INDUCTION MEETING
May 11, 1959
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The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, convened at 10 o'clock a.m., on Monday, May 11, 1959, in the Council Chamber in the City Hall, pursuant to the provisions of Section 25 of the Charter of the City of Charlotte, for the purpose of inducing into office the Mayor and City Council, elected to their respective offices by a vote of the people at an election held on May 5, 1959.

Mayor Smith presided, and the following members of the City Council were present: Mr. Claude L. Albee, Mr. H. H. Baxter, Mr. Herman A. Brown, Mr. Steve W. Dellinger and Mr. W. E. Wilkinson.

ABSENT: Council members Mrs. Martha W. Evans and Mr. Ernest C. Poard.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by the Reverend Dr. Herbert Spaugh, Pastor, The Little Church on the Lane.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 6, 1959.

Upon motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Baxter, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the last Council Meeting on May 6th were approved as submitted.

REPORT OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AS TO ELECTION RETURNS.

The City Clerk read the following report of the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections as to the results of the municipal election held on May 5, 1959:

"The Mecklenburg County Board of Elections met in the Domestic Relations Court Room of the Courthouse of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, at 10 o'clock A.M., on the 7th day of May, 1959, in the presence of such electors as chose to attend, for the purpose of canvassing the votes cast in the City Election on May 5, 1959, for Mayor Council members and Members of the Board of School Commissioners of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina.

The results of the said City Election, as canvassed and judicially determined by the said Mecklenburg County Board of Elections appear in Duplicate Abstracts made by said Board, one of which is filed with the City Clerk of the City of Charlotte and the votes for the various offices in said election are as follows:

FOR MAYOR

James S. Smith 9,754

FOR COUNCILMAN

Claude L. Albee 6,473
Randolph Babcock 9,126
H. H. Baxter 5,267
Herman A. Brown 4,441
FOR COUNCILMAN (Continued)

Steve W. Dellingar  6,166
Ernest C. Poard  4,718
John H. Hicks  2,636
Herbert Hitch  9,487
George P. Houston  3,780
Murlan C. King  2,128
Brevard Myers  8,670
Joseph C. Scott  2,284
Gibson L. Smith  8,988
James B. Whittington  8,343

FOR MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

H. L. Belk, Jr.  2,960
Phil Hazel  3,927
Ben Huntley  8,560
Jones Y. Pharr, Jr.  8,774

The following were declared elected:

FOR MAYOR

James S. Smith

FOR COUNCILMEN

Claude L. Albee
Randolph Babcock
Steve W. Dellingar
Herbert Hitch
Brevard Myers
Gibson L. Smith
James B. Whittington

FOR MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Ben Huntley
Jones Y. Pharr, Jr.

Write-in Votes are as follows:

FOR MAYOR

Mrs. Martha Evans  171
Dwight Phillips  1
Grady Cole  2
Mrs. Tom Tassos  1
Johnny Jones  1
Clayton Heafner  1
Joseph Woodruff, Jr.  1
John H. Sibl, Jr.  1
Earle Whitton  1
Graham Somers  1
Buddy McAllister Carson, Jr.  1
FOR MAYOR (Continued)

Mrs. Earl M. Cloninger 1
H. H. Baxter 1
Shake Jung 1
Hubert Davis 1
Victor Shaw 1
K. E. Nee 1
Frank Littlejohn 3

FOR COUNCILMEN

Bishop Dale 1
Mrs. Martha Evans 195
Harry Golden 1
Bob Jones 1
Frank Littlejohn 3
Lambert Schwartz 1
E. J. Vent 2
Mrs. Phillip Williams 2
Joseph Woodruff, Jr. 1
Paul Younz 1
Walter Carlisle 1

FOR MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Bishop Dale 16
Mary Helen Somers 1
Paul L. Walters, Jr. 1

Filed with the City Clerk of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, this the 7th day of May, 1959.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

By Joseph Woodruff, Chairman

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO MAYOR-ELECT.

The oath of office was administered to Mayor-elect James Saxon Smith by Mrs. Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk.

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO CITY COUNCIL-ELECT.

The oath of office was administered to Councilmen-elect Claude L. Albea, Randolph Babcock, Steve W. Dellinger, Herbert Hitch, Brevard S. Myers, Gibson L. Smith and James B. Whittington.

OATH OF OFFICE ADMINISTERED TO A MEMBER-ELECT OF CHARLOTTE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Mayor Smith then administered the oath of office to Mr. Ben Huntley, member-elect of the Charlotte City Board of Education, Mr. Jones Y. Pharr, Jr., member-elect not being present.
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SPEECH BY MAYOR SMITH.

Mayor Smith introduced his wife, his daughter Gerri, his mother and their friend, Mrs. Blanton. Speaking in behalf of the retiring Council members, Mayor Smith said that contrary to the thinking of some persons, it has been a congenial and sincere Council, and everything they have done was done honestly and with the interest of Charlotte in mind; that no group of seven persons can handle the problems of a city without some disagreements and mistakes. He expressed his appreciation to the retiring members for their fine work and long hours given to city affairs. The Mayor welcomed the new members of the Council on behalf of himself, the two reelected Councilmen, the Acting City Manager, City Attorney and City Clerk, stating that all of us look forward to working and cooperating with them.

SPEECHES BY NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Mayor Smith introduced the new incumbents in the order they were seated and invited them to speak.

Councilman Steve W. Dellinger stated he is very happy to have been re-elected and deems it an honor to serve the city on the Council. He expressed his appreciation for the nice vote given him in the election, and pledged his best efforts during his term of office. He introduced his son Bill.

Councilman Gibson Smith presented his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith, his brother Mr. Brandon Smith and his wife and two daughters. He stated he feels very humble at being elected to the Council as inexperienced as he is, and that he will do his sincere best to carry out the wishes of the people.

Councilman Brevard Myers introduced his wife, and her parents Mr & Mrs Earl K. Whitney. He stated as the election campaign progressed it became one of dedication and humbleness and the large support given him has changed his attitude to one of appreciation. He stated it was an inspiration to work with the group of four men in the campaign, and they coordinated their efforts for what they considered good government. He pledged his best efforts to his work on the Council.

Councilman Herbert Hitch introduced his daughter Ashton and son Jimmy, and said that his wife is out of the city today. He stated he approaches the seat on the City Council with a great deal of humility and with God’s help will do his very best to serve the citizens well.

Councilman Claude Albee advised that his wife is ill and could not be here today which he regrets as she has been with him daily throughout the campaign. He expressed his sincere appreciation for the vote he received in the election. That he feels very humble and will be the best Councilman that he knows how to be.

Councilman Jim Whittington introduced Mrs. Mildred Clark of Southern Pines, a good friend and the widow of the man who started him in the Funeral Business years ago. He then introduced his mother, his sister, Linda, his wife who was his campaign manager, and three other friends, Mrs. Hartman, Mrs. Cromartie and Mrs. Wynn. He expressed his deep gratitude for the opportunity to serve the City and stated that it is with humility that he says he will do the best he can for all the citizens.

Councilman Randolph Babcock expressed his pleasure at the privilege of serving the fine City of Charlotte on the Council, having resided here
such a short while. He stated he will coordinate his efforts to give Charlotte the good government that it deserves. He introduced his wife and sons Dick and Gary.

Mr. Ben Huntley, member of the Board of School Commissioners, stated he accepts the office as one of trust and high honor and shall endeavor to conduct himself accordingly.

SPEECHES BY RETIRING COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Mayor Smith invited the retiring Councilmen to speak.

Mr. Herbert Baxter stated as he looks around the podium he realizes the new Councilmen are some twenty years younger than those retiring; that he has always promoted the younger man in government but didn’t realize the “old blood” was going to run out. He stated further that the challenge to the new Council is great, and he commends to them that they “Be Doers of the Deed and not Hearers only”.

Mr. W. E. Wilkinson extended his congratulations and best wishes for success to the newly elected Council members. He stated he is sure that with the help of our fine Mayor they will make Charlotte a better place in which to live. He expressed his thanks to his colleagues with whom he has worked and for their spirit of unselfishness. He also expressed his thanks to Mrs. Hoffman, City Clerk, for the fine manner in which she has handled her work and for her many courtesies to him; to Mr. John Shaw, City Attorney, he voiced his appreciation for his cooperation and the many courtesies extended to him; he stated that the Departmental Heads as a group are fine men working for the best interest of the City, and to the some 1400 employees who are dedicated to their jobs, he expressed his appreciation for their fine services.

Mr. Herman Brown congratulated the new Council members, and those reelected for the honor of being selected to serve Charlotte. He stated he has served as a Councilman for the past six years to the best of his ability, and even to the detriment to his health. Mr. Brown said that he is sure the Council will continue the policy of doing what they can for their fellowman. He wished them God’s speed in the selection of a City Manager, and expressed his every good wish to them in their work.

SPEECHES BY AUDIENCE.

Mr. A. Z. Price, a former Mayor pro tem, Mr. J. H. Huntley, a former Councilman, Mr. Buell Duncan, President of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Carl McCrew, President, and Mr. Jim Glenn of the First National Bank, Mr. Emmett Kerr and Mr. Frank Phillips of the American Commercial Bank, Mr. George Ivey, Jr. and Mr. Jack Parr each expressed his congratulations to the Mayor and Council members and wished them all success in their work for the City of Charlotte. Mr. Rush Dickson asked a favor - that the Council exert every effort to give the people of Charlotte the kind of government they want to see.

Representatives of the Press were invited to speak, and Mr. Dick Young, Veteran City Hall Reporter for the Charlotte News expressed his pleasure at watching the induction of the new Council, as he has done so many times through the years. He extended his congratulations and stated he is sure they will work for the good of Charlotte.

Mr. Joe Doster, Reporter for The Charlotte Observer, stated he has been
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the City Hall Reporter for his paper only a short while and has learned a
lot in that short time, and is sure he will learn a lot more from the new
Council. He wished them every success in their work.

Mayor Smith said that after all these kind expressions by friends, he
hopes they will love the Mayor and Council two years hence as much as
they do today.

Mr. George Livingston, Acting City Manager, introduced his wife, who came
with him to the United States forty years ago this month from her native
France as his bride. He extended his congratulations and pledged his
cooperation to the Mayor and new Council members.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM.

Councilman Albee moved the nomination of Councilman Herbert Hitch as Mayor
pro tempore, he having received the largest number of votes in the election.
The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried.

DAY AND HOUR FOR REGULAR MEETINGS FIXED.

Councilman Hitch moved that the regular Council Meetings be held on Monday
afternoon of each week at 4 o'clock. The motion was seconded by Councilman
Babcock, and unanimously carried.

Mayor Smith expressed his pleasure at the change to Monday from Wednesday,
and stated he has long been an advocate for the change.

REAPPOINTMENT OF MRS LILLIAN R. HOFFMAN TO THE OFFICE OF CITY CLERK.

Councilman Dellinger stated that the position of City Clerk is important
and closely related to the work of the City Council, and as Mrs Lillian
Hoffman has done a wonderful job for a number of years in this capacity,
he moved her reappointment to the office at the present salary and that
her bond be fixed at the present amount. The motion was seconded by
Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and
unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

[Signature]
Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk