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The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, January 17, 1940, with Mayor Douglas presiding, and Councilmen Baxter, Britt, Hovis, Hudson, Huntley, Little, Nance, Sides, Ward and Wilkinson being present.

Absent: Councilman Albea.

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READING OF MINUTES DISPENSED WITH.

On motion of Councilman Little, seconded by Councilman Baxter, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with at this meeting.

PROTESTS ON WIDENING OF SOUTH DAVIDSON STREET.

The Council Chamber was filled with a delegation of citizens protesting the widening of South Davidson Street and the cutting down of the two large trees on the west side of the City Hall as a result thereof.

A petition signed by the Board of Directors of the Charlotte Woman's Club was presented by Mrs. John Newitt, Chairman of the Education Department, in which they petitioned the Council to rescind their action of January 10th. to widen this street, thus saving the trees.

Mr. K. W. Selden, President of the Charlotte Garden Club, also voiced the protests of that Club in the taking down of the two trees necessary to widen this street.

Mr. John Cansler, Miss Dorothy Knox, Mr. Tom Franklin and Mr. Thos. Hayes were heard in this connection, and Chief Palmer, who stated that he was the man responsible for this widening project, explained that his only interest in the matter was to unbottle that street at the Headquarters Fire Station in an effort to protect firemen and life and property of the citizens of Charlotte. On questioning, he stated that preventing parking on the street and making it a fire lane would be satisfactory to him.

Only one man present, a Mr. Chandler, spoke in favor of taking down the trees. After discussion by the delegation present was concluded, the Mayor put the question in the hands of the Council and a general discussion was entered into by the board.

Councilman Hudson explained that at the time the matter came up two weeks ago he asked for more time to study the matter before voting on it, and that when it passed at the meeting of January 10th. he was absent. He stated that he was opposed to the widening of the street and the cutting down of the trees and was in favor of leaving the street as it now is but to stop parking on that block altogether.

Councilman Britt moved that the resolution to widen this street, adopted at the last meeting, be rescinded and that the street be left as it is. Motion seconded by Councilman Sides, who made a number of observations with regard to same.

Councilman Sides pointed out that Chief Palmer, who was only interested in getting the fire equipment out of the station, had said that to prevent parking altogether would permit this to be done and on questioning Chief Palmer stated that to widen the street ten feet and permit parking thereon would be more hazardous than to leave the street and to allow no parking.

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Mr. John Durham, former Councilman, was called on by Mayor Douglas for an opinion, and Mr. Durham stated that the matter came up while he was on the Council at which time he opposed it and that his views had not changed since that time. He stated that he felt nothing would be gained by spending the money to do this work and that he thought it would be safer to leave the street as it now is and to prohibit parking.

Councilman Hovis stated he made the motion to widen the street in an effort to meet the requests of Chief Palmer and the City Manager.

Mr. Marshall stated that in his opinion the widening was advisable and that facts had been misrepresented in the papers, inasmuch as they stated that two large trees would have to come out, while as a matter of fact only one small tree would have to be taken down, and that the other two trees would not be effected.

Mr. Tom Franklin and Mr. Selden both stated that if one tree was taken out, two would have to be, as the second tree was practically the same distance from the curb as the other.

Mayor Douglas explained to the delegation present that he was strongly opposed to the widening of this street on account of the trees, but asked the public to work with the Council in such matters as this, stating that if the action should be rescinded, that on other widening projects in the future it might be necessary to take down other trees and he would not want this to establish a precedent. He then put the motion of Councilman Britt to rescind the former action of the Council to a vote with the following result:

AYE: Councilmen Britt, Sides, Nance and Hudson.

NAY: Councilmen Baxter, Hovis, Huntley, Little, Ward and Wilkinson.

The Mayor declared the motion lost.

Councilman Sides then made a motion that the work of widening this street be deferred for thirty days in an effort to try out "no parking" and that if this failed to work, then to proceed with the widening. Motion seconded by Councilman Nance and lost, with only four affirmative votes.

COLORED Y.W.C.A. GRANTED FREE USE OF ARMORY MARCH 12TH.

On motion of Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, the Colored Y.W.C.A. was granted free use of the Armory-Auditorium on the night of March 12th. (provided that date is open) for a Mardi Gras.

JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY REQUESTED USE OF ARMORY FOR BASKETBALL GAMES.

A representative of the Board of Athletic Control of Johnson C. Smith University presented a petition asking for free use of the Armory-Auditorium for basketball games when the Armory is available, stating that such games would be of a non-profit making character and that their gymnasium facilities at the college were inadequate to take care of some of their larger games. Mayor Douglas suggested that they work out a schedule of the dates desired and submit to the Council at a later meeting, but after discussion, Councilman Wilkinson moved that the Council grant the Johnson C. Smith University the use of the Armory on the same basis as is allowed Davidson College and other schools, if and when available. Motion seconded by Councilman Little and carried.

It was explained that Davidson College and other colleges were charged the minimum fee for the Armory and that the Council could

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not do more for one college than it does for all others.

STREET MAINTENANCE - PLAZA COURT.

On motion of Councilman Nance, seconded by Councilman Hudson and unanimously carried, the City took over for maintenance that section of Plaza Court from Belvedere Avenue south 800 feet. This street was reported by the Engineering Department to be in proper shape to be taken over.

CONSTRUCTION OF SEWER ON TIPPAAH AVENUE.

On motion of Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Hudson, the request of Wesley T. Heath for the construction of a sewer on Tippah Avenue, from Chambwood Drive, 180 feet north, to serve two houses, was granted. The work was estimated at \$193.00 by the City Engineering Department.

PURCHASE OF TIRES AND TUBES.

Bids having been received on the following Tires and Tubes:

10- S-22 10-ply stop and start casings  
5- Tubes for above  
10- 32 x 6 10-ply casings  
5- " tubes  
10- 30 x 5 8-ply casings  
5- " tubes  
10- 600 x 16- 4-ply casings  
5- " tubes

from the following concerns, at the prices shown:

Dayton Tire & Sales Company (McClaren)	\$820.46
C. H. Stroupe Tire Co. (Fisk)	825.89
Currie B. Witt, Inc. (Fisk)	827.30
Charlotte General Tire Co. (Generals)	934.80
Goodrich Silvertown Stores (Goodrich)	962.36
Myers Automobile Service Co. (U.S)	1004.96
Victor Shaw Company (U.S.)	1067.86

Councilman Wilkinson moved that the purchase be made from the lowest bidder, Dayton Tire and Sales Company, at a net delivered price of \$820.46, and that the Mayor and Clerk sign the contract. Motion seconded by Councilman Hudson and carried.

WATER MAIN CONSTRUCTION - LYON STREET AND CHESTERFIELD AVENUE.

On motion of Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson and unanimously carried, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to execute contract with D. L. Phillips and wife for water mains to be constructed in Lyon Street and Chesterfield Avenue, in which the Phillips' guarantee to pay the City 10% per year of the cost of the installation until such time as there are enough houses built on these streets to produce this revenue.

WATER MAIN CONSTRUCTION - WASSENA STREET.

On motion of Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Baxter and unanimously carried, contract was approved for the construction of a 6" water main in Wassena Street, between Commonwealth Avenue and

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Central Avenue, for the John Crosland Company; this contract guaranteeing the City 10% per year of the cost until sufficient houses are constructed to produce this revenue, and the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign the contract.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMITS.

On motion of Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Britt, the following Special Officer permits were granted:

H. S. Gunderson - Goode Construction Company			
Richard A. Houser	"	"	"
John L. Blythe	"	"	"

in connection with Fairview Homes, the colored Low-cost Housing project.

CEMETERY DEEDS.

On motion of Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Britt the following cemetery deeds were authorized:

Mrs. Edith M. Rollins, Section "Y", Lot No. 49, Elmwood	\$63.00
F. W. Cooper " " " " 96	35.00
Transfer of N.E. 1/4 Lot No. 64, "M" from L. C and Mary Boone Montgomery, of Virginia, to D. W. & Etta E. Holbrooks	1.00

ADJOURNMENT MOTION MADE AND WITHDRAWN.

Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, moved that the meeting adjourn, but at the request of Councilman Sides, this motion was withdrawn.

SIDEWALK ON SOUTH DAVIDSON STREET TONBE PLACED ON CITY HALL LAWN AROUND THE TREES.

Councilman Sides stated in a final effort to save the trees on the City Hall lawn, he made a motion that the street be widened the 10 feet in question, which will not effect any trees, but that the sidewalk be placed back behind the trees and curved around them so that none will have to be cut down. Motion seconded by Councilman Baxter and unanimously carried.

The Mayor then stated that he would entertain a motion that no parking be allowed on this street, which motion was made by Councilman Little, seconded by Councilman Britt, was not carried.

TREES ON SIDEWALK ON NORTH CHURCH STREET.

Councilman Wilkinson moved that the Mayor appoint a committee to go into the matter of the trees on North Church Street, which are in the block between 7th and 8th Streets on the east side, and are dangerous, due to buckling the sidewalk. Councilman Hudson stated that he would like to have this matter investigated before a motion is made on same and this was left to stand until investigation could be made.

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Mayor Douglas appointed the City Attorney, the City Manager  
and

DICK YOUNG RECORDED AS BEING IN ACCORD WITH MOTION TO BUILD SIDEWALK AROUND  
TREES.

Dick Young, Charlotte News City Hall reporter, stating that  
he wished to go on record as being in accord with the action of the Council  
to preserve the trees on the City Hall lawn by building the sidewalk around  
the trees, as made by Councilman Sides.

ADJOURNMENT.

On motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman  
Baxter, the meeting then adjourned.

  
City Clerk