THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1936, AT 4:00 O' CLOCK P. M., WITH MAYOR DOUGLAS PRESIDING AND PRESENT: COUNCILMEN ALBEE, BAXTER, BOYD, DURHAM, HOVIS, HUDSON, HUNTLER, SIDES, NANCE AND WILKINSON.

ABSENT: COUNCILMAN TIPTON.

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MINUTES OF MARCH 18TH MEETING APPROVED.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN NANCE, THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 18TH, WERE APPROVED AS READ.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 23RD, APPROVED.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILMAN ALBEE, SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HUDSON, THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD MARCH 23RD, WERE APPROVED AS READ.

LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR TAXICABS.

A LARGE DELEGATION OF TAXICAB OPERATORS, HEADED BY MR. J. D. MCCALL, ATTORNEY, WERE PRESENT AT THIS MEETING TO URG THE COUNCIL TO GRANT AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO ALLOW THE OPERATORS AN OPPORTUNITY OF OBTAINING LIABILITY INSURANCE AS REQUIRED BY CITY ORDINANCE.

MR. MCCALL MADE AN APPEAL TO THE COUNCIL TO HELP THESE OPERATORS BY REPEALING THE PRESENT ORDINANCE REQUIRING INSURANCE AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO GET IT, POINTING OUT THAT THEY HAD COMPLIED WITH THE LAW BOTH IN TAKING OUT INSURANCE AND IN SECURING THEIR STATE AND CITY LICENSE FOR OPERATING DURING THE YEAR 1936, WHICH HAD PUT THEM TO CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE.

MR. GEORGE BRADLEY, MR. J. C. AUGHTRY, MR. B. C. HINSON AND SEVERAL OTHER OPERATORS ALSO URGED THE REPEAL OF THE PRESENT ORDINANCE, MR. BRADLEY AND MR. CROFT STATING THAT THEY HAD SECURED INSURANCE THROUGH ANOTHER COMPANY ON SEVERAL OF THEIR CABS BUT WERE INFORMED THAT NO FURTHER INSURANCE WOULD BE AVAILABLE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

COUNCILMAN BOYD, COUNCILMAN ALBEE AND COUNCILMAN NANCE EACH STATED THAT THEY FELT THESE MEN SHOULD BE GIVEN AN EXTENSION OF TIME IN WHICH TO SECURE THEIR INSURANCE.

COUNCILMAN HUDSON ASKED THE OPERATORS THAT IF ALLOWED THIS TEN-DAY EXTENSION OF TIME IF THEY WOULD PLEDGE THEMSELVES TO BE UNUSUALLY CAREFUL IN THE OPERATION OF THEIR TAXICABS, EVERY MAN PRESENT ROSE AND PLEDGED THEIR COOPERATION, AND MR. BRADLEY AND MR. AUGHTRY STATED THEY WOULD TAKE OFF ANY AND EVERY DRIVER FOUND NOT COMPLYING WITH THIS PLEDGE.

MR. CHAS. J. HOPKINS, WHO STATED HE HAD HELPED TEN OPERATORS TO SECURE THEIR CABS, EXPLAINED THEIR NEED FOR WORK AND ADDED HIS APPEAL TO THOSE OF THE OPERATORS FOR THIS EXTENSION OF TIME.
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After all the operators present had been given an opportunity to present their case, the council entered into a lengthy discussion of the situation.

Councilman Sides suggested that if necessary funds be appropriated from the contingent fund to take care of the families of these men that might suffer during the time the cabs are not in operation, but the City Attorneys informed the Council that this could not be done legally.

Councilman Boyd made a motion that the Council again vote on the motion presented at the special meeting Monday, March 23rd, namely for the adoption of the repealing ordinance. This motion seconded by Councilman Hudson, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Councilmen Albee, Boyd, Hovis, Hudson and Nance.
Nay: Councilmen Baxter, Durham, Huntley, Sides and Wilkinson.

This being a tie vote the Mayor cast his vote for the question.

City Attorney Scarborough then read the repealing ordinance presented at the special meeting entitled "An ordinance entitled, The repealing 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 1936."

Councilman Boyd, seconded by Councilman Albee moved the adoption of this ordinance, with the following result:

Aye: Councilmen Albee, Boyd, Hovis, Hudson and Nance.
Nay: Councilmen Baxter, Durham, Huntley, Sides and Wilkinson.

The Mayor cast his vote against the repeal of this ordinance, stating he felt it would not be consistent to vote otherwise.

City Manager's Report

Bids for Yearly Audit.

The City Manager reported on bids received for the yearly audit of the City of Charlotte, with H. C. Northrop and Company the low bidder. Inasmuch as this audit is the Council's method of checking its employees, the City Manager asked that the Council select the auditor without recommendation from him.

On motion of Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Boyd and unanimously carried, this matter was referred to the Finance Committee, and the Chairman, Councilman Sides, called a meeting of this committee for 11 o'clock a.m. Thursday, March 26th.
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REBATE OF INTEREST ON BACK TAXES AT 814 HAWTHORNE LANE.

On motion of Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilman Hance and unanimously carried, the interest on back taxes on property at 814 Hawthorne Lane, was authorized to be charged only up to July 1, 1934, the date on which the Independence Trust Certificate Fund paid their back taxes on a number of pieces of property but were not given this particular piece.

TAX COLLECTION REPORTS.

The City Manager presented the following report to the Council:

"The Tax Collector reports that there are approximately $2,500.00 taxes due on properties which have not been listed for the past three to five years, which have now been picked up and put on the tax books. Mecklenburg County passed a ruling, and printed on their tax notices for such accounts, that the penalty for late listing will be rebated if tax is paid within 30 days of notice. This notation, of course, shows on the City Invoice. I wish you to rule as to whether or not you wish to make this provision."

After discussion, Councilman Boyd made a motion that the Mayor appoint a Committee to investigate this, motion seconded by Councilman Albright and unanimously carried.

Whereupon, the Mayor appointed Councilmen Durham, Baxter and Hovis on this committee.

WARREN TRANSFER AND STORAGE CO. INVOICE AUTHORIZED TO BE PAID.

On motion of Councilman Sides, seconded by Councilman Boyd, and unanimously carried, the invoice of the Warren Transfer & Storage Company for hauling soldiers from Charlotte to Spencer, N. C., in 1933, amounting to $200.00, was ordered to be paid.

Councilman Sides, seconded by Councilman Baxter, then moved that this money be charged to the Contingent Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

ARMORY-AUDITORIUM DONATED FOR FLOWER SHOW MAY 6, 7, 8 & 9TH.

On motion of Councilman Albright, seconded by Councilman Baxter and unanimously carried, the Charlotte Garden Club was granted the use of the Armory-Auditorium for the Flower Show to be held May 6, 7, 8 and 9th, 1936, without cost.
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INSPECTION CHARGE ON GASOLINE PURCHASED IN 1935 DISALLOWED.

The request of the Sinclair Refining Company that the City pay the inspection charge of $15.04 on 6,016 gallons of gasoline purchased from them in August 1935, was, on motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Durham and unanimously carried, disallowed.

ADDITIONAL HELP EMPLOYED ON STREET WORK.

The City Manager reported that in order to expedite the street work, Mr. O. B. Torrence had been transferred from Motor Grader to Foreman, and Glenn Kiser and H. L. McCrory had been employed.

Also that George F. Swank had been employed as telephone operator in the Police Department, and A. V. Blankenship and J. B. Cherry had been employed on the Graham Street work.

BUDGET STATEMENT AS OF FEBRUARY 29, 1936 PRESENTED COUNCIL.

A budget statement was furnished each member of the Council showing that the City, for the eight months of the fiscal year, had operated with a budget surplus of $15,002.00.

LETTER OF THANKS FROM MR. GEORGE W. COAN.

The City Manager read a letter just received from Mr. George W. Coan in appreciation of the resolution adopted by the City Council on January 19, 1936, relative to the American Legion Memorial Stadium; delay being due to his having mislaid this resolution.

PETITION TO PAVE MORAVIAN LANE RECEIVED.

Councilman Baxter presented a petition to pave Moravian Lane, which had been signed by a number of property owners on that street, and this petition was turned over to the City Manager to put in line for consideration.

PETITION PRESENTED FOR FOOT BRIDGE ON LOUISE AVENUE EXTENSION.

Mr. W. C. Burns presented a petition signed by 105 residents and school patrons in the vicinity of the Louise Mill section, asking for the construction of a foot bridge on Louise Avenue Extension near the Louise Mills.

Councilman Boyd moved that the City Manager make up estimate on the cost of this foot bridge and report back at the next meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Wilkinson and unanimously carried.
ADJOURNMENT.

ON MOTION OF COUNCILMAN SIDES, seconded by COUNCILMAN
ALBEA AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THE MEETING ADJOURNED.

Alice M. Cawell
CITY CLERK