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A special called meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4 o'clock P. M., with Mayor Douglas presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Baxter, Durham, Griswold, Hovis, Hudson, Huntley, Little, Nance, Sides and Wilkinson being present.

Absent: None.

PURPOSE OF SPECIAL MEETING.

The Mayor announced that this meeting was called for the purpose of a hearing on the hotel situation, and threw the meeting open to any delegations wishing to appear.

Judge F. M. Redd appeared, representing Mrs. Thayer, of the Franklin Hotel, and stated that his client had made arrangements to move on the 1st. of the month. He requested that she be allowed to remain until the 1st. for the benefit of regular boarders who had paid their rent until such time in the Franklin Hotel.

Upon motion of Councilman Wilkinson, duly seconded, the request was granted.

Mr. Fred B. Helms appeared representing the Penn Mutual Insurance Company, and stated that they, as owners of the Franklin Hotel, had not in the past and would not in the future, knowingly rent said property for any improper purpose.

Attorneys Vance Howard and G. A. Smith appeared representing Mrs. C. O. Dulin, lessee of the new Albert Hotel, requesting that the same be allowed to remain open. To support their position they presented to the Council evidence of the manner in which the hotel had been operated since Mrs. Dulin's occupancy, stating that no irregularities had occurred since Mrs. Dulin had taken charge of the hotel. They further presented certain documentary evidence to substantiate their position, including a Bill of Sale for fixtures in the hotel, Sanitary Report showing rating of 830 points out of a possible 1000; Employee's Tax Return, check from Clarence Kuester and certain affidavits. Mrs. Dulin stated that before coming here she had been in charge of hotels in Jacksonville, Florida, and Greensboro, North Carolina. The affidavits presented were from the following: E. C. Griffith; Major Ralph Lewis; J. L. Kellenburger; Elott Boyd, Asheville, N. C.; C. C. Sanders, Charlotte, N. C., Watt Smith, Charlotte, N. C.; Earl Roberts, J. W. Wedd; Lincoln White; Dr. Bland; J. W. Miller; H. I. Hesson; S. J. Hardy; C. P. Smith and others. Mrs. Dulin stated that she had managed a Y.W.C.A. in Spencer. When questioned by the City Attorney, Mrs. Dulin stated she had managed the Franklin Hotel about four years ago. The City Attorney presented an affidavit of William Kinard with reference to the management of the Franklin Hotel. Chief Pittman stated at the time Mrs. Dulin was at the Franklin the reputation of that hotel was bad.

Upon motion of Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Nance, it was unanimously agreed that the license not be revoked at this time.

Mr. Ralph Kidd appeared representing Mr. P. J. Naughton, and stated that Mr. Naughton was considering leasing the Southern Hotel property from Mr. Bryce McLaughlin, and asked that the Council authorize issuance of license to Mr. Naughton. It was moved by Councilman Wilkinson that at such time as the hotel could pass a State Health Examination that the proper authorities be authorized to grant him license, without the necessity of his again appearing before the Council. This motion seconded by Councilman Sides and unanimously carried.

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Mr. T. A. Adams appeared, representing Mr. Greening, requesting that the Council authorize issuance of license to Mr. Greening to operate the Piedmont Hotel. Mr. Adams stated that the present rating was 565; that his client would probably change the name of the hotel; that he planned to buy his furnishings from Mrs. Blume and owe her for them, and would lease direct from the Union National Bank, and stated that his client was not attempting to operate any other hotels in the City. Mayor Douglas read certain recommendations for Mr. Greening from Eldorado, Arkansas.

Councilman Hovis moved that at such time as the hotel could pass a State Health Examination and if and when Mr. Greening presented a letter from Mr. H. M. Victor stating that Mr. Greening was leasing direct from him, that the proper authorities be authorized to grant him license, without the necessity for his again appearing before the Council. This motion was seconded by Councilman Sides and unanimously carried.

Mr. C. D. Taliaferro appeared and stated that the lease with Mrs. Blume for the Jefferson Hotel had been cancelled and that the property had been leased to no one else.

As to the Astoria, Mr. Taliaferro stated that the lease with Mrs. Blume had been cancelled and that Mr. and Mrs. E. C. King had negotiated a lease, subject to the approval of the Council on the issuance of license. Mr. Taliaferro stated that he was not familiar with complaints against the place. Councilman Wilkinson moved that the request for license be denied and the affidavits against the place and against Mr. and Mrs. King be furnished to Mr. Taliaferro and that he be given an opportunity to appear back and deny them or prove that they are not true. This motion having been duly seconded by Councilman Sides, was unanimously carried.

Mrs. Causley appeared and stated that she had operated the Windsor Hotel since August 2nd., that Mr. Choate, of the Choate Rental Co. had given her permission to have the lease in her name, and that she had made an agreement with Mrs. Blume to purchase the equipment on credit, and stated that she wished to apply for license. Mayor Douglas stated that Mr. Choate had appeared before the Council shortly before this time and stated that he had some other plan in mind and thereupon it was agreed that the matter be held over for another week.

The Mayor called for others to appear regarding the hotels, but none were forthcoming and the Council proceeded with other business.

REQUEST OF MR. CHAS. W. KEE REGARDING PROPERTY AT N. TRYON AND 13TH STREETS.

Mr. John Wilkinson, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, reported with reference to the request of Mr. John McRae, attorney for Mr. Chas. W. Kee, on property owned by Mr. McKee at the corner of N. Tryon and 13th. Streets. Councilman Wilkinson stated that his committee had gone over the matter very thoroughly with Mr. McRae and there was nothing the City could do about it. Therefore, it was the recommendation of the committee that it stand as it is and he so moved, which motion was seconded by Councilman Hudson and unanimously carried.

REQUEST FROM AMERICAN LEGION FOR RETURN OF \$41,250 DEPOSIT ON RECREATION CENTER.

Mr. Marshall recalled to the Council that last fall the American Legion requested the Council to sponsor a recreation center or park which they proposed to put in a PWA application for and the sponsor's share of that project was to be furnished by the American Legion.

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He stated that was done, the American Legion posting with the City of Charlotte the sum of \$41,250.00, but that it had now developed that the application had been turned down and that Mr. Younts, Mr. Ballenger, and a number of the officials of the Legion had met and considered whether or not it would be feasible to file an application under the WPA, but that after discussion it was decided to abandon the project insofar as the City was concerned at this time, and the American Legion is withdrawing their request that the City act as sponsor under the PWA project and were asking for the return of the deposit of \$41,250.00. He stated that a formal request for this money had been received from the Legion and there was no reason for the City holding the money.

Thereupon, Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Huntley, moved that the money be refunded, which motion was unanimously carried.

ARMORY AUDITORIUM GRANTED FOR BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE ON MARCH 10TH.

Councilman Baxter requested free use of the Armory-Auditorium on March 10th. for the Boy Scout's Jamboree and on motion of Councilman Albea, seconded and carried, this request was granted provided that date is open.

ADJOURNMENT.

On motion of Councilman Hovis, duly seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned.

Above Minutes taken by E. D. Blair,
Court Reporter, Copy furnished
by him to City Clerk.
Typed and read for approval by:

Alice B. W. Powell
City Clerk