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The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4 p.m., on Tuesday, December 18, 1945, with Mayor Baxter presiding, and Councilmen Childs, Hinson, Johnston, McIntyre, Newson, and Puette present.

Absent: Councilman White.

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COUNCIL REQUESTED TO AID IN ELIMINATION OF HOUSING SHORTAGE BY REAL ESTATE REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. J. H. Wills, Director, Local Rent Control Office, Mr. J. E. Barrentine, President, Real Estate Board, and Mr. J. G. Turner and J. P. Hackney, Jr., Realtors, came before Council to urge that the city government aid in the elimination of the housing shortage. They requested that the facilities at Morris Field be converted into housing units; that trailers be purchased from Federal surplus property and used for housing under the supervision of the Housing Authority; that the City Government appeal to citizens to open their homes to persons seeking rooms, and that Council urge our Congressman and Senators to pass the Housing Bill, now pending, before adjourning for the holidays.

Mayor Baxter stated that the City Government was vitally interested in finding a solution to the housing problem and most willing to do everything possible towards that end. He advised that the use of Morris Field was not available to the city; that it was hoped that within ten days the matter would be cleared with Washington and then the barracks could be converted into living quarters, under the supervision of the Housing Authority. He further stated that he would contact by telephone our representatives in Washington tomorrow and urge that the Federal Housing Bill be approved at once.

REQUEST FOR SANITARY SEWER CONSTRUCTION IN EAST 11TH STREET DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

Mr. H. B. Campbell, Attorney, requested the city to construct an 8-inch sanitary sewer in East 11th Street, from Seigle Avenue to Atomic Place, to serve houses now under construction, owned by Mr. C. W. Allison. Motion was made by Councilman Puette that the construction be authorized. Motion seconded by Councilman Hinson. In the discussion that followed, the question arose as to whether Mr. Allison intended to develop a sub-division and whether the matter had been approved by The Planning Board. Councilman Newson made a ~~substitute~~ motion that the matter be officially passed upon by The Planning Board, and that the request be placed on the Docket for the next Council meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Puette, and unanimously carried.

REQUEST FOR PERMIT TO OPERATE A TAXICAB REFERRED TO CAPTAIN HENKLE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR STUDY AND REPORT.

Mr. P. D. McSwain, who stated he was a Veteran of World War No. 2, requested permission to operate a taxicab and advised that his application to the Police Department had been refused. Following the discussion, motion was made by Councilman McIntyre that the matter be referred to Captain Henkle of the Police Department for study and report. Motion seconded by Councilman Puette, and unanimously carried.

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APPRAISAL COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED TO INVESTIGATE TAX FORECLOSED PROPERTY AT 2408-10 NORTH TRYON STREET, BEFORE CONFIRMING SALE.

Councilman Newson stated that property at 2408 North Tryon Street was owned by Mr. S. R. Beard before being foreclosed for taxes; that Council recently agreed to Mr. Beard bidding in the property, if no upset bids were received; that bids have been received and the City Treasurer recommends the sale of the property to the highest bidder; however, that he recommends that the Appraisal Committee further investigate the matter before confirming the sale, and moved that his recommendation be approved. Motion was seconded by Councilman Johnston, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT AUTHORIZED WITH R. J. FLYNN FOR SANITARY SEWER CONSTRUCTION IN CENTRAL AVENUE.

Upon motion of Councilman Hinson, seconded by Councilman Childs, contract was unanimously authorized with R. J. Flynn for the construction of an 8 inch sanitary sewer in Central Avenue, from a manhole in Nandina Street on the north side of Central Avenue, crossing Central Avenue, to the south side, thence westerly to serve all of Lot 9, Block 2, a distance of 372 feet, at an estimated cost of \$491.70, and that deposit of \$291.70 be accepted from Mr. Flynn.

OVER-RUN OF ESTIMATED CONTRACT PRICE WITH BLYTHE BROS. COMPANY FOR SMITH STREET IMPROVEMENT AUTHORIZED PAID.

Councilman Hinson moved that payment of an over-run, amounting to \$71.04, of an estimated contract, amounting to \$3,302.15, with Blythe Bros. Company for improvements to Smith Street, be authorized. Motion seconded by Councilman Johnston, and unanimously carried.

PAYMENT OF DAMAGES TO AUTOMOBILES OF MR. AND MRS. W. A. ALLISON AND MRS. E. E. TANNER AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Childs, seconded by Councilman Hinson, payment of \$12.00 to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Allison, and of \$200.00 to Mrs. E. E. Tanner was unanimously authorized for damages to their automobiles by a city fire truck.

CONTRACTS AND PURCHASES AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Childs, seconded by Councilman Hinson, and unanimously carried, that the following contracts and purchases be approved and funds appropriated, if necessary:

- (a) Purchase of Repair Parts for fire equipment from the American-LaFrance-Foamite Corp., in the sum of \$166.25.
- (b) Purchase of Four Rebuilt Injectors for Bulldozer from W. E. Whetstone in the sum of \$112.00.
- (c) Contract with Pettit Motor Company for One 8-cylinder Deluxe 2-door Ford Sedan, for the Police Department, at a cost of \$998.13.

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**NORFOLK-SOUTHERN RAILROAD COMPANY AUTHORIZED TO RELOCATE TRACK AT 7TH STREET CROSSING.**

Motion was made by Councilman Puette that the request of the Norfolk-Southern Railroad Company to relocate their track at the 7th Street Crossing be granted, the Railroad Company to pay for the work incident there to done by the city. Motion seconded by Councilman Childs, and unanimously carried.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY GRANTED CITY EMPLOYEES.**

Motion was made by Councilman Childs that a holiday be granted city employees on January 1st, in observance of New Year's Day. Motion seconded by Councilman Hinson, and unanimously carried.

**ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION WITH RESPECT TO CONTRACT BETWEEN THE PLANNING BOARD AND J. N. PEASE & COMPANY, INC.**

Upon motion of Councilman Newson, seconded by Councilman Hinson, unanimous consent was given the City Manager to present two items not included in the Docket.

The City Attorney recommended that a resolution adopted on August 28, 1945 (recorded in Minute Book 31, Page 213) with respect to contract between The Planning Board and J. N. Pease & Company, Inc., for professional services in connection with planning and zoning in Charlotte, be amended by inserting after the word "agreement" in the last line thereof, the following: " and that \$10,000.00 shall be authorized to be disbursed against said contract and charged to The Planning Board budget appropriation". Motion was made by Councilman Childs that the amendment be adopted. Motion seconded by Councilman Hinson, and unanimously carried.

**NEW EMPLOYEES AFTER JANUARY 1, 1946 TO BE ON TEMPORARY BASIS.**

Based on the recommendation of the City Manager, and concurred in by the City Attorney, Councilman Childs moved that the City Manager be authorized on and after January 1, 1946 to appoint all new employees on a temporary basis for a period of three months, for the purpose of establishing said employees as regular employees prior to their participation in the Retirement System. Motion seconded by Councilman Puette, and unanimously carried.

**ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION WITH RESPECT TO MORRIS FIELD AND MUNICIPAL AIRPORT OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.**

Upon motion of Councilman Childs, seconded by Councilman Hinson, unanimous consent of Council was given Mayor Baxter to present a resolution with respect to Morris Field and the Municipal Airport of the City of Charlotte, as follows:

WHEREAS, the City did on the 3rd day of December, 1940, lease to the United States of America the municipal airport to be used by the government of the United States of America for airport purposes or similar purposes, and

WHEREAS, the United States of America inactivated Morris Field, which is partly on the municipal airport land and partly on a strip of perimeter land acquired by the United States of America, and

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WHEREAS, on the 24th day of October, 1945, the City by proper resolution employed Edward J. Hanson, Attorney of the City of Charlotte, as its special attorney to represent it to secure a cancellation of the lease which the United States of America has upon said municipal airport and secure from the United States of America the perimeter land which the United States of America had acquired and all personal property, buildings and facilities and appurtenances used in connection with the operation of Morris Field and the municipal airport, in that the municipal airport had become merged with and operated as a part of Morris Field, and

WHEREAS, the City is now informed that on November 21, 1945, the War Department General Staff, Washington, D. C., declared Morris Field as being surplus to the needs of the War Department and the United States of America through its proper agencies, to-wit, the Office of the Chief of Engineers, United States Army, Washington, D. C., transferred to the Surplus Property Administration the said lease of the municipal airport, along with title to the perimeter land, and all personal property, buildings, appurtenances and facilities used in connection with the said field, and

WHEREAS, the Surplus Property Administration, in its Regulation 16, published November 16, 1945, did declare its policy to be as follows:

"It is hereby declared that the national interest requires the disposal of surplus airport property in such a manner and upon such terms and conditions as will encourage and foster the development of civil aviation and provide and preserve for civil aviation and national defense purposes a strong, efficient, and properly maintained nationwide system of public airports, and will insure competition and will not result in monopoly. It is further declared that in making such disposals of surplus airport property the benefits which the public and the Nation will derive therefrom must be the principal consideration and the financial return to the Government a secondary consideration. Airports which are surplus to the needs of owning agencies may be essential to the common defense of the Nation or valuable in the maintenance of an adequate and economical national transportation system. In such cases and in accordance with the rules established herein such airports may be disposed of to State or local governments for considerations other than cash." and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte, through its special attorney, has continuously desired to ~~repossess itself of the municipal airport, with the perimeter land and all the facilities, appurtenances and personal property~~ used in connection therewith in order that the same might be maintained as an operating unit in its entirety, preserving thereby a valuable asset which may be essential to the common defense of the Nation and, in the opinion of this Council, is valuable in the maintenance of an adequate and economical national transportation system, and

WHEREAS, one of the conditions set out in Regulation 16 of the Surplus Property Administration is

"That insofar as is within its powers and reasonably possible the transferee shall prevent any use of land either within or outside the boundaries of the airport, including the construction, erection, alteration, or growth, or any structure or other object thereon, which use would be a hazard to the landing, taking off, or maneuvering of aircraft at the airport, or otherwise limit its usefulness as an airport." and

WHEREAS, it is essential for the maintenance and future expansion and development of the field that the City of Charlotte, in compliance with this condition, possess itself of the perimeter land owned by the government of the United States of America, and

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WHEREAS, government agencies shall be accorded first priority, including state and local governments, including any municipality in which the property is located, and all municipalities in the vicinity thereof, and

WHEREAS, no appraisal need be made where transferred to a government agency without reimbursement or transfer of funds or disposal to a state or local government without a cash payment is contemplated, and

WHEREAS, by amendment to Surplus Property Administration Regulation 16, published December 4, 1945, the disposal agency shall make such transfers of airport properties to government agencies without reimbursement or transfer of funds whenever a transfer or such terms by the owning agency by which such property was declared surplus would be authorized by law to be made to the agency desiring such property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Charlotte does by these presents and through its special attorney, Edward J. Hanson, request that the United States of America, through its proper agencies, transfer by deed of real estate and bill of sale for all personal property, including but not limited to all buildings, structures, tools, instruments, facilities, appurtenances used or that may be used in connection with the maintenance, repair, and/or operation of Morris Field and the municipal airport, to the City of Charlotte, such field to be owned and operated by it as a public airport, and such lands and structures as are not needed for airport purposes will be used in such manner as will not be a hazard to the landing, taking off, or maneuvering of aircraft at said airport.

Motion was made by Councilman Johnston that the resolution be adopted as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Childs, and unanimously carried.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2nd, 1946.

Upon motion of Councilman Newson, seconded by Councilman Hinson, it was unanimously decided to hold the next Council Meeting on Wednesday, January 2, 1946, at 4 p.m.

#### SALE OF CEMETERY LOTS AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Hinson, seconded by Councilman Childs, and unanimously carried, that the sale of the following cemetery lots be authorized:

- To -Mrs. Leban R. Kelly, south half Lot 132, Section X, Elmwood Cemetery, \$70.00.  
Perpetual Care on above lot, \$60.00.
- To -James W. Allen, Lot 88, Section L-Annex, Elmwood Cemetery, \$90.00.  
Perpetual Care on above lot, \$50.00.
- To -Mrs. Lovie M. Barese, Lot 369, Section Y, Elmwood Cemetery, \$35.00.
- To -L. N. Atkinson, Lot 8, Section L-Annex, Elmwood Cemetery, \$180.00.  
Perpetual Care on above lot of L. N. Atkinson, \$100.00.
- To -Mrs. Blanche Huffman, South Half Lot 131, Section X, Elmwood Cemetery, \$70.00.  
Perpetual Care on above lot to Mrs. Blanche Huffman, \$60.00.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Hinson, seconded by Councilman Childs, the meeting was adjourned.