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A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held on Monday, January 25, 1971, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 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, and Joe D. Withrow present.

ABSENT: Councilman James B. Whittington.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Reverend James C. Jones, Jr., Pastor of Green Memorial 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, January 18, 1971, as submitted.

CITY OF CHARLOTTE EMPLOYEE PLAQUES PRESENTED TO POLICE CAPTAIN GEORGE B. LIVINGTON, JR. AND POLICE DETECTIVE JOHN W. SEVERS ON RETIREMENT.

Mayor Belk recognized Police Captain George Bell Livingston, Jr. and stated Captain Livingston came with the Police Department on February 20, 1946 and retired January 1, 1971. Mayor Belk thanked Captain Livingston for the work he has done for the City and especially for the fine work he has done for the youth of the City. He presented him with the City of Charlotte Employee Plaque.

Mayor Belk recognized Police Detective John W. Severs and stated Detective Severs came with the Police Department on January 20, 1931 and retired January 20, 1971 with 40 years of service. He presented him with the City of Charlotte Employee Plaque and congratulated him for his 40 years of service. Mayor Belk also presented Mr. Severs with a forty-year service pin.

Police Chief Goodman, representing the Police Department and Mr. Sever's fellow employees, presented Mr. Severs with a plaque in appreciation of his forty years of service. He stated the plaque contains the detective badge Mr. Severs wore so well for so many years and the name plate he wore so well when he was in uniform.

STUDENTS FROM CHILE WELCOMED TO COUNCIL MEETING.

Mayor Belk recognized Miss Jackie Frost, associated with the North Carolina Motor Club. Miss Frost presented a group of students from Chile who are in Charlotte for one month visiting families in the area. She stated there are eleven students and a leader; that the leader is not with the group today as he had an opportunity to visit the hospital this morning. Miss Frost stated the students are visiting in Olympic, Myers Park, Harding and South Mecklenburg High Schools in order to get an idea of American Culture. That they are here today in order to see the Municipal Government and how it operates. Miss Frost then asked each student to come forward and to state his name and where he is from.

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STATION WTVI, CHANNEL 42 TO BEGIN 12-PART SERIES OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS ON DRUG ABUSE ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1971.

Mayor Belk advised that this morning they were out at Station WTVI, Channel 42, and were told that during the month of February, the Station will show a 12-part series of special programs on drug abuse. He stated they previewed some of the pictures this morning and they are excellent; they will show how families should get together, how generations should get together, and people in general should get together. He stated they are outstanding pictures. He asked that all members of Council wear the button which is before them as it is a signet of the drug abuse.

Mayor Belk stated after viewing the proposed program this morning, they agreed to contact all the attorneys, doctors and ministers and pass out these buttons and the pamphlets; that it will also be taken to the schools. He stated this is very timely as it is more a preventative than a cure.

Councilman Alexander asked that this information be included in the water bills.

Mayor Belk stated the citizens of Charlotte are well aware of this problem and they are tackling it; that Charlotte is ahead of most cities and he does not know of any city, other than Phoenix, which has done as much as the City of Charlotte.

NORTH CHARLOTTE ACTION COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REQUESTS CITY TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE CONDITION OF THE NORFOLK-SOUTHERN RAILROAD RIGHT OF WAY WHICH RUNS THROUGH A PORTION OF THEIR COMMUNITY.

Mrs. Herman W. Pigg, 2917 Whiting Avenue, stated she is a member of the North Charlotte Action Committee and she is here as an official representative of the Neighborhood organization.

She stated she would like to call Council's attention to the Norfolk-Southern Railroad's right of way which runs through a portion of their community in North Charlotte. She stated members of the organization have lived near the railroad for many years; and this is a bad problem for them and has been for some time. They cannot get any relief or help from the sources they contacted. She stated their Committee has decided that the proper channels would be through the Charlotte Building Inspection Department dealing directly with and sending a copy of all their correspondence to Mr. H. L. Griffin, Supervisor. She stated on their last contact last week, Mr. Griffin said he could not promise them anything definite.

Mrs. Pigg stated the railroad has neglected to pick up old rotten cross ties for many years; they have allowed trees, poison and all types of green vegetation to grow. She stated after their first few contacts with Mr. Griffin the railroad cut some of the larger trees and growth and let it lay. Portions of this remain along the bank with the rotten cross ties. That large rats breed along this bank, and they consider this a very bad health pattern. It also creates a dangerous fire hazard. One lady said the railroad bank burned out of control for an hour last summer while firemen fought the blaze. Another problem is that the firemen could not immediately reach the area due to the situation. The fire was so close to these homes, several residents had to water down their property.

Mrs. Pigg stated changes have taken place. People no longer gather these cross ties off the railroad bank for their winter fire wood and carry them away at no expense to the railroad. Another change is that the railroad had a section gang that lived in this City and maintained this territory. Now they have a traveling gang who work this area and is only in Charlotte a few days at intervals. She stated for years the railroad could burn or poison their right-of-way, but with the city ordinances and the pollution problems, they were forced to stop this.

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Mrs. Pigg referred to the new introduced 12-6 plan of consolidated government. She stated their neighborhood has very little power or representative in the governing body. That they are wondering if the 12-6 plan will let them have representative or will it remain the way it is. They have joined together in number for every solitary issue they have undertaken. Sometimes this is not easy. They would like to see this change take place, but they are wondering if it would really help a district like North Charlotte.

She stated the North Charlotte Action Committee sees this change concerning a new government to be directly related to this issue they are bringing to Council's attention - the railroad bank. According to Council's action of this neighborhood issue, they will base their support or non-support on the 12-6 plan. They are now asking all the citizens of Charlotte to view this issue as a test to whether councilmen elected at large will take the same kind of action in North Charlotte as they will in other parts of the city. The Committee is stating that Norfolk-Southern Railroad banks should be cleaned and cleared immediately.

Mrs. Pigg stated their records indicate this was first turned over to Mr. Griffin on September, 1970 with carbon copies going to Mayor John Belk. That city officials have admitted that the railroad is violating city ordinances and have promised the people for five months to have it cleared. They feel they have waited long enough. Each day the railroad property remains in this condition is one more day these people are deprived of their rights, and denied a service they are entitled to as taxpayers. They realize the railroad is a large and powerful organization; that it is not one bit more important than any single individual in their neighborhood. She stated the laws should be enforced on the railroad in the same manner it is for other citizens.

Mrs. Pigg invited the Council, or at least one, to come to their office at a regular meeting, on Tuesday, February 2, at 7:30 p.m., at 500 East 36th Street to give them a reply to this issue. She stated their people work the first and second shifts and they feel a night meeting in their own neighborhood that at least one member of each family can be present. She passed around some photographs showing the railroad right of way as it runs through the area.

Councilman Tuttle asked why the City cannot go out and cut those weeds and clean up the right of way as they do on other property? Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, replied there may be a problem where the railroad companies are exempted from placing a lien or assessment against their property; that he will look into this and do whatever the city can do.

Mrs. Pigg stated from an inside source they heard that the railroad company said they would do what they had to do, if anything, in two or three months as this traveling gang comes and goes.

Councilman Jordan stated Council has formed a Litter and Clean-Up Committee and is working with the different departments and they are expecting a report this week. He stated they will get in touch with Mrs. Pigg to see if they cannot get something done right away.

Mr. Bobo stated Mr. Griffin has been trying to get the railroad company to clean up the right of way; that this is a problem as the railroad companies are exempted from certain assessments and liens. That he will follow up on this request and do everything that is within the city's legal power to do to help the North Charlotte Action Committee.

Councilman Short stated until a short while ago his business was located near North Charlotte and he had many contacts with these people. That he has quite a thick file on things that have been done for North Charlotte such as the railroad overpass, removal of old automobiles, certain traffic controls; the opening up of Anderson Street, work in connection with the Johnson YMCA and several personalized matters that relate to police activities. He stated

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apparently there is not a general communication about some of the things that Councilmen have attempted to do out there for years. He stated Councilman Jordan has taken this area to raise almost, and there has been an honest effort on the part of Councilmen to recognize the needs of this area.

Mayor Belk thanked Mrs. Pigg for taking this interest in her community.

Mrs. Pigg introduced another resident of the area, Mrs. Jennie Purser of 611 Mercury Street who stated her house is directly across from the railroad.

Councilman Alexander requested the City Manager to bring a formal report to Council on next Monday.

PETITION NO. 71-4 BY B AND W REALTY, INC. FOR A CHANGE IN ZONING OF A PARCEL OF LAND ON THE NORTH SIDE OF OLD CONCORD ROAD AT FAIRHAVEN, AND BEING LOCATED AT THE END OF DONNA DRIVE EXTENDING TO THE REAR OF LOTS ON NEAL DRIVE AND DOUGHERTY DRIVE, DEFERRED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, to defer action on subject petition pending further study by the Planning Commission.

ORDINANCE NO. 3-2 AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-8 OF THE CITY CODE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING OF A TRACT OF LAND ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF PENCE ROAD, WEST OF HARRISBURG ROAD.

Councilman Short stated the presence of the landfill changes the picture on the subject property, and it would almost be banning this type of operation if you could not put it between a landfill and a cresoto plant.

Councilman Short moved adoption of the subject ordinance changing the zoning from I-1 to I-2. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and carried by the following vote:

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

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 68.

ORDINANCE NO. 4-2 AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-8 OF THE CITY CODE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY FROM R-9 TO R-9MF AT 608 LIGUSTRUM STREET.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Thrower, and unanimously carried, the subject ordinance was adopted as recommended by the Planning Commission.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 69.

ORDINANCE NO. 5-2 AMENDING CHAPTER 23, SECTION 23-8 OF THE CITY CODE AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING OF PROPERTY FROM B-1 TO I-1 OF LAND AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF NEVINS ROAD AND GIBBON ROAD.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, adopting subject ordinance changing the zoning from B-1 to I-1 of a 2.358 acre tract of land at the southwest corner of Nevins Road and Gibbon Road.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 70.

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PETITION NO. 71-6 BY KING MOTOR CENTER, INC. FOR CONDITIONAL OFF-STREET PARKING OF PROPERTY NOW ZONED R-9MF EAST OF PINEVILLE ROAD AND NORTH OF N. C. ROAD 3658, DEFERRED.

Councilman Thrower moved that decision on the subject petition be deferred until Planning Commission receives specific indication from the petitioner as to the type of screening that will be installed around the property. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 6-X AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 732-X, THE 1970-71 BUDGET ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUND TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL BUILDING INSPECTOR I POSITIONS IN THE BUILDING INSPECTION DEPARTMENT.

Councilman Thrower moved adoption of the subject ordinance transferring \$9,170.00 to establish two additional Building Inspector I positions in the Building Inspection Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle for discussion.

Councilman Tuttle asked if these two inspectors will spend the bulk of their time in the Dilworth Area until it is completed, or if this will just enhance the number of inspectors by two? Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, replied it will enhance the number by two and they will be used in other areas as well as the Dilworth area. That at present they are using about half of one inspector's time in Dilworth, and this will increase the inspector's time in the Dilworth Area.

Councilman Withrow stated when the Housing Code was passed, a Committee was to be appointed to hear people who disagreed with the ruling of the Inspector. He asked if this Committee has been appointed? Mr. Bobo replied this has not been done; that the appointments are to be made by Council. That Council has not been pushed on these appointments because they are waiting to finalize the workable program.

Councilman Thrower asked if the Court's decision has affected the program? Mr. Underhill, City Attorney, replied all of the dwellings that have been presented to Council for demolition since the court's decision on December 16th have been with the consent of the owner. Mr. Underhill stated in light of the court's decision, he will have to draw some new language in the form of an amendment to the Housing Code to allow those owners who wish to make repairs to those buildings that cannot be repaired for less than 50 percent of the value, to make these repairs within a certain justified period of time. He stated he has drawn a draft of some language that could be used for this; that he has met with the Greensboro City Attorney and discussed this language with him. That he hopes to come to Council next week with an amendment to bring the Housing Code into conformance with the court's decision.

The vote was taken on the motion to adopt the ordinance and carried unanimously

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 71.

Councilman Short stated this Committee is to have a tenant with less than \$6,000 income and he asked if this can be someone in public housing? Mr. Underhill replied yes, the Housing Appeal Board is to be composed of five members, and their qualifications have been specified; one of the members must be an occupant whose net family annual income is less than \$6,000.00; that this can be from any area of the city, with the only qualification being that he is an occupant and not an owner and that his income level does not exceed \$6,000.00. Councilman Short asked if he can be a city employee? The Mayor replied he did not think that would be desirable. Mr. Underhill replied it would be a matter of policy.

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CONTRACT WITH PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & COMPANY, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Tuttle, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, approving the subject contract with Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Company to audit the Dilworth Urban Renewal Project NCR-77, at a fee of \$250.00.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONDEMNATION PROCEEDINGS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO LINCOLN COMPANY, INC. FOR THE TAGGART CREEK OUTFALL.

Councilman Short moved adoption of subject resolution authorizing condemnation proceedings for the acquisition of 15' x 2,021.78' of property belonging to Lincoln Company, Inc., located at 2601 Interstate 85, at a condemnation price of \$2,022.00, for the Taggart Creek Outfall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Thrower, and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 7, at Page 233.

PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS, AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, the following property transactions were authorized:

- (a) Acquisition of 15' x 48.93' of easement at 4518 Denver Avenue, from Thomas Clayton Thompson and wife, Geraldine, at \$49.00, for the Taggart Creek Outfall.
- (b) Acquisition of 20.33' x 70.69' x 21.52' x 70.18' at 3715 Eastway Drive, from Helen F. Pettus (widow), and Rowland S. Ferguson, at \$2,400.00, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (c) Acquisition of 19.90' x 72.01' x 20.00' x 75.00' at 3645 Eastway Drive, from Ralph Osborne and wife, Ora Lee T. Osborne, at \$1,550.00, for the Eastway Drive Project.

CONTRACTS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF WATER MAINS, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Thrower, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, approving the following contracts for the installation of water mains:

- (a) Supplementary contract, to contract dated February 15, 1965, with Derita Woods Utilities, Inc. for the installation of 9,440 feet of water mains and seven (7) fire hydrants to serve Tanglewood Subdivision, outside the city, at an estimated cost of \$44,500.00. The applicant will buy water through a master meter at outside the city rates, and will finance all pipe lines and system and will operate and maintain same and retain all revenue until such time as any part or all of the mains or systems are incorporated into the City.
- (b) Contract with The Ervin Company for the construction of 180 feet of water main and one fire hydrant to serve the Sharonwood Acres Subdivision, outside the city, at an estimated cost of \$1,600.00. The water main extension proposed is an appendix to a contract between the City and Carmel Properties dated September 16, 1968, under the D-1 Type Contract. The City will design, construct and finance the project; and the applicant will guarantee minimum service charge payments equal to one percent of the total construction cost of the mains until the city's cost is repaid. Funds are available in the current Capital Improvement Program.

Approved by Community Facilities Committee on January 11, 1971.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA,  
ENDORING THE SUGAR CREEK "PROJECTION 70".

Councilman Withrow moved adoption of subject resolution endorsing the Sugar Creek "Projection 70". The motion was seconded by Councilman Tuttle.

Councilman Jordan stated some of the people whose property adjoins Sugar Creek are asking if this will be screened with shrubbery and fences; that some of the property owners are worried about the public coming in and using their yards to go down to the area. Councilman Tuttle replied the design concept is such that there will be a few places that anyone can get to it except at the regular public entrances. Councilman Jordan stated this is the main concern of some of the people who live along Kings Drive where their property abuts to the creek; if there was not some type of screening they are afraid that the public would be strolling through their yards; that they are not objecting to the project; they are only concerned about the screening.

Mayor Belk suggested that the people be shown the slides that Council has seen. Councilman Tuttle stated because of the rezoning there will have to be a public hearing on it.

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

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 7, at Page 234.

APPRAISAL CONTRACT AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, the following appraisal contracts were authorized:

- (a) Contract with James L. Varnadore for appraisal of two parcels at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (b) Contract with John W. Craig for appraisal of two parcels, at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (c) Contract with William W. Finlay for appraisal of two parcels, at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (d) Contract with John Huffaker for appraisal of two parcels, at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (e) Contract with Zollie A. Collins for appraisal of two parcels, at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (f) Contract with Leo Phelan for appraisal of two parcels, at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (g) Contract with D. A. Stout for appraisal of two parcels, at fee of \$150.00 and \$175.00, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (h) Contract with John C. McDonald for appraisal of two parcels, at fees of \$150.00 and \$175.00, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (i) Contract with Alfred Smith for appraisal of two parcels, at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (j) Contract with William Frickhoeffler for appraisal of two parcels, at a fee of \$175.00 each, for the Eastway Drive Project.
- (k) Contract with Wallace D. Gibbs, Jr. for appraisal of seven parcels, at fees ranging from \$125.00 to \$200.00, for Airport Extension Runway.

- (l) Contract with Henry E. Bryant for appraisal of seven parcels at fees ranging from \$125.00 to \$200.00, for Airport Extension Runway.
- (m) Contract with James L. Varnadore for appraisal of one parcel at a fee of \$175.00, for the Pine Valley Sanitary Sewer.
- (n) Contract with Sam Atkinson for appraisal of one parcel at a fee of \$175.00 for the Pine Valley Sanitary Sewer.

TRANSFER OF CEMETERY DEEDS, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Tuttle, and unanimously carried, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute deeds for the transfer of the following cemetery lots:

- (a) Deed with Bradley McCall for Grave No. 6, in Lot No. 143, Section 3, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$80.00.
- (b) Deed with Mrs. Carol Breuning, for Grave No. 2, in Lot No. 709, Section 6, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$80.00.
- (c) Deed with Mrs. Eloise M. Vehue, for Graves No. 1 and No. 2, in Lot No. 710, Section 6, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$160.00.
- (d) Deed with Mrs. Dorothy R. Setzer for Lot No. 265, Section 6, Evergreen Cemetery, at \$320.00.

CONTRACT AWARDED SANDERS BROTHERS, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SANITARY SEWER PHASE II, BRIAR CREEK OUTFALL.

Councilman Tuttle moved award of subject contract to the low bidder, Sanders Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$248,148.70, on a unit price basis, subject to final approval by the State Department of Water and Air Resources and the Federal Water Quality Administration for construction of sanitary sewer Phase II, Briar Creek Outfall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The following bids were received:

Sanders Brothers, Inc.	\$248,148.70
Ben B. Propst	265,988.00
Blythe Bros. Company	268,401.50
Propst Construction Co., Inc.	284,711.00
Crowder Construction Co.	288,350.20
Rand Construction Co., Inc.	289,449.00
Dickerson, Inc.	289,562.60
Thomas Structure Co.	313,856.50
L. O. Chapman Co., Inc.	340,944.00

COMMENTS BY W. J. ELVIN.

Mr. W. J. Elvin stated in looking for a city manager, he thinks the individual should be a good strong executive; that he is not after a strong mayor but is after a mayor who has what our mayor has - charisma. He stated the city has a marvelous organization; that we have the people in the city; that he is interested in Charlotte and in getting the right people in the right places at the right time.

He stated he is spending a lot of time on consolidation and if he can help in any way he will be here. Mr. Elvin stated Councilman Alexander is making a marvelous contribution to the Charter Commission; that he does not have any axe to grind, not even for his own race; that he does not look through colored glasses at anything he looks at; he looks at it straight. He stated he likes to think that Mr. Alexander is one of the men who will help Charlotte in the future.



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**POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMENDED FOR CREATING A FAMILY CRISIS UNIT.**

Councilman Short stated he would like to commend the Police Department. That the Department has created a family crisis unit made up of police personnel especially trained to deal with family emotional outbursts. He stated he understands a number of cities are doing this but he does not know of any city that needs it more than Charlotte because of our record of violence and shootings in connection with family quarrels. He stated he would like to commend Chief Goodman and the others in the police establishment who have done this as it is a good thing and he is glad we have these men trained this way.

**SUGGESTION THAT CITY STATE ITS INTENTION OF USING THE LAND AROUND IRWIN CREEK PLANT FOR PARK PURPOSES.**

Councilman Short stated Mr. McIntyre, Planning Director, on January 7, made the suggestion that the city government reserve the large acreage out in the Yorkmont area around the Irwin Creek Plant for later development as a park. He stated he thinks Council should take Mr. McIntyre's suggestion. That it would be the largest park in our system some day whenever the Park and Recreation Commission is ready to develop it. He stated Council might consider adopting a resolution accordingly and transmitting it to the Park and Recreation Commission and tell them that we are in accord with the suggestion and have in mind reserving this land. He stated he would commend Mr. McIntyre for this suggestion to Council.

Councilman Withrow stated Mr. McIntyre also said that the first priority is the northwest side. Councilman Short stated he did indicate this is perhaps fourth or fifth in his list of priorities; that he mentioned it because the city has this land and it is something for the Council to do to save it and reserve it for this purpose. Councilman Withrow stated he would be in favor provided money is spent in northwest Charlotte to develop a park. Councilman Short stated his suggestion is that Council state its intent to reserve the land.

**SUGGESTION THAT ACTING CITY MANAGER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING AUTHORITY GO TO DAYTON, OHIO AND SEE HOW THEY DEVELOPED PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.**

Councilman Short stated he has noticed that in Dayton, Ohio and the surrounding municipalities a commission was set up of citizens. That this commission voted unanimously, after many community meetings, to proceed with a plan whereby sections of the city and the surrounding regions will each provide locations for a certain number of low income housing units. In all, 14,000 units have been divided up among the segments of this region including Dayton and the municipalities and counties around it. This means that through negotiations every area has agreed to take its share. That under this plan where they have a unanimous vote, no area can claim it is being singled out for low income housing.

Councilman Short stated with the federal government standing by to build, at their expense, over 1,000 units for us and with hundreds of our citizens wanting these housing units, that it is unfortunate that we are under the situation of being unable to handle the matter of selection of sites. He stated he thinks we should see if we can proceed somewhat as Dayton has. He stated the problem is to divide up the region geographically, and then find a spokesman for each region.

Councilman Short suggested that Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, and Mr. Lowman, Executive Director of the Housing Authority, and whoever else is appropriate, might go to Dayton and see how they managed to divide up this area into these neighborhoods and developed an authorized spokesman from each neighborhood and to get this unanimous agreement.

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COMMENTS BY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR ON USE OF REFUSE AS FUEL.

Councilman Tuttle requested the Director of Public Works, Mr. Hopson, to make a brief comment on the use of refuse as fuel. He asked if it looks encouraging and if Duke Power is interested?

Mr. Hopson stated he met at length with the Duke Power engineers about a month ago, and this was a result of a consulting firm in St. Louis which said that the Union Electric Company was undergoing a pilot study to see if garbage could be utilized as burnable material up to about 10% of their fuel supply at the Union Electric Company. He stated they have over \$1.0 million in research funds from the federal government to help back the program up; they are going into this and they figure they will actually be burning garbage sometime in December. He stated even at 10 percent if Duke could use that much here in Charlotte it would take a tremendous load off the city providing we did not have a long haul.

He stated the St. Louis Project is the only place in the nation that is actually trying to convert to use the garbage itself as a power source in this method. That there are some steam plants that have been developed at Norfolk, Virginia and one at Montreal. He stated their cost so far is running about \$3 - \$3.50 a ton.

Mr. Hopson stated they are going to monitor this; that the Duke Power engineers have given them a man to work with, and they will watch this with much interest. That they have also checked on the steam plant at Palo Alto, California. That it took about four years to build the plant in Montreal, and you need about a 5-7 year lead time.

Councilman Tuttle asked why it is limited to 10 percent? Mr. Hopson replied if it goes about 10 percent there is a fear of several things; the major thing is the destruction of the furnaces themselves; they would have to go back to the incinerator and really build for garbage itself; the plants are built to burn coal as the primary source of energy. If it goes above 10 percent, the laboratory tests have shown that they are liable to get into great problems and also increase pollution.

LETTER FROM MR. MCLAUGHLIN ON DRUG ABUSE NATIONALLY AND LOCALLY REQUESTED ANSWERED TO THE EFFECT THAT ANSWERS ARE NOT AVAILABLE BUT LETTER WILL BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE THAT IS BEING ORGANIZED.

Councilman Tuttle stated Council received a letter from Mr. Michael McLaughlin asking questions about the drug problem nationally and locally. That these are real intelligent questions and he would not want the writer to go unanswered. He requested the Acting City Manager to have the letter answered along the lines that we do not think that anyone is qualified to answer at this point; that the Mayor has just appointed a committee and hopefully we will have some answers to his questions.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO CONTACT DUKE POWER ABOUT PUTTING LINES UNDERGROUND ON SHARON LANE.

Councilman Tuttle stated in recent years Duke Power has been anxious to get lines underground because of damage by ice and so forth. He stated one of the chief objections on Sharon Lane to the widening is the commercial sidewalk and the telephone poles being set back to the rear. He requested the City Engineering Department to get with the proper people at Duke Power and get their views on cooperating with the city to get their lines underground when that area of the street is widened.

Councilman Short asked the Acting City Manager if he has discussed with the people whether they really want the sidewalks? Mr. Bobo replied the city feels that sidewalks are necessary on any major street to provide a place for the pedestrians to walk.

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INSPECTION DEPARTMENT REQUESTED TO CONTACT CONSTRUCTION FIRM WORKING ON FIRST UNION NATIONAL BANK BUILDING ABOUT CARELESSNESS ON THE JOB.

Councilman Jordan stated in going to work this morning he was stepping up on the curve at Third Street where First Union National Bank is being constructed, when he heard a loud noise and looked back to find a large piece of sheet metal had fallen and he was about two seconds in front of it. He stated the only thing he could see was that it came from the building. If it had hit him or anyone else, there is no telling what would have happened. He requested the Acting City Manager to have the Building Inspector talk with these people; that all of this is going over the street where people are walking up and down the sidewalk.

Councilman Tuttle stated a word should be said as every car in the lot was sprayed with concrete not long ago; the other day when the wind was blowing, great huge pieces of polyethelene were blowing off and coming down like waste paper. This hitting on a windshield suddenly could cause a wreck. He stated there is evidence of carelessness there.

CITY MANAGER REQUESTED TO HAVE SIGNS PLACED AT CULVERTS ON WEST TRADE STREET.

Councilman Alexander stated several weeks ago, he raised a question about the open culverts on West Trade Street, and he asked if the city can do anything about them? Mr. Bobo, Acting City Manager, replied that money was put in this year's budget to pipe the ditches in the interest of safety and health; that due to the tight money situation we had, it had to be pushed back a year. That he plans to put it back in the budget for next year for Council's consideration.

Councilman Alexander asked if some type of signs can be put up to warn the motorist? Mr. Bobo replied he would contact Mr. Hoose about this and see what can be done.

REQUEST THAT LETTERS TO COUNCIL BE ACKNOWLEDGED BY CITY MANAGER.

Councilman Withrow stated the Mayor and Council receive letters every once in a while and asked if there is not some way that the City Manager can answer these letters rather than people such as Mrs. Pigg having to come to City Council <sup>or</sup> waiting for the Councilmen to bring it up? Could it not be taken care of by writing a letter stating that the letter has been received and the matter will be taken care of immediately? Councilman Tuttle stated you might run into trouble as he might answer the letter and give an answer different from what the Manager would give. Mr. Bobo stated these requests will be followed up, but sometimes the people like to come to Council and make their request.

ADJOURNMENT.

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

  
Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk