

A regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, at 11 o'clock a.m., on Wednesday, December 21, 1949, with Mayor Shaw presiding, and Councilmen Aitken, Albea, Boyd, Coddington, Daughtry, Jordan and Wilkinson present.

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Aitken, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the last meeting were approved as submitted.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED APPROVING APPLICATION FOR A PRELIMINARY LOAN OF \$170,000.00 FOR 600 HOUSING UNITS FROM THE PUBLIC HOUSING ADMINISTRATION.

Mr. J. E. Barrentine, Realtor, opened the discussion opposing the City's approval of an application by the Charlotte Housing Authority to the Public Housing Administration for a preliminary loan for additional public housing units. Mr. Fred Harkey, Mr. O. G. Thomas, Mr. Boyce Brown, Mr. Lee Heath and Mr. John M. Dwelle, Realtors also voiced disapproval of the construction of further public housing.

In the discussion it was stated that the Federal Government's survey of Charlotte's housing needs was a survey of opinion and not of facts, and a thorough and reliable survey was requested made and action deferred until the survey was secured. That private industry is providing housing as rapidly as possible; that 2,589 new private housing units for white persons and 1,986 for colored are now under construction in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, and will be completed not later than July 1, 1950, at rentals of \$7.00 per week for colored units and \$45.00 per month for white units. Mr. Harkey stated that figuring three persons to a family, these additional units will provide living quarters for 10,369 persons. He further urged that the incentive of private industry to relieve the housing situation in Charlotte not be killed by the authorization of further federal housing units. Mr. Heath stated that private industry had been hampered for four years, due to the War, in providing proper low-rental housing and urged that free enterprise be preserved and no further government loans be requested for housing.

Mr. Edwin Jones, Chairman of the Charlotte Housing Authority, and members of the Authority, and Mr. Harold Dillehay, Executive Secretary, were present at the invitation of the Mayor, to give requested information relative to the operation of the present federal housing units in Charlotte, and to the proposed application for additional units. Mr. Jones and Mr. George Dowdy, Authority member, recommended that the available 1,000 units be applied for to the Public Housing Administration. That the Authority, as a Body appointed by the City Council, is fulfilling its duty in studying the needs for housing for the poorer people and in recommending to the City Government the requirements to fill that need. That the federal public low-rental units provide dwellings for persons affected by the slum clearance program, being carried out by the City Government. Mr. Jones referred to the slum conditions in Charlotte, and particularly to Palmer's Alley, which he stated should have been destroyed rather than so-called improved with a few toilets and electric lights. Mr. Dowdy urged that the City Council help the poorer group of citizens help themselves through better living conditions. Mr. Dillehay stressed the point that the Housing Authority is the agency of the City Government, charged by that Body with the responsibility of providing housing for those citizens who cannot financially afford private housing. He stated there is no competition between the F.H.A. and Public Housing Administration, that each fills a

need; however, the F.H.A. financed housing does not come within \$10.00 of the monthly rentals in public housing, and, therefore, cannot be afforded by the poorer class of citizens. He congratulated Mr. C. D. Spangler on the F.H.A. financed negro project recently completed, which he stated filled a great need in Charlotte. At the inquiry of Councilman Boyd as to whether consideration was given the aged, sick and blind applicants, Mr. Dillehay advised there are many such residents in both Piedmont Courts and Fairview Homes, whose rents are paid by the Mecklenburg County Welfare Department. He further stated that the public housing in Charlotte is financed through local banks, that plans and specifications, etc., are handled through local architects and building materials are purchased locally. He commended the Charlotte Real Estate Board for carrying out the requirements of the standard house ordinance. He urged the City Council to approve the application for additional public units, on the basis of the citizens needs, rather than the preservation of worn out dwellings.

The following resolution was introduced and read:

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION APPROVING
APPLICATION FOR A PRELIMINARY LOAN FROM
PUBLIC HOUSING ADMINISTRATION.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, has by resolutions adopted September 28, 1949, and December 14, 1949, approved an application by the Housing Authority of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, for reservation of 400 low-rent public housing units in the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, and for a preliminary loan in the amount of \$130,000; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the above resolutions and a resolution of October 4, 1949, by the Housing Authority of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, the Authority has filed such application with the Public Housing Administration which application has not as yet been approved by the Public Housing Administration; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, there exists a need for an additional _____ units of decent, safe, and sanitary low-rent dwellings;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA:

1. That the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, does hereby approved the amendment of the previously filed application or the filing of a new application of the Housing Authority of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, to the Public Housing Administration for a loan in an amount not to exceed \$_____ (which figure includes the funds requested in the previous application), to cover the costs of surveys and planning in connection with the development of not to exceed _____ dwelling units (which includes the number of dwelling units contained in the original application) of low-rent public housing in the City of Charlotte, North Carolina; and does hereby redeclare its intent to enter hereafter into an agreement with said Housing Authority for the local cooperation by the City in the provision of said low-rent public housing which may be required by the Public Housing Administration pursuant to the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended.

2. That the above-mentioned resolutions adopted by this Council on September 28, 1949, and December 14, 1949, are hereby declared superseded by this resolution without in any way affecting the validity of any actions taken pursuant to said previously adopted resolutions.

Councilman Coddington moved the adoption of the Resolution, with the figures "1000" (units) and "\$250,000.00" (loan) inserted. Motion was seconded by Councilman Albea.

A substitute motion was made by Councilman Boyd that the resolution be adopted with the figures "600" (units) and "\$170,000.00" (loan) inserted. Motion was seconded by Councilman Daughtry.

Councilman Aitken offered a substitute motion that the resolution be adopted with the figures "800" (units) and "\$210,000.00" (Loan) inserted. The motion did not receive a second.

Councilman Jordan offered a substitute motion, ~~was a compromise,~~ with the figures "700" (units) and "\$190,000.00" (loan) inserted. No second was made to the motion.

The vote was then taken on the substitute motion by Councilman Boyd, and carried, and the resolution was adopted with the insertion therein of the figures "600" (units) and (loan not to exceed) "\$170,000.00". The votes cast were as follows:

AYE: Councilman Boyd, Daughtry, Jordan and Wilkinson.
NAY: Councilmen Aitken, Albea and Coddington.

Mayor Shaw stated, for the record, he did not believe the 600 units sufficient to relieve the need for this type housing; that he would have liked the 1000 units approved.

Councilman Albea stated, for the record, that in casting his vote against the 600 units, he was not opposing the housing program but rather desired that the 1000 units be approved; that he did not believe in compromising where human needs and suffering is involved. Councilman Coddington concurred in the statement.

ERECTION OF LIMITED PARKING SIGNS ON EAST 4TH STREET DEFERRED ONE WEEK UPON PETITION OF RESIDENTS.

Mrs. G. E. Harter, 1424 East 4th Street, filed a petition signed by 43 members of business firms in the 1400 block of East 4th Street, protesting the proposed erection of limited parking signs on East 4th Street. She stated the employees of these firms would be effected in that they park their cars along 4th Street during business hours; also, that shoppers would be inconvenienced because of lack of parking facilities.

Mayor Shaw ~~requested the City Manager to defer~~ requested the City Manager to defer erecting the signs for one week while the condition was investigated.

PROTEST AGAINST PARKING VIOLATION CITATION FILED BY MRS. H. MALAVER.

Mrs. H. Malaver protested receiving a citation for illegal parking in the private off-street parking space at the A & P Store on East Morehead Street. The City Manager was requested by the Mayor to investigate the circumstances.

REFERENCE TO A MEETING OF THE KLU KLUX KLAN IN THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN 1865 REQUESTED STRIKEN FROM MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING ON DECEMBER 14TH, BY MISS JULIA ALEXANDER.

Miss Julia Alexander requested that the reference to a meeting of the Klu Klux Klan in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church in 1865 be ~~stricken~~ stricken from the Minutes of the Council Meeting on December 14th. She stated that no such meeting was ever held in the First Presbyterian Church; that, in fact, the Klan did not organize in North Carolina until 1867 or 1868; that she would dislike having such an erroneous statement in the Minutes of the City Government.

Mayor Shaw advised that in making the statement he believed it to be correct, as he had often heard his father refer to the occasion; however, he would be happy to accede to Miss Alexander's request that the reference be stricken from the records.

ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SMOKE ABATEMENT ORDINANCE.

An ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance Amending the Smoke Abatement Ordinance" was introduced and read. Councilman Aitken moved the adoption of the ordinance, which motion was seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and un-animously carried. Ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 11, at Page 101.

RECESS TAKEN AT 1:10 O'CLOCK P.M. TO RECONVENE AT 2:30 O'CLOCK P.M.

Mayor Shaw declared a recess of the meeting at 1:10 o'clock p.m., for lunch, to reconvene at 2:30 o'clock p.m.

MEETING RECONVENED AT 3:05 O'CLOCK P.M. COUNCILMAN JORDAN ABSENT.

The Council Meeting reconvened at 3:05 o'clock p.m., with Councilman Jordan absent for the remainder of the meeting.

RESOLUTION APPROVING SALE OF A PART OF THE STATESVILLE AVENUE PROPERTY OF THE CITY.

A resolution entitled, "Resolution Approving Sale of a Part of the Statesville Avenue Property of the City" was introduced and read, and upon motion of Councilman Aitken, seconded by Councilman Albea, was unanimously adopted. Resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 1, beginning at Page 230.

CURB CUT AT 1017 NORTH BREVARD STREET APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Boyd, seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried, two 37-foot curb cuts, separated by a 15-foot island, at 1017 North Brevard Street, was authorized.

CURB CUTS AT SELWYN AVENUE SHOPPING CENTER APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Coddington, seconded by Councilman Boyd, and carried, approving two 50-foot curb cuts, divided by a 10-foot island, and the increase of present 30-foot curb cut to 37-feet, divided by a 10-foot island, and the increase of present 30-foot curb cut to 42.5-feet, divided by 10-foot island, at Selwyn Avenue Shopping Center. The votes cast were as follows:

- AYE: Councilmen Aitken, Boyd, Coddington, Daughtry, and Wilkinson.
- NAY: Councilman Albea.

CONTRACT AWARDED BLYTHE BROS. COMPANY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HAWTHORNE LANE EXTENSION PROJECT.

Councilman Aitken moved that contract be awarded Blythe Bros. Company for grading, drainage, curb and gutter, and paving on the Hawthorne Lane Extension Project, on a unit price basis as set forth in Bids I and II of their proposal, representing a total expenditure of \$72,235.00. Motion was seconded by Councilman Daughtry, and carried. The votes cast were as follows:

- AYE: Councilmen Aitken, Albea, Boyd, Daughtry, and Wilkinson.
- NAY: Councilman Coddington.

CONTRACT AWARDED LEE A. FOLGER, INC. FOR BUICK SEDAN.

Upon motion of Councilman Aitken, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, a contract was awarded Lee A. Folger, Inc., for One Four-Door Buick Sedan, Model 51, less trade-in allowance for old car, at a net delivered price of \$2,136.40, for the Chief of the Fire Department.

CEMETERY DEED TRANSFERRED.

Motion was made by Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a deed for the transfer of the north-west 1/4 of Lot 173, in Section 3, of Evergreen Cemetery, to Mr. Louis Marcow, at a price of \$26.00.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT GIVEN THE PRESENTATION OF UNDOCKETED ITEMS.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried, the Council consented to the presentation of undocketed items.

RIGHT-OF-WAY AGREEMENT FOR SUGAW CREEK OUTFALL SEWER AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Aitken, seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried, authorizing the payment of \$1,800.00 to W. F. Graham and wife, for right-of-way in connection with the Sugaw Creek Outfall Sewer construction.

CURB CUT AT 317 WORTHINGTON AVENUE APPROVED.

Councilman Coddington moved approval of a 12-foot curb cut at 317 Worthington Avenue for a driveway. Motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT WITH GEORGE G. SCOTT & COMPANY FOR AUDIT OF TAXICAB FRANCHISE HOLDERS RECORDS RELATIVE TO CAB RATES.

Councilman Coddington moved the authorization of a contract with George G. Scott & Company ^{in the amount not to exceed \$500.00} for the investigation and audit of the records, operations and monetary records of various taxicab companies and franchise holders in Charlotte, leading to the establishment of equitable taxicab rates. Motion was seconded by Councilman Aitken and unanimously carried.

CITY ATTORNEY DIRECTED TO DRAW RESOLUTION REQUESTING STATE UTILITIES COMMISSION TO FURNISH ENGINEER TO EXAMINE THE RECORDS, ETC., OF THE DUKE POWER COMPANY REGARDING BUS TRANSPORTATION.

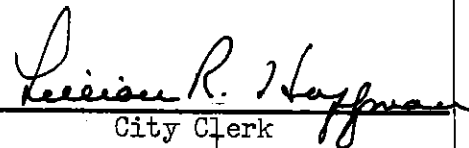
Pursuant to the request of Councilman Boyd that the City have an audit made of the bus operations of the Duke Power Company, with the view of determining whether they meet the needs of Charlotte citizens, the City Attorney was directed to draw a resolution for consideration at next week's meeting, requesting the State Utilities Commission to furnish and send to Charlotte an Engineer to examine the records, accounts and operations of the Duke Power Company regarding bus transportation in Charlotte.

HOLIDAY GRANTED CITY EMPLOYEES ON JANUARY 2nd, IN OBSERVANCE OF NEW YEAR'S DAY.

Upon motion of Councilman Aitken, seconded by Councilman Coddington, the unanimous consent of Councilman was given to consider granting a holiday on Monday, January 2nd, to city employees, in observance of New Year's Day. Motion was made by Councilman Albea that the holiday be granted. Motion was seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Aitken, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.


City Clerk