

January 15, 1958  
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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, January 15, 1958, 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

\* \* \* \* \*

INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Brown, and unanimously carried, the Minutes of the last Council Meeting on January 8, 1958 were approved as submitted.

HEARING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE BANNING PROJECTING BUSINESS SIGNS IN UPTOWN AREA.

The scheduled hearing was held on the Ordinance Banning Projecting Business Signs in the Uptown Area proposed by the Chamber of Commerce.

Appearing in favor of their proposed ordinance was a large delegation of Chamber of Commerce members and their Committee on Appearance and Improvements, with Mr. J.E. Dowd, Committee Chairman as spokesman.

Mr. Dowd stated that the Chamber of Commerce members have long been concerned with the unsightly appearance of the uptown area because of overhanging business signs; that within the past several months the Chamber's Committee on Appearance & Improvements made a thorough study of the matter, and canvassed every property owner within the entire area to which the banning of the projecting signs would apply, on Tryon Street between Eleventh Street and East Morehead Street, and on Trade Street between McDowell Street and the Southern Railway. He advised further that the response was overwhelmingly in favor of the adoption of an ordinance to ban the signs; that of the 480 businesses canvassed, the owners of 380 or 68.7% were in favor of the ordinance, while 64 were against it. That the percentage of responses to the petitions both for and against was 83.8%. The signed petitions and following report were filed by Mr. Dowd with the City Clerk:

"1. Preamble of Petition:

'If the owners or ground floor tenants of two-thirds of the property on Tryon Street from Eleventh Street to East Morehead Street, and on Trade Street from McDowell Street to the Southern Railway, agree to request an ordinance controlling projecting signs, we, the undersigned also request such an ordinance.'

2. Abstract of proposed amendment to building code:

(a) Prohibit erection of angle signs extending over the sidewalk or flat, against-the-building signs extending more than 15 inches over sidewalk.

(b) Allow until January 1, 1960, for existing signs violating ordinance to be removed.

(c) Does not prohibit marquees but signs on marquees may be maintained only by hotels, theatres and public buildings.

3. The score:

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Number of addresses in defined area | 480  |
| Number for petition                 | 330 (139 of them with signs to come down-see list) |
| Number against petition             | 64   |
| Number of others: Vacancies - 30    |  |
| Unreported - <u>56</u>              | 86   |
| Percentage of addresses in favor    | 68.7%  |
| Percentage of Yes's to No's         | 83.8%  |

4. Other cities with similar ordinances:

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Chicago (State St.), Illinois    | New Rochelle, N.Y. |
| Minneapolis(Nicollet Ave), Minn. | St. Paul, Minn     |
| Kansas City, Missouri            | Windsor, Ontario   |
| St. Louis, Missouri              | Toronto, Canada    |
| Dallas, Texas                    | Kannapolis, N. C.  |
| Washington, D. C.                | Hartford, Conn.    |

5. Endorsements:

The Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce, by a vote of 14 to 2, endorsed the proposal and recommended its submission to the City Council.

The Board of Directors of the Charlotte Merchants Association voted unanimously in favor of the proposed recommendation with the request that ample time be given to amortize existing signs."

Mayor Smith called for remarks from anyone opposing the proposal and the adoption of an ordinance to ban projecting signs, and no one appeared in opposition to the move. He then stated that the petitions and written information supplied the Council by Mr. Dowd would be referred to the Committee previously appointed by him composed of Councilman W. E. Wilkinson, Chairman and Council members Baxter and Evans, for their study and a report to Council. Councilman Wilkinson stated he expects the Committee will report to Council at next week's meeting.

GEORGE W. DOWDY CONGRATULATED ON ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL RETAIL MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION.

Mayor Smith recognized Mr. George W. Dowdy, Vice-President and General Manager of Belk Bros. Co, who was appearing with the Chamber of Commerce Delegation, and extended his congratulations on his recent election to the Presidency of the National Retail Merchants Association, and expressed his pleasure at the honor this brings to the City of Charlotte.

THOMAS L. ROBINSON CONGRATULATED ON ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF CHARLOTTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Mayor Smith then recognized Mr. Thomas L. Robinson, incoming President of the Chamber of Commerce, and stated the City's association with the Chamber of Commerce has always been most pleasant, and the City Officials have enjoyed working with Mr. Paul Younts, outgoing President, and he is sure the relationship will continue under Mr. Robinson's leadership.

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Mr. Robinson responded by saying that he had trained under Mr. Younts and they look forward to full cooperation between the Chamber and City of Charlotte.

COUNCILWOMAN EVANS REQUESTS INFORMATION AS TO STATUS OF (1) GRADE CROSSING ELIMINATION CONTRACT (2) THIRD WEEK VACATION PERIOD FOR EMPLOYEES WITH 15 YEARS AND MORE SERVICE, AND (3) JOB CLASSIFICATION STUDY.

Councilwoman Evans stated she had three questions to ask: (1) she stated that since the number one objective for the year on the list submitted by Mayor Smith was Elimination of Grade Crossing, she would like to ask Mr. Yancey where we now stand and if the contract with Mr. Miller has been signed? Mr. Yancey replied that he has discussed the matter with Mr. Miller; that the signed contract has not been received by him but he is sure that it will be at an early date.

(2) Councilwoman Evans stated she will bring up at the next Council meeting for discussion the matter of the three weeks vacation period for employees with 15 years or more service; that at present it appears to be rather vague. Councilman Dellinger stated that last summer he made a motion that all employees who had served for 15 years and more receive the three weeks vacation period, and thereafter, the vacation period revert to the usual 2 week period. That he sees no reason for bringing the matter up at this early date as it is a budget matter and a question of money and should be deferred until later this spring. Councilwoman Evans stated that in various departments where she has discussed the matter, she was advised that no additional help was employed to fill in during the third week's vacation. She asked Mr. Yancey if all employees entitled to the third week vacation period have taken it, and he replied that if they have not they will do so. That when the departmental heads are given notice to file their budget estimates about the middle of April, he can request them to include in it the number of employees in their departments entitled to the third week vacation and the cost of necessary temporary help during the third week vacations.

(3) Councilwoman Evans then asked the status of the Baxter Committee on Job Classification study? Councilman Baxter replied that he has written several cities for information, and will have a report before too long. Councilwoman Evans then asked if his Committee has met, and Councilman Baxter replied that they have. She then stated that she is wondering if the Committee will not come up with a request for money to meet the inequities in Job Classification and if the Council should not discuss it? Councilman Baxter replied that the adjustment of inequities would, of course, require money, but it could not be considered until budget time, and in fact the Committee was requested to make a detailed study only, and this they will do.

BRIXTON COURT, FROM HILLSIDE DRIVE SOUTH 720 FEET PLUS TAKEN OVER FOR MAINTENANCE.

Councilman Albea moved that Brixton Court, from Hillside Drive south 720 feet plus be taken over for maintenance, as recommended by the City Manager. The motion was seconded by Councilman Baxter, and un-animously carried.

RENEWAL OF SPECIAL OFFICER PERMIT TO JOHN P. BRUDENELL ON PREMISES OF SOUTHERN KNITWARE MILLS, INC.

Motion was made by Councilman Wilkinson, seconded by Councilman Dellinger,

and unanimously carried, renewing the Special Officer Permit to John P. Brudenell, 3521 Warp Street, for a period of one year for use on the premises of Southern Knitware Mills, Inc., 622 East 28th Street.

**UNFIT HOUSING PROGRESS REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1957.**

The City Manager gave the following report on Unfit Housing Progress for Quarter ending December 31, 1957:

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Number of housing units brought up to standard..... | 96 |
| Number of property owners cited for hearings .....  | 32 |
| Number of housing units condemned .....             | 28 |
| Number of bathing facilities installed.....         | 38 |
| Number of housing units demolished .....            | 26 |

PROGRESS IN 1957

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Number of housing units brought up to standard  |     |
| in 1957.....                                    | 411 |
| Number of housing units demolished in 1957..... | 119 |

PROGRESS SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM IN AUGUST 1948

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Number of housing units brought up to standard   |        |
| to date.....                                     | 11,419 |
| Number of housing units demolished to date ..... | 1,849  |

Over 99 percent of the more than 15000 substandard units that we had in 1948 and taken in the city in 1949 extension now have inside plumbing with bathing facilities, electric lighting facilities and heating facilities.

We are now working on the large number of old houses that need general repairs, leaking roofs, dangerous chimneys etc. As you can see we are having a large number of these demolished.

**TRANSFER OF CEMETERY LOTS.**

Upon motion of Councilman Brown, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson, and unanimously carried, the Mayor and City Clerk were authorized to execute deeds for the transfer of the following cemetery lots and for Perpetual Care:

- (a) Deed with Joseph E. Hartl; for Graves #1 and #2 in Lot 95, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$80.00.
- (b) Deed with Miss Margery Winns and T. J. Wiggins, Jr., for Perpetual Care on south half of Lot 6, Section T, Elmwood Cemetery, at \$100.80.

**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 12TH ON ORDINANCE NO. 440 AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUILDING ZONE MAP OF CHARLOTTE BY CHANGING PROPERTY AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF QUEENS ROAD AND EAST 4TH STREET FROM OFFICE-INSTITUTION TO BUSINESS 2, ADOPTED.**

Ordinance No. 440 Amending Chapter 21, Article I, Section 2 of the City Code by amending the Building Zone Map of Charlotte by changing property at the southeast corner of Queens Road and East 4th Street from Office-Institution to Business 2, on petition of Mrs. Mabel Devereux, was introduced and read. A Resolution Providing for a Public Hearing on said ordinance on February 12th was then presented and read, and upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilwoman Evans, was unanimously adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 3, at Page 174.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 12TH ON ORDINANCE NO. 441 AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUILDING ZONE MAP OF CHARLOTTE BY CHANGING PROPERTY AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF PLAZA ROAD AND HERRIN AVENUE, FROM RESIDENCE 2 TO BUSINESS I, ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 441 Amending Chapter 21, Article I, Section 2 of the City Code by amending the Building Zone Map of Charlotte by changing property at the northeast corner of Plaza Road and Herrin Avenue, from Residence 2 to Business I, on petition of S. P. Risley, Sr., was introduced and read. A Resolution Providing for a Public Hearing on said ordinance on February 12th was then presented and read, and upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilwoman Evans, was unanimously adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 3, at Page 175.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 12TH ON ORDINANCE NO. 442 AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUILDING ZONE MAP OF CHARLOTTE BY CHANGING PROPERTY ON OAKLAWN AVENUE (GREENVILLE HEIGHTS) FROM RESIDENCE I TO INDUSTRIAL, ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 442 Amending Chapter 21, Article I, Section 2 of the City Code by amending the Building Zone Map of Charlotte by changing property on Oaklawn Avenue (Greenville Heights) from Residence I to Industrial, on petition of Richard F. Helms, was introduced and read. A Resolution Providing for a Public Hearing on said ordinance on February 12th was then presented and read, and upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilwoman Evans, was unanimously adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 3, at Page 176.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 12TH ON ORDINANCE NO. 443 AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUILDING ZONE MAP OF THE CHARLOTTE PERIMETER AREA BY CHANGING PROPERTY ON THE EAST SIDE OF POTTERS ROAD AT THE CORNER OF FOURTH AVENUE, FROM RESIDENCE 2 TO BUSINESS I ADOPTED.

Ordinance No. 443 Amending Chapter 21, Article II, Section 5 of the City Code by amending the Building Zone Map of the Charlotte Perimeter Area by changing property on the east side of Potters Road at the corner of Fourth Avenue, from Residence 2 to Business I, on petition of R. T. Allen, Jr., was introduced and read. A Resolution Providing for a Public Hearing on said ordinance on February 12th was then presented and read, and upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilwoman Evans was unanimously adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 3, at Page 177.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON FEBRUARY 12TH ON ORDINANCE NO. 444 AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUILDING ZONE MAP OF THE CHARLOTTE PERIMETER AREA BY CHANGING PROPERTY ADJACENT TO SOUTHWEST CORNER OF STATESVILLE HIGHWAY AND ITS INTERSECTION WITH NC #29 BYPASS, FROM RURAL TO BUSINESS I-A, ADOPTED.

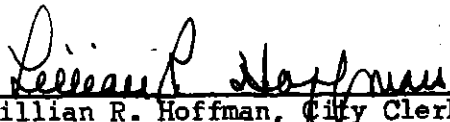
Ordinance No. 444 Amending Chapter 21, Article II, Section 5 of the City Code by amending the Building Zone Map of the Charlotte Perimeter Area by changing property adjacent to the southwest corner of Statesville Highway and its intersection with NC #29 Bypass, from Rural to Business I-A, on petition of F. G. Templeton, was introduced and read. A Resolution Providing for a Public Hearing on said Ordinance on February 12th was then presented and read, and upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilwoman Evans, was unanimously adopted. The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 3, at Page 178.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY OVERHANGING STREET SIGNS PROPOSAL TO MEET IN MAYOR'S OFFICE AT 2 O'CLOCK ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22ND.

Councilman Baxter stated he is of the opinion that the Committee to study the Overhanging Street Signs Proposal should meet and have the ordinance drawn for next week's meeting. The Committee members concurred in the suggestion, and Councilman Wilkinson, Committee Chairman, asked that the City Attorney be requested to meet with them at 2 o'clock on next Wednesday, January 22nd, in the Mayor's office for this purpose.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

  
Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk