October 21, 1942
Page 118

The regular weekly meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 6 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, October 21, 1942, Mayor Currie presiding and Councilmen Albee, Baker, Beasley, Daughtry, Ross, Slye and Ward being present.

Absent: Councilmen Hovis, Little, Painter and Price.

* * * * *

County Farm Agent Oscar Phillips appeared before the Council asking for the cooperation of this board in the work confronting the farmers and dairymen of Mecklenburg County, at the same time commending Mayor Currie for his stand on the labor question, and pleading for united effort to relieve freight facilities by producing home needs at home. In the course of his talk, Mr. Phillips touched on the buttermilk question, stating that under the present emergency it would be disastrous to enforce the buttermilk ordinance next February, and after some discussion with Councilman Baker regarding same, Councilman Daughtry assured Mr. Phillips that he felt sure the Council will handle this milk problem at the proper time in the proper way.

NEGRO DELEGATION OF FIRST WARD ASKED FOR RESTORATION OF SERVICE OF BUSES IN FIRST WARD FORMERLY SERVED BY THE FIRST WARD-WESLEY HEIGHTS ROUTE.

A large delegation of negroes were present, and Ethel L. T. Haynes, a member of this delegation presented a petition asking for the restoration of bus service by the Duke Power Company in First Ward area formerly served by the First Ward-Wesley Heights route, and protesting the proposed change which went into effect with the discontinuance of service over the First Ward route, stating that the hearing which was scheduled before the State Public Utilities Commission, at the Court House, was cancelled, giving the residents no opportunity to present their protest against this discontinuance. In this petition conditions now prevailing due to the discontinuance of this line were set forth, and after hearing this representative, and also Trezvant Anderson, of the Colored Chamber of Commerce and the National Association for Colored People, speak on this subject, the Mayor stated that the petition and request would be filed as information.

REPORT OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE ON WILKINSON BOULEVARD BUS LINE.

Mr. Ross, Chairman of the Transportation Committee, presented the following unanimous recommendation of the Committee relative to the new bus route in the Wilkinson Boulevard section, and moved that this recommendation be accepted.

"The Committee recommends that a new bus route begin at the corner of Thrift Road and Walnut Avenue, thence out Wilkinson Boulevard to Remount Avenue, turning left and following Remount Avenue to Wilmount Road, thence on Wilmount Road and West Boulevard to Wilmore Drive, thence on Wilmore Drive to Park Avenue, thence on Park Avenue to Mint Street and Spruce Street, thence on Spruce Street to Wilmore Drive and thence to West Boulevard, returning the reverse of the above route."

When a discussion on this motion was called for, Mr. W. S. O'B. Robinson, Attorney for the Duke Power Company, who was present along with Mr. E. C. Marshall and Mr. J. A. Forney, took the floor and told the Council that the Duke Power Company was endeavoring to give the people of Charlotte the best bus service possible, limited and restricted as they now are, and pointed out that if this line was put into service it would
October 21, 1943
Page 119.

require four new buses, which were not available at this time, and in the course of his talk, Mr. Robinson stated that sole authority to extend or alter transportation service in Charlotte rests, not with the City Council, but with the State Utilities Commissioners, despite previous statements of Commission members that the City Council holds jurisdiction over said service within the City limits and one mile beyond. He cited the State Statutes to prove this contention.

Mr. Brock Barkley, Attorney for the residents of this section seeking bus service, took the floor and stated that if the Duke Power Co. is willing, a test case on this question could be rushed to the Supreme Court within thirty days, to clarify same.

Mr. C. W. Tillett, City Attorney, was called into the meeting and after hearing Mr. Robinson and Mr. Barkley, Councilman Ross made a motion that the report of the Committee be received as information and that the City Attorney be requested to advise the Council, in writing, as to its powers and responsibilities with regard to the schedules and services furnished by the Duke Power Company. This motion was seconded by Councilman Daughtry and unanimously carried. Whereupon, the Council declared a recess to the Mayor’s office to discuss same with the City Attorney, at 5:30.

The Council reconvened in the Council Chamber at 5:55 P.M., and took up the report of the City Manager.

PURCHASE OF AUTOMOBILE LABELS AUTHORIZED.

City Manager Flack again presented his recommendation of last week, relative to the use of Decal stickers on automobiles in lieu of metal license plates; the City Attorneys having advised that these stickers could legally be displayed on the rear window of cars.

Prices having been received from the News Printing House for 18,000 labels, gummed and packed in individual glassine envelopes, at a net delivered price of $370.00, and from Weldon, Williams & Lick, Inc., of Ft. Smith, Ark., at the net delivered price of $350.00; Councilman Ward moved that these stickers be purchased from the News Printing House for the sum of $370.00, and that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign contract for same. Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley and unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED FOR ORPHANAGE ROAD.

Upon motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Albea, a special committee was authorized to be appointed by the Mayor to go into the matter of the road through the Thompson Orphanage property with the Park & Recreation Commission, plans and blue prints, etc. now being ready and estimate on same made. The Mayor appointed on this Committee Councilmen Beasley, Chairman, Daughtry, Ward, Ross and Price.
October 21, 1942
Page 120.

REVISION IN ENGINEER CONTRACT WITH U. S. FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY ON WATER LINE PROJECT FROM CHARLOTTE TO MORRIS FIELD.

The City Manager advised that the State Administrator of Works Projects Administration had advised that a revision in the original contract covering engineering services to be performed by the City of Charlotte on the water line project from Charlotte to Morris Field was necessary by reason of the request from the Federal Works Agency’s Regional Office that the contract be executed by the Regional Director and not the Administrator of WPA, and that the only changes in this contract from that recently signed are those designating the Contracting Officer and fixing the fee, which has been changed from $1.00 to $10.00 to allow the City a sufficient amount of cash money to pay for blue print costs in connection with the project. This new contract has been approved by the City Attorneys, and upon motion of Councilman Albee, seconded by Councilman Daughtry, the Mayor was authorized to execute the new contract.

COVERALLS FOR GARAGE EMPLOYEES.

Quotations having been requested and received from six local concerns for coveralls for mechanics and employees at the City Garage, 48 in number, upon motion of Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Slye, the order was authorized to be placed with Delk Bros. Company, at the net delivered price of $182.00; the unbudgeted amount of $62.00 to be paid from the Emergency Fund.

Mr. Flack explained that prices on these items had greatly increased since the budget was prepared and the amount of $100.00 budgeted was not sufficient to take care of same.

EMULSIFIED ASPHALT TO BE PURCHASED.

On May 28, 1941, the City entered into a contract with the Emulsified Asphalt Refining Co., of Charleston, S. C., to furnish an estimated six months requirement of emulsified asphalt. On November 19, 1941, the Council authorized an extension of this contract to include 50,000 additional gallons needed. That amount has been exhausted and the last delivery overrun the extended contract by 2169 gallons, amounting to $240.84. The City Attorney has approved the further extension of the contract to take care of this overrun with the approval of the City Council, and upon motion of Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Ward and unanimously carried, this approval was given and the payment of $240.84 authorized to be paid to the Emulsified Asphalt Refining Company covering the overrun.

SALE OF CITY’S SCRAP.

Prices were received from the two local junk dealers on certain scrap collected at various locations of the City government; Schwartz & Son, Inc., being the highest bidders on the junk at the Incinerator, City Garage and City Hall, and Smith Metal Co. Inc., bidding highest on the material collected by the Water Works, consisting largely of cast iron and brass, and upon motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Albee and carried, the City Manager was authorized to sell this collection of junk as recommended, that from the Incinerator, City Garage and City Hall to Schwartz & Son, Inc., and that at the Water Works to Smith Metal Co. Inc., at the prices quoted.
October 21, 1942
Page 121.

OVERRUN ON CONTRACT FOR ANHYDROUS AMMONIA AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Slye, seconded by Councilman Ward, an extension on contract made on November 26, 1941, with the Cheney Chemical Company for Anhydrous Ammonia, for the Filter Plant, was authorized. This covers 1400 pounds additional at .169 per pound, amounting to $236.60, and the City Manager explained that this overrun was made necessary due to Army requirements for the Air Base, Quartermaster Depot and Base Hospital.

LIQUID CHLORINE CONTRACT TO BE EXTENDED.

Due to conditions set forth above, contract authorized on November 26, 1941, with the Solvay Sales Corporation, for 32,000 pounds of Liquid Chlorine, at 89 per pound, less 1½% discount, was authorized to be extended to 7,650 pounds additional, at same price, amounting to $621.72, upon motion made by Councilman Ross, seconded by Councilman Albee and unanimously carried.

Procedure in both cases has the approval of the City Attorneys.

MEALS FOR PRISONERS.

Upon motion made by Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Beasley, authority was given for the payment to the Purity Cafe of $111.00, covering 555 meals served to prisoners during the period October 1st. to 15th.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT.

Councilman Albee moved that Edward H. Bellinger be appointed as a Special Officer on the premises of the Federal Reserve Bank, this man’s record having been checked and found to be satisfactory by the Police Department. Motion seconded by Councilman Beasley and carried.

Upon motion of Councilman Albee, seconded also by Councilman Beasley, the following were granted Special Officer permits on the premises of the Charlotte Quartermaster Depot:

- Robert G. Burridge
- William H. Bryant
- Obie D. Sims
- Raymond B. Kisiah

CEMETERY DEEDS.

The following cemetery deeds were authorized, upon motion of Councilman Baker, seconded by Councilman Albee and carried:

- Mrs. Kathryn M. Duggan, Lot No. 244, Section “Y”, Elmwood Cemetery: $35.00
- Perpetual care on North Half Lot No. 49, Section “M”, paid by Mrs. H. A. Johnston: $72.00
October 21, 1942
Page 122.

RESOLUTION UPON DEATH OF POLICE OFFICER M.L. SMITH.

Upon motion of Councilman Ward, duly seconded by Councilman Baker and unanimously carried, the Clerk was directed to prepare and send to the family of Police Officer M. L. Smith, who died on October 20th., a resolution of respect, and to spread same upon the minutes of this meeting, as follows:

WHEREAS, in the Providence of Almighty God it has pleased Him to call from this temporal life Mosie Lee Smith; and

WHEREAS, by the death of Mr. Smith the City of Charlotte has lost a faithful, efficient and valuable employee, who served as a member of the Charlotte Police Department for a number of years, and we mourn his passing and honor his memory,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Charlotte extend to his family our deepest sympathy and pray God's blessings may rest upon them.

RESOLVED FURTHER that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the family of the deceased, a copy furnished to the newspapers and a copy be spread upon the Minutes of this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Slye the meeting then adjourned.

City Clerk