A special meeting of the City Council having been called for Monday, March 23, 1936, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., by the Mayor, the Council convened at this hour with Mayor Douglas presiding and the following Councilmen present: Albee, Boyd, Baxter, Durham, Hovis, Hudson, Huntley, Sides.

Absent: Councilmen Nance, Tipton and Wilkinson.

Meeting called to order.

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor, who stated that the purpose of same was to go into the matter of insurance on taxicabs inasmuch as insurance on most of the ten-cent taxicabs operating in Charlotte will be cancelled at 12:00 noon this date.

Taxicab Insurance Policies cancelled.

Mr. J. B. Marshall, City Manager, read an ordinance adopted by the City Council on October 16, 1935, entitled: "An Ordinance to Require Utterly Bus and Taxicab Operators Carrying Passengers for Hire Within the City of Charlotte to Take Out and Carry Liability Insurance or Provide Themselves With Surety Bonds as Provided for in Chapter 279 Public Laws of 1935"; and stated that the taxicab companies provided themselves with insurance according to that law and have been operating under it, but that the companies insuring no longer care to continue on the risk and have notified certain taxicab companies that this insurance will be cancelled as of 12 o'clock noon this date; the insurance companies claiming that the taxicab companies would not conform to the requirements of the policies in that reports of accidents were not made to the insurance companies.

Mr. Marshall stated that the taxicab companies had not been given sufficient notice to obtain the insurance elsewhere and that he did not care to issue orders to the Police Department to stop the taxicabs from operating without putting the matter before the Council.

A discussion as to whether it would be legal for the Council to grant an extension of time in which to secure this insurance followed. Mr. Scarborough, City Attorney, advising that it would be necessary to repeal the former ordinance and pass a new ordinance allowing them time to secure the insurance.
Mr. W. S. Croft, of the Red Top Taxi Company, spoke on behalf of the 10-cent taxis, stating they had no previous notice that the insurance company was dissatisfied with their method of operation, and that so far he had been unable to find any other company willing to write this insurance. Mr. Croft also stated that the trouble seemed to be the amount of fare charged and that his company was operating on the same basis as the 25-cent taxicabs, his operators reporting back to the station at least every thirty minutes, with a report kept of the time they go out and come in.

Mr. McAlister Carson, agent for the insurance company, stated that it was his understanding that it was not a question of fares charged, but the situation was that the insurance company has been unable to get reports of accidents and that it was costing the company more money than they were taking in.

Mr. Fawnk Sims, attorney representing the Yellow Cab Company, the Blue Bird Taxi Cab Co., and the operators of the Black and White Taxi Company, asked that the ordinance be strictly adhered to; that five companies were meeting the requirements of this ordinance and that if the Council granted the 10-cent cabs an extension of time in which to secure their insurance, he would also expect that same consideration if any of the companies he represents should need the same.

A Mr. Ironfield asked that the Council consider the granting of an extension of time to secure insurance elsewhere, stating that if they are not allowed this extension many of them will be forced to go out of business.

Several other 10-cent taxi operators were present and urged the Council to provide a way to work out their situation and not cut off 150 men from employment.

Councilman Hudson suggested that a new ordinance be drafted allowing these operators time to see what they could work out.

Thereupon, City Attorney Scarborough presented two ordinances, the first of which was an ordinance entitled "the repeal of an ordinance to require jitney bus and taxicab operators carrying passengers for hire within the city of Charlotte to take out and carry liability insurance or provide themselves with surety bonds as provided for in chapter 279 public laws of 1935".

The second ordinance entitled: "an ordinance to require jitney bus and taxicab operators carrying passengers for hire within the city of Charlotte to take out and carry liability insurance or provide themselves with surety bonds as provided for in chapter 279 public laws of 1935", which ordinance stated that it would become effective ten days from date.

A discussion by the Council then followed the reading of this ordinance, Councilman Baxter stating that if the ordinance was adopted he was in favor of making it definitely understood that there would be no further extension to those who were unable to secure the insurance during that ten day period of time.
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COUNCILMAN BAXTER ALSO CALLED ATTENTION TO THE  
SERIOUSNESS OF LEAVING THE CITIZENS OF CHARLOTTE WITH NO PRO-  
TECTION FOR TEN DAYS.

COUNCILMAN HOVIS STATED THAT THE TAXICAB COMPANIES  
HAD HAD SIX MONTHS IN WHICH TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW AND THE  
REQUIREMENTS OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES AND HAD DONE NEITHER.

COUNCILMAN HUDSON MOVED THE ADOPTION OF THE  
ORDINANCE REPEALING THE ORDINANCE REQUIRING THE CARRYING OF  
LIABILITY INSURANCE, WHICH MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN  
ALBEA.

IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT IF THIS ORDINANCE WAS  
ADOPTED IT WOULD LEAVE A SITUATION WHEREBY ANYONE WHO WANTED  
TO COULD COME IN AND OPERATE TAXICABS DURING THIS TEN DAY  
PERIOD. THE QUESTION OF THE TAXICAB COMPANIES PROVIDING  
A SURETY BOND IN LIEU OF INSURANCE WAS DISCUSSED, BUT THE  
OPERATORS FELT THAT THEY WOULD BE UNABLE TO SECURE SUCH BONDS.

COUNCILMAN HUDSON'S MOTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF  
THE REPEALING ORDINANCE WAS PUT TO A VOTE WITH THE FOLLOWING  
RESULT:

AYE: COUNCILMEN HUDSON, ALBEA AND JOYD.

NAY: COUNCILMEN: BAXTER, DURHAM, HOVIS, HUNTLEY  
AND SIDES.

THE MAYOR DECLARED THE MOTION LOST.

WHEREUPON, COUNCILMAN HOVIS MOVED THAT THE MEETING  
ADJOURN. MOTION SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN DURHAM, AND CARRIED,  
WITH COUNCILMAN ALBEA VOTING "NO".

[Signature]  
CITY CLERK