

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 26.

The City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, met in regular session on Monday, February 8, 1971, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., with Mayor John M. Belk presiding, and Councilmen Fred D. Alexander, Sandy R. Jordan, Milton Short, John H. Thrower, Jerry Tuttle, James B. Whittington and Joe D. Withrow present.

ABSENT: None.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Reverend L. K. Stephens, Minister of Grace Baptist Church.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, approving the minutes of the last meeting, on Monday, February 1, 1971, as submitted.

CITY OF CHARLOTTE EMPLOYEE AWARD PRESENTED CHARLIE LINDSAY.

Mayor Belk recognized Mr. Charlie Lindsay, Laborer I, in the Water Department, Irwin Creek Plant, and stated Mr. Lindsay was employed June 29, 1955, and retired January 27, 1971. He presented Mr. Lindsay the City of Charlotte Employee Plaque and wished him well in his retirement.

RESIDENTS OF SHARON LANE PROPOSE ALTERNATE ROUTE TO WIDENING OF SHARON LANE.

Mr. Whiteford Blakeney stated he, along with the people in the audience, live along Sharon Lane, and they are present in connection with the proposal of the City to make Sharon Lane a four-lane thoroughfare. That they are asking Council for a close and careful consideration of the factors and circumstances that bear upon that proposal.

He stated several months ago the residents addressed a written petition to the Council and they are here today in person. That they are not here to criticize and find fault. They hope they can be of some value to Council in reaching a reasonable and sound solution to this problem; they realize the Council cannot accept any outcome on this matter that serves the residents interest unless it also serves the interest of the people of this community generally, the present and the future.

He stated there are two basic elements in this matter. First is the element of the beauty of landscape, and beauty of environment hanging in the balance. Second is the urgent matter of the traffic problems that exist. Each of these deserve consideration; each is of vital importance to the City of Charlotte. Along Sharon Lane the homes, the lawns, the trees, shrubs and the planting represent a considerable investment. Investment in time, care, attention and continuing effort to say nothing of a very considerable expenditure of financial resources on the part of those who live along Sharon Lane. There are a number of handsome and ornamental trees along Sharon Lane and this is a result of the efforts of the people who live along there. At the western end of Sharon Lane is a lane of oak trees on both sides which are the oldest and largest in the City of Charlotte. They have been growing there for more than this century, and they range seven to eight feet in circumference; they are a hundred feet high; they spread their branches at least half that distance, and they are right now in their prime. Mr. Blakeney stated the proposal now is to cut

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 27

them all down; to destroy irreplaceably and forever the beauty that exists there; to mow down and clean off all the way from Providence Road to Sharon Road, for sixty foot width, everything that lives and grows; in many places it will be 72 feet in width and in places 90 feet due to the construction taking. In place of the trees and the plantings will be pavement and sun glaring concrete and unending streams of traffic.

Mr. Blakeney stated the traffic problem is there. At peak hours, Sharon Lane traffic is extremely bad. This traffic comes out of the north and northeast areas above Providence Road, Cotswald, Independence Boulevard and from the direction of Monroe and Albemarle; it comes from the south and southeast, SouthPark, all the new residential developments in the southeast quadrant; it comes from the direction of Pineville and Rock Hill, and it tends to move into this funnel of Sharon Lane. The question is what can be done and what should be done about that traffic. They submit that you do not begin to correct that situation by putting four lanes on that residential street; it is likely to create a massive four-lane traffic jam in place of a two lane traffic jam. This would probably be true even if there were no traffic signals. But with traffic signals at both ends of the street - Providence and Sharon Road - and a light midway at Arborway, traffic will not move free and in a stream, but haltingly - stop and go - as will be true of the four lanes if put there. In place of a thousand motorists who are now vexed and frustrated about the slowness of the movement, there will be double that many. With four lanes, you invite the traffic in. That they submit the four lanes is not a solution.

Mr. Blakeney stated the solution is an arc around the congested areas; some broad and smooth roads that enable traffic to go around rather than straight through. He stated they submit this is still a possibility; but possibilities are rapidly diminishing.

He passed around maps for Council to view and referred to alternate routes that might be considered. On Sharon Road below the intersection of Sharon Road and Sharon Lane, and below Redfox Trail, he had drawn a red line off of Sharon Road to the right. He stated there is open territory all the way down to the new Church built across from SouthPark. Taking the arc to the right off Sharon Road is an alternative which is an extension of Colony Road, then an arc towards Sedley. Sedley Road picks up at Foxcroft Road. Following Sedley Road (but not in front of anyone's house), on the opposite side where there is nothing except open land; arching with Sedley Road for a short distance is open land again, which is the plain of McMullen Creek. Following the plain of McMullen Creek, you reach Providence Road. In that process you cross no street whatever with the exception of Foxcroft Road, and another road that has been extended recently. Otherwise you cross nothing, you invade nobody's lawn, you cut down no massive oak trees. When you reach within a quarter of a mile of Providence Road, there is a Duke Power Line and substation, but at locations that constitute no obstacles. He stated this is an opportunity for an arc unimpeded, a broad, smooth, sweeping highway for four lanes, six lanes or as many lanes as you wish.

He stated where the red line crosses Foxcroft Road is a for sale sign on the corner, and there may be new buildings going up which would block this whole arc he is showing. He stated thus do these opportunities for highways become lost.

Mr. Blakeney stated he has shown a line extending above Providence, but he understands it similarly moves along the plain of McMullen Creek and it joins Sharon Amity and moves across open land. Here again you cross practically nothing except Randolph Road in reaching the upper stretches of Sharon Amity.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 28

He called attention to the lower red line and stated it comes off as an extension of Fairview Road. Coming off from there the road moves off into vacant land that joins Carmel Road. There is an alternate dotted line coming off Morrison Boulevard which is the roadway at the side of SouthPark, and this runs into the projected route. It moves on to Carmel Road, turning into Sardis Road, via Sardis Road up Rama Road, reaching Independence Boulevard.

Mr. Blakeney stated the openings are there, and furnish the true solution. It is not a solution to shove traffic down that residential street, Sharon Lane. It will not be an answer or a correction; it will probably make things far worse.

He stated there are other possibilities. Sharon Lane as a one-way street with two lanes of traffic moving in one direction, and some neighboring parallel street two lanes moving in the other direction.

He stated the point has been made that the residents of Sharon Lane may be slow and late in raising their voice about this. The first notice that came to them from the City of Charlotte to the effect there would be four lanes on Sharon Lane was this past Fall, and within a few weeks, they addressed a petition to the Council. He stated he understands some years ago there was an advertisement in the paper about a bond issue and in that advertisement in the small print was a reference to authority under that bond issue to use some of that money for improvements to Sharon Lane. There was nothing specifying four lanes in the advertisement. He stated several people who live on Sharon Lane told him that here in this Council Chamber they were assured in a formal meeting that four lanes were not contemplated for Sharon Lane.

Mr. Blakeney stated there should be a procedure whereby some city authority does notify people who live along any certain street or road when there is a contemplated change of major nature on their street.

He stated they have searched the title to the rights of way on Sharon Lane as thoroughly as they can. They find that on the north side of Sharon Lane it is a matter of genuine doubt as to whether the city has any right of way beyond the street as now used; on the south side of Sharon Lane, it appears clear that the city does not have any right of way beyond the street as now used. The City can condemn it, by eminent domain, take it, but it would involve an expenditure of money vastly beyond what is now contemplated, and it would be their hope that this matter can be resolved without litigation and condemnation.

Mr. Blakeney stated they are really fighting to preserve their street and their area from commercialization. It is a fact, that when shade trees go down and pavement and concrete takes their place, industrialization comes. It can be slowed, it can be held back by zoning, but it is inevitable and inexorable. Once you take down trees and once you put in four lane highways.

Mrs. J. D. Stratton, 2165 Sharon Lane, stated in the plan in front of her home, there will be six lanes of traffic; they are taking some of her property other than the claimed right of way. She said she saw the plans and was horrified to find they are putting sidewalks in right next to the curb - there will be no grass strip of anything between the sidewalk and the curb; then the telephone poles will be on the other side of the sidewalk, in their yards. She this is very bad engineering to put people walking, children riding their bicycle and young people walking to the shopping centers on a lane of traffic with nothing but three inches of curb between them and the flowing traffic. That she would like to see the Engineering Department reconsider the construction of residential sidewalks right next to the street. That she has noticed it on certain streets like West Boulevard and on a lot of other streets.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 29

Mr. C. P. Street stated he lives on Sharon Lane and the traffic situation is bad, and it is a problem which Council has faced and is facing. That he realizes any decision made is going to be very difficult. That he hopes the petition and pleas Mr. Blakeney has made will make it possible for Council to provide some other traffic outlet as opposed to Sharon Lane. But whatever is done, he suggests that another traffic outlet must be provided before Sharon Lane is blocked with new construction. The traffic situation is horrible but it will be so immense that there will be thousands of citizens of this area who will be inconvenienced to the point of hardly expressing how they would feel unless a new traffic lane as described by Mr. Blakeney is first provided. He stated after that is provided he thinks it would not be necessary to do anything on Sharon Lane.

Mr. J. E. Franzle stated he is not a resident of the City but he does operate a business in Charlotte at 4126 Park Road. He stated they have no property on Sharon Lane. That his wife called to his attention the fact that the members of the Garden Clubs in the City are very concerned about the trees. He stated he does not have any financial interest in the project but he is opposed to losing the beauty of that area, and hopes there is some other alternative.

Councilman Alexander moved that Council accept for consideration the proposals submitted by Mr. Blakeney in behalf of the residents, and ask the City Engineering Department to come back to Council with an engineering report on what has been presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and carried unanimously.

Councilman Tuttle stated the routes proposed by Blakeney goes outside the city limits, and the city would be faced with using city money to build a road or street in the county. He asked the City Attorney if this is possible? Mr. Underhill replied no; that the State Highway Commission would have to provide that portion of the route. Mr. Blakeney replied the area referred to is a very small area of the projection he has set out; it is a corner or nook. There are various ways that this particular problem could be overcome; that it will not be too long before that is taken into the city he is sure, whether with consolidation or not. That he thinks it is not beyond possibilities or beyond likelihood that the State could be induced to help along that small length.

REQUEST OF NORTH CHARLOTTE ACTION COMMITTEE DISCUSSED AND COUNCIL MOVES TO HAVE RAILROAD BANK CLEANED UP AND LIEN PLACED AGAINST THE RAILROAD, IF AREA NOT CLEANED UP WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

Mrs. Herman Pigg of the North Charlotte Action Committee stated they would like to thank Mr. Short, Mr. Tuttle and Mr. Withrow for attending their meeting on Tuesday night. She asked if they would state their views of this issue publicly.

Councilman Tuttle asked Mr. Chris Griffin, Supervisor of Community Improvement Division of the Inspection Department, to report on the request of the people of North Charlotte to have the railroad banks cleared.

Mr. Griffin stated he has just come from a meeting with Mr. E. J. Eudy, District Supervisor of Norfolk-Southern Railroad out of Raleigh. They walked this bank from Davidson Street to the end of Carr Street, and he pointed out the things that are there now and what they would like to have done. He stated Mr. Eudy related that the Railroad had planned to do what the Inspection Department and the residents want done. He stated the Railroad is presently having problems with some crews due to wrecks in other parts of the State. They assured him they would start on this area within a week or ten days. Mr. Griffin stated he has received a price through a private contractor to alleviate this situation; that Mr. Eudy expressed interest in this and he is to talk with Mr. J. A. White in Raleigh today and would give an answer this week if it is approved to be let to a private contractor, or if the Railroad will do it themselves. He stated they do plan to correct the situation.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 30

Councilman Tuttle stated he promised Mrs. Pigg and the residents at the meeting that he would request this Council, if the work is not done within a reasonable length of time, two weeks, we would have the private firm do it and make our claim against the railroad.

Councilman Tuttle moved that if the work is not done within two weeks, the City have the private firm clean up the area and the City make a claim against the railroad. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington.

Councilman Short stated the people who were at the meeting last Tuesday agreed that cleaning up of any citizen's private property by persuasion means is appropriate for the City, and cleaning up of any non-public property where you can place a lien upon that property and thus get at the owner is appropriate for the City. The question was raised as to whether it was actually desired by those people there that tax money be used for this purpose where a lien was not available. The people who were there did not seem to prefer this. That he personally does not know if it is the place of the City to go out and simply manicure private property and then sue somebody or attempt somehow to collect from them on other than a lien basis. He asked if the City can get a lien against the railroad? Councilman Tuttle stated he did not get this impression from the people; he got the impression that they wanted the bank cleaned up. Councilman Short stated he believes a better policy for the City is to use persuasion and a certain degree of patience, and to use a lien wherever it is available.

Mr. Griffin stated he does not think it would actually come down to the fact that the city would have to put a lien on the railroad's property; that he thinks they will either take the initiative upon themselves or they will let it out to a private contractor. That this is the understanding he has gotten today from Mr. Eudy.

Councilman Tuttle stated these people want the area cleaned up and it should be cleaned up and it is something under our present law which is illegal; that he does not see why these people should suffer.

Councilman Withrow asked Mr. Griffin if he talked to Mr. Eudy about a long-term situation, and Mr. Griffin replied he talked with them about a comprehensive program.

Councilman Short stated on a long range basis he does not know if we can budget tax funds for the purpose of going out and cleaning up either railroad banks or someone's old creek bank. We have never had tax funds budgeted towards maintaining someone's private property.

Councilman Thrower stated he thinks the intent of the motion has been fully explained, and it is time for us to do something.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Tuttle, Whittington, Alexander, Jordan, Thrower, and Withrow.

NAYS: Councilman Short.

REVEREND L. K. STEPHENS OFFERS HELP TO MAKE THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE.

Reverend L. K. Stephens, Minister of Grace Baptist Church, stated he is really concerned about the Soul of our city; drugs, liquor by the drink, and the movie industry. That we have a real danger before us. That he wants to do something but he does not know what to do; that he preaches every Sunday along those lines. He stated as a citizen, he would like to offer his help and the help of his 900 or so to do something to turn the tide to make the Soul of our city much more attractive. He stated if they can help the Police Department or the Mayor and Council in any way, they want to do it. That he hopes the Mayor and Council will feel free to call on them.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 31

PETITION NO. 70-138 BY JAMES C. BOLLES FOR A CHANGE IN ZONING FROM R-6MF TO R-6MFH OF AN IRREGULAR-SHAPED TRACT OF LAND ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF FENTON PLACE, EAST OF PROVIDENCE ROAD; DENIED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, to deny the subject petition as recommended by the Planning Commission.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-Z AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-39 OF THE CITY CODE PERMITTING CONDITIONAL OFF-STREET PARKING ON PROPERTY ZONED R-9MF LOCATED EAST OF PINEVILLE ROAD, NORTH OF N. C. ROAD NO. 3658.

Councilman Tuttle moved adoption of the subject ordinance permitting conditional off-street parking on property zoned R-9MF as recommended by the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 78.

LEASE AND SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE AND THURSTON AVIATION, INC. FOR HANGAR SPACE AND SERVICE FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S AERIAL GROUND CADET ANTI-STREET CRIME PROGRAM HELICOPTER, APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, the subject lease and service agreement was approved for a period of one year to include, in addition to the provision of hangar space, the fueling, maintenance and repair of the helicopter.

PAYMENT FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES TO GRAVES & TOY ARCHITECTS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF CONTRACTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A HELISTOP ON TOP OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER BUILDING, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, approving subject payment in the amount of \$850.00 for architectural services to Graves & Toy Architects.

Councilman Thrower asked when the helicopter will be delivered? Police Chief Goodman replied it will be in Charlotte in about two weeks.

ORDINANCE NO. 14-X AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 732-X, THE 1970-71 BUDGET ORDINANCE, AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$1,200,000 REDEVELOPMENT BOND FUNDS, FROM BOND FUND ACCOUNT TO CAPITAL PROJECT ACCOUNT NO. 535.10, GREENVILLE URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT.

Councilman Whittington moved adoption of subject ordinance authorizing the transfer of \$1,200,000 Redevelopment Bond Funds, from Bond Fund Account No. 4172, to Capital Project Account No. 535.10, Greenville Urban Renewal Project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short.

Councilman Alexander asked if this means that if a person decides they want to consummate the closing out of the sale of their property, this can now be done; that funds are available to do it? Mr. Sawyer, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Commission, replied yes within certain objectives and goals and hardships that are set forth; in the original letter of consent, they restricted their activities entirely to hardship residential problems; after the situation was brought more forcefully to their attention in a mass meeting in the area, this was creating some problems. At that point, they came back to Council at the urging of the citizens from Greenville to request additional

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 32

money and a further extension of authority under the original letter of consent. That was granted, and it included in addition to the residential hardship cases certain vacant land, certain commercial properties, and other non-residential property. He stated they are still concentrating on relieving hardships; one of the hardships is the lack of the beginning of construction of housing. That in addition to relieving some hardships they are trying to accumulate some land in order to put together some re-saleable parcels to help this housing situation. If it is not a hardship but does fall within the objective to provide land for housing, then they could buy the land.

Councilman Alexander stated he has had several calls about this; that he has not been able to give a direct answer.

The vote was taken on the motion, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 79.

Councilman Whittington stated at a meeting of the Council, Redevelopment Commission and the press they discussed the private group headed by Reverend Elo Henderson and a housing project in this area. Today Mr. Sawyer says they are trying to put together other land to redevelop it for housing. He asked Mr. Sawyer if he is keeping the Housing Authority appraised as to what is available in the way of land for re-use from a residential standpoint? Mr. Sawyer replied they have not in connection with this additional property they are trying to put together.

Councilman Whittington asked Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, if he has done anything about getting the Housing Authority and Redevelopment Commission together with Council in a meeting? Mr. Bobo replied he discussed this with Mr. Sawyer this morning and they will be back to Council shortly with a report.

ORDINANCES AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 732-X, THE 1970-71 BUDGET ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF UNAPPROPRIATED WATER BOND FUND BALANCE AND UNAPPROPRIATED SEWER BOND BALANCE.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, adopting the following ordinances:

- (a) Ordinance No.15-X amending Ordinance No. 732-X, the 1970-71 Budget Ordinance authorizing the transfer of \$1,129,000 of the Unappropriated Water Bond Fund Balance for Capital Improvement Projects.
- (b) Ordinance No.16-X amending Ordinance No. 732-X, the 1970-71 Budget Ordinance, authorizing the transfer of \$3,000,000 of Unappropriated Sewer Bond Fund Balance for Capital Improvement Projects.

The ordinances are recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, beginning at Page 80.

ORDINANCE NO. 17-X AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$225,000 FROM A PORTION OF THE SALE OF PUBLIC BUILDING BONDS, SERIES B, TO THE GOVERNMENTAL CENTER TO PAY A PORTION OF THE COST FOR CONSTRUCTING THE GOVERNMENTAL CENTER WALKWAY.

Councilman Thrower moved adoption of subject ordinance authorizing the transfer of \$225,000 from a portion of the Sale of Public Building Bonds, Series B, to the Governmental Center to pay a portion of the cost for constructing the Governmental Center Walkway. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 83.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 33

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, authorizing the following property transactions:

- (a) Acquisition of 61' x 61' x 7' of easement at 6411 Woody Glenn Place from Ronald E. Culp and wife, Linda H., at \$190.00, for sanitary sewer to serve Hampshire Hills Apartments.
- (b) Acquisition of 8' x 10' x 9' x 10' of easement at 6328 Plaza Road Extension, from John Crosland Company, at \$1.00, for sanitary sewer to serve Hampshire Hills Apartments.
- (c) Acquisition of 138' x 10' x 84' x 60' x 3' of easement at 6401 Woody Glenn Place, from David Lynn Mendenhall and wife, Nancy L., at \$114.00, for sanitary sewer to serve Hampshire Hills Apartments.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY OF ED O. FRIERSON SPRATT AND WIFE, EVELYN T., LOCATED AT 821-23 BELMONT AVENUE, FOR THE SUGAR CREEK-IRWIN CREEK OPEN SPACE PROJECT.

Councilman Whittington moved adoption of subject resolution authorizing condemnation proceedings for the acquisition of 100' x 89' x 105' x 110' of property of Ed O. Frierson Spratt and wife, Evelyn T., located at 821-23 Belmont Avenue, for the Sugar Creek-Irwin Creek Open Space Project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 7, at Page 242.

ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION PERMITTING THE CITY TO CONSTRUCT A SANITARY SEWER LINE WITHIN THE RIGHT OF WAY OF MONROE ROAD TO SERVE MONROE ROAD AND YARDLEY PLACE, APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the subject agreement with the State Highway Commission was approved.

INSTALLATION OF SANITARY SEWER MAIN IN NORTH GRAHAM STREET, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Thrower, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, approving the request of Electric Service and Sales for the installation of 219 feet of 8-inch sanitary sewer main in North Graham Street, inside the city, at an estimated cost of \$1,870.00. All cost of construction will be borne by the applicant, whose deposit in the full amount has been received and will be refunded as per terms of the agreement.

CONTRACT AWARDED BEN B. PROPST FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER FOR PHASE III, LOWER BRIAR CREEK OUTFALL.

Councilman Jordan moved award of contract to the low bidder, Ben B. Propst, in the amount of \$148,869.50, on a unit price basis, for construction of sanitary sewer for Phase III, Lower Briar Creek Outfall, subject to final approval by the State Department of Water and Air Resources and Federal Water Quality Administration. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The following bids were received:

Ben B. Propst	\$148,869.50
Blythe Bros. Co.	153,955.00
Crowder Construction Co.	156,316.50
Sanders Brothers, Inc.	160,260.00
Dickerson, Inc.	167,365.40
Thomas Structure Co.	177,818.00
Propst Construction Co.	197,393.50

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 34

CONTRACT AWARDED JUNO CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR THE GENERAL CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR THE HELICOPTER LANDING PAD AND AWARD OF CONTRACT TO INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR THE ELECTRICAL WORK.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the subject contracts were awarded to Juno Construction Corporation, in the amount of \$5,650.00, for the general construction work for the helicopter landing pad, and awarded Industrial Electric Company, in the amount of \$3,709.00, for the electrical work.

MOTION TO ESTABLISH A MASS TRANSIT COMMISSION FAILS AND MAYOR REQUESTED TO MEET WITH CHAIRMAN OF COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND SOMEONE ON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO FIND OUT WHAT IS NEEDED TO COORDINATE PARKING, TRAFFIC AND MASS TRANSIT.

Councilman Thrower stated on several occasions Council has discussed a Mass Transit Committee. It has been several Councilmen's opinion that we have not had the necessary work for such a Committee to feed itself on. In view of the report Council received about three weeks ago, he feels we not only have ample substance now with some facts, but we now see that such a Committee would be most beneficial. He asked Mr. Short for a report on the status of the City's Parking Committee?

Councilman Thrower stated at one time he proposed a Mass Transit, as well as a Parking Committee as he thought the two went hand in hand, and this was objected to by Councilman Short for the reason that there was an existing committee, and this committee would be revived to take care of the parking study as well as any other incidental, leaving transit completely out of the picture.

Councilman Short replied this committee made its report some years ago, and Mayor Brookshire asked the committee to continue with the thought that it would be expanded for such action as necessary and as possible as the Downtown Plan evolved. Some action was done in conference with this committee three or four months ago; as a result appraisals are being made, hopefully leading to the building of downtown parking facilities which the City may be in to a greater or lesser extent. That this matter was mentioned last week by Mr. Whittington when he listed his priorities. He stated the reason he did not want to tie these two items together was that one of them was in a functional situation ready to go, ready to turn earth, whereas, the other one was in a planning stage that seemed to be rather nebulous at this stage and he did not see that it was a good idea to put a brick and mortar committee in together with one that was doing the planning work that would materialize some years from now.

Councilman Thrower stated it has become obvious to him that such a committee is needed today, and he moved that Council establish a Transit Commission today for the purpose of studying the report Council received some three weeks ago as well as looking into the mass transit study which the professionals are engaged in at City Hall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington for discussion.

Councilman Whittington stated as he understands the intent of the motion, it is to form a Mass Transit Committee which would engage in the study being prepared by Wilbur Smith & Associates, also the request of Mr. Broadrick, immediate Past President of the Chamber of Commerce, on one of their programs of work in 1969-70. He asked if this Committee would also be involved in Downtown Parking as far as elevated parking garages are concerned? Councilman Thrower replied he would hope that Mr. Short would include this committee as there is a lot more activity in this area than is given credit; however, if he stands fast and says that he does not think that parking is a part of transit, he will not argue his point. He stated he thinks that parking is nothing more than an extension of transit.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 35

Councilman Short asked how the motion is related to the request made twice to Council by the Chamber that a Department of Transportation be established which would include this kind of study and this kind of discipline and this kind of planning along with all the work of Mr. Hoose, Traffic Engineer, who would become a portion of this Department, and perhaps other parts of the city establishment. He asked if the motion is to activate that which was suggested by Mr. Broadrick and to include a parking as well as a mass transit operation? Councilman Thrower replied his motion is based on the same motion he made about 18 months ago. That it is something he thinks should have been done a long time ago.

Councilman Tuttle stated he agrees with Mr. Thrower but he does not know that he agrees that a Commission, as such, is needed, and he does not know that he agrees that we need a Department; but something is needed. That we are involved with the County and he would hope that Mr. Thrower would change this from a motion for a committee to a request that the Mayor meet with the Chairman of the County Commission, and perhaps Mr. Broadrick, or the Chairman of the Chamber's Transportation Committee, and let them decide what is needed. Councilman Thrower stated he thinks the structure and the technicalities of the Committee can be worked out later; that it is not his intention to lay down any hard and fast rules. That he is asking this Council to commit itself to a Committee.

Councilman Alexander stated he would not like to see Council form any type of Committee today out of which an end result would be a recommendation that more consultants/hired to do a study; that he is a little weary of this Council voting money for these high powered studies; that they get more expensive every time you talk about them, and sometimes when he has finished reading them, he cannot see where they have done any more than could have been done by Council. That he is not in favor of voting for a committee, not knowing what it will do, the broadness of its responsibility, and whether or not it will end up costing the city \$10, \$15 or \$20 thousand of taxpayer's money.

The vote was taken on the motion and failed to carry on the following vote:

YEAS: Councilman Thrower, Whittington and Jordan.

NAYS: Councilmen Alexander, Short, Tuttle and Withrow.

Councilman Tuttle requested the Mayor to meet with Mr. Martin, Chairman of the County Commissioners, and someone from the Chamber of Commerce and see what is really needed; that he thinks something is needed to coordinate all the parking, traffic and mass transit.

Mayor Belk requested Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, to arrange this meeting.

Councilman Alexander asked in this meeting that they resolve where we are on this particular subject and all the reports and studies that are out, and where we should go from this point.

Councilman Short stated he feels we are at loose ends in Charlotte in transportation planning, notwithstanding that we have a technical committee working on it, and we have the finest of consultants working on it, and we have the finest of attention being paid this matter by the City Manager and the various departments he directs. He stated he thinks that some further coordination is needed and would agree with the motives that Mr. Thrower has in mind. But how you would structure a thing this complex, this far reaching, that will involve this many millions, and will involve this many people in their every move about this city, is a matter that would require a great deal of planning on how you would go about structuring and coordinating.

Councilman Thrower stated the intent of the motion was not to structure a committee but to get this Council on record as saving a committee.

Councilman Short stated he thinks we do actually need some careful consideration given by the City Manager and by the Mayor as to how we would tie together expressway construction, streets, traffic, hospitals and parking. Mayor Belk replied this is the report that he will bring back to Council.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 36

OBJECTIONS TO EXTENSION AND WIDENING OF LASALLE STREET, FROM BEATTIES FORD ROAD TO HIGHWAY 16, EXPRESSED BY COUNCILMAN ALEXANDER.

Councilman Alexander stated during the Conference Session today, Mr. Hoose, Traffic Engineer, presented proposals for major streets improvements under the Capital Improvement Program, and he registered objections to Section 9(d) of the proposals as shown in the report, which is the widening of LaSalle Street, from Beatties Ford Road to North Carolina Highway 16.

He stated he would like the record to show that he raised his objections to a proposal even for consideration of extending the widening of LaSalle Street, to a four-lane road between Beatties Ford Road and North Carolina 16. That sometime ago when the matter of LaSalle Street came up, he asked a specific question when a bridge was being discussed in conjunction with the Interstate Highway. That he asked if this meant that LaSalle Street would be opened up in that direction and the complete answer he got was no. It could be since then it has been considered feasible that it be opened up in that section, but even if it has been decided since then that this would be feasible and necessary, he still says to widen that street through this community of residential homes would terminate too many single family houses and would place too many hardships on those people trying to relocate themselves in the same fashion. These are medium income houses built to provide homes for a segment of our community who could not pay in the high range figures for a home. When we attempt to move this many houses from that section, it will create hardships on many people. He takes the position that the record should show there was an objection to going through with this at any specific time and that a new route should be contemplated to save going through University Park, and throwing that much traffic through there by widening LaSalle Street to four lanes between Beatties Ford Road and North Carolina 16.

Councilman Alexander stated whether he is on Council or not, whenever it happens the record will show that objections were stated and it was suggested that our engineers attempt to find an alternate route that would not displace as many homeowners as this route will displace if it is ever consummated.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO GIVE THOUGHT TO A DIFFERENT TYPE OF REPORTING OF CRIME SO THAT THE RECORD WILL SHOW THE FINAL OUTCOME AFTER TRIAL IN COURT.

Councilman Alexander stated the City of Charlotte is given a pretty high crime rate and he suggested that some study be given to a different form of reporting crime than is done now. That an individual can be arrested and charged with a major offense and this is what goes into the record. Statistically, here we are and yet when the case goes to trial it may end up that there was not sufficient grounds for this to be tried on the first degree charge. He stated there is no adjudicating of the records in that it is never gone back and corrected as to what was first filed as such and such a charge and ends up being something else. He stated he wonders if what he is talking about has any method of validity and if we can not suggest that the Police Department give some intense study to see if a different type of reporting can take place to report what the case is actually tried on in an attempt to get us away from this high bracket that tells everybody that we are the worst city of any size in the country.

Police Chief Goodman stated he would be glad to check into this request.

MEETING SET FOR FRIDAY WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR ON THE SUGAR CREEK PROJECT.

Councilman Tuttle stated he has a copy of a letter which the Mayor received from Mr. Roy Wood. That on Friday, Mr. William Dent, Assistant Director of Recreation and Planning in the Department of Interior in Washington, and Mr. Louis Reid, Chief of Technical Assistance Division from Washington, will be

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 37

in Charlotte with Mr. Wood; that Mr. Groves from San Antonio will be here. He quoted from the letter as follows: "I believe it would be desirable if Messrs. Dent and Reid could have the opportunity to talk with officials of the City of Charlotte who are concerned with the Sugar Creek Project. Such a meeting should include members of the City Council, City Departmental Directors and Planning, Engineering and Model Cities." Councilman Tuttle stated all these people have been contacted and this meeting will be held in the Conference Room at 2:00 o'clock Friday. He asked that all of the Council who can come, to please attend and to express interest in the project.

POLICE CHIEF REQUESTED TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL ON DIFFERENT WAYS TO HANDLE PUBLIC DRUNKENESS CASES.

Councilman Whittington stated he would like to point out for the record and ask for Police Chief Goodman's recommendation in the near future based on the quarterly report the Police Department sent out. He stated when the Department sent out the end of the year report last year, he discussed with the Chief the number of public drunks, and the man-hours that are spent and the cost, not only to the Police Department but to the Sheriff's Department, and to the Courts. More recently Judge Frank Snapp made a speech and said that these things should be taken out of the Court away from the responsibility of the Police Department. He stated he is not an expert in this but he has attempted to have meeting with those that are, but he has not been able to do so.

Councilman Whittington stated he would appreciate it if Chief Goodman would try to confer with the Chief Judge of the District Court, the Solicitor and any other Judge along with Reverend Jody Kellerman and see if they can make some recommendations on what should be done with public drunkenness as an offense as it relates to arrest, putting into the jail, a cooling off period or drying out period. To give some rundown on what it costs and whether this should be eliminated as a part of our offenses and to get this on to the Governor's Committee, which is also studying it, and perhaps will have some recommendation for the legislature in this Session.

Chief Goodman stated last Friday they were in Raleigh, and received a \$6,700.00 grant to do exactly what Mr. Whittington is asking. That this money will be made available to Reverend J. L. Kellerman and any Committee the Mayor would like to set up to work with them.

Councilman Whittington stated he is interested over and above that. As an example, for a period in 1970 there were 2,269 cases; todate in 1970, which means all of last year, 8,917 cases. That if you figure that four man-hours per man, that is a lot of man-hours and half of the total arrest is for public drunkenness. He stated if they were devoting this time to the criminal and the prevention of crime, he believes it would be below what Mr. Alexander was talking about.

Councilman Tuttle suggested that Mr. William Archer with Randolph Clinic, may have some statistics which Chief Goodman would be interested in.

RESOLUTION EXTENDING SYMPATHY AND HONORING THE MEMORY OF PAUL R. YOUNTS.

Councilman Whittington read the following resolution:

"Whereas, it is with deep sadness and a feeling of great loss that the City Council of the City of Charlotte takes note of the passing of Paul R. Younts on February 8, 1971; and

Whereas, he was a member of the State Highway Commission under Governor Terry Sanford and is credited with being the father of the expressway system now under construction in the City of Charlotte; and

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 38

Whereas, he was one of the developers of the Park Road Shopping Center and assisted Eastern Air Lines in assembling the land on which it erected its computer and reservation centers in Charlotte; and

Whereas, he served as both the Chairman of the United Appeal and as President of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, and was active in the campaign to extend Charlotte's City Limits so that its population went over the 200,000 mark in 1960; and

Whereas, he was active in the revitalization of the Urban Redevelopment Commission and was one of the creators of long range plans for the Governmental Center, now the site of the County Jail, County Office Building, and Board of Education Administrative Offices; and

Whereas, with tremendous capability and talent, Paul R. Younts has served his community as a dedicated and devoted civic leader, and has been an important part of the development and progress of the City of Charlotte; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Charlotte that this Council does hereby declare its deepest regret at the passing of Paul R. Younts, and does convey its sincere sympathy and condolences to his family; and

Be It Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to his family and that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting."

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, adopting the resolution.

APPRECIATION EXPRESSED TO TRAFFIC ENGINEER FOR REPORT GIVEN IN CONFERENCE SESSION AND TO ACTING CITY MANAGER AND HIS STAFF FOR THE THINGS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE DURING THE PAST WEEK.

Councilman Whittington stated he would like to thank Mr. Hoose, Traffic Engineer, for the report made in the Conference Session on the Major Streets for consideration under Capital Improvement Program.

He stated he would like to thank Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, and his staff for what has taken place as far as Council and the Mayor and City Government is concerned since last Monday. The Library Park demolition contract, the contracts to be let for the street widening downtown, and the other things to come in the near future.

He stated all of Council wants to do all they can every day to bring all these things to a head, and see something tangible take place. That he believes we are trying to do that now, and he hopes we will continue to do it.

STREETS REQUESTED REPAIRED.

Councilman Whittington requested Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, and Mr. Hopson, Public Works Director, to instruct the Departments involved to look at our streets; they are getting in bad shape. That he has notified the Department twice about Park Road; that we will be in the mud in several places out there if the State does not do something.

He requested that the State be asked to finish Sharonview Road where the bridge is now completed, and get those people out of their bottleneck.

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 39

REQUEST THAT MOTION FOR MASS TRANSIT COMMISSION BE MADE MORE CLEARLY AND SET UP FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING.

Councilman Withrow stated he would like to bring up the Transit Committee again. That he did not understand whether the Committee would be a paid study committee or whether there is a Parking Committee. That he has advocated private ownership of parking garages, and this study might come in good.

Councilman Withrow moved that Council reconsider the motion to establish a Mass Transit Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thrower, and carried by the following vote:

YEAS: Councilmen Withrow, Thrower, Jordan and Whittington.
NAYS: Councilmen Alexander, Short and Tuttle.

Councilman Whittington stated he appreciates what Mr. Thrower has said and what he intended and the spirit in which he intended to do it. That he thinks if the motion had been made clearly and precisely it would have been voted upon and passed unanimously. He stated he would appreciate it if Council would dispense with this at this point, and after the Mayor and Mr. Bobo confer with Mr. Martin, Chairman of the County Commissioners, that it be put on the Agenda for the next meeting, and everyone will understand what the Committee is to do and who the committee is to be. That he will then consider it in that light.

He stated last week Council approved the nine priorities which he presented and one of them was the Mass Transit Study Committee and the consideration of building two parking garages. That all of this should be incorporated in the motion and all of us be aware of the recommendations that will be made.

Councilman Thrower stated it was his full intent after the motion was extended to ask that the vote be postponed as he did not have the motion written down and drawn out well.

Councilman Tuttle stated he has voted against this, but he is not against a Mass Transit Committee as he thinks it is needed. But he thinks the intent needs to be defined; how far it is going; are you talking about including parking and streets and hospitals and how you get there. That this is the reason he voted against the motion.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE TO STUDY PROBLEMS OF ITINERANT PEDDLERS.

Mayor Belk stated on January 18, City Council agreed that a committee should be formed to study the problem of itinerant peddlers and to make recommendations. That he would like to announce the appointment of that committee today. This committee will consist of seven members: two from the government staff and five recommended by the Better Business Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, the Central Charlotte Association, and the Merchant's Association. These men are as follows:

Mr. Ashley Hogewood, Jr., (Attorney, Berry & Bledsoe)
Mr. A. Y. Hamrick (Executive Vice President, Better Business Bureau)
Mr. Ralson Pound (Pound & Moore)
Mr. Al Manch (Field's Jewelers)
Mr. Leroy Robinson (Belk's)
Mr. Henry Underhill, Jr., (City Attorney)
Mr. J. A. Stone (City-County Tax Collector)

February 8, 1971
Minute Book 55 - Page 40

PERMISSION GRANTED BELK FAMILY TO DEVELOP LIBRARY PARK FOR THE CITY TO BE DEDICATED TO THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE'S SISTER CITY, AREQUIPA, PERU.

Mayor Belk stated the City of Charlotte's Sister City, Arequipa, Peru, has dedicated a park in Arequipa in honor of Charlotte; that he would like the privilege of developing the Library Park in honor of Arequipa.

Councilman Tuttle moved approval of the request which was seconded by Councilman Jordan and carried unanimously.

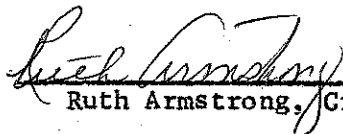
Councilman Tuttle stated that Mayor Belk and his family want to do this park and give it to the City; that the City has the land and they will do it architecturally perfect as a gift to the City.

ACTING CITY MANAGER REQUESTED TO MEET WITH DR. WARNER HALL FOR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A REVIVAL IN THE CITY.

Mayor Belk requested the Acting City Manager to meet with Dr. Warner Hall and his committee to set up a revival in the City of Charlotte, for a better Soul for the City. He asked that he report back to Council as to what can be done. That Reverend Stephens brought this to Council's attention today and a lot has been brought by the news media.

ADJOURNMENT.

Upon motion of Councilman Thrower, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.


Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk