March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 68

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Monday, March 1, 1971, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., with Mayor pro tem James B. Whittington presiding, and Councilmen Fred D. Alexander, Sandy R. Jordan, Milton Short, Jerry Tuttle and Joe D. Withrow present.

ABSENT: Mayor John M. Belk and Councilman John H. Thrower.

* * * * * * * *

INVOCATION.
The invocation was given by Councilman Milton Short.

MINUTES APPROVED.
Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the last meeting on Monday, February 22, 1971, were approved as submitted.

RECOGNITION OF WINNERS OF ESSAY CONTEST "ABILITY COUNTS" FOR EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated in the audience today are some of our citizens who over the years have occupied themselves with the Mayor's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped. He introduced Mr. Russell Gray, Immediate past chairman of the Committee; Mr. Myran Smithwick, State Employment Agency; Mrs. Evelyn Staton, an English teacher from Myers Park High School and a member of the Essay Contest Committee; Mrs. Dorothy Fitzjohn, Chairman of the Essay Committee for the Employment of the Handicapped, and Mrs. Jane Rhores from the Charlotte News.

He stated these people are here today to honor and to congratulate the winners for the Governor's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped for North Carolina "Ability Counts" Essay Contest.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated the Second Place Winner of the State of North Carolina is Steven Viteck, a student at Myers Park High School. The Second Place Winner from Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is John Lucas Armistead; the Third Place Winner from Charlotte and Mecklenburg County is Frederick Nash Corzine. Mayor pro tem Whittington, on behalf of the Mayor and Council, presented Steven Viteck with a Plaque and a check; he presented John Armistead with a check and Frederick Corzine with a check.

He stated on March 18th in the Governor's Conference Room in Raleigh, Governor Scott will make the awards to the three students.

Mayors pro tem Whittington expressed appreciation to the members of the Committee for their help in the contest and in helping these people who mean so much to the Community and need help.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FORMATION AND APPOINTMENT OF A RELOCATION ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated recognizing the importance to the entire community of the successful relocation of both families and businesses from current and future Urban Renewal projects and for the purpose of contemplating and assisting the fine relocation program being carried on by the Redevelopment
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 69

Commission and its Relocation Staff, he would like to announce, on behalf of the City Council the formation of a Relocation Assistance Committee composed of representatives from all segments of community life. This committee will assist the Redevelopment Commission Relocation Staff in the relocation process by mobilizing the total resources of the community for this effort.

He stated this Council and the Mayor wishes to do everything they can to help these people and others who will be relocated in the future.

He stated the members of the Committee will be:

1. Mr. W. H. Jamison, Superintendent, Building Inspection.
2. Mr. W. E. McIntyre, Director, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission.
3. Mr. James Wilson, Executive Director; Model Cities.
4. Mr. Paul Bobo, Acting City Manager.
5. Mr. Horace Poley, Chief Right of Way Agent, Right of Way Division, Public Works Department.
8. Mr. Herman Yoos, Charlotte Board of Realtors.
9. Mr. Edwin Jones, representing Charlotte Chamber of Commerce.
10. Mr. George W. Marschall, Small Business Administration Director.
11. Mr. Forrest Gunn, Service Corporation of Retired Executives.
12. Mr. Ray King, Chairman, Charlotte Redevelopment Commission.
14. Mr. F. L. Rodenbeck, First Union National Bank.
15. Mr. John Schuber, Jr., Wachovia Bank.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated the first meeting of this Committee will be held at 10:00 o'clock, Wednesday, March 3, 1971, in the Council Chamber, for the purpose of doing all that can be done to help these people in these areas.

STATEMENT BY COUNCILMAN JORDAN ON THE CIVIC CENTER PROJECT.

Councilman Jordan stated he would like to talk about the Civic Center Project and to plead with the store owners who are holding this project up with court hearings.

He stated it has been a long and hard struggle to get where we are today on the Downtown Project. The first committee on the Downtown and Civic Center Project was appointed in 1964. Herbert Wayne, now deceased, was the Chairman and the Committee included George Ivey, Jr., Bill McIntyre, Ed Vinson, Steve Dellinger, now deceased, and himself. Many long meetings were held and much work was done towards this project to help Downtown, and therefore, the whole City of Charlotte. At one time, the Committee was enlarged to 100 members to get things going. Many hours have been spent in meetings and work and we are now at the crossroads, with everything looking good towards a new and modern Downtown in the next few years. New hotels, restaurants, office buildings, high rise apartments, and the governmental center plaza -- all will go towards making a new City of Charlotte.

Councilman Jordan stated he feels confident that Mr. Tuttle's Sugar Creek project will be approved and along with all other plans in the working and planning stage, will make this a great city. He stated he feels sure the merchants who want to hold up the center, which is really the hub of all this, feel bitter about having to move from locations they have been in for many, many years, and he hopes and believes they should consider the future of Charlotte and its growth. He stated we need this center to start things and to bring the other related activities to a starting point. He hopes they can find good temporary locations, then move back to a better downtown.
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 70

Councilman Jordan stated he also thinks our other citizens who own Downtown property should join some who have already started remodeling and rebuilding and help do this job, especially the old buildings. Many have already been condemned and there are many more that should be -- these should be torn down and new buildings built or sell to someone who will build or remodel the buildings now standing. High-rise parking facilities could be built on much of this property with the first floor offered to business and parking on upper and lower levels.

Councilman Jordan stated he would like to plead with these property owners, who own Downtown property, to get in the Charlotte-Downtown-Go stream of things and remodel, build, paint and clean up to make the entire area new looking, fresh and beautiful.

He again asked these fine citizens and merchants to cooperate with us, and drop the court hearing and let's all start getting the job done for a new Charlotte.

COMMENTS BY CITIZENS ON THE DOWNTOWN PROJECTS.

Mr. Albert Pearson stated Mr. Jordan has accused merchants in the area of holding up the Downtown development. That Mr. Jordan should be ashamed to sit here and make such a statement. That Downtown is being held up because of Council's lack of foresight in considering the merchants in the area. At no time has Mr. Jordan, or his group, had a meeting with any Downtown merchant to try to consider their welfare. That he has just set through the Conference Session where City Council has decided again to displace some more merchants in the Downtown area, and he challenges Mr. Jordan to say that this has been discussed with the merchants in the area who will be displaced by the Downtown parking. That the people in the Model Cities area were consulted, but no one had the integrity or the moral courage enough to ask if anyone else had been consulted, and these are people who are a part of the City of Charlotte. For him to sit there and insinuate that someone else is holding up a project, which was developed in closed meetings to take advantage of these people without giving them a hearing.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated for the record he wants it made plain that there has not been any secret meeting; it was a conference session scheduled and all the Council and news media knew what was to take place.

Mr. Tom Sykes stated he is not filled with anomosity towards anyone relative to the Civic Center Site; he is filled with disgust at Council's action in moving the Civic Center Site. He stated they are still going to fight this battle. There seems to be a lack of knowledge relative to the number of cases concerning the Civic Center Site. North Carolina Supreme Court has yet to rule on the case he has before it relative to this. That he would like to impress upon Council the importance of awaiting that decision before any further plans are made for the Civic Center. That he cannot guarantee that his efforts to stop the civic center from being located in the second block of East Trade Street will stop at the State Supreme Court level. That he does not see any way to get this Civic Center out of the ground by May 7. It is going to be a political issue. That Council is responsible for what has taken place down there, and he thinks the responsibility for the delay should be placed in the hands of those who are responsible for it -- our City Council. The ground work could have been perfected and it could be coming out of the ground already had it been left where it was. We would have had the necessary room to do the things that this facility calls for in the plans. It is not the merchants who are holding up the Civic Center Site, it is the City Council. That the blame for it should be placed exactly in the laps of those responsible. We voted for one thing and got another. We were told that the Civic Center would be placed in one particular location; and then we came back and we said no, we are going back now to where we wanted it originally. This Council said that. The responsibility for the delay in the Civic Center construction is primarily and basically the Council's and it is on the Council's shoulders. The Council put it there and should assume that responsibility.
Mr. Sykes stated he cannot envision any suit being dropped against this Civic Center Site because these are people who are taking their own money, out of their own pockets, to correct the unfairness that this Council has placed upon the citizens of this community. That Council is the one responsible for the Civic Center not being under construction today. The sooner Council realizes this, the better off it will be. It is time for Council to change back the Civic Center Site, that site which was afforded it to begin with. Council has allowed redevelopment land to be advertised for sale that has been cleared for years; it has allowed private industry to come in and take the land that was available for the Civic Center Site; the one he worked to have passed. That he worked for it because he thinks it is good; that he is looking forward to a Civic Center, properly placed and properly built with the facilities necessary to provide the citizens with the type of building that we can be proud of; without taking an entire city block where tax producing buildings are now located to get the necessary parking. We made this mistake on Independence Boulevard with the Coliseum. Another mistake is now being made. That tax dollars invested in the Civic Center Site will not be $1.2 million as has been publicly exposed, it will be more like $6.0 million tax dollars for that land. He stated he has made a complete and thorough study of the cost of the Civic Center land, and knows what he is talking about. The responsibility for the delay of the Civic Center is Council’s.

Mr. Ellis Berlin stated he had been in the second block of East Trade Street for 42 years. That Council says we need to hurry now as this has been planned since 1964. He agrees with that, and we have been confused since 1964. At first it was one block at the Square where Kress is located, four blocks down towards City Hall, one block each way from College Street down which was ten blocks. They were going to have a meeting about that and sent everyone a letter, but he did not get such a letter. That he called the Urban Renewal office and asked why he did not get a letter, and he was told that he did not receive a letter because Mr. Belk called them up and said to leave that block off as he would rather that block not be in it. Mr. Berlin stated this is a matter where one man called up and said leave this block off and it was left off when a thousand people in Charlotte could have complained and not have had any effect on anyone. He stated two years ago he had a fire and his building burned down, and he had to rebuild. When this was empty land, he was offered $150,000 for the land. Who would offer him $150,000 for 33' x 200' piece of land? That he does not know who would offer it except that Davis and Davis came with a check for $5,000 and a contract and wanted to buy the property. He told them that was where he was going to stay as long as he could work. That he got a permit from the City to build a new building and the building cost him $65,000, and he now has $215,000 in that piece of property. He stated right now he needs to spend about $500.00 more to do some electrical work. Then Council tells him about 1964 and the merchants not being reasonable. He asked what they think this is doing to them? They do not know from day to day.

Mr. Berlin stated he is sure it is a coincidence how this Civic Center was moved from way down on Brevard Street up to the second block of Trade Street; that he is sure it is a coincidence how there is going to be a garage across the street from it with a walk over from the Civic Center to the garage and another walk over from the garage to Belks. There are no eating facilities in the Civic Center, but there are three restaurants in Belks. There is plenty of shopping to be done at Belks. That he wonders who offered him the $150,000 for the property, and after it did not work out, decided it would be a better place for a garage.

He asked who Wilbur Smith confers with when he comes to Charlotte? He never came to see him. He stands there and talks to Mr. Belk. The whole thing is cozy.

Mr. W. J. Elvin stated he fully appreciates how anyone feels regarding the Civic Center because some years ago he gave it the title of "Tate and Brookshire’s Folly". It is still that. That it was supported by the majority
of the members of the Council with one or two exceptions at that time. There were a number of items brought up and purposely avoided when one of the Councilmen, Gibson Smith, tried to offer worthwhile suggestions and they were not accepted. This thing has gone on, and it appears that it will still be going nowhere. That it is unfortunate so much of Council’s valuable time is taken on it. That Council has to accept the responsibility and no one else.

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSMEN OF BELMONT-VILLA HEIGHTS REQUEST THAT FIRE STATION BE RESTORED TO AREA.

Mr. Thomas Robbins, Spokesman for the Belmont-Villa Heights Coalition, stated he represents the residents, businessmen, ministers and others and they are here to request the restoration of the fire station formerly located at Belmont and Allen Streets. He presented a petition containing 1,577 names. He stated they have met with the Fire Chief, with the City Manager, and the three top ranking officials of the fire department and they have been to Council. He stated they did not get anything out of the meeting with the City Manager and the three top ranking officials of the fire department except another map, which they do not feel justifies the removal of the fire station. He stated they are asking that an inspection be made and some consideration given to the conditions that exist out there. To his knowledge there was an inspection as such, somewhat limited. That they do not need an inspection; they are concerned about fire protection. They need the restoration of the fire station. They have done everything possible and tried to follow the channels. That they are sure Council is aware of the conditions that exist in the Belmont-Villa Heights, and they do not know the next course to take. Mr. Robbins stated he can assure Council whatever the course is they will take it and to the ultimate. They ask Council to reconsider and immediately restore the fire station in Belmont-Villa Heights.

Mr. L. K. Farrar stated according to the meeting they attended with Mr. Bobo, Mr. Black, Mr. Blackmon and Chief Dowdy, all of this came out of a recommendation by the AIA. He stated he has tried to find someone who knows something about when, where, why or how the AIA made such a recommendation. From what he can gather the recommendation was made by Chief Dowdy to the City Manager and to the City Council which was accepted. That Chief Dowdy only answers an alarm on the second alarm. Chief Blackmon does not go to a fire, neither does Chief Black; so how can Council accept a recommendation by a man who has not fought a fire in the Belmont area in 20 years. He stated these people are being deprived of fire protection in the Belmont area. Chief Dowdy made the recommendation but he knows he cannot do what he said he would do. He said he could answer an alarm there in five minutes. That they have made checks and the quickest one they have made is 20 minutes. According to the medical association a man can suffocate in three minutes. He asked who is derelict in their responsibility to the people in the Belmont Area if it is not the City Council.

Mr. Bill Lowder, Lowder Coal & Oil Company on Harrell Street, stated Mr. Robbins referred to a map and it has many circles which Chief Black and Blackmon showed them and tried to explain to them just how they would proceed with better fire protection in this area than they have had in the past. Unfortunately the map does not tell the whole story. According to Chief Black the number one fire hazard in a community is population; the population in this community in the past three years has more than doubled. The second is the condition of the old housing with faulty heating - old chimneys, wiring and so forth. The lack of communications; there are very few telephones per house; there are no fire alarm boxes in the vicinity. That they are supposed to have protection from three different stations. One, the uptown station on Fourth Street; the Plaza and Commonwealth Department, and the North Charlotte station. The North Charlotte station has a larger territory than it can handle now. The Uptown Station on Fourth Street has a lot of traffic hazards to pass;
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 73

Unfortunately, a fire does not pick a convenient time to happen; it happens when it wants to happen. Can you imagine a large fire truck driving from Fourth Street to Belmont-Villa Heights area in a matter of five minutes at 5:00 o'clock in the afternoon? As far as the Plaza and Commonwealth Station is concerned, there are two grade crossings the fire truck must pass before it can get to the Belmont-Villa Heights section - one on Central Avenue and one on Louise Avenue.

Mr. Lowder stated Council owes consideration to this if for no other reason than the federal government, through the urban renewal, has spent and is in the process of spending six and a half million dollars in this neighborhood for rehabilitation; they think it is worth doing something about. To take the fire protection away does not make sense. It is unfair to the federal government; it is unfair to the new homeowners. He stated another problem is insurance. Until there was talk about moving the fire station, his property was under a blanket policy. Less than a year ago the blanket policy was cancelled and it was put under a fair plan which is similar to an assigned risk plan on automobile insurance. Under the fair plan, each house has to be inspected, inside and outside. That the basic rates are the same and he has 41 houses in the area. That he has not had any claims in the past year and no reason for an insurance cancellation.

Councilman Tuttle stated the fair plan is not related to Villa Heights; it is in any section of the city and if you go through the fair plan you go through the expense of getting the insurance. Mr. Lowder stated that is the reason he is here; why is he now under the assigned risk plan? Mayor pro tem Whittington asked if he is trying to prove that because No. 3 Fire Station was moved, his insurance is going up? Mr. Lowder replied he is not trying to prove it; he is just trying to find out why his insurance has gone up. Mayor pro tem Whittington suggested that he consult with his insurance agency and let him bring this information to Council. Mr. Lowder stated he cannot give Council a letter saying that because this fire station has been moved, then his property was put under the fair plan. Councilman Withrow stated he owns some houses in another section of town and it was put under the fair plan; that he does not think that Mr. Lowder's property was put under the fair plan because the fire station was moved. Mr. Lowder stated he does know that his property was under a blanket policy, and they have property in other areas of town which is not involved in this, and they have not received a fair plan or cancellation on the other property.

Mr. Lowder stated it is not fair to the new homeowners in this area; there has been fire protection in this area for over 40 years. They are not asking Council to build another fire station; they are not asking Council to buy another truck; they are not asking Council to hire another man. All they are asking is to give them back their fire truck because that is where it belongs. The building is there; it is in good condition and it does not need one single penny spent on it. He stated he feels the City Council owes it to the people, the new homeowners in the Belmont-Villa Heights section, and to the government for spending the money trying to help this area, to park the truck back over there rather than parking it at another station.

Reverend Paul Horne of North Charlotte stated he is speaking for the North Charlotte Action Committee. That they are involved in this also. In order to help fight the fires in the Belmont-Villa Heights section, the City will take their truck. Suppose in the North Charlotte area they were having a fire and a fire was to break out in the Villa Heights or Belmont area. What good would the North Charlotte truck be to that area? The trucks from Downtown and the Plaza would not be able to get there and do the work that needs to be done with the type of housing that is so prevalent in these two areas. He stated they feel regardless of what the City's motives were and regardless of the economics, that it is almost imperative for the safety of the North Charlotte area, as well as for the Belmont-Villa Heights area, that this truck that has been removed, be replaced to serve the community.
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 74

BOOKLETS ON "YOUR GUIDE TO THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SCHOOLS" PRESENTED TO COUNCIL BY CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG COUNCIL OF THE PTA.

Mrs. Dunbar introduced the immediate past president of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Council of PTAs, Mrs. I. B. Nichols, Sr., and the current president, Mrs. R. L. Stevenson. That during Mrs. Nichols term in office she was instrumental in having a very important book published and Mrs. Stevenson now has the responsibility for its distributions and acceptance by the public.

Mrs. Dunbar stated on behalf of the Charlotte Mecklenburg Council of PTAs, they are happy to present to members of Council copies of the Guide to the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. She stated the book was prepared in cooperation with Dr. Folk of the School Board staff and other members of his staff. That it is only a collection of facts, it tells what we have now and gives an overall picture. The purpose of the handbook is to educate the public because they feel that an adequately informed public would be willing to support a good public school program. Through the ages the importance of a good education has been recognized. She stated they hope the Council members will find the book informative and will encourage other people to read it.

Mayor pro tem Whittington thanked Mrs. Dunbar, Mrs. Nichols and Mrs. Stevenson for bringing this booklet to Council.

REMARKS REGARDING WORKABLE PROGRAM AND PUBLIC HOUSING.

Mr. Dave Blevins of the Charlotte Fair Housing Association, stated he would like to commend Mr. George Seljen and the Workable Program Committee for the fine document they did produce the second time around. That special thanks go to Mr. Vince Conner and Betty Rivers and the staff for finally getting all the information together they had to for this. They did a fantastic job, and they in Fair Housing are very well pleased with what they have seen.

He stated they have two concerns regarding the contents of the workable program document. One is the Housing Code inspection section. We have a somewhat improved housing code that was recently adopted by Council. Their concern largely centers around it, and they want to see more enforcement of the housing code. Perhaps the hiring of the two additional housing inspectors will help to situation somewhat. They feel it is not enough; there are money problems; however, the housing problems of Charlotte will continue to deteriorate unless this particular area of improving housing code enforcement is given more attention. That he was pleased to hear Mayor pro tem Whittington's statement concerning the relocation committee that was formed; this is another area where fair housing has been concerned; it is also one of the areas they have some questions about in the workable program. Frankly, they do not see housing resources available that the workable program committee says are there. In fair housing they will continue to be vigilant to see that Council does all that is possible to provide adequate housing for low income people, and they will do their best to help in ways they can help. They have found it difficult at times to find ways that they can help either through being ignored or being considered irrelevant. That they are here and they are willing to work as hard as they can to find and develop more low income housing.

Mayor pro tem Whittington thanked Mr. Blevins and stated the Housing Authority and the Redevelopment Commission is to meet with Council in the near future to discuss public housing. He asked Mr. Blevins to keep in touch with Mr. Bobo and Mr. Carstarphen so that he can come to that meeting.
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 75

ORDINANCE NO. 33-Z AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-8 OF THE CITY CODE
AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING OF A LOT AT 4501 SHARON ROAD,
ON PETITION OF JAMES E. BEAMON.

Councilman Tuttle moved adoption of the subject ordinance changing the
zoning of the property from R-15 to O-6 as recommended by the Planning
Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and carried
unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 99.

ORDINANCE NO. 34-Z AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-8 OF THE CITY CODE
AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY AT 3729 AND 3733
FREEDOM DRIVE, ON PETITION OF JESSIE L. CHEESBOROUGH, EUNICE M. WILLIAMS,
ET AL.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and
unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinance changing the zoning from
R-9 to B-1 as recommended by the Planning Commission.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 100.

ORDINANCE NO. 35-Z AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-8 OF THE CITY CODE AMENDING
THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY AT 4126 TRIANGLE DRIVE,
ON PETITION OF CAROLINA BUILDERS, INC. OF CHARLOTTE.

Upon motion of Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Alexander,
and unanimously carried, the subject ordinance was adopted changing the zoning
from B-1 to B-2 as recommended by the Planning Commission.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 101.

RESOLUTION SETTING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON MONDAY, MARCH 22, 1971,
ON PETITIONS NO. 71-23 THROUGH 71-25 FOR ZONING CHANGES.

Councilman Tuttle moved adoption of the subject resolution setting date of
public hearings on Monday, March 22, 1971, on petitions for zoning changes.
The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 7, at Page 257.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SUBMIT TO THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AN APPLICATION FOR AN INTERIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN
THE FIRST AND THIRD WARD URBAN RENEWAL AREA.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle to adopt the subject resolution
authorizing the Mayor to submit to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development, an application for an Interim Assistance Program in the First
and Third Ward Urban Renewal area. The motion was seconded by Councilman
Alexander, and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 7, beginning on
Page 258.
RESOLUTION APPROVING A RELOCATION PLAN FOR THE CHARLOTTE MODEL CITIES PROGRAM FOR THE SECOND ACTION YEAR, DEFERRED FOR ONE WEEK.

Councilman Alexander moved adoption of the subject resolution approving a Relocation Plan for the Charlotte Model Cities Program; approving a contract with the Redevelopment Commission for the provision of relocation services; approving a statement of conditions under which relocation payments will be made; fixing a payment schedule for families and individuals and approving Schedules of Average Sales Prices and Annual Gross Rentals for standard housing in Charlotte. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow.

Councilman Short asked under this program, if someone were ousted from his house or residence for some reason in the Model Cities area, he would receive relocation assistance, or in the case of a business, would receive relocation assistance; but if he were in some other area, he would not? Mr. Gene Randall, Relocation Agent, replied they had to come up with a plan for people in the Model Cities area who might be displaced by any kind of governmental action. That there is urban renewal in the Model Cities area and that is taken care of; the Highway Authority is taken care of. This plan under consideration is for people who do not come under any of these programs, and they must have a plan to help anyone who might be displaced by any kind of governmental action in the Model Cities area. The plan has already been approved and there is only one major change which has to do with the budget. Under Code Enforcement there is no relocation assistance. Councilman Short asked if he means if someone is ousted by Code Enforcement in Third Ward, he would not get the relocation assistance? Mr. Randall replied that is right; but under the Model Cities program, he would; that they must pay the very same amount that is allocated by urban renewal people.

Councilman Short stated this is a little difficult for him to understand, and he made a substitute motion to withhold action on the resolution and put it on the agenda next week. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle.

Mr. Randall stated this action is necessary in order for the money to be released for the Model Cities program; and this is one of the things that is holding it up. That everything in the plan is strictly by the federal guidelines, and the only thing this affects is the budget.

Councilman Tuttle asked what is meant by "approving schedules of average sales prices and annual gross rentals for standard housing in Charlotte"? Mr. Randall replied there is an additional payment, and these schedules are used to determine how much a person will receive. If you sold your house at the fair market value and then when you went out on the market, you could not get a suitable or comparable house, then these schedules will help the relocation people decide how much money you will get. In the last plan, a person could get up to $5,000 over and above the fair market value of his house. Now, because of what HUD is doing, there is a possibility he can get up to $15,000. In order to determine this along with other things you have to have these schedules. It all depends on the number of bedrooms the family might need. Councilman Tuttle asked how you set an average sales price on a house? Mr. Randall replied this was done by the Public Housing Authority. This is something that has already been approved by the City. That the local people have nothing to do with; it is strictly HUD's guidelines.

Councilman Short stated the Model Cities program in almost all respects amounts to offering certain opportunities to a disadvantaged area on the basis if they need or would like to have and would like to take a step to obtain certain things offered to them, then they can initiate an action to receive this. That he thinks this is a little bit different from a situation of relocation where the government has initiated action to move in on somebody and yet we are doing this under two different procedures. One affords the relocation assistance in Fourth Ward, Greenville and First Ward and Belmont, and in Third Ward, the government just moves in and under a different procedure, does not offer you the relocation assistance. That it seems different from the normal Model Cities Program in that regard.

March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 76
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 77

Councilman Alexander stated we are determining here a structure under Model Cities Program that is regulated to a certain conformed area of our city. These are the benefits that grow out of attempting to improve a certain circumscribed area. To be able to make this city-wide, then we would have to attempt to see if we can make the whole city a model cities area. We are late in attempting to do that and we are later still because what the City should have done to cover what Mr. Short is talking about years ago when we went into urban renewal we should have considered the entire city as urban renewal area, then we would have gotten a certain amount of relocation benefits for anyone who was so moved. That he cannot see why we must hold up the progress of this program because it does not cover everything in our city; we are only dealing with the model cities program area. If we should take that as a reason for not approving this, think of the many other services that are given through the model cities program and HUD financing that does not happen in other areas of the city.

After further discussion, Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, advised that Mr. Wilson, Director of Model Cities, has received more information and will have it for Council next week, and that it is alright to hold it up one week.

Councilman Tuttle stated he would like something cleared up; that in the report, it says that Houses No. 1, 2 and 3 on Smith Street are two bedroom houses, the same quality and all have 900 square feet; yet the man at No. 1 gets $4,000 for his house, No. 2 gets $5,000 and No. 3 gets $6,000. In the average of the schedule of values, if these houses fell in the $15,000 category, then the man in No. 1 would get $11,000 more and the man in No. 2 would only get $10,000 and the man in No. 3 would only get $9,000.00. Mr. Randall replied this has to do with the number of bedrooms needed by the family. If the family is moved by any governmental action and they need a two bedroom unit and they go out on the open market and they cannot find a house that is comparable space-wise to the one they have and it requires a certain amount of additional money, that is what the additional payment is for. It does not mean that everyone will get the additional money; this is a maximum that you can get. Mr. Randall stated the program will be administered by the Relocation Department of the Charlotte Redevelopment Commission.

The vote was taken on the substitute motion to defer for one week and carried unanimously.


Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinance authorizing the transfer of $5,000.00.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 102.

RESOLUTION GRANTING RELIEF FROM HARDSHIP UNDER A RESOLUTION ADOPTING SETBACK LINES ON EAST AND WEST THIRD STREET.

Councilman Short moved adoption of the subject resolution which provides for the dedication of a permanent sidewalk easement in lieu of the City acquiring the area as established by the approved setback lines along West Third Street along the frontage of the proposed Northwestern Bank Building; in exchange for waiving the required setback area, the owners of the property will furnish a permanent easement, construct a new sidewalk, construct a new curb and gutter, provide walk and street lighting and will maintain the walk for general public use as long as the proposed building exists. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alexander and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 7, beginning at Page 260.
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF CERTAIN TAXES.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, the subject resolution was adopted authorizing the refund of taxes in the total amount of $3,079.86, which were levied and collected through clerical error against 14 tax accounts.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 7, at Page 262.


Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinance ordering the demolition of the dwelling at 1212 Redbud Street for which the owners have signed a statement authorizing the city to demolish the dwelling and to place a lien against the property for the cost of the demolition.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 103.


Councilman Tuttle moved adoption of the subject ordinance ordering the removal of trash and rubbish on premises across from 2603 Watson Drive. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and carried unanimously.

The ordinances are recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, beginning at Page 105.

CONSTRUCTION OF WATER MAINS AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, approving contracts for the construction of water mains, as follows:

(a) Contract with David D. Berson for the construction of 320 feet of 6" C. I. Water Main and one fire hydrant to serve property abutting on Interstate Highway 85 Service Road, inside the city limits, at an estimated cost of $2,585.00, to be financed according to the Partnership Plan wherein the applicant advances the full cost of the main and will be reimbursed 50% of the sum over a period of time according to the revenue yield.

(continued)
b) Contract with William Trotter Development Company for the construction of 1,280 feet of 6" C. I. Water main, and one fire hydrant, in Northwood Park Subdivision II, Phase B, inside the city limits, at an estimated cost of $5,700.00, to be financed according to the Partnership Plan wherein the applicant advances the full cost of the main and will be reimbursed 50% of the sum over a period of time, according to the revenue yield.

INSTALLATION OF SANITARY SEWER MAIN IN NORTH GRAHAM STREET, AUTHORIZED.

Councilman Tuttle moved approval of the request of William Hardware, Inc. for the extension of 104 lineal feet of 8-inch sanitary sewer main in North Graham Street, inside the city, at an estimated cost of $957.00, with all cost of the construction to be borne by the applicant whose deposit in the full amount has been received and will be refunded as per terms of the agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT ALONG EAST SECOND STREET WITH THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANK, CHARLOTTE BRANCH, APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, the subject temporary construction easement along East Second Street was approved with the Federal Reserve Bank, Charlotte Branch permitting the City of Charlotte to construct a retaining wall on this property as a part of the Downtown Street Improvements.

SETTLEMENT WITH THE SOUTHERN CAR WASH FOR EASEMENT FOR SANITARY SEWER, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, approving a settlement with the Southern Car Wash, in the amount of $200.00, for easement for sanitary sewer to serve 4329 E. Independence Boulevard.

CONTRACT WITH WILBUR SMITH AND ASSOCIATES FOR DESIGN AND PREPARATION OF PLANS FOR THE WIDENING OF OAKLAWN AVENUE, FROM BEATTIES FORD ROAD TO IRWIN CREEK, AUTHORIZED.

The subject contract was presented for Council's action.

Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, advised that Wilbur Smith & Associates has a contract with the Redevelopment Commission to design the portion of Oaklawn Avenue, from Irwin Creek to Statesville Road, which is in the Greenville Project. Because they are already working on the design in the area, the subject contract is recommended for council approval. Also, Interstate 77 bi-sects Oaklawn Avenue and in order to get the Highway Commission to build a grade separation, the City had to agree to the widening and improving of Oaklawn Avenue.

Councilman Tuttle asked if the City Engineers are not capable of this type of engineering? Mr. Bobo replied they are but they are overloaded with other work, and as Wilbur Smith is working in the area, they thought this would be the best way to handle it. Councilman Tuttle stated with all the engineering fees the city pays, it seems to him the staff could be increased and take on some of these projects.

Councilman Jordan moved approval of the contract with Wilbur Smith & Associates for the design and preparation of plans for the widening of Oaklawn Avenue, from Beatties Ford Road to Irwin Creek, at a fee of $20,000.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.
PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS AUTHORIZED.

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

(a) Acquisition of 38.73 acres of property on Old Dowd Road, in Berryhill Township, from Heirs of J. P. Sloan, at $89,000, for the Airport Expansion.

(b) Acquisition of 1.696 acres of property at 7116 Old Dowd Road, in Berryhill Township, from Gary Sweeney and wife, Betty J. Sweeney, at $15,000, for the Airport Expansion.

(c) Acquisition of 15' x 1,064.30' and 15' x 777.17' of easement at 215 Acres East Side U. S. 21 South, from First Union National Bank and E. Hall Hand, Jr., Co-Trustees under will of E. H. Hand, at $5,000.00, for sanitary sewer to serve Pine Valley.

(d) Acquisition of 11.49' x 75.02' x 10.00' x 75' at 3634 Eastway Drive, from Mildred Elizabeth Goines, (widow), at $2,600.00, for Eastway Drive Project.

(e) Acquisition of 58.87' x 9.55' x 56.00' at 3732 Commonwealth Avenue, from Edna M. Funderburk (widow), at $2,300.00, for Eastway Drive Project.

JAMES D. HOWARD APPOINTED AS VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle to appoint Mr. James D. Howard as Veteran's Service Officer, at an annual salary of $9,660.00 effective March 1, 1971. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated Mr. Howard has been the Assistant Service Officer in this office for about two years; at the death of Mr. Vernon Tucker, he has been acting Service Officer. That he commends Mr. Howard to Council; that he has done an outstanding job.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

TRANSFER OF CEMETARY LOTS, AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute deeds for the transfer of the following cemetery lots:

(a) Deed with Mr. Robert B. Pickett and Wife, for Lot No. 279, Section 4-A, Evergreen Cemetery, at $252.00

(b) Deed with Mrs. Myrtle S. Tucker for Lot No. 93, Section 2, transferred from E. F. Skidmore & wife, Sarah, at $3.00 for transfer deed.

CONTRACT AWARDED DEWEY BROTHERS, INC. FOR MANHOLE RINGS AND COVERS.

Upon motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, the subject contract was awarded to the low bidder, Dewey Brothers, Inc., in the amount of $18,823.86, on a unit price basis, for manhole rings and covers.

The following bids were received:

Dewey Bros., Inc. $18,823.86
Sumter Machinery Company 21,164.22
Knoxville Foundry Company 24,000.00
Russell Pipe & Foundry Co., Inc. 24,240.00
Neenah Foundry Company 33,000.00
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 81

CONTRACT AWARDED LYON METAL PRODUCTS, INC. FOR STEEL LOCKERS.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to the low bidder, Lyon Metal Products, Inc., in the amount of $7,496.02, on a unit price basis, for steel lockers.

The following bids were received:

- Lyon Metal Products, Inc. $7,496.02
- Southern School Service, Inc. 7,760.00
- Penco Products, Inc. 8,522.09

CONTRACT AWARDED SEAGRAVE FIRE APPARATUS, INC. FOR ONE 1,500 GALLON PER MINUTE FIRE TRUCK.

Councilman Jordan moved award of contract to the low bidder, Seagrave Fire Apparatus, Inc., in the amount of $47,833.00, on a unit price basis, for one 1,500 gallon per minute fire truck. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The following bids were received:

- Seagrave Fire Apparatus, Inc. $47,833.00
- American LaFrance 48,321.46
- Burgess Fire Equip., Inc. 48,402.00

DISCUSSION OF BIDS ON PLANT MIX ASPHALT.

Councilman Short stated that in the next five bids for plant mix asphalt, there is only one bidder under each section and neither one contested the other. Mr. Brown, Purchasing Agent, replied this is rather standard, and has been going on for a number of years. Last year there was one other supplier in Charlotte, and since that time Rea Construction Company has bought that company out; there are only two asphalt suppliers. They are located in different areas of the City and it is to the City's advantage to have bids come in this way as there is a hauling charge. The City picks the asphalt up with its own truck, and being able to go to the nearest point is an advantage to the City. They are located in the North Graham Street area, McAlway Road area, Griffin Street area, Old Pineville Road area and Old Dowd Road area.

CONTRACT AWARDED BLYTHE BROTHERS COMPANY FOR PLANT MIX ASPHALT.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded the only bidder, Blythe Brothers Company, in the amount of $37,500.00, on a unit price basis, for 5,000 tons plant mix asphalt.

CONTRACT AWARDED REA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR PLANT MIX ASPHALT.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to the only bidder, Rea Construction Company, in the amount of $37,500.00, on a unit price basis, for plant mix asphalt.
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 82

CONTRACT AWARDED REA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR PLANT MIX ASPHALT.

Councilman Alexander moved award of contract to the only bidder, Rea Construction Company, in the amount of $37,500.00, on a unit price basis, for 5,000 tons plant mix asphalt. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

CONTRACT AWARDED BLYTHE BROTHERS COMPANY FOR PLANT MIX ASPHALT.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded the only bidder, Blythe Brothers Company, in the amount of $37,500.00, on a unit price basis, for 5,000 tons plant mix asphalt.

CONTRACT AWARDED REA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR PLANT MIX ASPHALT.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to the only bidder, Rea Construction Company, in the amount of $45,000.00, on a unit price basis, for 6,000 tons plant mix asphalt.

CITY ATTORNEY REQUESTED TO CONTINUE TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO PASS LEGISLATION ON LEWDNESS.

Councilman Withrow stated he has received quite a number of letters from people, not only in Charlotte, but in other parts of the State on the question of lewdness. He stated he hopes that Mr. Underhill, City Attorney, will continue to put pressure on the Legislature and, if necessary, on the Congressmen and the Senators, to pass some type of law to stop this kind of thing happening in our city and in the state.

COUNCILMAN TUTTLE LEAVES MEETING.

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

STREET DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO CLEAN AND SWEEP STREETS IN THE CLANTON PARK AREA.

Councilman Alexander stated Citizens in the Clanton Park section say for the past three years the City has stopped cleaning their streets. They say it was done regularly some three years ago; but since the community has comparatively changed, they cannot recall in the last three years, the streets in Clanton Park having been cleaned, swept and flushed as they were done. Also the drains in the area have not been cleaned and in certain areas on certain streets these drains back up and flood the area. He requested the Acting City Manager to have the Public Works Director investigate this complaint.

RECOMMENDATION THAT 25 BLOCK AREA IN FOURTH WARD BE CONSIDERED FOR PARK.

Councilman Short stated from time to time, several members of Council have brought up putting a park in the Fourth Ward area. He stated he has concluded that Council should broaden its approach and seek to put into urban renewal the entire area bounded by Church Street, Sixth Street, the railroad and the Northwest Expressway. This is an area of 25 blocks and about 100 acres at a value of approximately four and a half to five million dollars, he is told.
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 83

He stated the land is in the Model Cities area but is not included in any of the development programs such as NIP or conventional urban redevelopment. Just about all of the Model Cities area is included in some such program, and he thinks Council should go ahead and put this in, too. He stated he is aware that there are some formidable difficulties in doing this. At one time the Planning Commission had concluded the area was not eligible for urban renewal. That he is now told there is a later survey of the area and probably it will or may qualify. There is the difficulty of obtaining federal approval for any new urban renewal. He believes we could formulate a re-use plan for this area that would tie in very closely with the stated federal aims for urban renewal; that is to provide jobs and housing for people. That he can hardly think of a potential urban renewal area in Charlotte that would be better fitted to answer these aims than this area. Obtaining the local one third is a difficulty.

Councilman Short stated on the advantaged side, we are already planning to widen several of the streets in the area, such as Graham, Seventh, Pine and Church, and perhaps this money could be multiplied federally by using it as urban renewal credit. That he has been in the area a number of times and he does not think there is any question about the need. That he has an inventory of approximately 219 houses, buildings and uses in this 25 block area. About 190 odd of these uses of housing or buildings should be replaced, and only about 25 or 30 are candidates to remain. There are 94 overaged houses, 45 or 50 years old in the area, against almost none that are modern, new up-to-date houses.

He stated one reason we should redevelop this area as quickly and as energetically as we can is that it is already served with virtually every type of public amenities such as streets, sewers, water, police, fire, sidewalks, expressways, railroads, close to downtown and close to the library. The investment the public has made is not bringing a good return and it should bring back many times more in taxes.

Councilman Short stated he would like to emphasize the word "industrial use". To his knowledge we have never had in Charlotte an urban renewal re-use plan that involved industrial uses. That he hopes the Planning Staff can get into this area and that they will confer with men like Bill Ficklin, Creed Gilley and with the State C & D and see if some industry cannot be arranged in the western portion of the area, and housing arranged in other portions.

He stated there was an editorial in the Observer a few weeks ago that related to this type of subject and it contained this statement: "To live well near your job is an appropriate urban goal". That the editorial indicated the inner cities, the inner core of many of the larger cities of America are losing industrial plants while at the same time retaining as unemployed the people in the inner city who formerly worked at these plants.

He stated it seems to him there is a chance in the Fourth Ward area with 25 square blocks to do something about this and have working class people and working type jobs there together, nicely planned in new surroundings.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated what Mr. Short has said is realistic and it makes sense. All of us have said from time to time that this area is needed for a park and everyone, including Mr. Odell and the Master Plan Committee, have said this area should be developed with high rise and multi-family construction. All of this fits into the green area which Mr. Short refers to. It is a dream, perhaps, but in that area, if you could get four 10-12 story apartment projects and get people to live down there and work down there, there is nothing else that could be done to make downtown more attractive and more profitable today other than the Civic Center.
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 84

Mr. L. K. Farrar stated he is located in the area being redeveloped and he finds that there has not been too much money spent; but over $3.5 million has been appropriated. That he sees a lot of city trucks riding around the city with the Model Cities plaque on them. If the money was appropriated to rebuild or to loan the people money to rebuild their homes to live in, why is it being spent for city trucks. That if it is, he thought the people of the City of Charlotte were supposed to be taxed to take care of the city garbage trucks to haul garbage to the dump, not Model Cities money which was appropriated out of Washington, D. C.

Councilman Short replied the rehabilitation program in the Belmont area insofar as the bond issue money is aimed at providing public facilities - sidewalks, streets, street lights and various public facilities in the area. It would seem to him that these facilities can be seen; many of them have been provided and you can go there and put your hand on them; that he believes they were purchased and put in at a fair price.

Mr. Farrar stated he can recall a number of houses in the area that have been repaired. That one is now pending and the house cost $11,000, and according to the man who bought the house it will cost $20,000 to fix it up and it will be with redevelopment money. Councilman Short stated that is another program where individuals make loans to get their homes repaired.

MODEL CITIES COMMISSIONER REQUESTS THAT COMMISSION MEMBERS BE PAID THE FIRST OF EACH MONTH.

Mr. Ernest Davis, Commissioner with the Model Cities Commission, asked if the Commission members cannot get their checks the first of each month; that they get their money, but they do not know when they are going to get it.

Mr. Wilson, Director of the Model Cities Program, stated the problem has been cleared up in-house; that authorization was received to spend this money for the commissioners only two months ago, and it has just not gotten slotted into the routine. That once they get all the pieces together they will be able to pay the commissioners at the same time each month.

ACTING CITY MANAGER COMMENDED ON LETTER SENT TO DEPARTMENT HEADS REGARDING BUDGET PREPARATIONS.

Mayor pro tem Whittington commended Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, for the letter which was sent to all Department Heads as it relates to the preparation of the 1971-72 budget. That the letter is right to the point, and he is sure it will be helpful to everyone.

CITY MANAGER AND STAFF REQUESTED TO REPLY TO ALL LETTERS RECEIVED REGARDING NUDITY, OBSCENE LITERATURE AND OBSCENE AND IMMORAL ACTS PERFORMED IN CLUBS.

Mayor pro tem Whittington stated Mr. Withrow mentioned earlier the number of letters that Council has received from people not only in Charlotte and Mecklenburg but from Gaston County, Union County and Cabarrus County about the nudity in Charlotte, the obscene literature and the obscene or immoral acts that are performed in some of the clubs.
March 1, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 85

He requested the Acting City Manager and his staff, as nearly as possible, to write these people a thank you letter for the stand they have taken with City Council. That he can never recall anything other than the Blue Law or some outstanding zoning question where more people at one time have stood behind their Council in this effort. For Council to ignore their interest would be a mistake, and this would be a good opportunity for Council to do a better job in public relations.

He requested all members of Council to give their letters to the staff so that they can answer them.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

[Signature]
Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk