October 13, 1969
Minute Book 52 - Page 356

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Monday, October 13, 1969, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., with Mayor John M. Belk presiding, and Councilmen Fred D. Alexander, Sandy R. Jordan, Milton Short, Jerry Tuttle, James B. Whittington, and Joe D. Withrow present.

ABSENT: Councilman John Thrower.

* * * * * * * *

INVOCATION.
The invocation was given by Mr. Stan R. Brookshire, former Mayor of the City of Charlotte.

MINUTES APPROVED.
Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the last meeting on Monday, October 6, 1969, were approved as submitted.

RESOLUTION CLOSING PORTION OF SOUTH SUMMIT AVENUE, ADOPTED.
The public hearing was held on petition filed by Charlotte Pipe & Foundry Company requesting that a certain portion of South Summit Avenue, between Independence Boulevard to the north, and a point of intersection of Dowd Road and South Clarkson Street to the south, be closed and abandoned.

No one spoke to the petition.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, adopting a resolution closing a portion of South Summit Avenue.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 6, at Page 428.

RESOLUTION CLOSING A PORTION OF MELTON DRIVE, BETWEEN WOODLAWN ROAD AND INTERSTATE NO. 77, ADOPTED.
The scheduled hearing was held on a petition filed by Humble Oil & Refining Company requesting the closing and abandonment of a portion of Melton Road, lying between the southerly side of Woodlawn Road and the easterly side of Interstate Highway No. 77.

No one spoke to the petition.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, adopting the resolution closing a portion of Melton Drive, between Woodlawn Road and Interstate No. 77.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 6, at Page 430.
RESOLUTION CLOSING PORTIONS OF ARLINGTON AVENUE, SOUTH CALDWELL STREET, EAST BLAND STREET AND CLEVELAND AVENUE, ADOPTED.

The public hearing was held on petition filed by the Redevelopment Commission of the City of Charlotte to close a portion of Arlington Avenue, South Caldwell Street, East Bland Street and Cleveland Avenue, in Redevelopment Section No. R-77, Dilworth Urban Renewal Area.

No one spoke to the petition.

Councilman Jordan moved adoption of a resolution closing portions of Arlington Avenue, South Caldwell Street, East Bland Street and Cleveland Avenue. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 6, at Page 432.

RESOLUTION CLOSING AND ABANDONING THAT CERTAIN PORTION OF TEMPLETON AVENUE, LYING BETWEEN SOUTH BOULEVARD AND SOUTH CALDWELL STREET, ADOPTED.

The scheduled hearing was held on a petition filed by Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church requesting that a certain portion of Templeton Avenue lying between South Boulevard and South Caldwell Street be closed and abandoned.

No one spoke to the petition.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, adopting a resolution closing and abandoning that certain portion of Templeton Avenue, lying between South Boulevard and South Caldwell Street.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 6, at Page 435.

RESOLUTION APPROVING A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND THE FEASIBILITY OF RELOCATION FOR NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM NO. N. C. A-3, PROJECT NO. N. C. A-3-(4) (N. C. R-78), GREENVILLE URBAN RENEWAL AREA.

The public hearing was held on the Redevelopment Plan for Greenville Urban Renewal Area Project No. N. C. R-78 (N. C. A-3-(4)).

Mr. Vernon Sawyer, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Commission, stated this project was approved by HUD for funding in May of 1968, and since that time the Redevelopment Commission has been planning the project with the people in the project area and working hand in glove with many of the regular city departments - Planning Commission, Model Cities Agencies, notably. He stated starting with the Model Cities Physical Planning Task Force, they have held many meetings with representative groups from the project area including the Greenville Neighborhood Council, the homeowners, the businessmen, the ministers; they have met with HUD representatives and FHA state officials. From these meetings a plan has been evolved which to date has been approved by the Greenville Neighborhood Council on July 22, the Model Cities Neighborhood Council on August 20, Housing and Physical Planning Task Force of the Model Cities Agency on August 22, and the Model Cities Commission on August 25. The Planning Commission has reviewed the plan and approved it on September 15; this project is a part of the HDF program and this is the last public hearing necessary before legal approval can be given.

Mr. Sawyer stated the Redevelopment Commission held its public hearing on Thursday of last week, October 9, and approved the plan and is recommending the plan to Council for approval. He stated the plan has been on display in the office of the City Manager for three weeks, the advertising has been in the papers; the Commission's Attorney, Mr. Tom Creasy, is present along with their planners from Eric Hills Associates to answer any questions.
Reverend J. A. Frieson stated he does not have any objections but he does have reservations; that he regrets having come to this point, doing that which is right, because there is a reluctance in Washington to approve a plan which the citizens ask that they do not have forced on them - he is speaking in terms of the NDP program. We observe here is that our city government is willing to react only when Washington or other outside forces demand them to act. He is hoping that our government will do what the people ask you to do, not because of force from any outside persons. He feels that this is really a slap in the face to our city government that when the citizens asked for conventional improvements in this area that it refused to do so. The people of Greenville do approve this plan with reservations; they approve it because they do not want their people to remain any longer in the blight that they are presently in; they say there are many in this city who said "let's shake off Washington and the authority that Washington holds over us". If we are going to do this, we will have to listen to our people; we will have to deal with them fairly; that he trusts we will not have Washington to say to us "we are now reluctant to give you NDP money" before our city can come back and do what the people say. All over the city, everyone is talking about Washington and the power that it holds and the tax money and yet we wait on Washington to respond before we can do what is right. He stated they do reluctantly approve of this plan for the Greenville area; they ask that we make haste because this is what the people want, but they are asking again from Council to please, on the basis of what is right and what the community wants, to react on that.

Reverend Frieson stated Council is ready to pass a $36.0 million bond issue; that there is nothing in that $36.0 million that can help the black community; that he is not mounting a crusade against it but he urges Council if there is any possible chance, to take a look at the bond issue because there is no help for the black community in it.

Councilman Jordan moved adoption of a Resolution of City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, approving a redevelopment plan and the feasibility of relocation for Neighborhood Development Program No. N. C. A-3, Project No. N. C. A-3-(4) (N. C. R-78). The motion was seconded by Councilman Alexander and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 6, at Page 437.

AD HOC CHARLOTTE COMMITTEE FOR OCTOBER 15 NATIONAL VIETNAM MORATORIUM REQUEST FOR AMPLIFICATION AUTHORIZED.

Mrs. William Beidler stated she is here with Miss Lou Bracknell, representing a large number of area college students and citizens of Charlotte who have planned an activity and a day of observance in connection with the National Vietnam Moratorium this coming Wednesday, October 15. She stated the planning committee asked Miss Bracknell and her to come to Council today to issue a most cordial invitation to the Mayor and Council/be with them in their observance of this special day at Veterans Park. The rally will include speeches, and special music and will begin at 4:00 o'clock and at 5:45, they will march to the Armed Forces Induction Center where they will have a special commemorative service for those North Carolina G.I.'s who have given their lives in Vietnam.

Mrs. Beidler stated they have received permission to use Veterans Park and to have their march to and from the induction center, but they need an amplification permit to amplify their proceedings at the park.

Councilman Jordan moved that the request be granted for the amplification permit with the request that the amplification be held down as much as possible. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.
REQUEST OF WIST RADIO STATION FOR AMPLIFICATION PERMIT, AUTHORIZED.

Mr. George M. Clancy, Sales Promotional Director of WIST Radio Station, presented to Council a request for the use of voice and musical instrument amplification systems at 1415 Elizabeth Avenue on Saturday, October 18, 1969 from 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., and on Sunday, October 19, from 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Councilman Jordan stated this is on private property and he has talked with Mr. Ben Douglas, Jr. about this. He moved that a permit be granted and ask the petitioners to hold the amplification down as much as possible. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short.

Mr. Clancy stated they understand the idea and meaning of City Ordinance 13-63 and they fully intend to respect the meaning of the law although they are asking for a slight waiver in the exact letter of the law; that they will respect the idea behind the law and do everything in their power to make it as quiet as possible.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

PETITION SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF PRECINCT 12 REQUESTING CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AREA.

Mr. Charles Porter, Chairman of Precinct 12, filed a petition with the City Council, requesting some things that need to be done in their precinct; that he has worked on these particular projects for the past two years. Around two years ago he contacted Mr. Ray King and he in turn contacted Mr. Jim Whittington about the ditches on the right side of West Trade Street going west from Turner Avenue to the creek and on the left side from Gregg Street to the creek. He stated they came first to ask that the ditch be filled in and were told the ditch could not be filled in; that he made three trips to City Hall; each time he made a trip to City Hall a truck load of dirt was brought out; that they have cleaned out the ditches, which was good. The ditches are deep and accidents occur so often that the paper and trash was a cushion for the cars.

Mr. Porter stated he is just begging for some kind of respect; that he has been in touch with Mr. Hendricks in the Engineering Department; that they offered to buy the pipe and Mr. Hendricks promised he would notify them how many pipes would be needed and what was necessary to fill the ditch - that was two years ago and he has not heard anything from him. That he was in touch with Mr. Branscome, Administrative Assistant, a month ago and he has not heard anything from him.

Mr. Bobo, Administrative Assistant, stated he has talked with the Engineering Department about this and he understands the information on the size and amount of pipe has been relayed to some members of the committee and they said they were not interested in paying for the pipe; that he does have the information and will be glad to talk with Mr. Porter after the meeting and give him this information.

Mr. Porter stated at the intersection of Turner Avenue and Rozzells Ferry Road a stop light is needed to break the traffic; that traffic flows continuously between Five Point and Norman's Market; it is a hazard for children crossing the street enroute to Bruns Avenue Elementary School. He stated they are petitioning that a red light be placed for the safety of those residing in Precinct 12.

Mayor Belk thanked Mr. Porter for bringing this to Council's attention and stated an answer will be given him.
Mr. Jim McDuffey stated on Saturday a lady ran into the creek from the narrow bridge on Shamrock Drive by the Methodist Home; that the traffic count on Shamrock Drive is nearly 10,000; for a two-lane street, this is almost as much as North Tryon Street and is a two-lane street that is not in the budget to be widened anytime soon. The bridge is improperly marked and is painted green and blends in with the grass that grows right up to the bridge. That he is told by the Traffic Engineering Department that they have no control over the color the bridge is painted.

Mr. McDuffey stated whatever it takes to get the bridge widened and improved, he intends to do that; that in the last 30 months the bridge railing has been knocked down seven times; when he asked Councilman Withrow to get the information from Traffic Engineering (who refused to give it to him), he was told it was knocked down once that they knew about. Mr. McDuffey stated seven times in 30 months is too many times for a narrow bridge with 9,000 traffic count to be hit; that he proposed tomorrow would be too soon for something to be started to be done on this particular bridge.

Councilman Withrow asked Mr. McDuffey where he got the information on the seven times the bridge has been hit in the past 30 months? Mr. McDuffey replied he went to the police department and searched the records which gave it to him; he then went to the Engineering Department who looked through their work orders to determine the bridge rail work orders; that the information is available and he would assume would be very important to the Traffic Engineering Department to know. If the bridge is not properly marked, then tomorrow there should be three or four linear signs out indicating that the street narrow from 22 feet to 18 feet.

Mr. Bobo, Administrative Assistant, advised the bridge was proposed in this year's budget but due to a number of matters, it was eliminated with the idea that perhaps during the year it could be brought back to Council if sufficient funds were found to build the bridge; the Engineering Department has been working on this, prior to this accident, and believe they have found funds which can be used; that they will bring this to Council very soon with a recommendation.

Mr. McDuffey asked if the Coliseum air conditioning is included in the bond issue under public buildings; that there are two street programs listed - one with $1,250,000 for Street Land Bonds and he asked if this is for Eastway Drive? Mr. Bobo replied the bond attorneys recommend the grouping of the bonds; that Eastway Drive is included in the $1,250,000 Street Land Bonds; that the Public Buildings Bond will read something like this - "the purpose of these bonds, with any other available funds, is for the purpose of erecting and improving buildings for municipal purposes, including the enlarging, renovating, remodeling and improving the auditorium-coliseum facilities, the erection of administrative office buildings and a new fire station, the reconstruction of an existing fire station, the construction of ancillary walks...", that this is the way it will read on the bond vote. Mr. McDuffey stated then those who wish to vote against the air conditioning of the Coliseum will be voting against the fire station when they vote "no"; that this is bad wording and this is stacking the ballot against some who would like to be progressive. That some people say some things should wait on consolidation, and perhaps this should wait so that people who live in the county and use the coliseum can then vote, as should Park and Recreation as the Festival in the Park shows it was used by everyone in the county and yet those who live out in the county do not pay one cent for park and recreation. That if consolidation is so close at hand that some of these items should wait and let the whole county vote on these things. He stated at least the city residents should have the opportunity on a breakdown with the voting machines and the amount of money spent on them and all the buttons that are on them, it would appear that we are not using fully the voting machines that we have, unless we intentionally want to stack the bond referendum, lumping them together causing folks to vote either yes or no heavily. He suggested that at this time some of these items be broken down.
October 13, 1969
Minute Book 52 - Page 361

ORDINANCES AUTHORIZING $10,700,000 PUBLIC BUILDING BONDS, $5,025,000 STREET WIDENING EXTENSION AND IMPROVEMENT BONDS, $4,920,000 WATER BONDS, $3,175,000 PUBLIC BUILDING BONDS, $2,075,000 RECREATION FACILITIES BONDS, $1,800,000 REDEVELOPMENT BONDS, $1,250,000 STREET LAND BONDS, AND $265,000 LAND ACQUISITION BONDS.

Councilman Jordan introduced the following bond ordinances:

(1) $10,700,000 Public Building Bonds.
(2) $5,025,000 Street Widening, Extension and Improvement Bonds.
(3) $4,920,000 Water Bonds.
(4) $3,175,000 Public Building Bonds.
(5) $2,075,000 Recreation Facilities Bonds.
(6) $1,800,000 Redevelopment Bonds.
(7) $1,250,000 Street Land Bonds.
(8) $265,000 Land Acquisition Bonds.

Councilman Alexander stated Reverend Frieson has stated there will be nothing in the bond package for all; that he would like for him to know that he has been trying ever since he has been on Council to get a fire station on the west side of town and it is included in this bond issue.

Reverend Frieson replied this is a small thing; the black community is very despondent about bond issues; bonds are passed for schools that were never built; bonds for other facilities in these communities that they have never gotten; now you are saying there is a fire station; that he thinks they deserve more than that; they have gotten so little in the past; that in each bond issue the black community should be highly considered for any kind of bonds passed in the city. He stated the last bond issue was passed mainly because of the support of the black community and then when another bond issue is drawn they are offered so little. They are asking for more; they need more because they have gotten so little in the past and what they voted for was not given to them.

Councilman Alexander stated there are other things in the bond issue but he wanted Reverend Frieson to know about the fire station.

Mayor Belk stated this is not a black and white bond issue; it is for all the citizens - the water is for everyone, the public buildings, the streets and all the others.

Reverend Frieson stated this is what they are always told; but when it ends up it is always white and very little black; they want to be true citizens of the community and are concerned about the City of Charlotte, but they need more in these areas because in the past they have gotten so little. That he is saying attention should be turned to these areas where they have not gotten the things they should have gotten in the past and they are not getting it now.

Councilman Tuttle stated the street widening and improvements bonds are for both black and white and will provide both black and white jobs; the public buildings will be for both black and white; the recreation facilities, $2,075,000 will be primarily in the black area; the redevelopment bonds $1,800,000 is primarily in the black area; the civic center will provide black and white jobs. He stated he thinks this is a black and white bond issue.

Reverend Frieson stated they know from past experience when you talk about jobs where they will be on the totem-pole as far as earning wages; they know what is going to happen; the policy of the city has not changed; that he trusts and hopes Council is promising him and the black community that with this bond issue that even the city's policy of hiring in these new facilities and jobs will mean more to the black community.

Someone in the audience asked if the location for the fire station has been decided? Mr. Bobo, Administrative Assistant, replied the Fire Department thinks it should be located just off Beatties Ford Road; the fire area has been pinpointed by the Department and it runs along the east side of Beatties Ford Road, on the north side of I-85 and it will be in that quadrant of the city.
Mr. Jerry Branham, City Accountant, filed with the City Clerk, in the presence of the City Council, the statement of debt and assessed valuation of the City as required by the Municipal Finance Act, 1921, amended.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Jordan, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing $10,700,000 Public Building Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance authorizing $5,023,000 Street Widening, Extension and Improvement Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing $4,920,000 Water Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Withrow, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing $3,175,000 Public Building Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing $2,075,000 Recreation Facilities Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing $1,800,000 Redevelopment Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Whittington, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing $1,250,000 Street Land Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

Thereupon, upon motion of Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Short, the foregoing ordinance entitled: "Ordinance Authorizing $265,000 Land Acquisition Bonds" was passed by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Alexander, Jordan, Short, Tuttle, Whittington and Withrow.
NAYS: None.

The ordinances are recorded in full in Ordinance Book 16, beginning at Page 382.
CHANGE ORDER NO. E-1 IN CONTRACT WITH SOUTHERN PIPING AND ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC. TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICE FOR NEW SIGN TO BE ERECTED ON THE NEW NORTH CONCOURSE.

Councilman Whittington moved approval of the subject change order in contract with Southern Piping and Engineering Company, Inc., increasing the contract price by $2,754.00 to provide additional electrical service to the new "Welcome to Charlotte" sign to be erected on the new North Concourse at the Airport. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER TRUNK AND MAINS TO SERVE HAMPSHIRE HILLS NO. 5.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, approving the request of John Crosland Company for the construction of 2,375 linear feet of 8-inch sanitary sewer trunk and mains to serve Hampshire Hills No. 5, inside the city, at an estimated cost of $20,796.76, with all cost of 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.

CONTRACT WITH MCDOWELL BRACKETT ASSOCIATES FOR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN OF GREENVILLE AND FIRST WARD NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITY CENTERS.

Upon motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, two contract with McDowell Brackett Associates for architectural design of the Greenville and First Ward Neighborhood Facilities Centers were approved with the fee for the Greenville Center 7.5% of the cost of the construction and for the First Ward Center 3.75% of the construction.


Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinances as follows:

(a) Ordinance No. 409-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass on property at 1317 Romany Road.
(b) Ordinance No. 410-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass on property adjacent to 305 Grandin Road.
(c) Ordinance No. 411-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass on property adjacent to 1112 West First Street.
(d) Ordinance No. 412-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass on property adjacent to 414 North Summit Avenue.
(e) Ordinance No. 413-X ordering the removal of weeds and grass on property adjacent to 201 Hartford Avenue.

The ordinances are recorded in full in Ordinance Book 16, beginning at Page 386.

APPRAISAL CONTRACTS FOR BELMONT NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, approving the following appraisal contracts for the Belmont Neighborhood Improvement Project:

(a) Contract with Kemp R. Dunaway for appraisal of two parcels of land at $175.00 each.
(b) Contract with William W. Finley for appraisal of three parcels of land at $175.00 each.
(c) Contract with W. L. Frickhoeffer for appraisal of three parcels of land at $175.00 each.
(d) Contract with Thornwell G. Guthery for appraisal of two parcels of land at $175.00 each.
(e) Contract with John W. Huffaker for appraisal of two parcels of land at $175.00 each.
(f) Contract with Charles E. Owens for appraisal of two parcels of land at $175.00 each.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS FOR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FROM S. DAVID WENTZ AND WIFE, LOUISE A., FOR THE BRIAR CREEK OUTFALL.

Councilman Whittington moved adoption of the subject resolution authorizing condemnation proceedings for acquisition of 25' x 78.01' of easement at 3020 Airlie Street, from S. David Wentz and wife, Louise A., at a condemnation price of $266.00, for the Briar Creek Outfall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 6, at Page 441.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, authorizing the following property transactions:

(a) Acquisition of 15,500 square feet of property (107.2' x 158' x 105' x 142') on Old Dowd Road, Block 56, Lot 17, from Cleo Reed (widow) and Ernestine Reed Crooke and husband, Donald W. Crooke, at $12,500.00 for the Airport Expansion Project.

(b) Acquisition of 15' x 240.25' of easement at 6201 Monroe Road, from Griffin Realty Company, at $1.00 for sanitary sewer to serve East Forest Subdivision.

(c) Acquisition of 7.5' x 122.27' and 15' x 123.76' of easement 225 feet north east from the intersection of Plaza Road and Covecreek Drive, from Kale Knitting Mills, Inc., at $1.00, for sanitary sewer to serve Bridlewood Subdivision.

(d) Acquisition of 15' x 1,409.01' of easement at 4000 Golf Acres Drive, from Delmar Corporation, at $1.00 for sanitary sewer to serve E. J. Smith & Sons.

(e) Acquisition of 30' x 81.65' of easement at 134 Placid Place, from Ruby C. Keller (single) at $1,400.00 for the Briar Creek Outfall.

ORDINANCE NO. 414 AMENDING CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE I, SECTION 43, OF THE CODE, ENTITLED "STATE OF EMERGENCY: CURFEW AUTHORIZED".

Councilman Tuttle moved adoption of the subject ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article I, Section 43, of the City Code entitled: "State of Emergency: Curfew Authorized" as recommended by the City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 16, at Page 391.
SPECIAL OFFICER PERMITS AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, approving the issuance of Special Officer Permits, each applicant having been approved by the Police Department, as follows:

(a) Renewal of permit to Mr. James C. Hart for use on the premises of Johnson C. Smith University.
(b) Issuance of permit to Mr. Frank J. Pons for use on the premises of the White House Inn, 237 West Trade Street.

RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENTS, AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the following rights of way agreements were authorized:

(a) Encroachment Agreement with Seaboard Coast Line Railroad permitting the City to construct a sanitary sewer main of 30-inch reinforced concrete pipe across their right of way a distance of 100 feet near Monroe Road.

(b) Agreement with State Highway Commission for the installation of a 12-inch diameter water main in Harris Boulevard, outside the city, to serve property abutting on Harris Boulevard and New Highway I-85.

(c) Agreement with Seaboard Coast Line Railroad Company for the installation of water mains beneath their tracks near Milepost 332, in the Beatties Ford Road area, inside the city limits.

(d) Agreement with State Highway Commission for the installation of certain water mains in Rama Road, Monroe Road, Vista Drive and Bainbridge Road to serve East Forest and Wynwood Subdivisions, inside the city limits.

TRANSFER OF CEMETERY LOTS.

Councilman Whittington moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute deeds for the transfer of cemetery lots, which motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The deeds are as follows:

(a) Deed with William J. Boger and wife, Mattie F. Boger for Lot No. 391, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at $630.00.

(b) Deed with Mrs. Gloria Jones Faison for Lot No. 384, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at $630.00.

CONTRACT AWARDED W. K. BAUCOM FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER FACILITIES TO SERVE EAST FOREST SUBDIVISION.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan awarding contract to the low bidder, W. K. Baucom, in the amount of $36,000.00 for construction of sanitary sewer facilities to serve the East Forest Subdivision, inside the city limits. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

The following bids were received:

- W. K. Baucom: $36,000.00
- Thomas Structure Co.: 39,442.80
- Dickerson, Inc.: 43,009.85
BIDS FOR HUNTINGTOWNE FARMS PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE REJECTED AND AUTHORIZED READVERTISED.

Councilman Alexander moved that all bids received for the Huntingtowne Farms Pedestrian Bridge be rejected and readvertised as recommended by the Purchasing Agent and the City Engineer. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle.

After discussion, the vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

REPORT FROM POLICE CHIEF GOODMAN ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Police Chief J. C. Goodman stated he appreciates the opportunity to come before Council and outline the informal agreement which now exists between the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee and the Police Department in reference to investigations of complaints against members of the Charlotte Police Department; also he will outline the investigative procedures from the time a complaint is received until final judgement is made.

Chief Goodman stated a mechanism has been established which will assure any person who is aggrieved by an official act that he will be listened to with respect and wrongful acts will be corrected.

He stated they believe it is in the best interest of the community for the Police Department to investigate all allegations of police misconduct; when such instances come to their attention or to the attention of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee, they will attempt to urge such persons to make their complaints official by filing them with the Internal Affairs Section of the Police Department. If any person wishes to volunteer information to the Committee or ask the Committee to talk with any person who may have knowledge of alleged instances, the Committee will do this. All pertinent information they receive in this manner will be forwarded to the Internal Affairs Section of the Police Department. The Executive Director of the Committee has access to any information gathered by the Internal Affairs Section that relates to allegations of police misconduct which are of interest to him or the Committee and affect the general public. The Internal Affairs Section makes its files on any case of police misconduct of interest to the Executive Director of the Committee available to him if requested to do so or may give the information to him verbally. The Executive Director of the Committee may attend and observe the proceedings of the Disciplinary Review Board as it acts on cases of interest to the Committee. If the Executive Director believes that the rights of any persons including the police officers have been ignored or impaired, he reports this to the Chief of Police before considering any other action.

Chief Goodman stated this relationship has worked well for the past several weeks, and he feels it protects both the parties and the rights of all citizens and all of their officers; that it is important that our citizens feel they may register a complaint against police officers when they feel they have been mistreated.

Chief Goodman stated when a complaint is received by the Internal Affairs Section, they immediately assign an investigator to take statements from the complainant, accused officers or any witnesses they may be able to find. The report of the investigator along with his recommendations is then reviewed by a preliminary review panel of police officers consisting of five police officers which includes some of the officer's peers. This panel reviews the report and makes any recommendations it feels necessary. The report is
then sent through the chain of command of the officer's supervisors and each supervisor approves or makes a recommendation for action. When it reaches a Division Commander (an Assistant Chief of Police), he reviews the case and makes his recommendation; he then returns the report to the Internal Affairs Section so they might review the report for accuracy and completeness and then the case is prepared for a hearing before a Departmental Review Board. The Executive Director of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee has access to all this information which is of interest to the Committee; when these reports are taken before the Board for a hearing, the Board is not bound by any prior recommendations, and its recommendations are not final until acted on by the Chief of Police. The Executive Director of the Community Relations Committee has access and may sit with this Board when cases of interest to him are being heard. The Chief of Police then reviews the recommendations from the Board - which acts as an advisory to him - and the Chief is guided by the Board's recommendations in making his final decision. Chief Goodman stated the file is then referred to the Civil Service Board for its review. If the Civil Service Board feels the action taken is inappropriate or that the investigation is incomplete, it may recommend to the Chief of Police that he take further actions or steps. By law the accused officer has the right to appeal any disciplinary action taken against him to the Civil Service Board.

Chief Goodman stated this is the procedure in handling complaints. There are other avenues open to the public for raising complaints of alleged acts of misconduct or unlawful acts by a police officer. Any person who is dissatisfied with this process has at his disposal the Civil Court System, the Criminal Courts System, the Federal Courts, the Grand Jury, the City Council and the various news media.

Chief Goodman stated he is sincerely and vitally interested in seeing that all complaints filed are handled properly, seriously, and thoroughly with complete impartially. That he believes this process and those involving the Community Relations Committee have worked well for the citizens and it has contributed much to the high morale in our Police Department today. He requested Council to accept and endorse this procedure as adequate.

Councilman Tuttle stated he believes this Council has every confidence in the manner in which the Police Department is handling complaints. There have been some who think a Civilian Board should replace the Police Review Board. In his way of thinking, no evidence has come forth to support this thinking. In order that there be no misunderstanding as to their position, he moved that Chief Goodman's report be accepted with approval. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington.

Councilman Alexander stated Chief Goodman has stated that the Executive Director of the Community Relations Committee has access to any information gathered by Internal Affairs; he feels this should read the Executive Director, or his representative; that at some time the Executive Director would not be able to make an appearance and he thinks there should be some way for some representative from his staff to represent the organization. Chief Goodman replied this would be alright with him. Councilman Tuttle stated he believes this is a fair addition.

Councilman Alexander asked who composes the Disciplinary Board? Chief Goodman replied the Board changes from time to time and is made up of senior officers in the Department.

Councilman Jordan stated he thinks Council should wholeheartedly endorse these recommendations of the Chief of Police.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

MEETING RECESSED AND RECONVENED.

Mayor Belk called a recess at 4:00 o'clock p.m., and stated Council will reconvene at 4:30 in order to hold the hearing on the Housing Authority.
HEARING ON PETITION TO CONSIDER WHETHER OR NOT THE CHARLOTTE HOUSING AUTHORITY SHALL BE ABOLISHED AND ITS AUTHORITIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND OBLIGATIONS TRANSFERRED TO THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

The scheduled hearing was held on petition filed with City Council in accordance with G. S. 157-4 to consider whether or not the Housing Authority shall be abolished and its authorities, responsibilities and obligations transferred to the City of Charlotte.

Mrs. Lucy Johnson stated as a member of the Board of the Charlotte Fair Housing Association and the Church in the City and as one of the people who secured the names for this petition and as one who has attended City Council meetings regularly for a year and half that she is offering City Council a bargain - three for the price of one.

For over a half a year we've been hearing about two cities contained within the limits of Charlotte - two very different cities divided on the map by a line beginning roughly in the east at the Plaza and extending westward and down South Boulevard. We've learned that the northwestern city has been unduly blessed; it contains the system's most overcrowded schools, and an abundance of undeveloped and uncared for parks and recreation facilities, an overwhelming majority of our industrial development, 98% of Charlotte's black population, and all of the city's public housing. When the westside residents discovered they were to be endowed with four more housing projects, they informed Council and the City of their determination to share with southeastern Charlotte. In response Council called a halt to 924 units, only to find that 3 of the 4 projects had gone too far to be stopped. Only the Bullard Street project was defeated by the 10,000 strong pre-election protest. It is commendable that several Councilmen also pledged to vote against westside public housing until it has been distributed elsewhere.

Mrs. Johnson stated since March a series of Council attempts at improving the situation have failed. A Master Plan Committee was appointed which has approved and recommended at least two sites - but Mr. Dillehay denied this at a recent council conference session. In June, Council denied a rezoning request in connection with the Roseland Project - but Mr. Phillips states he will be able to build almost as many units without the zoning change. Council has pledged to hold public hearings on all proposed sites - but the Housing Authority is not legally accountable to the outcome of such hearings.

She stated history of the public housing issue since March has made it all too clear that the Housing Authority is autonomous. The Council's inability to stop Westside over-development is one reason they should seek new ways to influence Charlotte's total development. The second argument for this resolution is the lack of coordination between the Housing Authority, Redevelopment Commission, Planning Commission, School Board and the Parks and Recreation Commission. Problems are created and compounded that we could begin to solve if all these groups were answerable to a common governing body. The time to move in this direction is now with the authority as Council now has under Senate Bill 761 to make the Housing Authority answerable to Council and through Council to Charlotte's citizens. That a third and major weakness in the present system is the remoteness of the Housing Authority. Is it by accident or design that The Board of the Housing Authority meets on the same day and at the same time as City Council and in both the eyes of the press and the public has its work overshadowed by Council's deliberations? Is it by accident or design that the Board meets in a room that can accommodate no more than five visitors? That she would also think it would be of concern to the community and to Council whether or not the Board is in fact reviewing and questioning proposals or merely rubber-stamping recommendations of Mr. Dillehay? Since members of the Board are currently appointed by the Mayor, the public has no opportunity for redress, and until now Council has remained secure since it cannot be blamed for final decision.
Mrs. Johnson stated year after year men are appointed and reappointed to the Housing Authority of Charlotte who, with few exceptions, live and have a vested interest in south and east Charlotte. Clanton Park, Barringer Woods, Ashley Park, Northwood Estates and Druid Hills should note their strong protests have fallen on deaf ears. Those westsiders should also note the silent but powerful pressure of Eastover, Foxcroft, Lansdowne, Mountainbrook and Myers Park have obviously been heard.

She stated City Council should hear this - if the Housing Authority cannot seat enough men to represent the interests of northwest Charlotte, then the Council must provide a higher authority that in the future will be as responsive to the power of a westside protest as it has always been to silent eastside pressure.

City Council should answer why it would have final authority over the Redevelopment Commission and not over the Housing Authority. Surely our leaders are not more concerned about tax revenues derived from redevelopment of former slums than about the people redevelopment moved and relocated in public housing. Having the necessary power, when did Council ever question Redevelopment's relocation office as it moved all of Brooklyn into the northeastern city? She stated there have been indications that Councilmen are ready to face these related problems responsibly. Commitments to a change were made both before and after election time. But has there really been any change? That she thinks not.

Mrs. Johnson stated this proposal that Council assert control over the Housing Authority cuts through the hypocrisy of empty promises; and it would be a sign of genuine commitment for this Council to assume authority and leadership in the public housing field.

Mrs. Baird Wonsey of the Charlotte League of Women Voters stated the League has been concerned with problems of public housing for several years. They wish to reacquaint Council with the position they reached in 1967. First the Board of the Housing Authority should include a representative of the citizens it was created to serve. In the planning stages, the opinions of those who live in public housing should be heard. She stated dedicated men have served the Authority from the beginning; they were ahead of their time when they began. That they sincerely believe that a forward looking attitude is necessary - we need idealistic ideas today for they prove to be the practical idea of the future. Second, public housing should be on scattered sites, and not confined to one half of the city; too many units are planned or under construction in one section of town; it may be that the Council or the Planning Commission is more responsible than the Housing Authority for this situation. She stated they do not view this hearing as a threat to the Housing Authority, but as a part of the effort to provide decent housing and pleasant neighborhoods for all citizens; with smaller scattered development, Charlotte can prevent further separation of our society into two groups - the have and the have nots. By not overloading one school district with 200 units, a better educational opportunity is offered; the poorest or the richest neighborhood will object to the 200 units because of the impact it will make on schools with 200 or 500 additional children. A solution must be found. Whatever the solution it should be more responsive to the needs of the people.

Mr. Earl Sumner Draper, an Architect, stated he is in support of the petition as an individual. That in March of this year the architects, acting as a group, offered to lend their support and help in the design of public housing. He stated he feels with the firm backing of the City of Charlotte as represented by the Mayor and City Council that the architects can achieve better design and planning in public housing.

Mr. Eric Ritsen stated he comes in support of this petition. In recent weeks he has talked with some of the legislators in Raleigh and inquired why this
Bill was passed. This Bill was passed by our State Legislatures allowing cities to take over the Housing Authority because of the great up-cry coming from all areas of the State from concerned citizens about the job the Housing Authority is doing in individual cities. That he talked with Mayor Jones of Raleigh and he expressed a deep concern of what the Housing Authority is doing in Raleigh, and how they are very sympathetic to assuming control of the Housing Authority; the one issue he seemed to be particularly concerned about was the issue of whether or not the cities would be carrying an additional burden of liability by assuming the responsibility. Once this issue has been declared or defined by the Mayor of Raleigh, he is lead to believe that Raleigh might well assume the responsibility for the Housing Authority.

Mr. Ritzen stated he thinks Council is duty bound to the citizens to examine the advisability of assuming this responsibility; at this time we have a fragmented government a citizen wants to find out anything about housing, he is sent to every door in the city; he is sent from here to Atlanta and from Atlanta to Washington and when he gets to Washington he is sent back to Charlotte. He stated they are told by HUD officials that any questions they have about city housing should come back to their own city officials, and yet they are dismayed to learn when they come to the City Officials, the City Officials do not have the authority to help them. Now they have the opportunity to assume this authority.

Mr. Ritzen stated for the number of years the City has had a Housing Authority they have not had many problems, but in the last few years when they have been given a real task to do, they have bungled the job; they dumped all the proposed housing in one area of the city, and this has caused a cry of indignation not only from the people within that particular area but from people all over the city. He stated this petition was drawn up by a group that is not from the west side of Charlotte.

Mr. Ritzen stated that anyone would admit that putting all that housing in one area of the city was a pretty poor choice; what disturbs him more is there seems to be no planning or coordination with other departments in the city; there has not been any planning or coordination or communication between the Housing Authority and the School Board. There will probably be 2,000 families moving in between South Boulevard and Wilkinson Boulevard in the next two years and the School Board has no plans for additional schooling. The School Board feels as though they have been caught barefooted; they were not aware of it they do not have the funds to do anything about it. This will have greater repercussions a year and half from now when maybe some 4,000 children have nowhere to go to school. There will be a greater busing problem in a year and a half.

Mr. Ritzen stated he was appointed by the former Mayor to the Master Planning Commission and in trying to work with this committee he has been impressed with the diligence of the Chairman, and at one of the first meetings with the Housing Authority they tried to determine the number of units that could be placed on certain plots of land; they were told by the Housing Authority that it was the Planning Committee's responsibility to decide whether or not the sites were acceptable; it was not the Committee's responsibility to decide the number of units or the design of the units that were to go on those plots. Subsequently, the Committee has approved sites and he noticed the criticism in the newspaper, particularly from Mr. Dillehay directed at this Committee and Mr. Oliver Rowe, but he is quite distressed to realize that the Committee approved one site and after it had been approved, it mysteriously disappeared and been withdrawn from their sheets; the site the Master Planning Commission approved is no longer available, and evidently this is because it is in another section of the city where someone on the Housing Authority or someone close to the Housing Authority assumed that it should not be. He stated he feels the criticism that has been in the papers about the Master Planning Committee and the Chairman of that Committee is
unjust and unfair. That Mr. Rowe has done everything that he could to cooperate with the Housing Authority and will continue to do so; that he feels the Housing Authority has not cooperated with the Master Planning Committee; it does not desire to communicate with other agencies. He stated if this City Council allows this opportunity to go past, then they will do it with the full knowledge they are doing the people and the citizens of Charlotte a disservice.

Mr. Charles Black, Assistant Chairman of Piedmont Courts, stated they are 100% in support of the petition on the grounds that it will give poor people a chance to move into neighborhoods where they feel they must instead of the way it has been. He stated he lives in public housing and they have had problems with the public housing since the day the black people moved into run-down public housing; they do not get the things they need in public housing; the grounds are not kept up by the men. He stated they tried to get a meeting with the Housing Authority and 170 went to a meeting and only three were allowed to go in. He stated he feels it is unfair that people who are supposed to be representing low-income people can sit on a Board with not enough room where the people they represent can come in. He stated they have been plagued with this problem not only in Piedmont Courts, but in Earle Village where public housing was built and they felt it was stupid to build public housing with such highways around it. Earle Village does not have a single white family and public housing is supposed to be for the people whether white or black. This proves to them that public housing is saying something to the black man - that you have to stay where we build for you. That they are tired of living where someone sits on a Board and says they are going to build 1,000 units and there are 2,000 children and build a playground for 200 children. He stated they have fought public housing, parks and recreation and the school board for the past four years. In this section there is only one school. They feel this is wrong, they know that Council knows it is wrong, and they know that Mr. Dillehay knows it is wrong, but they cannot reach Mr. Dillehay.

He stated they who live in public housing use to think that it belonged to fellow government; they do not feel any more that it belongs to fellow government; they feel it belongs to the low income people. He stated there is no need for them to be poor if they can get the men they have selected to be their officials.

Mr. Black stated he has nothing against Mr. Dillehay but it is a crying shame that if he (Mr. Black) can come and face City Council with a problem he might have in his neighborhood, that he cannot face the man he pays his rent to; it is a crying shame that public housing sees fit to rubber-stamp these things. He stated they feel this is not rubber-stamping but it is planning the future for no one knows how many people - his kids and probably some of Council's kids if they should get in his position. Mr. Black stated they are not fighting City Council; they want to work with the City; they want to see Charlotte become the All America City it is supposed to be and for which it has a plaque. They do not want to live in slums. That he has lived here for 34 years and he has seen white and black people abused just because they do not have enough money or enough education to "make it" that he is sick of it. That he has joined the Police Council team in Charlotte; he has been to UNC and he has been to all the meetings and he goes back and tells the people what the police are going to do. Then he gets cheated; white people get cheated; black people get cheated; and by a white man. That when people who live in public housing today cannot even sit in their own backyards for fear of being shot at or bricks and things are thrown in their yards and public housing does not do anything about it, when this all happens he feels there is a need for a change in public housing.

Mr. David Blevins, resident of the Ponderosa Section, stated this is now a predominately black neighborhood; that he is quite content there. That he is going to present a few facts about this general neighborhood from South Boulevard to Wilkinson Boulevard. Back in the Spring, the School
Board released some figures on schools in the area that were 20% above the stated capacity the schools were built for - Barringer School, Amy James and Westerly Hills and some other schools in the general area. Dalton Village is now being built which will add approximately 300 families increasing the school population; farther out West Boulevard is another project which will include somewhat over 300 families; the School System at this time has no further plans for schools to serve this area. Recently the schools started busing 95 children from Amy James to Ashley Road and some other elementary school in the area - both were already overcrowded. He stated Charlotte is facing a crisis because of the lack of coordination among the city agencies or city related agencies.

Mr. Blevins stated there is only one park of any size serving this area - that is Revolutionary Park which has now been largely emasculated by highway construction. This affects the city's citizens and affects them adversely, while making travel more easy for persons traveling through the city. He stated another fact concerning the park is that a large portion is used for a golf course and under no circumstances can this be considered a general recreation area. That this park is not sufficient and he believes this demonstrates the need to coordinate the activities of the Park and Recreation Commission, Housing Authority, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, and the City Council. That whether Council has the authority or not it is the final voice for the people of the community, and its influence is felt far more than anything that he or his colleagues can say. He stated this not only happened to the people in that area but it could happen elsewhere.

Mr. Blevins stated he does support the petition and he is one of the persons who signed it.

Mr. Earl Gluck, Chairman of the Charlotte Housing Authority, stated he is not here to sling any mud; he does resent some of the mud slinging. He stated he is on the Housing Authority because this is his town and he believes the Housing Authority has been doing its job; it has been providing housing for people at an economic level which they could not provide for themselves. That is the purpose of the Authority. There are around 8,000 people living in public housing at present - men, women and children. That a lot of the criticism comes from lack of knowledge and lack of information. For the past 30 years the Housing Authority has reported regularly to the City Council as to its progress, intentions and its plans, and will continue to do so whenever asked. The Authority has no desire to run counter to the desires of this Body. He stated they are charged with certain responsibilities and they try to carry these responsibilities out as best they can.

Mr. Gluck stated it must be kept in mind that public housing is built for people of low income and you cannot provide with the funds allowable all the things you might like to have. That the offer of the American Institute of Architects is very commendable; but he calls to their attention that all the housing the Authority has built in Charlotte has been designed by members of the Charlotte Chapter of the American Institute of Architects; that he thinks it would be well if they want to give their individual architects their assistance in the design of these houses. The architects who design this housing know the limitations and what they can do with the allowable funds; they try to make every dollar account for itself in the best way possible. It is not always possible within these limitations to do the things you might like to do and might think are nice.
October 13, 1969  
Minute Book 52 - Page 373

Mr. Gluck stated he would like to recognize the Mayor of Charlotte who was responsible for the organization of the Housing Authority back in 1939 - the Honorable Ben Douglas.

Mr. Douglas stated in 1939 when the Housing Authority was appointed by him as Mayor, there were a great many houses in the City, particularly along Morehead Street, in Brooklyn, Blue Heaven and Greenville that were sub-standard homes. That he had a great many people to help with the formation of this group. After a great deal of publicity in the Charlotte News the City Council passed an ordinance requiring substandard houses to be brought up to standard, and hundreds were done. It was no easy task in those days and everyone did not accept it. Mr. Douglas stated almost any time a City Council and Mayor is faced with decisions that the people think you have to be responsible for, you know that you have to have people that you put in charge who are responsible. He stated Mr. Dillehay has been criticized quite a bit today. That Harold Dillehay has done a good job as long as he has been with the Housing Authority and that is a good many years. The first Housing Authority had a rather wide distribution of people who have done a good job. He stated he would hesitate to see the Council take over the actual operations that have been given the Housing Authority. They say housing was built in the west - the first one built was on Seigle Avenue which is north; you have to build low cost housing where low cost housing can exist; you cannot build it in Myers Park, Lansdowne and Eastover as someone has suggested; it is not possible because land is too high; when you have that you cease to have low cost housing. He asked Council to not allow any group to pressure them into taking something that will mean in the future Charlotte will have no low cost housing.

Mr. Zeb Strawn, Housing Authority Commissioner, stated he concurs in what the Chairman and the former Mayor has said.

Mr. James Burch, Assistant Superintendent of the School System and Housing Authority Commissioner, stated the real issue is where to put black people in the community; the problem the Housing Authority is having is finding sites that the Authority can buy. Since he has been on the Authority, the only sites they can buy are in the northwest quadrant of the city. That until sites can be found in the Myers Park area, Lansdowne area and some of the other areas that have been talked about, we will always have public housing in the northwest quadrant. The fact is when you put 200 low cost housing units in any part of the city, it causes a problem. One thing he has asked is to scatter the housing and make them small units. The builders will tell you if you put in smaller numbers of units it is not profitable to them. That it gets down to the fact of economics and where black people are going to stay in the City of Charlotte. When this question can be answered, then he thinks you will not have to worry about the Housing Authority.

Mr. Pat Hall, Housing Authority Commissioner, stated he concurs with Mr. Burch, Mr. Gluck and Mr. Douglas.

Reverend J. F. Wertz stated after listening to the many who have spoken he thinks what should claim the attention of Council is that the Board should be enlarged so that more people of this community will be a part and have something to say in planning public housing in our city. This Council has as much responsibility as it needs; we need our Housing Authority; whatever is to be done, improve it, and make it an Authority that will meet the needs of the people of the City.

Mr. George Seldon, Chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Urban Renewal and Community Improvements, stated his personal interest in public housing is that we have an adequate amount. Charlotte is growing like the little child who grew out of his long pants to where they became short. A large part of the growth comes from people who moved to the area seeking jobs; this actually provides a foundation or a base for employment for industry to move here; the two factors compliment each other. The majority of people who move to Charlotte do not come here at a $10,000 or $20,000 a year job; they come seeking employment. The recent action of the supreme court made such movement more
accelerated. The very low income levels in the agriculture areas of North and South Carolina, Mississippi, Georgia and Alabama of the small communities in those areas compared to the much higher levels of income for common labor cost, for semi-skilled labor cost - this is one of the prime causes of movement to the Charlotte area of these people. In the last 10-15 years somewhere around 3,000 living units a year are built, mostly for the upper income and middle income category; there has been a very small amount of new housing built for the low income category. If it were not for upper mobility, we would have been swamped with low income housing demands; we have eliminated a substantial portion of low income housing through clearance for highways, through urban renewal and other displacement for business that has greatly expanded the demand for low income housing. At present, the demand for low income housing is at the greatest pace it has ever been, and it is not being met adequately, notwithstanding the expansion of public housing that has occurred. He stated he has been privileged to serve both as Chairman of the Committee he named and on Oliver Rowe’s Committee in determining site selections. That it is almost a complete impossibility to find property that is economically feasible to be used for public housing, and that is adequately located without restraints a mile long (that he is not talking about public pressure restraints; he is talking about any kind of restrictions). There are no tracts of land in Landsdowne area that can be bought up and applied to public housing; there may be some between Landsdowne and Myers Park and the Committee has been searching for properties that can be used in that fashion. He stated a great deal of the concern, and probably the real reason for this petition, is that factors unrelated to the public Housing Authority have caused concern for housing sites for public housing which have not been surmountable in the selection of public housing locations.

Mr. Seldon stated the public Housing Authority has done an excellent job with the limited opportunities; this problem can be resolved practically under the present arrangements.

Mrs. Maribel Scoggins, Executive Director of the Community Health Association, stated city planning and property values are not within their scope of responsibility and not within her realm of knowledge; their concern is public health and particularly the improvement of the health of all the people of the City. She stated she has worked closely with the Housing Authority, and there has been remarkable cooperation between the Housing Authority and the organized health and social agencies in the City. She stated she came to speak particularly for two ladies with whom she has worked who live one in Edwin Towers and one in Earle Village. The lady who lives in Edwin Towers said before she could not think very clearly and was afraid that her son would put her away; now that she lives in Edwin Towers the cobwebs seem to be gone, and she is alright again and she can think and can cook for herself and can keep house. Mrs. Scoggins stated this lady is now assisting as a full time volunteer in one of the crafts and adult education programs at the Towers.

This is a contribution which public housing has made to a citizen. The other lady is the mother of a child who has a congenital heart problem; the boy has had heart surgery. When they first began working with the boy they lived in the worse place she has ever seen at one of the highest rates of rent - upstairs, poorly heated with rats. They moved into Earle Village when it was completed and you would not believe the difference in the family - the boy is well, he has recovered, he is grown and is now going to Central Piedmont.

Mrs. Scoggins stated these two things could not have happened (they could be multiplied hundreds of times) without the leadership, the very quiet leadership, which Harold Dillhey has displayed through the years as he has moved about the community and has pioneered in many ways of which people are unaware. It was in large measure due to his leadership that Charlotte was chosen as one of four cities in the United States for a demonstration project for the elderly poor called “Operation Late Start”. It was because of the program at Edwin Towers and the remarkable spirit of cooperation which now exist in this city between public and private agencies that Charlotte was chosen for this project.
October 13, 1969
Minute Book 52 - Page 375

Mr. J. H. Carson stated he belongs to a group that fought public housing more vigorously than anyone else, the real estate people; they fought it for a number of years and he can now unhesitatingly say that each year when the work was studied they changed from being opposed to it to being for it. This was due to one of the finest directors he knows of, Mr. Harold Dillehay. There are quality men on the Authority. They have a tough job and they cannot please everyone; but he thinks they are doing an excellent job. They have government recognition in Washington and with the efficiency of the office and the way it is run he would like to see it stay as it is.

Mr. E.L. Vinson stated he is present to hear both sides; that he has heard a lot from the west side that impresses him, and he agrees with a lot of it; that being in the real estate business and having been involved in low cost housing, he knows we must have low cost housing; it should be scattered if possible and it should be small if possible and as beautiful as possible.

Mr. Vinson stated the program today was to decide whether or not the City Council would take away the authority from the Housing Authority; that if this is done he feels we will not have any more public housing for one reason - that he cannot see putting public housing in any section of the city where we would like to put it on the east side without tremendous public opposition and if Council has the authority the Councilmen are publicly elected people and the public can bring great influence on the election of people rather than appointed people; therefore, it would appear to him if we want public housing we better not have the final say so in the hands of the elected officials. The Housing Authority should be enlarged; that the people who live in the projects should be represented and the people in all section should be represented.

Mrs. J. H. McGrath stated she lives in Ashley Park on the west side and much has been said today that would make people think those who are for the petition want to do away with Mr. Dillehay and Public Housing; that she does not think that is the truth. She stated they feel legally because of what the state legislature has done that they can support this petition and it is up to Council to decide the value of the petition. She stated they have great confidence in Council and feel they are able to come and petition Council to listen to them. They have not felt they have had any reason to ask Mr. Dillehay or other members of the Housing Authority to do it because they are answerable to Washington. They are not here to destroy public housing; they are not here to hurt Mr. Dillehay or to be uncomplimentary to other people on the Housing Authority; they feel if the Urban Redevelopment Commission can answer to Council then so can the Housing Authority.

Mr. W. E. Browning, President of the Charlotte Home Builders Association, stated he is present on behalf of the executive committee and they are opposed to the petition; they realize the tremendous growth of Charlotte; the schooling problems, the zoning problems, traffic problems and they do not think that Council is a cure-all for this, and particularly the Housing Authority. They feel if Council takes over the public housing problem, it can very easily become a tremendous political football. There is a tremendous amount of federal funds involved in this and they believe if it is bogged down in a lot of political red tape there will not be any public housing.

Mr. Browning stated there is and will be for some time a critical shortage of low cost housing; there is not a low cost house anymore. Since the advent of public housing there has been a total of some 980,000 units built in this whole country; there is a projected need today of some 2.6 million houses a year, this 980,000 houses would be less than four month supply. Due to the crisis of money this year the building industry will do well to produce 1.2 to 1.3 million houses. If Charlotte is to continue to grow and is going to get the type of industry we need, then it will have to have low cost housing.

Mr. Browning stated there is a problem of land cost in Mecklenburg County; if you jump across one county line to another you can find low cost land but he does not see it in Mecklenburg County, particularly in the south, east and north.
October 13, 1969
Minute Book 52 - Page 376

Mr. Ritzen stated they are not against low income housing; they realize it has to be and is necessary; they would like to see the people who need low cost housing have this housing available. He stated he does not know of anyone on the west side who has been trying actively or any other way to locate a site in the Myers Park area or Lansdowne or any where else. This is ridiculous thinking; they are not talking about absolving the Housing Authority. They are suggesting that the Housing Authority be brought, in body, under the City Council and made answerable to the City Council. They want to see the people that live in slums and on the lowest rung of the ladder in Charlotte have an opportunity to get out of it. They would like to see this done but they would like to see it done right. They believe this Housing Authority can be absorbed into the city structure and the City Council be the final voice, if necessary. The people have to have a voice or someone to relate to; at this time they cannot relate to the Housing Authority in any fashion; that they are asking that the Housing Authority be brought under Council’s jurisdiction so that we will have a governing body in this city that we can relate to.

Councilman Alexander stated Mr. Ritzen has made the statement there are two sites that have disappeared from everyone's knowledge as sites for public housing. He asked Mr. Ritzen if his committee has any knowledge of why this was done, or is it because the owners withdrew the sites from the market, or just what is it? Mr. Ritzen replied many on the committee have traveled in many areas of Charlotte looking at different sites; the specific site he referred to was the site on Albemarle Road; this was one of five or six sites referred to the Master Plan Committee by the Housing Authority; that he personally was driven around to these sites by Mr. Rowe - this is the extent of his interest and his dedication to doing a good job. The particular site out Albemarle Road was approved by the Committee and since that time two sites which they approved which were generally in the southern part of the city have been announced in the paper as being approved but this third site out Albemarle Road he has not heard anything about since. That he has been lead to believe the property has been withdrawn from the market. He stated this adds to his confusion because he was under the impression that any site they looked at there was an option on; that he is wondering how the option could be withdrawn suddenly once the Master Plan Committee approved it. There may be a perfectly logical explanation but it seems strange to him that a plot of land should be referred by the Housing Authority to the Master Plan Committee and the Committee approve the site for consideration and then after it is approved it has been withdrawn.

Mr. Gluck stated as he has explained to Mr. Ritzen several times under this plan whereby the developer comes to the Housing Authority with an idea of building a housing project to sell to the Housing Authority, he first approaches the Authority and says he has a piece of land or an option on a piece of land on which he proposes to build a housing project. That the Authority tells him yes and passes it on to the Master Plan Committee for its recommendation. This was done; the Master Plan Committee recommended it and the owners of the property decided after this that they did not want to sell the property to the developer; so that was the end of it.

Councilman Withrow asked if on all properties referred to the Master Plan Committee the builder has options on the property? Did the builder have an option on this piece of property? Mr. Gluck replied his recollection is the man who proposed this to the Authority was the owner; whether he had some other developer who was going to build or not, he does not know; that it was the owner who approached the Authority and it was the owner who withdrew it after the Master Plan Committee had looked at it. Councilman Tuttle stated this is a site on Albemarle Road west of the intersection of Delta Road, between the new Post Office Building and Harris Teeter Super Market, containing 89.95 acres.

Councilman Tuttle stated there was another site on the east side north of Seail Street, generally located between Monroe Road and Randolph Road, west of
McAlway Road containing 35 acres; he asked what has happened to this site? Mr. Gluck stated the site was submitted to the Master Plan Committee; it was approved by them as a desirable site; it was submitted to the Housing Assistance Administration and they submitted it to the Civil Rights Commission in Washington and they turned it down. Mr. Gluck stated two sites in this general area have been turned down by the Civil Rights Commission. He stated as he recalls the reason for turning it down was because it would contribute to the expansion of the segregated area already there.

Mr. Cam Summers of Summers Development Company stated he has developed some of these turnkey projects and the one just discussed was one he had proposed to the Housing Authority - the Beal Street property. It had been approved by the Housing Committee in Charlotte and was turned down, in fact, by the Civil Rights faction of HUD out of Atlanta. The reason it was turned down was because of a street that comes through which they felt would isolate this land from other white neighborhoods. Mr. Summers stated he is opposing the petition before Council; the Housing Authority is doing an excellent job; much more so that some of the other towns which he has visited.

Mr. Dillehay seems to do an unbiased job for Charlotte.

Mr. Blevins stated he realizes there are economics in this problem; land costs do affect what can be built where. It seems that we are avoiding looking at any other cost involved; no one has mentioned the social cost of placing all persons of limited income in a circumscribed area; especially a circumscribed area that has fewer of the public facilities per capita which are needed by the average citizen of any city. He stated they are concerned about problems of crime; they are concerned about the drop out rate in schools; they are concerned about the low level of achievement of many youngsters in schools and yet we talk about it costing too much to build low income housing in an area where the more affluent of us live; the areas where per capita the public facilities are greater; in areas where generally city services are better; we seem to be hung up, not just in Charlotte, on this thing of physical cost and those things that bring about a profit to the businessman. He stated human beings need certain things - services, opportunities for recreation, and opportunities for maximum educational possibilities. For this reason we must not talk about the land cost or physical cost without thinking also about the future costs that will be incurred in terms of the effect on people's lives if all persons of limited income are placed in one area - whether they are all black in one area or all white or integrated. People with limited income need to have more public facilities available to them within easy reach.

Councilman Withrow stated he appreciates the problems Mr. Gluck and Mr. Dillehay have, but still the Housing Authority has never come to city council and invited city council, since he has been a member, to any of their meetings; that he knows that land prices are high throughout the city. He stated he is a small builder and knows that you cannot go out in a place and buy land such as Dalton Village and take a lake, drain it and take bulldozers for month after month to fill in a lake and come up with cheap property. Therefore he is of the opinion when this is done, we have high property; property at the same price on the west side when you do this kind of work as you do property on the other side of the city of Charlotte. He stated we need more studies on this problem; that he does not want to make a motion to Council today to abolish the Housing Authority. That he appreciates Mr. Browning's statement but he does not think Mr. Browning, if he is a contractor, has studied the grading problems, the land cost throughout the city and come up with cheap property on the west side. Councilman Withrow stated because of the impact this might have on the city's debt limitation, this needs to be studied.
Councilman Withrow moved that Council take this under advisement and review and study it. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Gluck stated he would like to apologize to Mr. Withrow for not inviting the Council to their meetings; they would be glad to have Council present. The Authority meets on the first Monday of each month at Edwin Towers. If the Authority has not invited Council it is simply an oversight and not because they are not wanted; these are open meetings, open to everyone, including the press.

RESIDENT OF PFARR STREET REQUESTS THAT GREENVILLE AREA BE CLEANED UP.

Mrs. Estelle Gaines, 1525 Pharr Street, stated she has been in the Greenville section since she was five years old; the city has not done anything for Greenville. That we speak of development and redevelopment and unless the real estate agencies and the people who own the land take the responsibility to say to the people that you must keep up your property, it will be the same thing over and over again. That she has talked to some of the real estate men and they say they do not think they have the right to tell the people what to do. Mrs. Gaines stated trash cans sit on the sidewalk from Sunday to Monday, and from Monday to Sunday.

She stated she is a practical nurse and her niece is a teacher in the City School System and they live right next to all this filth. That the real estate agent said he was coming out to see about it but he never gets there. She stated she thinks Council should attend to things like this.

MAYOR BELK LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS TIME.

Mayor Belk left the meeting at this time and Mayor pro tem Whittington presided for the remainder of the session.

ED'S PAINT & BODY REPAIR, INC., AUTHORIZED TO FILL VACANCY IN WRECKER ZONE OPERATIONS.

Councilman Jordan moved that Ed's Paint & Body Repair, Inc., be authorized to fill the vacant wrecker zone operation caused by the termination of Eastside Body Works Agreement with the City. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and carried unanimously.


Councilman Alexander moved the adoption of the subject ordinance authorizing the transfer of $700.00 to be used in the construction of an additional lane on the north side of Archdale Drive and the widening of Park Road for approximately 500 feet for the intersection improvements. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 16, at Page 393.


Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinance authorizing the transfer of $500.00 to be used for the construction of a temporary sidewalk along the east side of Quail Hollow Road, from the crosswalks at Sharon Road to the City Limits to serve Beverly Woods Elementary School.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 16, at Page 394.
FINANCE DIRECTOR REQUESTED TO REPORT TO COUNCIL ON RATIO OF TAX COLLECTIONS IN ABOUT 30 DAYS.

Councilman Tuttle requested that in about 30 days Mr. Fennel, Finance Director, give Council a report on the ratio of tax collections, particularly advanced collections, as to last year's with this new one percent reduction. The one percent is so small that if you wait until the end of January to pay, it is about 3-1/2 percent and our money is worth more than 3-1/3 percent. He stated Council would be interested in knowing the impact of this one percent reduction with money worth as much as 8-9 percent.

COUNCILMAN JORDAN LEFT MEETING.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REQUESTED TO REPORT TO COUNCIL ON LETTER FROM ATTORNEYS CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF OVERTIME TO FIREFIGHTERS.

Councilman Tuttle stated Council members have received a letter from Chambers, Stein, Ferguson and Lanning in reference to the fact that Council's instructions are not being carried out to pay the firefighters overtime; it makes a flat denial of the city doing so. He requested Mr. Bobo, Administrative Assistant, investigate this with a report to Council.

MEETING ADJOURNED TO 10:30 O'CLOCK A.M. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1969.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, adjourning the Council Meeting to 10:30 o'clock a.m., Tuesday, October 14, 1969, to adopt $6,890,000 sanitary sewer bonds.

Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk