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The regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., on Wednesday, January 31, 1945, with Mayor Baxter presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Atkins, Baker, Bullard, Cope, Daughtry, Hovis, Slye and Ward being present.

Absent: Councilmen Painter and Price.

DELEGATION HEARD OPPOSING CITY LIMITS EXTENSION.

Mr. Oliver Litaker, Attorney, presented a petition bearing the signatures of 79 residents of the Park Road section, and requesting the Council not to pass a resolution asking the General Assembly to extend the city limits to include that area of the county at the present time.

Mr. Wm. H. Abernathy, attorney, representing the citizens of the Thrift Road section spoke in a similar vein.

Mayor Baxter stated that the question of extending the corporate limits was not before the Council. That undoubtedly it would come before the Council in the future. That the Council would not request the State Legislature to pass on the matter during the present term of the Legislature.

CONSIDERATION OF STATUS OF NEGRO POLICEMEN REQUESTED.

Dr. Nathaniel Tross and Mr. Henry Houston spoke in behalf of the negro policemen, requesting that these men be advanced in rank and salary equal to that of the regular policemen.

Mayor Baxter thanked them for their interest in the matter and assured them that the Council would give the matter serious consideration.

PLAN SUBMITTED BY MR. FRANK JONES, REALTOR, FOR PROPOSED NEW LIBRARY.

Mr. Frank Jones, Realtor, appeared before Council, stating he was interested in the proposed erection of a new library. That he could obtain an offer of \$135,000.00 for the present library property, and had an interesting plan to offer whereby a new library could be erected without issuing bonds. He requested the exclusive right to handle the sale of the present library property should the Council develop the plan as proposed by him.

Mayor Baxter referred the matter to the Finance Committee for consideration. Mr. Jones then filed his proposal with Mr. Slye, Chairman of the Finance Committee.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING SPECIAL ELECTION OF BONDS FOR WAR MEMORIALS.

Councilman Albea moved the adoption of the following resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Atkins, and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to provide the necessary procedure in the event the City of Charlotte should determine to erect as a war memorial, a civic center which will contain, among other things, an auditorium adequate for the needs of the City, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that such a center and the land for same will cost an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00, and

WHEREAS, in order to provide the said funds it will be necessary to issue bonds and to hold an election for the issuance of same;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Attorney be requested to give an opinion as to whether or not any legislation is necessary

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in order to call such an election, and if he is of the opinion that such legislation is necessary, that he be, and he is, authorized to employ H. I. McDougle to draft such legislation, the compensation of the said McDougle to be determined by the Council after the completion of his said work, and upon the recommendation of the City Attorney.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING SPECIAL ELECTION FOR BONDS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Councilman Bullard moved the adoption of the following resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to provide the necessary procedure in the event the City of Charlotte and/or the County of Mecklenburg should determine to erect a public library adequate for the needs of the city and county, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that such a library and the land for same will cost an amount not to exceed \$600,000, and

WHEREAS, in order to provide the said funds it will be necessary to issue bonds and to hold an election for the issuance of same;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Attorney be requested to give an opinion as to whether or not any legislation is necessary in order to call such an election, and if he is of the opinion that such election is necessary, that he be, and he is, authorized to employ H. I. McDougle to draft such legislation, the compensation of the said McDougle to be determined by the Council after the completion of his said work, and upon the recommendation of the City Attorney.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING SPECIAL ELECTION FOR LIBRARY TAX.

Councilman Daughtry moved the adoption of the following resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Albee, and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, the funds produced by the present special library tax by Mecklenburg County are not sufficient adequately to maintain the kind of library service desired, and

WHEREAS, in order to increase the amount of said tax it will be necessary to hold a special election in the county and/or city regarding same;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Commissioners, and/or the City Council be, and they are, requested to take such steps as are necessary to provide for the holding of a special election within the county for the purpose of authorizing taxes to support the library not to exceed 10 cents on each \$100 of the assessed value of the real and personal property taxable in the county and/or the City of Charlotte.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION REGARDING SPECIAL ELECTION FOR BONDS AND PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION TAX.

Councilman Atkins moved the adoption of the following resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council in order that the City of Charlotte, through its Park and Recreation Commission, could extend its park and recreation system and,

WHEREAS, in order to do this adequately it will be necessary for the Commission to acquire additional land and equipment at a cost not to exceed \$250,000. and it will also be necessary for the Commission to have additional current funds for the support of the park and recreation system, and

WHEREAS, in order to supply the capital funds it will be necessary for the City to issue bonds and,

WHEREAS, in order to authorize the issuance of said bonds and the levying of taxes sufficient to supply the needed current income one or more special elections may be necessary;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Attorney be requested to give an opinion as to whether or not any legislation is necessary in order to call such election or elections, and if he is of the opinion that such legislation is necessary, that he be, and he is, authorized to employ H. I. McDougle to draft such legislation, the compensation of the said McDougle to be determined by the Council after the completion of his said work, and upon the recommendation of the City Attorney.

ACTION DEFERRED ON AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO BICYCLES.

Councilman Hovis moved that action be deferred on the proposed ordinance relating to bicycles until the next meeting. Motion seconded by Councilman Slye, and unanimously carried.

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE RAT-PROOFING OF BUSINESS BUILDINGS AND TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC HEALTH BY CONTROLLING THE SPREAD OF ENDEMIC TYPHUS FEVER AND OTHER DISEASES.

Councilman Baker moved the adoption of an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance To Provide For The Rat-Proofing Of Business Buildings And To Protect The Public Health By Controlling The Spread Of Endemic Typhus Fever And Other Diseases" as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried. And same was declared by the Mayor to be an ordinance of the City of Charlotte. Same is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 9, beginning at Page 241.

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE MILK ORDINANCE ADOPTED MARCH 18, 1942 AND RECORDED IN MINUTE BOOK 9, BEGINNING AT PAGE 387, MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

Councilman Ward moved the adoption of an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Amending The Milk Ordinance Adopted March 18, 1942 And Recorded In Minute Book 9, Beginning at Page 387, Minutes Of The City Council Of The City Of Charlotte" as read. Motion seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried. And same was declared by the Mayor to be an ordinance of the City of Charlotte. Same is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 9, on page 240.

ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21, SECTION 6, OF THE BUILDING ORDINANCE (IN RE: WOOD SHINGLES) OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE ADOPTED OCTOBER 30, 1940.

Councilman Atkins moved the adoption of an ordinance entitled "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21, Section 6, Of The Building Ordinance (In Re: Wood Shingles) Of The City Of Charlotte Adopted October 30, 1940". Motion seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and unanimously carried. And same was declared by the Mayor to be an ordinance of the City of Charlotte. Same is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 9, on Page 240.

ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION WITH REGARD TO LEASE OF SPACE IN AIRPORT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING FOR THE USE OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION.

Councilman Albea moved the adoption of the following resolution: Motion seconded by Councilman Slye, and unanimously carried:

WHEREAS, the United States Government wishes to lease one room in the southwest corner of the second floor and one room in the east wing of the second floor of the Administration Building at the Municipal Airport for use by the Civil Aeronautics Administration;

WHEREAS, the Airport Commission has considered this matter and desires to enter into said lease, the form of which lease has been presented to the City Council;

WHEREAS, the Airport Commission desires the approval of the City Council, as the governing body of the City of Charlotte, for the making of said lease;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council approves said lease and the Mayor is authorized and empowered to execute same on behalf of the City in order to show the approval of the governing body of the City of Charlotte to the making of said lease.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AUTHORIZING SALE OF PROPERTY AT 621 LEXINGTON AVENUE TO ROBERT J. SKINNER AND WIFE, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE CITY ATTORNEYS.

- Councilman Albea moved the adoption of the following resolution subject to the approval of the City Attorneys. Motion seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried:

RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk of the City of Charlotte be, and they hereby are, authorized and directed to execute in the name of said City a deed of bargain and sale conveying to Robert J. Skinner and wife, Carolyn Mitchell Skinner, the property at 621 Lexington Avenue, in the City of Charlotte which was foreclosed in Tax Suit No. 201 against R. L. Skinner et al. and conveyed to said City by deed dated April 5, 1943, and recorded in Book 1092, page 80, the said Robert J. Skinner being a son of R. L. Skinner, now deceased, at the price of \$2,337.05 which represents the City's full investment in said property and interest thereon to February 1, 1945, on account of special assessments, City and County taxes and foreclosure costs, after giving credit of \$180.00 paid by said Robert J. Skinner since foreclosure as rental on said property, \$1,000.00 of said purchase price to be paid in cash upon delivery of deed and the remainder of \$1,337.05 to be represented by promisory note secured by first deed of trust on the property, bearing interest at six per cent per annum from February 1, 1945, and payable in monthly installments of \$30.00 each beginning March 1, 1945, to be credited first to accrued interest and then to unpaid principal until said principal sum and interest shall have been paid in full, the said Robert J. Skinner to pay the costs of the revenue stamp to be affixed to said deed and the recording fee thereon.

PURCHASE OF ELECTRIC CABLE WIRE.

Councilman Ward moved that cable wire and two switches, and a six-circuit panel be purchased from the low bidder, General Electric Supply Corporation, at a net delivered price of \$160.53, for use by the Fire Department. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT FOR WELDING MACHINE AWARDED AIR REDUCTION SALES CORPORATION.

Upon motion of Councilman Daughtry, seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded Air Reduction Sales Corp., for an electric welding machine, at a net delivered price of \$975.00, and the said amount was appropriated from the Emergency Water Fund to cover cost.

PURCHASE OF FILTER BLANKETS.

Upon motion of Councilman Atkins, seconded by Councilman Ward, and unanimously carried, purchase of two Filter Blankets was authorized from Albany Felt Company, at a cost of \$132.00.

PURCHASE OF WIRE CLOTH.

Councilman Slye moved that 22 pieces of Copper Wire Cloth be purchased from Cambridge Wire Cloth Company, at a cost of \$111.02, for use by the Water Department. Motion seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT AUTHORIZED WITH GEO. G. SCOTT & COMPANY FOR CARD SYSTEM, AND FUNDS TO COVER COST APPROPRIATED FROM EMERGENCY FUND.

Councilman Atkins moved that contract be authorized with Geo. G. Scott & Company at \$2,957.50 for installation of a Card System in the Tax Department, and \$707.50 be appropriated from the Emergency Fund to supplement

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funds previously authorized for this expenditure. Motion seconded by Councilman Baker, and unanimously carried.

EMERGENCY FUND APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZED FOR PAINTING AIRPORT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

Councilman Baker moved that \$1,100.00 be appropriated from the Emergency Fund to supplement the \$500.00 already appropriated for painting the exterior and interior of the Administration Building at Douglas Municipal Airport. Motion seconded by Councilman Slye, and unanimously carried.

UNEXPENDED BALANCES ON CHEMICAL CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

Councilman Albaea moved that the unexpended balances on contracts with various firms for Chemicals awarded on December 1, 1943, be cancelled and funds returned to the General Fund. Motion seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and unanimously carried.

CEDAR STREET ENTRANCE TO ELMWOOD CEMETERY ORDERED PERMANENTLY CLOSED.

Councilman Ward moved that the Cedar Street Entrance to Elmwood Cemetery be permanently closed as recommended by the Superintendent of the Cemetery. Motion seconded by Councilman Slye, and unanimously carried.

MEMBERSHIP TAKEN IN NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENTAL PURCHASING.

Acting upon the recommendation of the City Manager, Councilman Ward moved that a membership to taken in the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, and that \$150.00 be appropriated from the Emergency Fund to cover the annual dues. Motion seconded by Councilman Albaea, and unanimously carried.

REQUEST OF HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR CURB AND GUTTER IN OAKLAWN AVENUE REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The City Manager presented a letter from the Director of the Housing Authority requesting the City to provide curb and gutter in Oaklawn Avenue in front of Fairview Homes Housing Project. The City Manager advised the estimated cost of the work is \$2,970.00. Mayor Baxter referred the request to the Finance Committee for investigation and report.

APPROVAL OF INSTALLATION OF FLASHING LIGHT SIGNALS BY SOUTHERN RAILWAY AT EAST SECOND STREET RAILROAD CROSSING.

Councilman Daughtry reported for the Committee appointed to consider the request of the Southern Railway to install standard highway flashing highway signals at their East Second Street Railroad Crossing. He stated the Committee viewed the premises and recommended that Council approve the installation of the signals. Motion seconded by Councilman Cope, and unanimously carried.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT GRANTED C. D. WHITFIELD.

Councilman Albaea moved that a Special Officer Permit be granted C. D. Whitfield, for use on the premises of Associated Transport, Inc. Motion seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and unanimously carried.

CEMETERY DEED APPROVED FOR TRANSFER.

Upon motion of Councilman Albaea, duly seconded by Councilman Ward, deed was approved for transfer to H. F. Harrelson, for Lot No. 25, Section "Z", Elmwood Cemetery, at \$35.00.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Ward, seconded by Councilman Atkins, the meeting was adjourned.

Lillian R. Huffman
City Clerk