

February 8, 1939
JOINT MEETING.

A JOINT BOARD MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WAS HELD IN THE MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL, AT 3:00 O'CLOCK P. M., WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH. 1939, WITH MAYOR DOUGLAS PRESIDING.

Present for the City: Mayor Douglas, Councilmen Albea, Baxter, Durham, Griswold, Hovis, Hudson, Huntley, Little, Nance and Sides, and City Attorney Boyd.

Absent: Councilman Wilkinson.

Present for the County: Chairman H. W. Harkey, Commissioners Morris and Wearn, and County Attorney Stancill.

Absent: Commissioners Cashion and Price.

PURPOSE OF MEETING - CHARLOTTE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The purpose of this meeting was to consider ways and means of providing funds for the operation of the Charlotte Public Library, since a recent Supreme Court ruling had held that the Library was not classed as a necessary public expense.

Mr. J. A. Mayo, Chairman of the Library Board, appeared before the joint body and stated that a levy of 5-cents would be necessary for the operation of the Library and allow for expansion. He pointed out that the average American city spends \$1.00 per capita on Libraries, while Charlotte spends only 13-cents, the lowest based on population of any city in North Carolina.

AN ELECTION NECESSARY BEFORE LEVY CAN BE MADE.

Mr. B. M. Boyd, City Attorney, stated that under the present law the City can only appropriate \$2500.00 per year to the Library; while Mr. Stancill advised that the County can give nothing at all under the recent decision of the Supreme Court, and both attorneys advised that it would be necessary to secure a vote of the people on the question.

The Chair then called for an expression from the joint board as to whether, if an election is held, that it should be county-wide, and it was the opinion of a majority that it should be since the County has been receiving benefits from the Library, particular under the present management, a truck having been placed in use to serve the County.

AMOUNT OF LEVY DISCUSSED.

Mr. Stancill stated that he was fearful that the County might not be willing to vote a levy of 5-cents for this purpose since it was going to be called on for a similar levy for the Mecklenburg Sanitorium, but that he felt that the County should be included in the request to the Legislature for a county-wide elction since the County is being served and would probably be better served under the suggested levy.

A levy of 3-cents was then discussed, a number of those present felling that this amount might carry by a vote of the people where a 5-cent levy would probably fail.

Mr. Stancill stated that the thing to do would be to ask the Legislature to pass a bill which could be passed two ways: one authorizing the County and City to levy a tax not to exceed a certain amount to maintain the Public Library when same has been approved by a vote of the people, and then submit it to a vote of the people. That Bill could give the County the right to make the levy and eliminate the City entirely or could give the County and City both the right to levy.

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It was then discussed as to whether the County alone should be given the right and the County alone make the levy. The point was also raised whether or not the election would be held at the same time that the election to vote on the Mecklenburg Saniterium 5-cent is held. Mr. Stancill was of the opinion that if two elections are called at the same time the people are going to feel that they were being asked for too much at one time.

Mr. Stancill suggested that it might be worth while in asking the Legislature to pass the Bill to give the County and City both the right to levy a tax to maintain the Library if approved by a vote of the people; then to hold a county-wide election and if a majority of the City vote for it and the County does not, the City could still make the levy and in that way the Library would not be closed.

The discussion centered on whether it should be for 3-cents or 5-cents. Mr. Mayor stated that if less than 5-cents there would be no room for growth and that was very necessary, and that he would like to see not less than 5-cents stipulated. Some of the members present felt that the entire amount of 5-cents should be asked for, while others were of the opinion that only 3-cents should be requested if it was to carry.

Councilman Sides, seconded by Commissioner Morris, made a motion that the Attorneys ask the Legislature to authorize a county-wide election to levy a tax not to exceed 5-cents; that the two Attorneys work out the Bill and bring back to each Board before presenting to the Legislature, and that the Bill state that if the County failed to vote for the levy that the City could call another election. It was finally decided that the Bill should read that either, but not both, could levy the tax, thus saving the necessity of holding another election should the County fail to vote for it.

When put to a vote of the joint boards, the above motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

Alia B. W. Powell
City Clerk

G. S. Bradshaw
Clerk, Board of County Commissioners

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A regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 4:00 o'clock P. M., Wednesday, February 8, 1939, with Mayor Douglas presiding and Councilmen Albea, Barter, Durham, Griswold, Hovis, Hudson, Huntley, Little, Nance and Sides being present.

Absent: Councilman Wilkinson.

AIRPORT COMMISSION REQUEST COUNCIL TO INCORPORATE IN NEW CHARTER A YEARLY SALARY OF \$1.00 EACH FOR AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS.

Chairman Lee and Commissioner Lambeth of the Charlotte Municipal Airport Commission, appeared before the Council and informed them that the Commission had adopted a motion, which reads as follows: "That the City Council be requested to ask the Legislature to pass a Bill providing a salary of \$1.00 per year each for the Airport Commissioners in order to classify them as City employees and thus relieve them from personal liability.

Councilman Durham, seconded by Councilman Huntley, moved that this request be granted. Motion unanimously carried.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1ST. MEETING READ AND APPROVED.

On motion of Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Sides, the minutes of the meeting of February 1st. were read and approved.

CONTRACTS FOR UNIFORMS FOR POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

The City Manager reported the following bids received on spring Uniforms for the Police and Fire Departments:

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Belk Bros. Company	\$1,544.22
" " " (alternate bid)	1,615.32
Elliott & Fink	1,664.24
Efird's Department Store	1,761.83
Martin's Department Store	1,763.48

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Efird's Department Store	\$2,462.40
American Woolen Material	
Martin's Department Store	2,611.10
Charlottesville Material	
Elliott & Fink	2,635.63
Charlottesville Material	
Belk Bros. Company	2,782.93
Charlottesville Material	
Belk Bros. Company (alternate bid)	2,819.91
Charlottesville Material	

On motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Durham, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign a contract with Belk Bros. Company, the low bidder, on Fire Department Uniforms, at a total

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price of \$1,544.22, and that contract be signed with Martin's Department Store for Police Uniforms at the price of \$2,611.10, on recommendation of the City Manager, since the shade of the American Woolen material in the bid of Efird's Department Store is not the same shade as the existing uniforms and since these new uniforms will at times be worn with the existing uniforms. Mr. Marshall explained that Efird's Department Store and Martin's were owned by the same parties and that it was satisfactory to Efird's that the contract be awarded to Martin's Department Store.

RADIO EQUIPMENT PURCHASED.

Upon motion of Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Baxter, the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign a contract with Fred M. Link, for Four Radio Transmitters for 2-way Radio Equipment in the Police cars, at the total price of \$1400.00.

Other bids received on this equipment were as follows:

Freck Radio & Supply Company	\$1423.00
Collins Radio Company	1530.00
R. C. A. Mfg. Company	1700.00
General Electric Company	1845.00
Graybar Electric Company, Inc.	1865.00

CONTRACT FOR TERRA COTTA PIPE AWARDED TO CATHEY LUMBER COMPANY.

The following bids having been received on one car of Terra Cotta Pipe:

Cathey Lumber Company	\$ 338.52
H & S Lumber Company	338.52
Builders Merchandise Company	338.52
Charlotte Lumber Company	338.52
Doggett Lumber Company	338.52
Tucker-Kirby Company	338.52
Caldwell Construction Company	351.54

Councilman Huntley, seconded by Councilman Little, moved that the Mayor and Clerk sign the contract with Cathey Lumber Company, at \$338.52, in accordance with the City's policy of alternating awards when bids are alike. Motion unanimously carried.

PURCHASE OF STEEL STAIRS FOR DRILL TOWER.

On motion of Councilman Durham, seconded by Councilman Albea, contract was awarded to the low bidder, R. R. Robertson, on Steel Stairs for the Fire Drill Tower, at the price of \$553.00, and the Mayor and Clerk were authorized to sign same.

Bids on this equipment were as follows:

R. R. Robertson	\$ 553.00
Soule Steel & Iron Company	810.00
Southern Engineering Company	900.00
Mitchell & Becker Company	930.00

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SUIT OF GEO. J. MILLER VS. CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

Notice having been received of the suit of George J. Miller against the City of Charlotte for alleged injuries sustained from falling into an open meter box in the 1400 block of East Seventh Street in November 1938, Councilman Baxter moved that the matter be referred to the City Attorney. Motion seconded by Councilman Huntley and carried.

REQUEST OF L. L. HACKNEY AND TORRENCE HEMBY FOR SEWER CONSTRUCTION REFERRED TO PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Mr. Marshall advised that Mr. L. L. Hackney and Mr. Torrence Hemby propose to develop a street in Myers Park to be known as Huntley Avenue, and have applied to the City for the construction of a sewer. He stated that in order to serve this location it will be necessary to extend the outfall sewer from a point in Scotland Avenue and Colville Road up a branch 2,372 feet in length, which outfall construction would cost \$2,394.00, and that it would be necessary to obtain a right-of-way across private property for the entire length. The sewer on Huntley Avenue would be 1,195 feet long and would cost \$1,030.00. The developers are willing to build the sewer in Huntley Avenue under a contract with the City that they will be re-imbursed when six houses are built, but that they feel that this one development should not be burdened with the entire cost of the outfall line, since in the future it will serve other districts in addition to this particular one.

Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Hovis, moved that this request be granted if there is that much money left in the particular fund for taking care of sewer construction, the City not to be required to get the right-of-way.

After discussion, Councilman Nance, seconded by Councilman Sides, made a substitute motion that the matter be referred to the Public Works Committee for report back as early as convenient.

Councilman Hudson stated that if referred to the Public Works Committee the Mayor should appoint some other member of the Council to serve with this committee in the absence of the Chairman, Councilman Wilkinson.

A vote was taken on the sub-stitute motion as follows:

For: Councilmen Durham, Sides, Nance, ~~Albea~~, Little and
Criswold, and Huntley.

Against: Councilmen Baxter, Hovis, Hudson and Albea.

The Mayor declared the motion carried, and stated that he would serve on the Committee in the absence of Councilman Wilkinson.

REQUEST OF BLYTHE BROS. COMPANY FOR EXTENSION OF TIME ON RIVER STATION.

Upon motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Durham, the request of Blythe Bros. Company, for an extension of time on their contract for the river pumping station to February 1, 1939, due to trouble with the inefficiency of one of the pumps, was granted.

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CEMETERY DEEDS.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Hovis, the following cemetery deeds were approved:

Faison W. Pickard, Lot No. 110, Section "Y", Elmwood Cemetery	\$ 35.00
Walter S. Rogers, Lot No. 86, Section "Y"	35.00
J. L. Fickling, Lot S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ No. 37-A "D Annex"	35.00
Mrs. R. P. Steffey, S Half Lot No. 98, Section "T"	100.80
Transfer of North Half Lot No. 8, Section "V" from Emil W. and Etta Ebener to Will and Alma Robinson	1.00
Transfer of Northwest Part of Lot No. 16-B, "D Annex" from B. C. Glover & Wife, Elizabeth B Glover to Mrs. Arthur Farris	1.00

ADJOURNMENT.

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

Alice B. McConnell

City Clerk