

An Adjourned Meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, in the City Hall, on Monday, June 22, 1959, at 2 o'clock p.m., jointly with the Board of Commissioners for Mecklenburg County, with Mayor Smith presiding, and the following persons being present:

COUNCIL MEMBERS Albea, Babcock, Dellinger, Hitch, Myers and Whittington.

ABSENT: Councilman Smith.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS McAden, Chairman, Brown, Garrison, Lawing and McEwen.

ABSENT: None

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Claude L. Albea.

PURPOSE OF MEETING.

Mayor Smith stated that the purpose of the meeting is to adopt the budget for the fiscal year 1959-60 of the jointly operated activities of the City and County Governments, and such other business as may come before the Joint Bodies by unanimous consent.

ACTION ON TAX LISTING DEPARTMENT BUDGET DEFERRED ONE WEEK.

The \$189,732.50 budget for the Tax Listing Department, shared on a basis of 35% by the City and 65% by the County, and increased by \$29,622.50 over last year's budget was explained in detail by Mr. Walker Busby, County Auditor; who stated that \$12,385.00 of the increase was for employing four appraisers for the proposed revaluation of property, to establish a perpetual reassessment system, under the supervision of the Tax Supervisor.

Strong opposition to the appraisal being done by the Tax Supervisors Office was expressed by Councilmen Dellinger and Whittington, who stated they do not believe the office is qualified to make the appraisal and that outside competent help is required and should be employed. Councilman Dellinger stated he believes Cole-Layer-Trumble Company, professional appraisers did an expert job in 1950, and they, or a similar firm should again be employed to make the appraisal, and the City and County then jointly establish a permanent Revaluation Board of Charlotte citizens other than the personnel of the Tax Supervisor's office.

Mr. Busby stated that the appraisal made by a professional firm would cost \$500,000.00 while the County can do the job by employing its own appraisers for between \$250,000 and \$300,000. He stated further that the firm making the appraisal in 1950-51 hired school boys as assistants with only scant briefing of the duties, and it took the Tax Department personnel as much time to correct their errors as it did for the appraisal to be made.

Councilman Myers stated he agrees that the professional firm fell down on the appraisal to some extent and he does not favor going out of town this

time. That in his opinion the only real experts are those buying and selling real estate, and the City and County should look to them; that the Tax Department personnel does not circulate enough to get a true picture of market values.

Councilman Whittington stated he cannot go along with the City sharing in the cost unless the appraisal is taken away from the Tax Supervisor's office.

Councilman Dellinger moved that action on the total Tax Listing Department budget be deferred for one week. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hitch and carried, with the Council voting in favor of deferment and the County against it.

MOTION LOST TO DEFER ACTION ON ALL SALARY INCREASES REFLECTED IN RECOMMENDED BUDGETS UNTIL CITY BUDGET IS COMPLETED.

Councilman Dellinger moved that all salary increases recommended by the County in the joint budgets for all departments be deferred until the City completes its 1959-60 Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and lost.

Councilman Dellinger stated he could not see the fairness in approving these salary increases in which the City shares when the City may find it impossible to approve requested increases to regular city employees.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS COURT BUDGET ADOPTED, INCLUDING SALARY INCREASES FOR JUDGE AND COUNSELOR.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Hitch, and unanimously carried, a salary of \$10,250.00 for the Judge of Domestic Relations Court was approved as recommended by the County, reflecting an increase of \$250.00; said salary being shared by the City and County on a 50/50 basis.

On motion of Councilman Hitch, seconded by Councilman Babcock, and unanimously carried, a salary of \$6,600.00 for the Counselor of Domestic Relations Court was unanimously approved as recommended by the County, reflecting an increase of \$240.00; said salary to be shared by the City and County on a 50/50 basis.

Councilman Hitch moved the adoption of the recommended budget for ordinary operating expenses of the Domestic Relations Court of \$59,330.83, which is shared on a 50/50 basis by the City and County, the City's share being \$29,165.41. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried.

JUVENILE DIAGNOSTIC CENTER.

Upon motion of Councilman Hitch, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the recommended budget for the ordinary expenses of the Juvenile Diagnostic Center, in the amount of \$157,020.50, was adopted, which is shared on a 50/50 basis, the City's share being \$78,510.25.

COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REIMBURSEMENT OF \$32,180.00 FOR SPACE IN HEALTH CENTER AND \$1,320.00 FOR TELEPHONE SERVICE.

Mayor Smith pointed out that the County Health Department would occupy more

space in the new Health Center than previously in the old Health Department Building, and therefor the reimbursement of \$22,180.00 previously made to the City should be increased. He presented a memorandum from Dr. M. B. Bethel, City-County Health Officer, stating that the cost per square foot in the center is \$19.81. That the County will occupy 10,412 square feet which at \$3.50 per square foot equals \$36,442.00, or at \$3.00 per square foot equals \$31,236.00 or at \$2.50 per square foot equals \$26,030.00.

City Manager Livingston called attention to the fact that the City is also buying all the furniture for the building.

Chairman McAden moved that action be postponed. The motion was lost for lack of a second.

Councilman Dellinger moved that the County reimburse the City \$36,442.00 for the use of space in the Health Center, on the basis of \$3.40 per square foot. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and lost.

Commissioner Lawing moved that the present amount of \$22,180.00 be increased by \$7,000.00. The motion was lost for lack of a second.

Commissioner McEwen moved that the present amount be increased by \$10,000.00, making a total reimbursement of \$32,180.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Hitch, and unanimously carried, the County's reimbursement of \$1,320.00 for telephone service was adopted.

SALARIES AND CAR ALLOWANCES FIXED FOR HEALTH OFFICER, CHIEF SANITARY ENGINEER AND SUPERINTENDENT OF NURSES OF CITY-COUNTY HEALTH CENTER.

When the question of salary and car allowance for the Health Officer was presented, Councilman Whittington stated he does not think a salary should be fixed and recommended that the Mayor appoint a Committee composed of Dr. Howard Steiger, Dr. David Welton and Dr. Tom Bost and some members of the City Council, together with the Acting City Manager to assist in locating a Health Officer instead of waiting until Dr. Bethel leaves the department. Mayor Smith told Councilman Whittington if he was to appoint the Committee he would like to name his own members and not have it done for him, and he has contemplated doing so or asking the Council to do so.

Councilman Albea moved that the salary of the Health Officer be fixed at \$16,380 as recommended by the County, on a basis of 2/3 by the City and 1/3 by the County, the City's share being \$10,920.00, reflecting an increase of \$900.00 annually. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried.

Councilman Hitch moved that the recommended car allowance for the Health Officer in the amount of \$900.00 annually be adopted, as recommended by the County, the City's share being \$600.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Babcock, and unanimously carried.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Councilman Babcock, and unanimously carried, the recommended salary of \$8,640.00 for the Chief Sanitary Engineer in the Health Department was adopted as recommended by the County, the City's share being \$6,340.00, and a car allowance of \$1,260.00, the City's share being \$960.00.

Councilman Hitch moved that the recommended salary of \$6,240.00 for Miss Elizabeth Kissiah, Superintendent of Nurses, be adopted as recommended by

the County, the City's share being \$5,520.00, and a car allowance of \$1,170.00 with the City's share of \$870.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Myers, and unanimously carried.

MECKLENBURG VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE BUDGET ADOPTED.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried, the recommended budget of \$13,845.00 for Mecklenburg Veterans Service Office was adopted on a 50/50 basis.

FIRE PROTECTION OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS APPROVED ON USUAL BASIS TO JANUARY 1, 1960.

Mr. Busby stated that the County contributes \$22,000.00 annually to the Volunteer Fire Departments of the County, and as Chief Charles has requested the Volunteer Fire Departments to give assistance in the perimeter area as of January 1, 1960 due to the lack of sufficient stations in the area, the County feels it is only right to delete the payment of the usual \$200.00 per month standby charge and \$50.00 per trip by the City into the County.

Councilman Whittington stated that he feels if Chief Charles made any such agreement with the Volunteer Fire Departments he was out of order, which was concurred in by Councilman Dellinger. Councilman Whittington then stated he is to understand that our trucks just stand still when there is a fire outside the city limits and let the Volunteer Departments handle it.

Commissioner Lawing stated he does not believe that Chief Charles made any such agreement that it was merely a remark to the Volunteer Fire Department that he would need their assistance in the perimeter area.

Commissioner McEwen moved that the County reimburse the City for fire protection outside the city limits until January 1, 1960 on the basis of \$200.00 standby charge and \$50.00 per trip outside the city limits. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried.

ELECTION BOARD OFFICE BUDGET ADOPTED.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried, the budget for the Election Board Office in the total amount of \$34,550.00, shared on a 50/50 basis, the City's share being \$17,275.00, was adopted.

PAUPER BURIALS.

Councilman Albea moved that the present arrangements for pauper burials be continued, whereby the City furnishes the lot and grave openings at \$30.00 for white adults and \$41.60 for colored adults, and \$15.00 for white and colored infants, and the County furnishes coffins for adults at \$60.00 and infants at \$25.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried.

REIMBURSEMENT OF CITY FOR MORRIS FIELD POLICING ADOPTED.

Chairman McAden moved that the present arrangement for policing Morris Field by the City be approved, whereby the County pays the flat sum of \$6,000.00 annually to the City. The motion was seconded by Councilman Albea, and unanimously carried.

REIMBURSEMENT BY COUNTY FOR WORK OF VITAL STATISTICS BUREAU.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Babcock, and unanimously carried, the usual agreement with the County whereby they reimburse the City at the rate of 50¢ per birth record and \$40.00 per month on the salary of the Statistician, was adopted.

REIMBURSEMENT TO COUNTY OF RETIREMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY EMPLOYER'S SHARE FOR EMPLOYEES IN JOINT OPERATIONS.

Upon motion of Councilman Albea, seconded by Commissioner Garrison, and unanimously carried, the City agreed to reimburse the County the City's pro-rata share of the employer's contribution to Retirement and Social Security of employees in joint operations, in the total amount of \$15,130.00.

CIVIL DEFENSE BUDGET ADOPTED.

Councilman Whittington moved the adoption of the recommended budget of \$14,402.90 to Civil Defense, on a basis of 60% by the City and 40% by the County, the City's share being \$8,641.74. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garrison, and unanimously carried.

RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG PLANNING BOARD ADOPTED.

Motion was made by Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Councilman Whittington and unanimously carried, adopting the recommended budget of \$57,063.20 for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Board, in the amount of \$57,063.20.

REIMBURSEMENT TO CITY FOR USE OF LANDFILL GARBAGE DISPOSAL, DEFERRED FOR ONE WEEK.

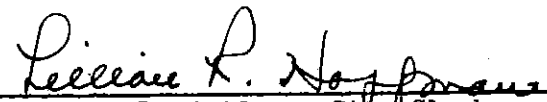
Councilman Whittington moved that consideration of the reimbursement by the County of \$12,000.00 for the disposal of the County's garbage by the City at its Landfill Disposal, that the matter be postponed for one week, as he has some information he wishes to present to the Council. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hitch, and unanimously carried.

SALARY OF TAX SUPERVISOR ADOPTED.

Upon motion of Councilman Dellinger, seconded by Chairman McAden, and unanimously carried, the annual salary of Mr. Rufus Grier, Tax Supervisor was adopted at \$7,500.00, reflecting an increase of \$500.00 annually, to be shared on the basis of 35% by the City and 65% by the County.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Hitch, seconded by Commissioner Lawing, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.


Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk