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The City Council met in regular weekly session on Wednesday, February 17, 1937, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., in the Council Chamber, City Hall, with Mayor Douglas presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Baxter, Durham, Hovis, Hudson, Huntley, Nance, Sides, Tipton and Wilkinson present.

Absent: Councilman Boyd.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3RD. MEETING READ AND APPROVED.

On motion of Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Baxter, the minutes of the meeting of February 3rd. were approved as read.

ARMORY-AUDITORIUM GRANTED TO RELIGIOUS BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR MEETING.

Dr. Edgar Gammon again appeared before the Council in the interest of the Religious Bureau of Employment and Training School (colored), stating that some time ago the Council had granted this organization's request for the privilege of soliciting funds to carry on their work, but that due to the flood disaster this campaign was slowed up and they are now starting again and wish to secure the use of the Armory-Auditorium for Tuesday night, February 23rd. to hold a meeting there; the use of the Armory to be free of charge,

Dr. Gammon again spoke of the work being done by this organization and heartily endorsed it.

Thereupon, Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson moved that this request be granted insofar as the sponsorship of the Council is concerned. Motion unanimously carried.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4TH. AND REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 10th. APPROVED.

On motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Albea, the minutes of the special meeting held on February 4th. were approved as read.

On motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Huntley, the minutes of the regular meeting of February 10th. were approved as read.

On motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Sides, the minutes of the special meeting of February 10th. were approved with the following corrections: that these minutes show the meeting held in the Council Chamber instead of the Mayor's office, and Councilmen Hudson and Wilkinson absent.

DELEGATION FROM BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

Mrs. James Boyce Hunter, Messrs. Henry Benoit, Frank Kennedy and Prof. Harding, having come into the meeting at this time, the Mayor asked if they had anything to present to the Council.

Mrs. Hunter stated that she had been summoned to appear before the Council, presumably in the interest of a resolution adopted by the School Board that the Mayor be eliminated from serving as Chairman of the School Board.

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Mr. Henry Benoit also stated that he had been called to appear before this body and explained the reason the School Board approved of the change in the Charter; stating that in the past the Mayor had only exerted his authority as ex-officio chairman on very few occasions and that the Vice-Chairman handled all the work.

Prof. Harding, when called upon, stated that the School Board had not adopted a resolution regarding this question but had approved it when it was brought before that Board. He also stated that all business pertaining to the schools was handled by him direct with the Vice Chairman, and that since the Vice Chairman is doing the work of the Chairman he should be given that name.

Mr. Frank Kennedy, Vice Chairman of the Board, stated that the Ex-Officio provision in the charter makes an odd situation, since the person who is by law Chairman does not handle the business and is not familiar with same. He also stated that Charlotte is the only city in North Carolina having this provision and that he saw no reason for such a law. He stated that he had no personal reason for desiring the change at this time as his term expires in May and he does not think he will be a candidate for re-election.

After hearing all of the above statements, the Mayor called for a discussion, but when none was forthcoming, he thanked the delegation for appearing and they took their departure.

Councilman Nance then asked if the Mayor had ever broken a tie vote on the School Board and was informed that he had not.

Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Baxter, then moved to proceed with the other business of the meeting until there is something more tangible to work on. Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLLERS.

On motion of Councilman Tipton, seconded by Councilman Albea and unanimously carried, contract for 10 Traffic Signal Controllers was awarded to the Southern Electric Service Company at a price of \$2,125.00 and the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign the contract.

The other two bids received on this equipment were at a price of \$1,366.80, but it was explained by the City Manager that the controllers offered by Westinghouse Electric Supply Co. and Mill Power Supply Company would not operate with the existing controllers, and for that reason he recommended that purchase be made from the Southern Electric Service Company.

MENTAL HYGIENE SOCIETY REQUEST HELD OVER.

The City Manager reported that the Mental Hygiene Society had applied for a free license for certain antique dealers for three days during March; that this Society proposes to sponsor an antique display at which time dealers from other localities would exhibit their products and take orders from the floor, and asked that this be allowed without payment of privilege license.

A discussion followed as to whether local antique dealers would protest this, and Councilman Albea made a motion that the matter be postponed for one week and that the City Manager confer with all parties concerned and report at the next meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Durham and carried.

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COMPRESSOR AND APPURTENANCES FOR FILTER PLANT TO BE PURCHASED.

On motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Hovis, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign contract with the Nash Engineering Company for 1- Nash Hytor Compressor with motor drive and all appurtenances, for mixing chamber at the Filter Plant, at a cost of \$351.00.

CONTRACT WITH MARSH LAND COMPANY FOR WATER PIPE INSTALLATION.

The City Manager reported that the Marsh Land Company proposes to install 2100 feet of 6" water pipe on Marsh Road, between South Boulevard and the York Road, under an arrangement whereby Marsh Land Company will pay the original cost of the contract and the City will take the line over when it produces a revenue equal to 5% of the first cost.

The regular contract form for this purpose was submitted, and on motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Nance, this request was granted.

REPAIRS FOR FIRE TRUCK.

On motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Tipton and carried, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign contract with the American-LaFrance & Foamite Industries, Inc., for repair parts for fire truck, consisting of 2 brake drums and 2 jackshaft sprockets, at a total cost of \$215.71.

SERVICE TRUCK FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO BE PURCHASED FROM NORFLEET MOTORS.

The following bids having been received on One Service Truck for the Fire Department to replace the existing Chevrolet Truck that is worn out and giving trouble:

	Gross	Old Car Al.	Net
City Chevrolet Company	\$675.00	\$175.00	\$500.00
Pyramid Chevrolet Co.	675.00	175.00	500.00
Norfleet Motors	711.15	175.00	536.15
Pettit Motor Company	669.27	100.00	569.27
General Motors Truck & Cch	827.16	207.60	619.56
Carolina Truck & Trailer Co	975.00	200.00	775.00

and in view of the fact that the City Chevrolet and Pyramid Chevrolet Company advise that "In view of circumstances beyond our control we submit this bid subject to our ability to deliver", Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Baxter, made a motion that contract be awarded to the Norfleet Motors at the price of \$536.15. Motion carried unanimously.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

The City Manager reported that Mr. Peter Olsen, Assistant Electric Inspector, had resigned, and that Mr. P. F. McGuirt had been appointed to fill this vacancy. Also, that Mr. Henry Severs, Assistant Meter Reader, had resigned and that Mr. J. H. Payne had been appointed to that position.

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AIRPORT ROAD.

The City Manager reported that the road leading to the Airport crosses three pieces of property and that they have been able to settle with two of the owners but have been unable to reach an agreement for the Sloan property, Mr. Sloan maintaining that this is a very valuable piece of land and was asking \$2000.00 for this tract. Mr. Marshall stated that he had recommended that the Council pay \$1000.00 and that Mr. Frank Kennedy, representing the Sloan estate, stated that he would recommend and thought his clients would accept \$1250.00.

Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Albea, moved that this be deferred until the next meeting.

After discussion and study of a map of this property, Councilman Wilkinson, with the consent of Councilman Albea, withdrew his motion, and Councilman Tipton moved that the City Manager be authorized to offer \$1000.00 for this piece of property. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea and unanimously carried.

AIRPORT OPERATION.

Mr. Marshall advised that the Airport is rapidly approaching completion and that the Council should begin to give some thought to how it shall be handled; whether they desire to lease it or operate it themselves.

He stated that it had occurred to him that the proper way to operate would be for a Commission to be appointed by the Council similar to the Park & Recreation Commission and others, and let them have full responsibility for its operation. That the Commission could employ a manager and handle it outside of the present organization. If that is done, it would have to be done by Legislative enactment.

After discussion as to whether the Council should lease the Airport or operate it, Mr. Boyd, City Attorney, stated that the Legislature could be requested to authorize such a Commission and that the Council could operate it as it saw best.

Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Huntley, made a motion that the City Attorneys prepare a bill to introduce to the Legislature creating such a Commission by the Council to handle the Airport, in proper legal form and submit to the Council for approval. Motion unanimously carried.

SEWERAGE CONNECTIONS OUTSIDE THE CITY.

Mr. Marshall advised that numerous requests were being received for sewer connections outside the City and that it was not right for the City to allow these connections without some charge, inasmuch as the taxpayers of Charlotte pay for this service, and asked that the City Attorneys be requested to see if the City cannot make a charge for this service and place this charge on the water bills.

Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Albea, moved that the City Attorneys be so authorized and submit report to the Council at the next meeting. Motion carried.

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CITY MANAGER TO HANDLE ENGINEERING WORK FOR WATER EXTENSION PROJECT.

Councilman Hudson moved that in connection with the proposed water works extension work, that the City not hire outside Engineers for this work, but that the City Manager have full supervision of this work and that he be allowed to hire such additional help as he needs. Motion seconded by Councilman Baxter and unanimously carried.

COUNCILMAN SIDES MAKES STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHARTER REGARDING MAYOR AS EX OFFICIO CHAIRMAN OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

Councilman Sides arose and stated that he was in an embarrassing position with regard to his future position and that he thought that the Council should decide the question regarding the request to the Legislature for amendment to the Charter regarding the Mayor acting as Ex Officio Chairman of the School Commissioners, and explained his interest in this matter quite fully.

After which he made a motion that the Council approve the recommendation passed by the School Board some weeks ago to ask the Legislature to pass an amendment to the City Charter, amending the law to take away the Mayor as Ex Officio Chairman of the School Board and that the Vice Chairman be elevated to the position of Chairman of the School Board. This motion seconded by Councilman Nance.

Councilman Baxter asked that if this change was made if the Mayor should not be represented on the Board by being made Vice-Chairman, as he felt that the Council should be represented on the School Board.

After discussion, a vote was taken on Councilman Sides' motion with the following result:

For the motion: Councilmen Sides, Huntley, Nance,
Hudson, Wilkinson and Tipton.

Against: Councilmen Baxter and Albea.

Councilmen Hovis and Durham not voting.

The Mayor declared the motion carried.

CEMENTERY DEEDS:

On motion of Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Tipton the following cemetery deeds were ordered recorded:

Mrs. W. W. Turner, Lot No. 281, Section "U"	\$70.00
Walter E. & Grace Baldwin, Lot No. 329, Section "U"	70.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Nickelson, N.W. Part Lot 24-Bq "D Annex"	35.00
A. C. Brunson, S.W. 1/4, Lot 10-A, "D Annex"	35.00
Perpetual care on same	25.00

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Albea to adjourn, unanimously carried.

Alice B. McConnell
City Clerk