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The regular weekly meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Wednesday, February 1, 1939, at 4 P. M., Mayor Douglas presiding and Councilmen Albea, Baxter, Durham, Griswold, Hevis, Huntley, Hudson, Little, Nance and Sides being present.

Absent: Councilman Wilkinson.

READING OF MINUTES POSTPONED UNTIL CLOSE OF MEETING.

On motion of Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Little, the reading of the minutes of the four previous meetings was postponed until the close of the meeting.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL HOME.

Mr. John James, Attorney, presented to the Council at this time a report from the Committee appointed by The Common Weal to investigate the matter of the Industrial Home, which report reads as follows:

"The undersigned, appointed by the Common Weal to investigate the matter of the Industrial Home, respectfully report:

That they have thoroughly inspected the buildings and equipment of the Industrial Home and found that the institution has a capacity of about 40 girls.

That there are now 14 girls detailed there according to law, while at times the number runs as high as 25 or as low as 6 or 7.

That more than half of the rooms are unoccupied and many of them are littered with trash, tin cans and other refuse.

That, as they are informed and believe, the Industrial Home was established for the detention of the wayward girls of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County under conditions and surroundings as favorable as possible to their reformation and re-establishment as useful members of society, and particularly for the segregation and medical treatment of those who are diseased.

That if a serious and persistent effort were made to detect and arrest prostitutes operating in certain sections of the city and county, to the common knowledge and scandal of the public, the present facilities of the Industrial Home would be over-taxed and the institution would have to be greatly enlarged.

That, adverting to the published statement that during the past year the institution housed an average of 18 women at a cost of approximately \$9,000.00, the Committee is of the opinion that, if true, it constitutes a serious indictment of the law enforcement agencies rather than a sound reason for abolishing the Industrial Home.

That, in the opinion of the Committee, if the Industrial Home is abolished no other sufficient or suitable quarters are available even for the detention of such women, much less for the segregation and treatment of the diseased.

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That, in the opinion of the Committee, the recommendations hereinafter made can be carried out at an expense not greatly in excess of the sum now expended annually, and that the results in aid of the control of venereal disease alone will justify the maintenance of the Industrial Home on an enlarged scale. Possibly some financial aid in this phase of the problem may be had from the Smith Reynolds Foundation.

In view of the foregoing, the Committee earnestly recommends:

1. That the Industrial Home be not abolished or devoted to other uses for the period of at least two years, and that in the meantime the law enforcement agencies be required to discover and bring into Court those unfortunate women who exist and operate in the city and county in such numbers as to give a well known but malodorous reputation to certain areas, and that they may be properly committed to the Industrial Home.

2. That the Industrial Home be thoroughly renovated and its facilities be made available and adequate for present and future needs as they arise.

3. That a physician skilled and diligent in the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases, and a psychiatrist or other expert practitioner in mild mental disorders, be engaged for regular visitation and that proper equipment be provided at the institution as may be necessary to supplement their own portable equipment.

4. That the institution be sufficiently and expertly staffed to administer its affairs and to control and influence its inmates to the best possible results, in cooperation with such social and Christian organizations as may interest themselves in this problem.

5. That if, after earnest effort for two years, the city and county find themselves unable to cope with this problem in this way, or a better way be found, then the Industrial Home be abolished as such and its plant and properties be devoted to some other use to be determined at that time.

Respectfully submitted, this 1st day of February 1939, on behalf of the Committee by

B. J. HUNTER

JOE H. ROBINSON

Mr. Joe Garibaldi, of the Committee, declines to commit himself either for or against this Report or to submit a Minority Report.

Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Baxter, moved that the report be accepted and the recommendations be adopted, with the recommendation that the Courts find some way to deal with the habitual inmates of this institution. Motion carried, with Councilman Griswold voting "no".

CHARLOTTE RESCUE MISSION GIVEN DONATION EQUAL TO AMOUNT OF TAXES.

Mr. John B. Alexander, on behalf of the Charlotte Rescue Mission, requested a donation from the City Council to the Mission in the amount equal to the taxes due on the land on which this property is located, stating that the County had made a donation in this manner, and that if and when a check from the City is received, the Charlotte Rescue Mission will, in turn, give its check for the amount of the taxes, since that is the only manner in which it could be handled. He stated that the County had secured a ruling from the County Attorney on this and he had

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stated it would be perfectly legal to handle in this manner. The amount of the taxes in question is \$416.56.

Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Huntley, moved that the amount of \$420.00 be donated to the Charlotte Rescue Mission, this amount to be taken from the Emergency Fund. Motion carried.

CITY EMPLOYEES RESIDING OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS.

Mr. Henry Harkey, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners, appeared before the Council on behalf of two employees of the Health Department, Dr. Walton and Mrs. Waller, who are living outside the city limits, and who, according to the rule of the City of Charlotte, are expected to move within the city limits within the next ninety days. Mr. Harkey asked that an exception be made with regard to these two employees, both of whom own their own homes in the county, on the grounds that they are employed in the Health Department, the operation of which is jointly paid by the City and County.

Dr. Hand also spoke on behalf of these two parties, after which Councilman Hovis moved that the matter be left until later and discussed with the City Manager. Motion seconded by Councilman Huntley and carried.

JUNIOR ORDER, UNITED AMERICAN MECHANICS, GRANTED FREE LICENSE FOR SHOW.

Mr. M. C. Burns appeared before the Council and requested free license for a show to be sponsored by the Junior Order, United American Mechanics, on South Tryon Street, commencing Monday, February 6th. and continuing through Saturday, February 18th., the sponsor's share of the proceeds to be used in the work of the Junior Order.

On motion of Councilman Sides, seconded by Councilman Albea, this request was granted.

REQUEST OF CERTAIN RESIDENTS OF POPLAR GABLES SECTION TO BE TAKEN IN TO THE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

Mr. Thos. B. Watkins, a resident of Tranquil Avenue, Poplar Gables Section, asked the Council if it would be willing to request the Legislature to extend the city limits of Charlotte to take in the section known as Poplar Gables provided a majority of the residents of that section want to come within the limits. He stated that at this time no petition has been circulated but that if the Council would agree to request the Legislature to extend the limits provided it suits a majority of the residents, this will be secured.

A Mr. McWhirter presented a petition signed by a large number of residents of Poplar Gables, Club Colony and other suburbs contiguous to Selwyn Avenue, opposing any such move, and a number of citizens present spoke pro and con regarding the matter.

Dr. Boldridge, of Selwyn Avenue, called attention of the Council to the extremely bad condition of the sewage line in this neighborhood, which he stated, dumped raw sewage into the creek. He stated he was interested to the extent of determining who was responsible for the upkeep of this sewer line, since it was outside the city limits, to the end that the situation now existing would be remedied. Dr. Hand and Dr. Rea both bore out Dr. Boldridge's remarks regarding the present unsanitary condition of this sewer line, as well as Mr. A. W. Smith, County Sanitary Inspector.

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Mr. Hiram Whitacre, Mr. H. W. Patrick, Mr. J. O. Moore, and others, presented their reasons for not wanting to be taken in at this time, Mr. Whitacre pointing out that it would be several years before the citizens of that section would derive the benefits therefrom. Mr. Patrick stated that he had gone into the question of fire protection and insurance rates and that due to the fact that the nearest fire station would be more than two miles from this part of the city nothing would be gained in this respect.

Mrs. J. L. Hamilton stated that she had children in the city schools of Charlotte, for which she was having to pay tuition and that it would be less expensive for them if taken in.

It was also brought out that if the residents of the territory in question are not brought into the city they will in the future be forced to stand the burden of installing new pipe lines that are now apparently going to pieces. On the other hand, some argued that it would cost them more to live in the city than it was costing to live in the county.

After hearing the above, Councilman Hovis moved that a survey be made of the district to determine whether or not these people want to come within the city limits, but when the question was asked as to who would bear the expense of making this survey, no second was received on the motion. Thereupon, Councilman Nance moved that the matter be held in abeyance until they can bring definite proof that a majority of the people want to come into the city limits. Motion seconded by Councilman Hudson and carried.

LICENSE REQUESTED FOR MRS. NORA WRIGHT TO OPERATE FRANKLIN HOTEL.

Mr. W. C. Davis, Attorney, requested the Council to grant a license to Mrs. Nora Wright to operate the Franklin Hotel on Brevard Street. He stated Mrs. Wright has been living in Charlotte for two years and had never had any trouble of any kind and that she had made arrangements to take over the lease (which he later changed to license) on this hotel, which expires this date. He stated that the present management will have nothing to do with the Hotel and that Mrs. Wright was taking over the lease of Mrs. Thayer, who is leaving the city.

Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Huntley, moved that the matter be held in abeyance for one week. Motion carried.

NOTICE OF CLAIM OF MISS MARGARET BLACK FOR ALLEGED PERSONAL INJURIES.

Notice of claim of Miss Margaret Black against the City of Charlotte for alleged personal injuries received by tripping over a defective place in the sidewalk on Worthington Avenue, in the sum of \$2500.00, was presented and ordered turned over to the City Attorney.

REQUEST FOR REFUND ON TAXES OF HELEN C. DOUGLAS REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Francis Clarkson requested refund on taxes of Helen C. Douglas in the sum of \$297.97, on the grounds that on a vacant lot owned by her near College Street, had been erroneously assessed by the tax department for \$3535.00 when it is only valued at \$400.00. He stated that Mr. J. Arthur Henderson had approved the refund for the County and the County Commissioners had made the refund. He also stated that Mr. Armstrong, Collector of Revenue, had checked the figures and approved them. He advised that she would use this refund to pay up all her back taxes and that the net refund would amount to only \$69.97 in cash.

On motion of Councilman Sides, seconded by Councilman Huntley, the matter was referred to the Finance Committee.

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REQUEST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SEWER FOR DEVELOPMENT COMPANY DENIED.

Mr. Marshall reported that he had received an application from a Development Company that the City construct a sewer system in said development at a cost of approximately \$2300.00 and that the Development Company proposed to post a Surety Bond that they will erect twelve houses on the sewer line within six months or pay the City the entire cost of the sewer with interest, at the expiration of six months. He asked the Council for a decision in the matter, and after discussion, on motion of Councilman Sides, seconded by Councilman Griswold, the request was denied.

REQUEST FOR PEDDLER'S LICENSE TO M. ESMAIL DENIED.

On motion of Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Hovis, the request of Mr. M. Esmail for peddler's license to sell bedspreads and tapestries, was denied on the grounds that it would constitute a nuisance.

STREET MAINTENANCE - CHAMBWOOD DRIVE.

On motion of Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Little, Chambwood Drive, from Tippah Avenue to Belvedere Avenue, at Ashland, was taken over for city maintenance; the Engineering Department having reported the street in good shape.

PURCHASE OF PARTS FOR REPAIRS TO FILTER.

It being necessary to purchase the following parts for repairing and reconditioning two Oliver Vacuum Filters at the Irwin Creek Disposal Plant:

4 Agit Arcs  
2 Center Arcs  
8 Arc Pins with Nut and Cotter  
8 Rubber Bushings

Councilman Durham, seconded by Councilman Little, moved that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign the contract with Oliver Filters, Inc. for this material, at the price of \$226.10.

PURCHASE OF STEEL FIRE ESCAPE FOR DRILL TOWER FROM R. R. ROBERTSON.

On motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Hudson, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign a contract with R. R. Robertson, the low bidder, for the purchase of a Steel Fire Escape for new Drill Tower, at the price of \$925.00.

The following bids were received on this Fire Escape:

R. R. Robertson	\$925.00
Soule Steel & Iron Co.	960.00
Mitchell & Becker Co.	980.00
W. Fred Casey	990.00
Southern Engr. Company	1000.00

BILLS OF OAKHURST LAND COMPANY FOR WATER ACCOUNT CHARGED OFF.

A letter from Mr. W. E. Vest, Superintendent of Water Works, requesting that bills in the amount of \$851.01, against the Oakhurst Land Company, being "guarantee bills" in connection with the laying of a water main in Pecan Avenue and Chestnut Street and accumulated over a period of nearly ten years, be charged off, since Mr. H. B. Heath, President of the Oakhurst Land Company, is dead and the Oakhurst Land Company is no longer functioning.

Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Hudson, moved that these bills be checked off. Motion unanimously carried.

CONTRACT WITH STEPHENS COMPANY FOR KING'S DRIVE PAVING.

On motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Albea, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign a contract with The Stephens Company for the development of King's Drive in conjunction with the Works Progress Administration, the Stephens Company to furnish the sponsor's share of the estimated cost of this work, the City to lay out, inspect and supervise all of the work, purchase the necessary materials, equipment rentals, etc., and if and when as many as seven houses are built on lots adjacent to King's Drive and are being served by sewer connections, the City will refund to the Stephens Company \$1371.00, or the estimated amount posted by this Company for materials used in the construction of the sewer main.

RE-ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE - WEST KINGSTON AVENUE.

On motion of Councilman Durham, seconded by Councilman Hovis, the following re-assessment ordinance, covering property of J. B. and Mable Ashe, on West Kingston Avenue, was unanimously adopted on three readings and declared by the Mayor to be an Ordinance of the City of Charlotte:

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, DO ORDAIN that the special benefits to the abutting property on WEST KINGSTON AVENUE on account of the paving of the street and walks, beginning at a point 339.07 feet measured westerly and from the southwest intersection corner of South Tryon Street and West Kingston Avenue and running in a westerly direction 50 feet and originally assessed as a whole against J. B. and MABEL ASHE, is hereby sub-divided and re-assessed on the south side only, as follows:

Street No.	Owner	Frontage	Water	Sewer	Street	Walk	Total
247-49	J. B. & Mabel Ashe	48	----	34.78	315.47	38.01	388.26
West 2 feet of #249	I. L. Lanier	2	----	-----	13.14	1.58	14.72

LEASE OF CITY PROPERTY ON STATESVILLE AVENUE.

Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Huntley, moved that the Mayor and Clerk sign a lease with Mr. R. A. Carter for property on Statesville Avenue owned by the City, for eleven months, ending December 31, 1939, at a total price of \$40.00, to be paid in advanced. Motion unanimously carried.

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LICENSE TO OPERATE HOTEL GRANTED TO MRS. FRANK CAUSLEY - WINDSOR HOTEL.

On motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Sides and carried, Mrs. Frank Causley was granted a license to operate the Windsor Hotel, at 6th & Tryon Streets. The State Sanitary Inspector had re-inspected this hotel and given it a rating of 79%, and Chief Pittman informed the Council that Mrs. Patterson had also made a re-check on conditions and could find nothing wrong.

LICENSE GRANTED TO MR. E. A. STRUBBERG TO OPERATE JEFFERSON HOTEL.

On motion of Councilman Nance, seconded by Councilman Albea and carried, Mr. E. A. Strubberg was granted a license to operate the Jefferson Hotel, on West Trade Street. This hotel was given a new sanitary rating of 79%, and Mr. Marshall stated that an investigation had been made and Mr. Strubberg had been given splendid references. It was the City Manager's recommendation that this license be granted.

Councilman Nance moved that the City Manager be authorized to instruct the Police Department, Tax Department and Health Department to maintain strict supervision over these hotels and that they perform their duties and not bring them back to the Council when it is not the Council's duty. No second to this motion.

RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT WITH STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION FOR WATER LINE- GIBSON STREET.

Upon motion of Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Huntley, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign a right-of-way agreement with the State Highway Commission governing the construction of a water line on a part of the State Highway where it crosses Gibson Street and running west in Gibson Street parallel to Bigham Avenue; this being the standard form agreement.

MR. AND MRS. KING GRANTED LICENSE TO OPERATE ASTORIA HOTEL.

Mr. King requested the Council to grant a license in the name of Mr. and Mrs. King to operate the Astoria Hotel, which he stated was being leased direct from E. C. Griffith Company, and that Mrs. Blume had no further interest in this hotel at this time. Chief Pittman was called upon and stated he had had no trouble from this place recently. Councilman Hovis moved to refer the matter to the Police Committee for report back at the next meeting, but Councilman Sides stated the matter should be settled at this time, and made a motion that they be granted a license to operate and that if they do not run it as required by law, that they then be closed up, and that they must meet the sanitary requirements of the State of North Carolina. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea and carried. Mr. King informed the Council that the rating was now  $74\frac{1}{2}$ .

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MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF JANUARY 4TH., 10TH., 11TH., 18TH AND 23RD. APPROVED.

The minutes of the meetings of January 4th., 10th., 11th., 18th., and 23rd., were all read, and on motion of Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Griswold, were approved.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Albea, the meeting adjourned.

Alice B. M. Powell  
City Clerk