

July 20, 1938
Page 128

The City Council of the City of Charlotte met in regular weekly session at 4:00 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, July 20, 1938, with Mayor Douglas presiding, and Councilmen Albea, Baxter, Durham, Griswold, Hovis, Hudson, Huntley, Little, Nance, Sides and Wilkinson being present.

Absent: None.

READING OF MINUTES POSTPONED.

On motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Huntley, the reading of the minutes of the July 13th. meeting was postponed.

BOND ELECTION FOR BUILDING OF A COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AUTHORIZED.

Mr. Paul Whitlock, Attorney, representing a delegation of eighty-three doctors of Charlotte, presented a petition to the Council asking that authorization be given for the calling of an election on a bond issue of \$350,000.00 to match funds obtained from other sources and from the P.W.A. to build a community hospital. Mr. Whitlock explained that a grant of \$450,000 could be obtained for this purpose if \$550,000.00 could be raised through a bond issue and from outside sources, but that in order to get this grant from the government it would be necessary to act as quickly as possible before the funds for such purposes are allocated.

Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Albea, offered the following motion: That the City Council call an election to authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$350,000, at the earliest possible moment, for the erection of a community hospital. Motion put to a vote and carried.

Mr. Whitlock then explained that an association had been formed, with charter applied for, to be known as the Charlotte Memorial Hospital Association, Inc., and read a petition from the executive committee of this Association requesting the leasing to the Association of the community hospital, when completed, for a term of 99 years at a nominal rental of \$1.00 per year, the terms of contract between the City and the Association to be subject to the requirements of the law and the details to be set forth in a formal contract to be drawn by the attorney for the City and the attorney for the Association and approved by the two bodies.

Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Baxter, then moved that this be done, if legal. Motion carried.

BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS REQUESTED REFUND OF ONE-SIXTH OF AMOUNT OF MONEY RECEIVED BY THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE FROM INTANGIBLE TAXES.

Dr. J. S. Gaul, Chairman Board of School Commissioners, appeared before the Council and requested that the School Board be given one-sixth of the amount the City of Charlotte would receive from the State Board of Assessments as its share of the new state intangible tax receipts. Dr. Gaul explained that they were asking this amount as their share based on the ratio of the 25-cent tax levy for school purposes in relation to the \$1.50 tax rate and that if this money was not obtained the school system would be badly impaired.

Councilman Wilkinson moved that this matter be referred to the Finance Committee, which was seconded by Councilman Albea and carried.

July 20, 1938
Page 129

HORNETS NEST POST NO. 9 SPONSORING COMFORT STATIONS.

Mr. Clair Shadwell, representing Hornets Nest Post No. 9, of the American Legion, appeared at this time relative to the need of the city for comfort stations, stating that the American Legion would like to sponsor the providing of such a station in the business section if the City Council could help in finding a location and in providing the best method of financing the project. He stated that at present the financing seems to be the main problem.

The Mayor called for others present who desired to speak on the subject, stating that there had been some opposition to the site for a comfort station, as mentioned in the newspapers. A large delegation from the Daughters of the American Revolution were present, and Miss Violet Alexander, acting as spokesman for this group, registered a protest to any building whatsoever being placed in the Old Cemetery on West 5th. Street, explaining that the D.A.R. has been caring for the cemetery for years, restoring old monuments, etc., building a fence around the place and preserving it as an historical spot for Charlotte. Protests to the choice of this location for a comfort station were also voiced by Mrs. Belk and Mrs. Wilkes, Mrs. Southerland, Mrs. Jacob Binder and Mr. Wm. Hardie.

After hearing the above, Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Huntley, moved that this Council go on record, although approving the building of a comfort station somewhere in the business district, of not approving the use of the Old Cemetery on West 5th. Street for this purpose, and later added to the motion that this Council henceforth and forever disapprove of the use of this site for any other purpose than a cemetery. Motion carried.

TAXICAB ORDINANCE.

Mr. Frank Kennedy, Attorney, representing Mr. A. R. Moore, a citizen of Charlotte who desires to engage in the operation of a ten-cent taxicab company, which, he stated would be able to secure liability insurance instead of providing a bond, although it would take a little time to perfect this arrangement, and asked that the Council repeal the ordinance requiring cash bonds and revert back to the ordinance in effect on July 1st., which allowed liability insurance. Mr. Kennedy stated that the present ordinance does not properly protect passengers riding in cabs and that the Charlotte Bonding Company, recently chartered to take care of the bonding of the ten-cent taxicabs, did not have the required amount of capital stock to operate as an insurance business, and therefore, was not approved by the State Insurance Commission.

The City Attorney advised that the Council was not concerned in the amount of capital stock but was only interested in the ordinance and that all companies providing bond would have to abide by the said ordinance.

Mr. Fred Helms, appearing for a client who was injured by one of the ten-cent taxicabs, asked that the amount now in the hands of the City Treasurer as a bond for the taxis, be kept in tact to pay whatever claim that should be granted his client, stating that unless this was done he intended to bring suit against each Councilman individually and any others involved. He stated that it was his understanding that the bond put up by the taxicabs operating under the previous ordinance, which bond was put up by Beaty Bros. Service Company, was to be transferred to the Charlotte Bonding Company and used by it to bond the new taxis, which he was opposed to.

Councilman Baxter moved that the bond now in the hands of

July 20, 1938
Page 130.

the City Treasurer put up under the previous ordinance remain in tact and that a new bond be required to be put up for the new company. Mr. Boyd stated that this motion was out of order and the motion was withdrawn.

Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Griswold, then moved that Mr. Ledbetter, City Treasurer, be ordered to hold the money now in his possession until an amendment can be drawn to the present ordinance, which motion carried.

PEDDLER'S ORDINANCE.

Mr. John Newitt, Attorney for the commission and produce merchants of the City, appeared, stating that these merchants were being discriminated against in the sale of produce and merchandise. Mr. Newitt was advised by the Mayor that an ordinance had just been adopted at the previous meeting regarding the peddling of produce, etc., which probably covered his complaint, and he was asked to study the new ordinance and hold his complaint over until the next meeting.

AUTOMOBILE TAGS.

A man appeared at this time asking that the Council consider the use of decalcomania tags for automobiles instead of the metal license tags now used. No action was taken, but he was advised to again take this matter up with the City Manager, he stating he had previously done so.

CONTRACT FOR WATER METERS.

On motion of Councilman Hudson, seconded by Councilman Durham, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign a contract with the National Meter Company for the purchase of one 6" Water Meter for the Water Department, at a price of \$378.00.

Bids received on this meter were as follows:

National Meter Company	\$378.00
Pittsburgh Equitable Meter	
Co.	468.00
Neptune Meter Company	468.00
Hersey Mfg. Company	468.00

PURCHASE OF GATE VALVES.

On motion of Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Huntley, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign a contract with the Grinnell Company, Inc. for 24 - 3" Gate Valves, at a total price of \$213.12; bids received from Crane Company and Chapman Valve Mfg. Company being \$226.80 and \$243.60 respectively.

PURCHASE OF BONDS FOR SINKING FUND.

The City Treasurer having recommended the purchase of the following bonds for the Sinking Fund Account, subject to the approval of the Local Government Commission, Councilman Hovis, seconded by Councilman Hudson, moved that his recommendation be approved, which was unanimously carried:

Elizabethtown, N.C. Waterworks 4% Bonds
due -

July 20, 1938
Page 131.

IM- 4/2/39 @ 2.50%
IM- 4/1/40 @ 2.75%
IM- 4/1/41 @ 3.00%

Robersonville, N. C. Water & Sewer 6% Bonds due-

\$4,000 2/1/39 @ 2.00%
1,000 2/1/41 @ 3.00%

PURCHASE OF YEAR'S SUPPLY OF COAL.

Bids having been received on a year's supply of Coal, as follows:

Cochran & Ross Coal Company	\$7,369.00
Southeastern Coal & Ice Company	7,462.50
H. V. Johnston & Son, No. 1. Bid	7,961.50
" " " " " 2 "	

Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Hudson, moved that contract be awarded to the low bidder, Cochran & Ross Coal Company, on a unit price basis, totaling \$7,369.00, and that the Mayor and Clerk sign the contract. Motion carried.

STREET NAME CHANGED- "CHEROKEE PLACE"

On petition of all the residents of a street in Eastover, from Cherokee Road to Hempstead Place, two blocks in length, asking that this street be named Cherokee Place, Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Albea, so moved, and said motion carried.

PETITION FOR TRAFFIC LIGHT REFERRED TO INSPECTION DEPARTMENT.

Councilman Baxter moved that the petition signed by a number of citizens requesting the installation of a traffic light at the intersection of Central Avenue, Louise Avenue and East 10th. Street, be referred to the Inspection Department, which motion was seconded by Councilman Albea and carried.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT GRANTED JOHN A STRATFORD.

On motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Huntley, the request of Major John Bivans for the appointment of John A. Stratford as a Special Police Officer at the North Charlotte Community Center, was unanimously approved; this application having also been approved by the Chief of Police.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

Alice B. McConnell
City Clerk