

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber in the City Hall, on Wednesday, December 4, 1957, at 4 o'clock p.m., with Mayor Smith presiding, and Council members Albea, Baxter, Brown, Dellinger, Evans, Foard and Wilkinson being present.

ABSENT: None

Also present were Mr. S. Y. McAden, Chairman, Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners, and Commissioners Ernest Brown, Herbert Garrison and John M. McEwen.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the last Council Meeting on November 27, 1957, were approved as submitted.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCILMEN AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO BE APPOINTED TO WORK WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOND COMMITTEE RELATIVE TO ISSUES TO BE INCLUDED IN BOND ELECTION IN JANUARY, 1958.

Councilman Brown expressed concern as to how near the city will be to it's bond limit if the many issues are included in the proposed bond election in January. That he feels it would be well to consider the issues as to their importance to the City and probably eliminate those of lesser urgency. For example, he stated the School Bonds and Bonds to provide funds for services in the Perimeter Area are of vital importance. He stated further that he feels there would be danger of one or more of the vitally important issues being defeated if a larger number of issues are included. He suggested that Mayor Smith and Mr. McAden, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for Mecklenburg County appoint a Committee from the two bodies to study the proposed issues, and that the Chamber of Commerce be requested to cooperate with the Committee in the study. Councilman Albea stated he was of the opinion that all of the issues were important, else the Council would not propose them.

Councilman Baxter expressed concern that any question as to the proposed large bond election should come up at this time, in view of the sale of some \$4,000,000 City of Charlotte bonds in January, as it could hurt the sale of the bonds with the New York Buyers. He asked the newspaper representatives to give the discussion of the proposed issues little publicity as possible.

Mayor Smith stated he would be glad to appoint a Committee, with Mr. McAden, to study the proposed bond election, and he expressed to Mr. Paul Younts, President of the Chamber of Commerce, who was present, the appreciation of the City for the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce in recent City projects, and asked if they will assist with the study of the bond issues.

Mr. Younts stated they would be happy to - that Mr. Herbert Wayne is Chairman of a Committee on public projects, and Mr. Bostic is Chairman of the Sub-committee on Bonds; that they will shortly complete a thorough study on seven different subjects, which will be made available to the Council in January.

Mr. Younts stated further for the information of the Council that they were in Statesville last night attending the meeting regarding the Federal Highway from Ohio, and a meeting will be held here and they will have something to report to the Council presently.

**FLOOR PLANS FOR JUVENILE DETENTION HOME APPROVED BY CITY AND COUNTY AND ARCHITECT AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED WITH WRITING SPECIFICATIONS THEREFOR.**

Councilman Brown reported for the Detention Home Committee, composed of himself, Councilman Foard, Commissioner Garrison and Commissioner McEwen, and stated that revised plans for the Home have been drawn by the architect, as the original plans were discarded after the bids thereon were too high. He stated it is the opinion of the architect that bids can be received on the new plans that will come within the funds allocated for the Home. That the Committee unanimously asks that the plans be approved and bids be authorized advertised for immediately. At the question of Councilman Dellinger, it was stated that the new plans call for a building of 5,887 square feet. Mr. McAden, Chairman of the County Commissioners asked if the architect would have to be paid an additional amount for the new plans? Councilman Brown stated his fee for the original plans was \$6,000.00 and he would certainly think he would be paid for redrafting the plans, and writing the specifications.

Councilman Brown moved that the floor plans for the Home be approved as submitted by the architect, and that he be authorized to proceed with writing the specifications. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ernest Brown, and unanimously carried.

**LONG RANGE PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CITY-COUNTY CIVIC CENTER IN PROXIMITY OF AND CONTIGUOUS TO EXISTING CITY HALL AND COURT HOUSE ENDORSED BY CITY COUNCIL AND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING COMMISSION AUTHORIZED TO EXPLORE INTEREST OF RELATED AGENCIES IN LOCATING WITHIN SAID AREA.**

Mr. Walter Hook, spokesman for a Committee composed of himself, Mr. Lex Marsh and Mr. George Wilkinson, members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission, stated they have interested themselves in the proposed redevelopment of the blighted area adjacent to the City Hall and County Court House. He submitted the following resolution adopted by the Commission in meeting on December 2, 1957:

RESOLUTION

"WHEREAS, Various branches of the County and City Governments have recently announced plans for the construction of permanent buildings involving the expenditure of many millions of dollars of public money; and

WHEREAS, Although the basis needs for these individual buildings can be clearly demonstrated, it is not likely that the best interest of the community can be served by uncoordinated and unplanned expansion of government facilities; and

WHEREAS, Renewed interest and prospects of early action in the field of Urban Redevelopment are opening new possibilities for the financing and coordinative planning of both public and private development in this community; and

WHEREAS, Preliminary studies indicate that conditions in the area south of the existing local government buildings would qualify the area for the benefits to be derived from the Urban Redevelopment process; and,

WHEREAS, there are certain considerations which bear upon the desirability of the development of a well-planned Civic Center in proximity to the existing government buildings, namely:

(a) There are definite advantages which will accrue from the transaction of public business in a single area. Relatively close association in space is conducive to the exchange of ideas and materials; This exchange is important to many agencies of the various branches of local government today, and will become more important as The Charlotte-Mecklenburg community grows and its problems become more complex.

(b) A local government center would provide a single focus for the many contacts which the public has with its tax-supported agencies. Many problems which the citizens bring to local government involve more than one agency on more than one governmental level. The convenience and the psychological advantage of a physically unified Center cannot be overestimated.

(c) The investment which the taxpayers already have in the existing elements of a Center (City Hall, County Courthouse, Police Station, Fire Headquarters) should be protected and nurtured.

(d) There are definite possibilities of economies to be obtained through the joint use, by various appropriate agencies, of wisely planned facilities such as meeting rooms, auditoriums, heating plants and other service facilities.

(e) The efficiency of parking spaces, both for the public and for official use, can be increased by common use and over-all planning.

(f) The location of the existing government nucleus is convenient to downtown (which is the center of daytime population), is one of the most convenient locations in town with respect to public transportation service, and is well located on major city streets and near a major regional highway (Independence Boulevard).

(g) Convenience to government agencies and to other facilities may make it desirable for the offices of various private and semi-public social service agencies, civic organizations, and cultural groups to locate in the area and contribute more forcefully to the welfare and cultural life of the community.

(h) In these days when the "flight to the suburbs", both by residents and by business and industry, is creating many and serious problems for the older central city, the agencies of government should take positive steps to re-affirm their faith in the future of the urban community. Cooperation in the planning and construction of a Civic Center can be such an expression of faith.

(i) The development of a Civic Center can provide a source of continuing community pride among the citizens of this city and county, and may well provide the necessary impetus for the renewal of much of the now-depressed area which surrounds the proposed location.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- (1) This Commission endorses the concept of a Civic Center, based on community vision and sound long-range planning.
- (2) All local government agencies should be encouraged to consider the advantages -- both to themselves and to the community which they serve -- of the development of a Civic Center contiguous to the existing City Hall -- County Court House nucleus.
- (3) The public service, civic, and cultural organizations and agencies of this community should also be encouraged to consider the advantages which a Civic Center offers for the location of offices and

other facilities serving the public.

- (4) Copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Charlotte City Council, Mecklenburg County Commission, Mecklenburg County Board of Education, Charlotte Board of Education, North Carolina State Department of Administration, the U. S. General Services Administration, and all other interested organizations and agencies."

Mr. Hook stated further, that the Planning Commission feels there are things that can be added to implement the program, which will be handled by the newly appointed Urban Redevelopment Commission, and he requested that the Council and County Commissioners authorize the Planning Commission in the interest of working towards a long-range governmental civic center plan, to -

- "(a) Explore with civic, social welfare and cultural agencies their interest in locating new facilities in a civic-governmental center.
- (b) Explore with State and Federal agencies their interest in locating new facilities in a civic-governmental center.
- (c) Explore with local School Boards their interest in locating new facilities in a civic-governmental center.
- (d) Outline the scope of a planning project which would consolidate the interests, if any, of the above agencies with the long-range interests of the City and County agencies in a comprehensive plan for the development of a civic-governmental center.
- (e) Submit to the City and County governing bodies a proposal for the development of a long range civic-governmental center plan."

Councilman Baxter moved that Mr. Hook and his Committee be complimented on their interest and work, and that their request be endorsed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ernest Brown, and unanimously carried.

**TRAFFIC SURVEY TO BE MADE BY ASSOCIATION OF CASUALTY & SURETY COMPANIES FOR THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG SAFETY ASSOCIATION, APPROVED BY COUNCIL.**

Mr. John R. Knott, President of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Safety Association, stated they have been able to secure the willingness of the Association of Casualty & Surety Companies to make an on-the-spot traffic survey in Charlotte during February 1958, aimed at accident prevention, without cost to the City; however, they would not do so without the approval of the City Council and an invitation from the Council to do so. He stated further that their work will parallel that of the Police Department Traffic Division and the City's Traffic Engineering Department. Both Captain Loyd Henkle and Mr. Herman Hoose concurred in Mr. Knott's statement and voiced their approval of such a survey by the Companies as outlined.

Upon motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, the survey was approved and an invitation will be issued the Association of Casualty & Surety Companies.

**TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM EMERGENCY FUND TO TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT FOR EQUIPMENT TO SUPPLEMENT TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT IRIS DRIVE, CHATHAM AVENUE AND CENTRAL AVENUE.**

Councilman Dellinger moved the transfer of \$800.00 from the Emergency Fund to the Traffic Engineering Department for equipment to supplement the Traffic Signal at Iris Drive, Chatham Avenue and Central Avenue. Mr. Hoose was present and stated that by the installation of the extra equipment, the Traffic Signal will be made into an "inside-outside green" signal and will improve conditions at this location. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried.

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**DECEMBER 25TH, 26TH AND 27TH DESIGNATED AS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY FOR CITY EMPLOYEES.**

Councilman Dellinger moved that December 25th, 26th and 27th be designated as the Christmas Holiday for city employees. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilkinson. Councilwoman Evans asked if Councilman Dellinger had considered the difference in dates of the holiday with those authorized for county employees by the County Commissioners. Councilman Dellinger replied that the Council was elected to operate the City and not the County, and therefore, he did not interest himself in the actions of the County Commissioners. The vote was taken on the motion, and unanimously carried.

**MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF FIXED ANNUAL HOLIDAYS LOST.**

Councilwoman Evans stated that she was ready to comply with the suggestion of Mayor Smith that she submit a plan of annual holidays for city employees. That there are nine annual holidays allowed at present. That she feels that the Easter Monday holiday should be changed to Good Friday, as it has religious significance whereas Easter Monday does not. She moved that the long established nine holidays allowed at present with the exception of the change from Easter Monday to Good Friday, be accepted as a policy of the City. Councilman Wilkinson stated he is of the opinion that the holidays allowed city employees are in line with those of private industry, and feels that they should be handled individually as at present, and the time might be increased when possible. Councilman Dellinger stated he does not think the Council would ever be unfair to employees regarding holidays and it should remain as at present. Councilwoman Evans replied that the fixed holidays would not prevent an increase in time, or change being made, that it is good practice to let the employees know in advance what to expect. The motion was lost for lack of a second.

**INQUIRY AS TO WHETHER CONTRACT WITH FRANK MILLER FOR GRADE CROSSING PROJECT HAS BEEN EXECUTED AND WORK STARTED.**

Councilwoman Evans asked if the contract with Mr. Frank Miller for the grade-crossing project has been executed, and work started, and how long he can be expected to delay this very hurried action? Mr. Yancey replied that the contract has been forwarded to Mr. Miller for signature and he will be glad to write him regarding it.

**CLAIM OF WILLIE MACK FOR PERSONAL INJURIES REFERRED TO CITY ATTORNEY.**

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilman Albea and unanimously carried, the claim of Willie Mack in the amount of \$5,000.00 filed by his attorney, Mr. Charles Bell, for personal injuries sustained on November 1, 1957 alleged to have been caused by his foot slipping through a broken water meter box in the sidewalk on Double Oaks Road, was referred to the City Attorney.

**EXTENSION OF SICK LEAVE GRANTED CAPTAIN R. P. BARKLEY, CHARLOTTE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

Councilman Wilkinson moved that Captain R. P. Barkley, Charlotte Fire Department employee be granted a 60 days extension of his sick leave. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and unanimously carried.

CONTRACT AWARDED BOYD & GOFORTH, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WATER MAIN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IN LIDDELL, N. CHURCH, EAST AND WEST 12TH, N. TRYON, N. BREVARD AND N. CALDWELL STREETS.

Upon motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Foard, and un-animously carried, contract was awarded the low bidder, Boyd & Goforth, Inc., for the construction of a water mains distribution system in Liddell, North Church, East and West 12th, North Tryon, North Brevard and North Caldwell Streets, as specified, at a total bid price of \$318,800.00.

Following bids were received:

Boyd & Goforth, Inc.	\$318,800.00
Rea Construction Company	\$324,025.00
Blythe Bros. Company	\$324,999.00
A. P. White & Associates	\$333,651.00
Noll Construction Company	\$349,840.00
Ray D. Lowder, Inc.	\$357,450.00
A. H. Guion, Inc.	\$372,484.20

CONTRACT AWARDED GRINNELL COMPANY, INC. FOR SCHEDULE OF BRASS FITTINGS FOR THE WATER DEPARTMENT.

Motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and un-animously carried, awarding contract to the low bidder, Grinnell Company, Inc., for a schedule of brass fittings, as specified, at a total price of \$9,141.30, subject to cash discount of \$182.83, or a net delivered price of \$8,958.47.

Bids submitted were as follows:

Grinnell Company, Inc.	\$8,958.47
Atlas Supply Company	\$9,031.23
Muller Company	\$9,031.24
Crane Company	\$9,031.25
H. E. Pennigar Company	\$9,244.99
Horne-Wilson, Inc.	\$9,364.10
Pump & Lighting Co., Inc.	\$10,378.71

A. Y McDonald Mfg. Co. Bid in the amount of \$6,890.70 was incomplete in that all items were not bid on, therefore bid was not considered.

CONTRACT AWARDED B. F. GOODRICH INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS COMPANY, FOR FIRE HOSE.

Upon motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and un-animously carried, contract was awarded the B. F. Goodrich Industrial Products Company for 8,000 ft. estimated quantity of 2½" and 2,000 ft. estimated quantity of 1½" cotton, double-jacket, rubberlined Fire Hose, as specified, on a unit price basis representing a total price of \$8,840, less cash discount of \$176.80, or a net delivered price of \$8,663.20.

Contract was not awarded the low bidder, Blaze Guard Manufacturing Company because the hose purchased from them in 1955 is still in the process of being tested as to quality - the life of fire hose being reckoned at 7 years, and, too, 5 sections of it has had to be replaced by the company because of faulty couplings and some leakage.

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Bids were submitted by the following companies:

Blaze Guard Mfg. Company	\$6,068.16
B. F. Goodrich Industrial Products Co.	\$6,315.12
American LaFrance Corp.	\$6,350.40
Hewitt Robins, Inc.	\$6,432.72
Matthews Morse Sales Co.	\$6,493.64
Fabrick Fire Hose Company	\$6,667.92
Southern Rubber Company	\$6,762.00
Eureka Fire Hose Division -	
U. S. Rubber Company	\$6,938.40
Goodall Rubber Company	\$7,352.82
The Fyr-Fyter Company	\$8,100.00

CONTRACT AWARDED HEWITT ROBINS, INC. FOR BOOSTER PUMP HOSE.

Motion was made by Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to the low bidder, Hewitt Robins, Inc., for 550 ft. estimated quantity, 3/4" standard rubber booster pump hose, as specified, at a total price of \$305.25, less cash discount of \$6.11, or a net delivered price of \$299.14.

Following bids were received:

Hewitt Robins, Inc.	\$299.14
B. F. Goodrich Industrial Products Co.	\$318.01
Matthews Morse Sales Co.	\$352.61
The Fyr Fyter Company	\$363.00
Goodall Rubber Company	\$368.89
Eureka Fire Hose Division	\$377.30
Southern Rubber Company	\$377.30
American LaFrance Corp.	\$431.20

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT AUTHORIZED ISSUED TO EARL E. MANNING FOR USE ON PREMISES OF MECKLENBURG HOTEL.

Councilman Foard moved that a Special Officer Permit be issued to Earl E. Manning, for use on the premises of The Mecklenburg Hotel. The motion was seconded by Councilman Dellinger, and unanimously carried.

TRANSFER OF CEMETERY GRAVES.

Motion was made by Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a deed with Mrs. Jesse Lee Swann, for the transfer of Graves #3 and #4, in Lot 227, of Oaklawn Cemetery, at a cost of \$80.00.

CONTRACT AWARDED BLYTHE BROS. COMPANY FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS ON LISTER DRIVE.

Councilman Albea moved award of contract to the low bidder, Blythe Bros. Company for the construction of improvements to Lister Drive, as specified, on a unit price basis, at a total price of \$32,232.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Brown, and unanimously carried.

The following bids were submitted on this work:

Blythe Bros. Company	\$32,232.00
Mecklenburg Engineers & Contractors	\$33,482.40
Crowder Construction Company	\$37,823.20
Rea Construction Company	\$39,287.40

ISSUANCE OF BUILDING PERMIT TO DR RICHARD FREUD FOR CONSTRUCTION OF VETERINARY HOSPITAL AT 3736 MONROE ROAD, IN AN INDUSTRIAL ZONE, APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Baxter, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, a building permit was authorized issued to Dr. Richard Freud, for the construction of a Veterinary Hospital at 3736 Monroe Road, in an Industrial Zone.

APPOINTMENT OF BOB ALLEN TO URBAN REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO REPLACE CLAUDE Q. FREEMAN, WHO RESIDES OUTSIDE OF CITY.

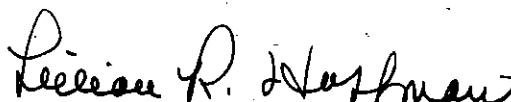
Mayor Smith stated that because of the fact that Mr. Claude Q. Freeman, appointed to the Urban Redevelopment Commission, resides outside the limits of Charlotte, it will be necessary to appoint someone in his place, and he would like another realtor appointed. That Mr. J. Caldwell McDonald and Mr. Bob Allen, both Realtors, are either willing to accept appointment. Councilman Wilkinson moved the appointment of Mr. Bob Allen, which was seconded by Councilman Baxter. Councilwoman Evans urged the appointment of Mrs. Jane Duncan, a Realtor, whom she had previously requested appointment to the Commission. She stated that Mrs. Duncan is well qualified, that she is a Trustee of the Real Estate Board of North Carolina, is a Charlotte resident and would contribute much to the Commission as she handles much real estate for lower income personnel. She then put her name in nomination for the appointment. The motion was taken on the motion for the appointment of Mr. Bob Allen, and carried by a vote of six on a show of hands.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY MAYOR SMITH TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE PROPOSED OVERHANGING STREET SIGNS ORDINANCE.

Mayor Smith appointed a Committee composed of Councilman Wilkinson, Chairman, Councilwoman Evans and Councilman Baxter, to consider and recommend relative to the proposed Overhanging Street Sign Ordinance, that has been suggested by the Chamber of Commerce.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

  
Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk