

August 5, 1953
Minute Book 35 - Page 69

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Wednesday, August 5, 1953, at 11:00 o'clock a.m., with Mayor Van Every presiding and Councilmen Albea, Baxter, Boyd, Brown, Dellinger, Smith and Wilkinson present.

Absent: None.

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING ON JULY 22, 1953 APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the last regular meeting on July 22, 1953, were approved as submitted.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OPERATIONS ENDED UPON RECOMMENDATION OF COMMISSION MEMBERS.

The Redevelopment Commission composed of Mr. Paul R. Younts, Chairman, Mr. Irwin Belk, Mr. G. Douglas Aitken, Mr. C. A. McKnight, and Mr. George L. Sibley appeared before Council, and the Chairman submitted the following letter for Council action:

"REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE
CITY OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

1211 South Boulevard

August 5, 1953

Honorable Philip L. Van Every, Mayor
City of Charlotte, North Carolina

Dear Mayor Van Every:

On July 22, the Charlotte Redevelopment Commission met informally with you and members of the City Council to ask Council approval of the Commission's plan to test the constitutionality of the North Carolina Urban Redevelopment Act. No action was taken by Council on that day, pending a study of the redevelopment program by the new Council members.

At that time the Commission understood from the federal Housing and Home Finance Agency that funds would be advanced to defray the costs of such a suit. However, the Washington agency has since reversed itself and has decided not to advance funds. In these circumstances, our request of July 22 is purely academic and is hereby withdrawn.

The members of the Charlotte Redevelopment Commission did their best to get the General Assembly to amend the State enabling act, so as to give North Carolina cities the same opportunity to clear their slums that cities elsewhere have. Failing in that, they sought to work out some feasible redevelopment projects within the framework of the unwieldy law.

Without clarification of the basic constitutionality of urban redevelopment that would be afforded by a test suit, the Commission feels that it would be improvident and impractical to proceed on the reduced scale made necessary by the present restrictions in the Act.

August 5, 1953
Minute Book 35 - Page 70

As a result, the Commission members recommend to the Council that the Commission's operations be ended, that its personnel be freed for employment elsewhere, that its office be closed and equipment sold, and that its final accounting with the Federal government be completed as soon as possible, within thirty to sixty days.

When the above steps have been completed, the Commissioners will submit their resignations for the pleasure of the Mayor and the City Council.

If the 1955 General Assembly shows more concern over urban slums in North Carolina by amending the State act to make it workable, Charlotte should speedily activate a new Commission in order that the benefits of this wise and productive program can be shared here.

The members of the Redevelopment Commission are grateful for the warm support they have had from the Mayor, the City Council and the City Manager in the past.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Paul R. Younts
Chairman "

Mr. Younts stated the Commission will not make the test suit of the constitutionality of the N. C. Urban Redevelopment Act. He expressed the appreciation of the members for the fine cooperation of the Mayor, City Council and City Manager, and advised that it is their belief if the law had been made workable and the program gone forward, it would have met the public approval and proved its great worth to Charlotte.

Mayor Van Every expressed his deep appreciation to the Commissioners for their fine efforts in endeavoring to serve the City of Charlotte.

REQUEST THAT WIDENING OF GOLD STREET BE ABOLISHED.

Mr. J. M. Long requested that the widening of Gold Street be abolished, or deferred, as, in his opinion, it would create a traffic hazard unless Dowd Road was likewise widened and a new bridge constructed thereon. He recommended that Winona Street be widened instead of Gold Street as a traffic outlet. He stated further that he owns property on Gold Street, which will be affected by its widening.

Mr. Long was advised that the extension of Gold Street has been under consideration for some two years, that a survey as to traffic conditions, etc., has been made and the rights-of-way for its widening are now being acquired. That, in fact, the extension of Gold Street is the widening of two streets that now exist.

COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO MAKE STUDY OF POLICE DEPARTMENT AND SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL, AND THE CITY MANAGER AND CHIEF OF POLICE ALSO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS.

Councilman Smith stated that in order to arrive at a workable plan whereby the Civil Service Commission may secure sufficient, adequate and proper personnel for the Police Department, he moved that a Committee of three private citizens, namely: Dr. R. S. Snyder, (Minister) as Chairman, Mr. Lambert Schwartz (businessman) and Mr. Dan Marley (druggist) be appointed to make a study for this purpose. That they make recommendations to the City Council for the securing and maintaining of proper personnel in the Police Department as to salaries, on a comparable level with private enterprise; the advancement of Officers periodically by way of an agreeable system to be worked out; for additional remuneration for each term or number of years served; for the retirement of men on an adequate financial basis at certain age limits; for an adequate and thorough training program, and any other specific recommendations as may appear necessary and desirable. And that this Committee work

August 5, 1953
Minute Book 35 - Page 71

in full and complete cooperation with the Chief of Police and the City Manager, and that at the completion of the studies that the City Council receive a set of recommendations from the Committee, one from the Chief of Police and one from the City Manager, at the earliest possible time for final disposition by the City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and carried, with the votes cast as follows:

YEAS: Councilmen Albea, Baxter, Brown, Dellinger, Smith and Wilkinson.

NAY: Councilman Boyd.

MOTION TO INCREASE STARTING SALARY OF POLICEMEN DENIED.

Councilman Baxter stated that it is his understanding that at the present time there are only 25 applicants for the Fire Department and none for the Police Department available, and it is going to be necessary for the Police Department to have available men for patrolling the streets, and emergencies that may arise, and certainly it will not be possible to interest anyone in coming to work with the prospects of a better salary in December, which there is no doubt the study of the Department will develop to be necessary. Therefore, he moved that the starting salary for Policemen be fixed at \$280.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boyd.

Councilman Wilkinson stated that within another 30 or 60 days the job classification will be completed and salaries for all departments will be considered and fixed, and, in his opinion, raises should not be given to one department and not another.

The vote was then taken on the motion by Councilman Baxter, and lost, with the votes cast as follows:

YEAS: Councilmen Baxter, Boyd and Dellinger.

NAYS: Councilmen Albea, Brown, Smith and Wilkinson.

REPORT OF CANVASS OF PETITIONERS OPPOSING ZONING CHANGE IN GRIERTOWN AS TO OWNERS AND NON-OWNERS OF PROPERTY.

The City Manager submitted a report verifying the status of the petitioners opposing the change in zoning in Griertown by Mr. W. J. Crosby, as to their ownership of property.

SURVEY OF AIR TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES BY GOTCH AND CRAWFORD, WASHINGTON, AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Brown, and unanimously carried, the request of the Chamber of Commerce that the firm of Gotch and Crawford, Washington, D. C., be retained to make a Survey of Air Transportation Facilities in Charlotte, at a cost of \$2,500.00 plus expenses not to exceed \$2,500.00 to be financed by the City of Charlotte, was granted.

RESOLUTION REPEALING FORMER RESOLUTIONS AUTHORIZING IMPROVEMENTS ON WEST FIFTH STREET.

A resolution entitled: "Resolution Repealing Former Resolutions Authorizing Improvements on West Fifth Street", was introduced and read, and upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Dellinger, was unanimously adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 2, at Page 120.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS ON WEST FIFTH STREET.

A resolution entitled: "Resolution Authorizing Permanent Improvements on West Fifth Street", was introduced and read. Councilman Albea moved the adoption of the resolution, which was seconded by Councilmen Dellinger, and unanimously carried. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 2, at Page 121.

August 5, 1953
Minute Book 35 - Page 72

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADVERTISEMENT OF NOTICE OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS ON WEST FIFTH STREET.

A resolution entitled: "Resolution Authorizing the Advertisement of Notice of Resolution Authorizing Permanent Improvements on West Fifth Street", was introduced. Following the reading thereof, Councilman Albea, moved the adoption of the resolution, which was seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 2, at Page 122.

LICENSE AUTHORIZED ISSUED TO HARRY L. BELK, JR., FOR OPERATION OF PRIVATE DETECTIVE AGENCY.

Councilman Dellinger moved approval of the application of Mr. Harry L. Belk, Jr., for license to operate a Private Detective Agency, same having been approved by the Police Department. Motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

PURCHASE OF RIGHTS-OF-WAY FOR WIDENING GOLD STREET AND ARGONNE DRIVE.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilman Baxter, and unanimously carried, the purchase of rights-of-way for the widening of Gold Street and Argonne Drive was authorized as follows:

- (a) Strip of land 40 feet in length along the southwesterly side of Gold Street, from Mrs. Helen Phelan Vogler, and the cost of moving a tenant house, at \$1,155.40.
- (b) Strip of land 385 feet x 50 feet westerly from intersection of S. Church and Gold Streets on both sides, from J. H. Carson, and cost of moving five tenant houses at \$7,082.00.
- (c) Parcel of land 263 feet in length along southwesterly side of Argonne Drive, from Carson Realty Company, at \$200.00.

CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER MAINS AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried, authorizing the construction of new sanitary sewer mains, as follows:

- (a) 146 feet of mains in East 11th Street and Atomic Place, at an estimated cost of \$1,310.00, to serve one business unit and seven vacant lots. All cost to be borne by the City, and deposit of \$1,110.00 by applicant, C. W. Allison, Sr., to be refunded as per terms of the contract.
- (b) 7,587 feet 8-inch mains and 10-inch trunks in Eastway Park at an estimated cost of \$15,460.00, to serve residential property. All cost to be borne by the City, and deposit of \$15,460.00 by Ervin Construction Company, to be refunded as per terms of the contract.
- (c) 1,265 feet of sewer trunk in Eastway Park, at an estimated cost of \$5,360.00, to serve 7 family units and 134 vacant lots. All costs to be borne by the City, and deposit of \$2,560.00 by Ervin Construction Company to be refunded in accordance with the terms of the contract.
- (d) 2,416 feet of sewer trunk in Marsh Estates, at an estimated cost of \$7,010.00, to serve 17 family units not yet constructed. All cost to be borne by the City, and deposit of the full amount by Marsh Realty Company to be refunded as per terms of the contract.

August 5, 1953
Minute Book 35 - Page 73

- (e) 2,031 feet of mains in Marsh Estates, at an estimated cost of \$4,730.00, to serve 24 family units not yet constructed. All cost to be borne by the City, and deposit of the full amount by Marsh Realty Company to be refunded as per terms of the contract.
- (f) 2,066 feet of mains in Marsh Estates, at an estimated cost of \$5,110.00, to serve 26 family units not yet constructed. All cost to be borne by the City, and deposit of full amount by Marsh Realty Company to be refunded as per terms of the contract.
- (g) 330 feet of mains in North Davidson Street, at an estimated cost of \$635.00, to serve one family unit. All cost to be borne by the City, and deposit of \$435.00 by Charlotte Park & Recreation Commission to be refunded in accordance with the terms of the contract.

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS COMPANY GRANTED PERMISSION TO CONNECT PRIVATE SANITARY SEWER LINES TO CITY'S SANITARY SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

Councilman Albea moved that Construction Materials Company be granted permission to connect their privately owned sanitary sewer lines to the City's Sanitary Sewerage System to serve Poplar Drive, First Avenue and Third Avenue, as recommended by the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT AUTHORIZED WITH THE PITOMETER COMPANY FOR WORK IN CONNECTION WITH HYDRAULIC CHECK OF WATER MAINS, ELEVATED TANKS AND THEIR CAPACITIES.

Motion was made by Councilman Smith, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, authorizing a contract with The Pitometer Company, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00, for work in connection with a hydraulic check of the City's water mains, elevated tanks and the capacity of each.

LEASE WITH DEWITT BROWN AND WIFE FOR SPACE IN AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING UPON ITS COMPLETION.

Councilman Smith moved that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute a lease with DeWitt Brown and Wife, for space in the new Airport Terminal Building upon its completion, for the operation of a restaurant, coffee shop, soda fountain, newsstand and gift shop. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and unanimously carried.

PLAT OF SHERWOOD FOREST SUBDIVISION APPROVED.

The Plat of Sherwood Forest Subdivision was approved, as recommended by the Planning Board, upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried.

STREETS TAKEN OVER FOR MAINTENANCE.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilman Baxter, and unanimously carried, the following streets were taken over for maintenance by the City:

- (a) Mayfield Avenue, from Melbourne Court to Hartford Avenue.
- (b) Auburn Avenue, from Melbourne Court to Hartford Avenue.
- (c) Greystone Road, from Auburn Avenue to Mayfield Avenue.
- (d) Maywood Drive, from Shamrock Road to Dalehurst Drive.
- (e) Eastwood Drive, from Benson Place to 165 feet north of Dalehurst Drive.
- (f) Dalehurst Drive, from Eastwood Drive to Eastway Circle.

August 5, 1953
Minute Book 35 - Page 74

CONTRACT AWARDED BADGER METER COMPANY FOR WATER METERS.

Councilman Albea moved that contract be awarded the low bidder, Badger Meter Company, for Two 4-inch Compound Water Meters with Companion Flanges, as specified, at a net delivered price of \$1,247.50. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT AWARDED J. A. JONES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SUGAW CREEK OUTFALL PROJECT.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded the low bidder, J. A. Jones Construction Company, for furnishing labor, material, equipment and supervision for the construction of Sugaw Creek Outfall Project in accordance with plans and specifications, on a unit price basis for Concrete Pipe, representing a total of \$128,205.90.

CONSTRUCTION OF DRIVEWAY ENTRANCES AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilman Baxter, and unanimously carried, the construction of driveway entrances at the following locations was authorized:

- (a) One 10-ft. extension to the present 20-ft. driveway at 123 South Church Street.
- (b) One 3-ft. One 12-ft. and One 9-ft. extension to the present driveways at 527 Providence Road, making a total of three 30-ft. driveways.
- (c) One 12-ft. driveway at 2306 Beverly Drive.
- (d) One 12-ft. driveway at 2310 Beverly Drive.
- (e) One 24-ft. driveway at 2314-2318 Beverly Drive.
- (f) One 24-ft. and One 12-ft. driveway on Commonwealth Avenue, and One 24-ft. driveway on Independence Boulevard, all for 1409 North Independence Boulevard.

TRANSFER OF CEMETERY LOTS.

Motion was made by Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Brown, and unanimously carried, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute deeds for the transfer of the following cemetery lots:

- (a) Deed with W. F. Worrell and wife, for Lot 363, in Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$204.75.
- (b) Deed with William Harrison Williams, for Lot 234, in Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$156.00.
- (c) Deed with Mrs. Carolyn McEwen, for Graves #2 and #3, in Lot 146, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$52.00.
- (d) Deed with Howard Garner, for southeast quarter of Lot 164, in Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$26.00.
- (e) Deed with Jessie W. Mills, for Grave #6, in Lot 144, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$26.00.
- (f) Deed with Mrs. G. E. McKee, for east half of Lot 97, in Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$78.00.
- (g) Deed with Robert P. and Hazel V. Almy, for Lot 327, in Section 4-A, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$81.90.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Lillian R. Nappan
City Clerk