

JOINT MEETING.

APRIL 19, 1948
Book 32 - Page 343

An adjourned meeting of the City Council was held in the office of the Mayor, City Hall, at 2:30 p.m., on Monday, April 19th, 1948, with the Board of Commissioners of Mecklenburg County, with Mayor Baxter presiding, and the following members present:

FOR THE CITY: Councilmen Albea, Childs, DeLaney, Jordan, Lambeth, McKee and White.

FOR THE COUNTY: Chairman McAden, Commissioners Cashion, McDonald, McEwen and Porter.

PURPOSE OF MEETING.

The meeting was held for the purpose of considering and approving the operations jointly financed by the City and County, for the fiscal year 1948-49.

CHARITY HOSPITALIZATION.

Mayor Baxter called attention to the fact that the City of Charlotte had been appropriating 65% of the funds allocated for charity hospitalization for patients residing inside the City, and that during the current fiscal year additional allocations had been made by the City. That it has been the opinion of the City for sometime that the County should assume the full responsibility for financing charity hospitalization for all citizens of Mecklenburg County.

He stated that an opinion had been secured from the Attorney General of North Carolina as to the responsibility of the City and County for the hospitalization of indigent persons. He quoted from said opinion as follows: "..... counties shall have the power to provide by taxation for the maintenance, comfort and well-ordering of the poor", also, "..... the City may make necessary and proper provision for the care of the indigent sick.....", also, "With the principle in mind that the distribution of county funds for the relief of the poor should be made without prejudice or preference to any section, I hope it may be possible within the present statutory provisions to work out a reasonable basis for this obligation".

Councilman White, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated that the Committee finds that it is the obligation of the County to care for indigent sick and recommends to the Council that no funds be appropriated by the City for their care for the next fiscal year. He moved the acceptance OF THE Committee's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilman Childs, and unanimously carried, with only the City Councilmen voting.

VETERANS INFORMATION CENTER.

Councilman Childs, Chairman of the Veterans Information Center, recommended that a joint appropriation of \$12,000.00, on a 50/50 basis, be made for the operation of the Center by a permanently employed Service Officer for Mecklenburg County, and that the Center be moved from its present location, which must be vacated, to either the City Hall or Court House.

Commissioner McDonald moved that a maximum of \$10,000.00 be appropriated, on a 50/50 basis, for the Center, and that all expenditures against said fund be made subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners and the Mayor. Motion seconded by Councilman White, and unanimously carried.

TAX LISTING DEPARTMENT.

Councilman Lambeth moved that the expenses of the Tax Listing Department be shared on the basis of 35% by the City and 65% by the County, the same as for the current year, and the appropriation be determined when the City and County budgets are completed. Motion seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried.

SALARIES OF TAX SUPERVISOR AND ASSISTANT.

Commissioner McAden moved that the salary of the Tax Supervisor be fixed at \$5,000.00 and that of the Assistant Supervisor at \$4,200/00 and the Supervisor be authorized to appoint a Tax Inspector at a salary of \$3,600.00 per annum plus car allowance of \$60.00 per month, all to be shared in on a 35/65 basis. Motion seconded by Councilman Childs, and unanimously carried.

PROPERTY EVALUATION SURVEY.

Commissioner McDonald recommended that the City and County employ the services of a company specializing in making reappraisal surveys for the equalization of property values. He stated that the initial cost of such a survey would be expensive but that thereafter the cost would be low, and that millions of dollars in taxes would be realized by both governmental agencies as a result of the survey. He recommended that a joint committee be appointed to study the matter and report to the City and County.

Councilman Lambeth was appointed to the Committee by Mayor Baxter and Commissioner McDonald by Chairman McAden.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND JUVENILE COURTS.

Commissioner McAden moved that the cost of the operation of the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Courts be shared on a 50/50 basis, and the appropriation be determined at the time the budgets of the City and County are completed. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

SALARY OF JUDGE OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND JUVENILE COURTS.

Commissioner McDonald moved that the salary of the Judge of the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Courts be fixed at \$6,000.00 for the next fiscal year, Motion seconded by Councilman White, and unanimously carried.

REAPPOINTMENT OF JUDGE PRO TEM OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND JUVENILE COURTS.

Councilman Albea moved that Mr. Ray Rankin be reappointed as Judge Pro Tem of the Domestic Relations and Juvenile Courts for one year. Motion seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Commissioner McAden moved that the City and County share in the cost of the operation of the Weights and Measures Bureau on a 50/50 basis, and the appropriation be determined at the time the budgets are completed. Motion seconded by Commissioner Porter, and unanimously carried.

INDUSTRIAL HOME.

Commissioner Porter moved that the City and County share in the cost of the operation of the Industrial Home on a 50/50 basis for one year. Motion seconded by Commissioner McAden.

Councilman White stated that the City's Finance Committee recommended to the Council that no appropriation be made by the City for the operation of the Industrial Home.

JOINT MEETING
 April 19, 1948
 Book 32 - Page 345

Following the discussion, the vote was taken, and the motion that both the City and County ;share in the operation cost carried, with the following votes cast:

AYE: Councilmen ~~Albea~~, Commissioners McAden, Cashion, McEwen McDonald and Porter.

NAY: Councilmen Childs, DeLaney, Jordan, Lambeth, McKee and White.

PAUPER BURIALS.

Councilman Childs moved that the policy as heretofore be continued as to the distribution of the expense of pauper burials; the County furnish the cost of coffins and the City furnish the lot and grave digging. Motion seconded by Councilman McKee, and unanimously carried.

CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Dr. M. B. Bethel, City Health Officer, replied to the question of one of the Commissioners as to what services and/or facilities were furnished to the County by the City in connection with the Health Department.

Dr. Bethel stated that the City ;furnishes office space in an amount that approximates one-fourth of the Health Department, together with the use of the laboratory, veneral disease clinic, charity medical clinic, the x-ray phase of the T.B. Control Clinic and Meat Inspection, as well as others that are minor. He estimated that of the approximately \$80,000.00 spent annually for public health that 20% to 25% goes to Mecklenburg County. Commissioner McDonald moved that an appropriation of \$22,180.00, the same as last year, be made by the County, and accepted by the City. Motion seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried.

MATERNITY CLINICS.

Councilman Childs moved that an amount not to exceed \$16,000.00 be appropriated on a 50/50 basis for the Maternity Clinics. Motion seconded by Commissioner McAden. Councilman DeLaney objected to the City sharing in this expense, on the basis that it was appropriating ;funds for the care of indigent sick and therefore was the full responsibility of the County. The vote was then taken on the motion that the City share on a 50/50 basis in the expense, and carried, with the following votes cast:

AYE: Councilman Albea, Childs, Jordan, Lambeth, McKee and White, and Commissioners McAden, Cashion, McEwen, McDonald and Porter.

NAY: Councilman DeLaney.

FIRE PROTECTION OUTSIDE THE CITY.

Commissioner McAden moved that the County's appropriation for fire protection outside the City be accepted at \$2,400.00 for standby charge and \$50.00 per trip by the City Fire Department, the same as was appropriated last year. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

HOME DEMONSTRATION DEPARTMENT.

Councilman Lambeth moved that the City make no appropriation for the services of the Home Demonstration Department. Motion seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the votes being cast by the Councilmen only.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Lambeth, seconded by Commissioner McAden, the meeting was adjourned.

Lillian R. Hoffman
 City Clerk