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The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, convened at 10:00 o'clock A. M., Wednesday, May 3, 1939, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, for the purpose of inducting into office the Mayor, City Council and three members of the Board of School Commissioners, who were elected to said offices by a vote of the people at an election held on May 2, 1939.

Present: Mayor Ben E. Douglas, Councilmen H. H. Baxter, C. S. Britt, W. N. Hovis, J. H. Huntley, W. R. Hudson, A. Parks Little, J. S. Nance, L. R. Sides, John Ward and John L. Wilkinson.

Absent: Councilman Claude L. Albea.

MEETING OPENED WITH PRAYER BY DR. C. W. DURDEN.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Douglas and opened with prayer by Dr. C. W. Durden, Pastor of St. John's Baptist Church.

TWO RETIRING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PAID TRIBUTE.

The two retiring members of the City Council, Mr. John F. Durham, and Mr. T. V. Griswold, were called to take their seats on the dias, and Mayor, and Councilman L. R. Sides paid a most impressive tribute to these two retiring members; Mr. Durham not being a candidate for re-election and Mr. Griswold withdrawing from the race.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF ELECTION RETURNS.

The City Clerk read the following report from the Mecklenburg County Board of Elections:

"The County Board of Elections of Mecklenburg County, having opened, canvassed and judicially determined the returns according to law, do hereby certify the above to be a true abstract of the original returns of the elections held in the several precincts of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, held as above stated, and contains the number of legal ballots cast in each precinct for each office named, the name of each person voted for and the number of votes given to each person for each different office. The following having received the highest number of votes, are hereby declared elected to the various offices, as follows:

MAYOR: Ben E. Douglas  
COUNCILMEN: Claude L. Albea  
H. H. Baxter  
C. S. Britt  
W. N. Hovis  
W. R. Hudson  
J. H. Huntley  
A. Parks Little  
J. S. Nance  
L. R. Sides  
John Ward  
John L. Wilkinson

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS:  
L. Dale Arthur  
John Fletcher  
Richard E. Thigpen

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showed the votes received in said election by the candidates for Mayor, City Council and Board of School Commissioners to be as follows:

FOR MAYOR:NO. VOTES RECEIVED

Ben E. Douglas	5546
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FOR MEMBERS CITY COUNCIL:

Claude L. Albea	5358
H. H. Baxter	5103
C. D. Brady	790
C. S. Britt	4992
J. Ed Clanton	2491
Clyde E. Harris	1527
W. N. Hovis	5418
W. Roy Hudson	5271
J. H. Huntley	5016
G. L. Lingle	1147
A. Parks Little	4717
J. S. Nance	5064
Fred Pharr	1563
Charles P. Pressly	3876
Joe S. Robinson	1284
Hill Scoggin	984
L. R. Sides	4900
John Ward	4814
John L. Wilkinson	5005

FOR SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS:

L. Dale Arthur	4140
M. E. Dodge	2206
John C. Fletcher	4516
Coy E. Langford	1507
R. B. McKnight	3105
Richard E. Thigpen	3722

(Signed) Chase Brenizer, Chairman  
S. Y. McAden, Secretary  
Hiram P. Whitaker,  
MEMBERS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS."

OATH ADMINISTERED TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL.

The oath of office was administered to Mayor Ben E. Douglas by the Clerk at 10:05 A. M. Mayor Douglas then administered the oath to the newly elected City Council at 10:09 A. M., with the exception of Councilman Claude L. Albea, who is ill in the Veterans Hospital in Columbia, S. C., a hearty applause being given this absent member by the large gathering of citizens and friends.

EXPRESSIONS FROM THE PUBLIC.

The Council Chamber being packed to overflowing for this event, short laudatory speeches were made by Rev. Chas. R. Nisbet, Messrs. L. L. Caudle, Max L. Kahn and Chester Nixon.

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TWO NEW MEMBERS INTRODUCED.

Mayor Douglas introduced the two new members of the Council, Mr. John Ward and Dr. C. S. Britt.

Each of the eleven Councilmen made brief talks, expressing their gratitude to the public for the confidence placed in them and pledged their best efforts for the forthcoming two years.

Messrs. Durham and Griswold extended well wishes to the new Board and also voiced their pleasure in having served with the nine re-elected members, offering their cooperation and support in the future.

Mayor Douglas then made a brief address of thanks for having been elected for a third term, stating he would do all in his power during the next two years to make Charlotte a still bigger and better place in which to live and rear children.

TWO MEMBERS OF SCHOOL COMMISSION RECEIVED OATH.

The oath of office was administered to Dr. L. Dale Arthur and Mr. John Fletcher, as members of the Board of School Commissioners, at 10:29 A. M., by Mayor Douglas; Mr. Richard E. Thigpen being absent from the City.

ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM.

Councilman Hudson moved that Councilman Hovis, who received the highest number of votes in the election, be made Mayor Pro Tem. Motion seconded by Councilman Huntley.

On motion of Councilman Nance, seconded by Councilman Huntley, nominations were closed, and the vote to elect Councilman Hovis Mayor Pro Tem was unanimous.

Mr. Hovis then thanked the Council for this honor just bestowed upon him and stated he would endeavor to make the very best assistant to the Mayor possible.

APPOINTMENTS OF CITY DEPARTMENT HEADS TO REMAIN STATUS QUO UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

On motion of Councilman Sides, seconded by Councilman Nance, all appointments regarding City officials were to be held in status quo until the next regular meeting of the Council.

ADJOURNMENT.

After which Councilman Hudson moved that the meeting adjourn, duly seconded and carried.

*Alice B. McConnell*  
City Clerk