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JOINT CONFERENCE WITH COUNTY

REPORT OF A JOINT CONFERENCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, N. C., AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C., ON JULY 24, 1961

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, N. C., and the Board of Commissioners for Mecklenburg County, N. C., met in joint session in the Council Chamber in the City Hall, on Monday, July 24, 1961, at 3 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of considering jointly operated activities of the City and County, for the fiscal year 1961-62.

Mayor Brookshire presided and Councilmen Albea, Bryant, Dellinger, Jordan, Smith, Thrower and Whittington were present.

ABSENT: None.

Chairman McAden and Commissioners Blythe, Garrison and Lowe were present for Mecklenburg County.

ABSENT: Commissioner Lawing.

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COMPROMISE ON RENTALS AND EQUIPMENT OF JOINT ACTIVITIES ADOPTED.

Mayor Brookshire warmly welcomed the members of the Board of Commissioners as neighbors from across Alexander Street, and asked if Mr Busby, County Auditor and Mr Veeder, City Manager, wished to present a statement to the Council and Commissioners.

Mr Veeder advised that he and Mr Busby have agreed on the following statement:

1. We agree that the basis for City-County sharing of costs on a number of activities may not be equitable.
2. We agree that an objective study of City-County fiscal relationships should be made. This study should be directed towards defining equitable sharing of costs and should be completed in time to permit changes in both the City and the County budgets for fiscal 1962-63.
3. We agree that time does not permit a studied approach to varying viewpoints that affect the current fiscal year. The fact that the County has already adopted its budget and the City must adopt its budget before the end of this week bears this out.
4. We agree that the best way to resolve the varying viewpoints affecting the current fiscal year is by compromise. Recognizing that the varying viewpoints center around a charge of \$65,193 proposed by the County we suggest that this figure be compromised. Specifically we suggest that the City agree to pay and the County agree to accept \$36,300 rather than \$65,193.

Mayor Brookshire asked if Mr Busby wishes to speak on the statement, and Mr Busby stated that Mr Veeder and he discussed this problem at length this morning, and while the figures may not be wholly acceptable to either of them, it is a fair settlement of the problem at this time.

He stated further if Mr Veeder can prevail on the Council and he on the Commissioners to accept the compromise, then this session can be quickly ended.

Councilman Smith moved approval of the agreement as presented, as far as the Council is concerned, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Blythe for the County.

Councilman Dellinger stated it would seem to him the fair way is to go along this year in the same way as heretofore and work out an equitable solution for next year and do away with the imaginary Alexander Street line.

Mayor Brookshire called for a vote on the motion, which carried by the following recorded vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Albea, Bryant, Thrower, Smith and Whittington and Commissioners McAden, Blythe, Garrison and Lowe.

NAYS: Councilmen Dellinger and Jordan.

JOINT CITY, COUNTY AND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEE AUTHORIZED APPOINTED TO STUDY TAX STRUCTURE AND SOURCES OF NEW REVENUE.

Commissioner Lowe advised that the Chamber of Commerce presently has a committee studying our tax structure and another committee studying possible sources of new revenue; that the County has a committee studying the same things and he is sure the City will appoint a similar committee. That if these committees could be combined into one committee and make the studies together, it would be far better in his opinion. He asked the Mayor and Mr McAden to put their heads together and see if a combined committee cannot be formed.

Councilman Smith voiced approval of the idea, stating that if the City and County cannot get together and solve our mutual problems, then there is no hope that World peace can be worked out by many nations.

Councilman Jordan expressed the view if the County Commissioners will just realize that Charlotte is a part of Mecklenburg County, we would get along much better.

Mayor Brookshire asked if it would be agreeable for Mr McAden, Mr Busby, Mr. Veeder and himself to decide on the type study and how it should be made. The Council and Commissioners concurred in the suggestion, and Councilman Jordan recommended that the Committee be appointed as soon as possible.

BUDGET FOR JOINTLY OPERATED ACTIVITIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1961-62 APPROVED.

Mayor Brookshire asked if any parts of the Jointly Operated Activities Budget under consideration need be discussed?

Mr Veeder stated only to the extent of the wishes of the Council and Commissioners. That the Commissioners have gone over them and applied the reductions where they thought necessary, and the Council has done the same. Therefore, it may be construed that no further review is necessary.

Councilman Whittington moved approval of the appropriations for the jointly operated activities as submitted, which are as follows. The motion was seconded by Councilman Smith, and unanimously carried:

JOINT ACTIVITY	APPROPRIATION	CITY'S SHARE	COUNTY'S SHARE	PERCENTAGE	
				CITY	COUNTY
Tax Supervisor	\$225,825	\$77,849	\$147,976	35 %	65 %
Collector of Revenue	168,485	61,261	107,224	36.36%	63.64%
Election Board Office	55,066	16,085	38,981		
Domestic Relations Court	66,250	33,125	33,125	50 %	50 %
Juvenile Del. Court	163,787	81,893	81,894	50 %	50 %
Planning Board	63,920	38,352	25,568	60 %	40 %
Civil Defense	15,983	9,561	6,422	60 %	40 %
Veteran's Service Office	16,420	8,210	8,210	50 %	50 %
Retirement & Soc. Security	67,464	29,244	38,220		
Facilities & Services	69,800	36,300	33,500		
City-County Health Dept.	Salaries and Car Allowances.				
Health Officer	16,380	10,920	5,460	75 %	25 %
Chief Sanitarian	9,960	7,469	2,491	75 %	25 %
Car Allow plus 4¢					
Per mile	480	360	120	75 %	25 %
Supt. of Nurses	7,320	6,220	1,098	85 %	15 %
8¢ per mile					
Policing Morris Field	6,000		6,000		
Land Fill - Garbage Disposal	12,000		12,000		
Vital Statistics					
Birth & Death Records					
@ 50¢	6,000		6,000		
on salary -statistician	480		480		

ADJOURNMENT.

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

Lillian R. Hoffman
Lillian R. Hoffman, City Clerk