer to serve 4322 Central Avenue, inside the City Limits, at an estimated cost of $3,850.00. The applicant has deposited 10% of the estimated construction cost. The remaining 90% will be deposited by the applicant before construction by City forces. No funds are needed from the City.

(c) Contract with Nisbet Oil Company, for 300 linear feet of 8" sanitary sewer to serve Farnhurst Drive at Nations Ford Road, inside the City Limits, at an estimated cost of $3,970.00. The applicant has deposited 10% of the estimated construction cost. The remaining 90% will be deposited by the applicant before construction by City forces. Refund to the applicant is as per agreement. No funds are needed from the City.

(d) Contract with Investment Mortgage Company for 3,020 feet of 8" C. I. Water Main, 4,080 feet of 6" C. I. water main and six (6) fire hydrants to serve Quail Hollow Subdivision, outside the City Limits, at an estimated cost of $54,000.00. The applicant has deposited $5,400.00 which represents 10% of the estimated construction cost; the remainder will be deposited by the applicant upon completion of the project. No money will be needed from the City.
CONTRACT AWARDED PALMER'S ROWAN STATIONERS, INC., FOR CITY AUTOMOBILE LICENSE DECALS.

Councilman Whittington moved award of contract to the low bidder, Palmer's Rowan Stationers, Inc., in the amount of $5,563 on a unit price basis for city automobile license decals, which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and unanimously carried.

The following bids were received:

- Palmer's Rowan Stationers, Inc. $5,563.00
- Weldon, Williams & Lick, Inc. 6,070.87
- Trans-Mark, Inc. 9,860.00
- Minnesota Mining & Mfg. Co. 13,090.00

CONTRACT AWARDED CROWDER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, FOR KINGS DRIVE RELOCATION

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded to the low bidder, Crowder Construction Company, in the amount of $1,939,904.80, on a lump sum and unit price basis for Kings Drive Relocation.

The following bids were received:

- Crowder Construction Company $1,939,904.80
- T. A. Sherrill Construction Co., Inc. 2,032,898.38
- F. T. Williams 2,077,362.12
- Rea Construction Company 2,104,309.90

CONTRACT AWARDED PARKE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR GENERAL CONTRACT FOR CHARLOTTE POLICE AND FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, and seconded by Councilman Short to award contract to the low bidder, Parke Construction Company, in the amount of $454,500.00, for general contract for Charlotte Police and Fire Training Academy.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Whittington, Short, Gantt and Locke.
NAYS: Councilmembers Harris, Williams and Withrow.

The following bids were received:

- Parke Construction Company $454,500.00
- Laxton Construction Company 463,300.00
- F. N. Thompson, Inc. 463,420.00
- Myers & Chapman, Inc. 465,114.00
- Reynolds & Sons Construction Company 465,636.00
- Moretti Construction Company 472,770.00
- Rodgers Builders, Inc. 474,296.00
- Grant Construction Company 474,825.00
- Gray R. Boone Construction Company 487,600.00
- Price & Hill Contractor 487,918.00
- S. C. Hondros & Assoc. 497,804.00
- R. H. Wheatley Company 501,250.00
- Blythe & Isenhour, Inc. 508,705.00
CONTRACT AWARDED TOMPKINS-JOHNSTON COMPANY FOR PLUMBING CONTRACT FOR CHARLOTTE POLICE AND FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY.

Councilman Whittington moved award of contract to the low bidder, Tomkins-Johnston Company, in the amount of $29,449.00, for plumbing contract for Charlotte Police and Fire Training Academy, which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Whittington, Locke, Gantt and Short.
NAYS: Councilmembers Harris, Williams and Withrow.

The following bids were received:

- Tompkins-Johnston Company: $29,449.00
- Gastonia Plumbing Company: 36,640.00
- Rea Brothers, Inc.: 38,835.00
- Shanklin Air Conditioning, Inc.: 42,600.00
- Acme Plumbing Company: 44,850.00
- J. V. Andrews Company: 49,600.00
- Mecklenburg Plumbing: 50,824.00
- Sullivan Plumbing Company: 52,200.00

CONTRACT AWARDED ADAMS HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING COMPANY FOR MECHANICAL CONTRACT FOR CHARLOTTE POLICE AND FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington and seconded by Councilwoman Locke, the subject contract was awarded the low bidder, Adams Heating and Air Conditioning Company, in the amount of $14,992.00, for the mechanical contract for Charlotte Police and Fire Training Academy, by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmembers Whittington, Locke, Gantt and Short.
NAYS: Councilmembers Harris, Williams and Withrow.

The following bids were received:

- Adams Heating & Air Conditioning Co.: $14,992.00
- Climate Conditioning Company: 15,490.00
- Moore Air Conditioning Company: 16,140.00

CONTRACT AWARDED WATSON ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR THE ELECTRICAL CONTRACT FOR CHARLOTTE POLICE AND FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington and seconded by Councilman Short, to award contract to the low bidder, Watson Electric Company, in the amount of $25,853.00, for the electrical contract for Charlotte Police and Fire Training Academy. The vote was taken and carried as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Whittington, Short, Gantt and Locke.
NAYS: Councilmembers Harris, Williams and Withrow.

The following bids were received:

- Watson Electric Company: $25,853.00
- Port City Electric Company: 28,800.00
- Bagby Electric Company: 28,937.00
- Frye Electric Company: 29,990.00
- Ind-Com Electric Company: 31,328.00
- Reid Electric Company: 31,455.00
- Driggers Electric Company: 31,035.00
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CONTRACT AWARDED BLYTHE BROTHERS COMPANY FOR 1975 FALL RESURFACING OF VARIOUS STREETS.

Councilman Short moved award of contract to the low bidder, Blythe Brothers Company, in the amount of $683,380.56, on a lump sum and unit price basis, for 1975 Fall Resurfacing of various streets, which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and unanimously carried.

The following bids were received:

Blythe Brothers Company $683,380.56
Rea Construction Company 685,370.69
Dickerson, Incorporated 708,613.15
Asphalt Construction Company 716,732.60

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMITS AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilwoman Locke, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the following special officer permits were authorized for a period of one year:

(a) Issuance of permit to David H. Sells, Jr., for use on the premises of K-Mart, 2701 Freedom Drive.
(b) Renewal of permit to Leon Freeman Mitchell, for use on the premises of Johnson C. Smith University.
(c) Renewal of permit to Robert T. Deese, for use on the premises of SouthPark Shopping Center.
(d) Renewal of permit to William Oran McDowell, Jr., for use on the premises of SouthPark Shopping Center.
(e) Renewal of permit to Sydney Edward Bradley, Jr., for use on the premises of SouthPark Shopping Center.


Motion was made by Councilwoman Locke, seconded by Councilman Harris, and unanimously carried, the subject ordinance amending Ordinance No. 662-X, the 1975-76 Budget Ordinance amending the revenues and expenditures for the Charlotte Manpower Department increasing the CETA Emergency Jobs Program appropriation by adding the sum of $717,507.00, was adopted and is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 22, at Page 327.

PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD ON REQUEST TO CHANGE NAME OF NORTHWEST EXPRESSWAY TO BROOKSHIRE FREEWAY AND PORTION OF BELHAVEN BOULEVARD TO BROOKSHIRE BOULEVARD.

Councilman Short requested that a public hearing be set for Monday, September 8, to change the name of the Northwest Expressway to Brookshire Freeway and the portion of Belhaven Boulevard within the City Limits, to Brookshire Boulevard.

He stated he has mentioned several times about naming the Northwest Expressway another name, and it would be Brookshire Freeway; out beyond a little bit of what is now Belhaven Boulevard would be called Brookshire.
Blvd. running out to the city limits - it is about a mile or so of the present Belhaven Boulevard.

He stated this has been presented to the State Highway Transportation Department by Ferrin Anderson. That Mr. Anderson advises there are no objections and they will change the signs themselves. He stated there are no businesses along the Northwest Expressway who would be involved with reprinting their stationery and that sort of thing; there are about 18 businesses and two or three residences along the portion of what is now Belhaven Boulevard so they might have some comment to make about that at the public hearing.

Councilman Short moved that a public hearing be held on Monday, September 8, to effectuate this change in name. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and carried unanimously.

COUNCILMAN SHORT LEAVES THE MEETING.

Councilman Short left the meeting at this time, and was absent for the remainder of the session.

MOTION TO INCLUDE ITEM FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION.

Councilman Withrow moved that Council consider the procedures for notifying participants concerning rezoning recommendations. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and carried unanimously.

PROCEDURES FOR NOTIFYING PARTICIPANTS IN REZONING APPLICATIONS, ADOPTED.

Councilman Withrow stated he has a letter given him by Mr. Fred Bryant stating that the County has a procedure concerning rezoning recommendations, and he thinks this procedure would work satisfactorily for the City as well. This says that each person will be notified in writing what action is taken in zoning matters and the changes that are made to keep them abreast of all changes and what is going on. Councilwoman Locke stated she would ask that it include that those parties who spoke at the hearing be notified of the decision of the Planning Commission. Mr. Underhill, City Attorney, stated that is a part of the County's procedures.

Councilman Withrow moved adoption of the procedures, which motion was seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and carried unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF NEED FOR TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TO BE PLACED ON NEXT AGENDA.

Councilwoman Locke requested that the next agenda, September 8, include an item to consider the need for the Transit Improvement Committee.

The City Manager stated the Committee met and sent out a report and he thinks they thought after that report, their job was finished. Councilman Whittington stated one of their recommendations was the transportation center at Brevard and East Trade Streets and changing the transfer points from the Square. They made a contribution while they were active.
CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENT DURING THE INFORMAL SESSION ON FINGERPRINTING OF CHILDREN.

Councilman Withrow stated he would like to clarify one item that might not have been clear in the informal session. He has received calls from people about teenage children breaking in homes, particularly on the west side of Charlotte, and the parents suggested that we should go through a fingerprinting process. That he brought it up to Council because it was a concern. That the parents were talking about fingerprinting, but he does not think this is feasible and does not think it is legal. He did not mean at that time for the City Attorney to see about the fingerprinting.

Mr. Underhill, City Attorney, stated he would have some reservations about the constitutionality of this.

Councilman Whittington stated, in defense of Mr. Withrow, he also received calls last night about breaking and enterings by young people; and the police, according to the calls he received, told the people, the victims, that they could do nothing about it because there were no fingerprints of these children, and that Council would have to do something about that. That is what took place, and that is why Mr. Withrow brought this up today.

HEARING ON CLOSING OF KINGSTON AVENUE REQUESTED BROUGHT TO COUNCIL AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

Councilman Whittington requested the City Manager to have on the Council agenda as quickly as possible the hearing on the closing of Kingston Avenue so these people, for and against the closing, will have an opportunity to come and speak to it, and Council can make a decision and get it resolved.

COMMENTS ON THE NEED FOR PARKS IN ALL AREAS, AND CITY MANAGER REQUESTED TO BRING REPORTS TO COUNCIL.

Councilman Whittington stated he has been on record as saying there was not a need for another park in the area of Beatties Ford Road, between Beatties Ford Road, Northwest Expressway and LaSalle Street. He stated he met with Mr. Coleman and the Westside Committee on the 13th of this month, and then on his own, went into this area by car. Then he came back and asked a member of the Committee to go into the area with him because David Stradinger's report referred to about 7.3 acres of land. They are talking about 20 some acres of land, and it seems to him we need to be somewhere in between that.

Councilman Whittington stated when this comes forth he intends to vote for it because there is a very serious need for recreation in that area. They are boxed in by the streets and the only recreation he saw, other than on the streets, was on Pitts Drive where a backboard was up with a hoop for basketball. That is all he saw and that is all that was there. It will take money to do it; but is is needed and this Council should do it.

Again talking about needs, he and Councilmembers Locke, Withrow, Williams and Gantt met with a group of people in the Tanglewood, Derita Woods area, on a street called Dalecrest and Finch Drive. These people, on their own, blocked off the street and held a party. They invited the Councilmembers and the Park and Recreation Commission members to come and see their needs for a swimming pool or a park. This is an area like Pitts Drive and Booker Avenue, and other areas where there
is no air conditioning; there is no place for these people to play except in the streets. Fincher Drive is a direct road from Wovens Road to Dalecrest and from Dalecrest into the access road to I-85 and then into North Graham Street. Here were all these people in a community effort to do something about their needs. He stated the lady who put all of this together wrote the City Manager, and he responded saying the Park and Recreation Commission would get involved in this. Councilman Whittington stated he hopes the City Manager will get involved in it and will bring to Council as soon as possible some tangible things that can be done there, even if it is a swimming pool.

Councilman Whittington stated he has been called week after week by Larry Owens, Frank Suddreth and others about realtors in the Northeast Charlotte area calling on their people and telling them they had better sell their property. These people are frightened and they are concerned and they need the help of local government if they have a way to help them.

He stated he would hope that Council would agree that the City Manager would immediately try and meet with the Board of Realtors and the President of the Board and the Executive Secretary to see if there is any way we can stop this. Their fears are being compounded because the Housing Authority has this housing site on Dillard Drive and Milton Road, and the Newall-Hickory Grove Road, and right across the street from it, and a half block away is a project which is not under the Housing, but it is predominately black. There are other apartment projects in the area that have a nearly 50-50 ratio and he told this to the Housing Authority when they picked this site.

He stated if you look at Northeast Charlotte from North Tryon out through Newall-Hickory Grove Road, they have problems and the City should try and help them with it. One thing we can do is to buy the land and build that park that was brought up here again today. If we could do some tangible things we can do something to stop some of this.

COMMENTS ON TRAFFIC PROBLEMS AND REQUEST THAT SOMETHING BE DONE TO ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEM.

Councilman Whittington stated for the past week he has been into the east side of town, looking at traffic conditions that the people who live between Albemarle Road and Independence Boulevard, east of Sharon Amity Road are faced with. It is Amity Place and Reddman Road and all those streets around the Hillcrest Golf Course – Coventry Woods. If you live in this area and are going to come out of there in the morning, or get home at night, you can go three ways. Go toward Mint Hill to Reddman Road, and back to Albemarle Road; or you can risk your life to get into Independence Boulevard either trying to get home or get out of Independence Boulevard; or you can use Pierson Drive. On Albemarle Road the traffic is backed up all the way to Sharon Amity Road, coming up to Independence trying to turn left. If you are on Pierson or live in Coventry Woods and you are trying to get to Albemarle Road, you cannot get out there. He stated there should be a traffic signal put up at Pierson Drive and Albemarle Road, and the left turn should be extended at Independence Boulevard and Albemarle Road so those people who have to go east to get back to Sharon Amity or go east out Independence Boulevard can turn left.

Mr. Corbett, Traffic Engineer, responded by saying that the traffic signal is available and the Traffic Engineering Department is waiting for Duke Power to erect the pole at Albemarle and Pierson; they have been waiting for two weeks. As to the left turn off Independence, there is a proposal.
before Mr. McBride of the Highway Department to have a second left-turn lane built in the median. The present left turn lane extends almost completely from Albemarle Road back to Pierson Drive. That we are waiting for them to get on that project. It has definitely been scheduled.

**MEDIAN ON SHARON AMITY ROAD, BETWEEN CENTRAL AVENUE AND ALBEMARLE ROAD, AUTHORIZED REMOVED.**

Councilman Whittington moved that the median on Sharon Amity Road, between Central Avenue and Albemarle Road be removed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harris.

Councilman Gantt asked if he would consider a substitute motion that we consider another opening in there. Councilman Whittington replied we put in two and the people who have the shopping center there have to make a left turn and come through a service station or go around behind it to get in there. Councilman Withrow stated he would hope that we would put in additional cuts if necessary and see if that will take care of the situation; if not, then remove the whole thing.

Mayor Belk stated the worse thing we have to show is Independence Boulevard, and the way it was messed up. You would almost have to get another 100 feet wide in order to get the traffic going in there. If you do the same thing on these other arteries you are going to have the same thing on all traffic. Councilman Harris stated one of the best streets we have in Charlotte for moving traffic is Sugar Creek Road, and it has a fifth lane for complete lane turning, and traffic can move on that street. As he said before, he thinks the median should be taken out. If you chop four or five holes in that median, it is not going to be a median left, so we might as well take it out.

Mr. Corbett, Traffic Director, stated he would prefer if there is a need to put holes in the median, that they put the one necessary in and not remove the entire median. It is a proven fact that medians reduce accident rates and Independence Boulevard is a good example. Previous to the time the median was put in, there were 800 accidents in three years due to vehicles turning left across the center line. The median was build and this was reduced to zero. The same thing was done on Wilkinson Boulevard. There were a little over 300 accidents in three years time, turning left across the center line. That was reduced to zero. The same thing would apply to Sharon Amity Road. Where left turns occur across the center line there is the most dangerous place on the roadway and he would prefer for those left turns to occur at designated intersections which would be designated median openings. Each opening has all the same problems that you have at an intersection, and he would suggest to Council that if they would like to provide additional openings that we do it at those places and not remove the entire median for safety's sake.

Councilman Harris stated from the statistics we have received that was not a proven fact; there have been no proven statistics on what effect the median has on the accident rate. That he believes this was a statement made at the last meeting. Mr. Corbett replied he made the statement that there has been no proven statistics over five lane sections without medians. He made no remarks about where medians have been constructed; but streets like Sugar Creek Road which has been referred to. That they contacted N. C. DOT and they have no record that they can rely on at the present time because this particular type of road has not been in service long enough to build a history.

Councilman Gantt asked if that particular type of road is likely to be safer than the standard two-lane road without the fifth lane? His problem with this whole situation is that we need to come up with a policy for
when we put the median in and when we do not. Particularly when we have
existing businesses that find themselves along that route, and might never
have located there if the median was there. What we are going for in the
median is beauty and safety. That he agrees that in certain areas the
median is the kind of thing you want to have. But in this particular
situation, he keeps hearing about a 37 per cent reduction in business and
somehow there is something wrong with that.

Mayor Belk stated that was when the street was torn up. A man told him
that since Eastland Mall opened, and he is about two blocks away, that he
is 2-1/2 per cent ahead.

Councilman Whittington stated there is nothing he hates to do any more
than to sit here as a Councilmember and be absolutely opposite of Mr.
Corbett or any other department head, but he has been out there, and it
is an obstacle course. The median of 10 feet should never have been put
there. The road should have been designed so that the 10 feet should have
been used to turn. Every way you cut it now, it is a hazard trying to turn
left. If you go into either one of those stores, it is just almost im­
npossible to get out unless you go through the back and back up through
that area to get back to Albemarle Road.

Councilman Withrow asked if he would agree to keep the medi.n if they
made enough openings out there to satisfy about everyone so they would
not have to make that 180 degree turn. That he sympathizes with the
people because he knows what happened on Wilkinson Boulevard.

Councilman Gantt stated he would like to see staff’s recommendations for
additional median cuts at those specific points that were raised two
weeks ago, and let Council vote on additional cuts or no median. He wants
to make sure we have all the possible alternatives before Council.
Councilman Withrow stated those people are suffering and the cuts need
to be made. If the cuts are to be made they should be cut. If you are
going to take it all out then it needs to be out. The cuts probably
would satisfy them if enough were put in. Councilman Gantt stated that
starts to become a diminishing value to the median then. Mayor Belk
stated it keeps the safety factor in there with the turns.

(MAYOR BELK LEFT AT THIS POINT, AND MAYOR PRO TEM WHITTINGTON PRESIDED
DURING THE VOTE ON THE MOTION, AND FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SESSION.)

Councilman Gantt asked if any trees will be left if we add three or four
more cuts? Mr. Corbett replied with the present situation he believes
there will be 12 remaining down towards the Albemarle Road end. There
will not be any towards Central Avenue. They will all be removed with
the one cut that Council has already authorized. He then indicated the
location of the trees from a map.

Mayor pro tem Whittington called for the vote on the motion, which
was carried as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Gantt, Harris, Locke and Williams.
NAYS: Councilman Withrow.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Harris, seconded by Councilwoman Locke, and
unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk