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A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Monday, January 24, 1972, at 2:00 o'clock p.m., with Mayor John M. Belk presiding, and Councilmen Fred D. Alexander, Patrick N. Calhoun, Sandy R. Jordan, James D. McDuffie and Joe D. Withrow present.

ABSENT: Councilmen Milton Short and James B. Whittington.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission sat with the City Council, and, as a separate body, held its public hearings on the zoning petitions, with Chairman Tate and Commissioners Albea, Boyce, Godley, Moss, C. Ross, Sibley and Turner present.

ABSENT: Commissioner James Ross.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Patrick N. Calhoun.

MINUTES APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the Special Meeting, on Friday, January 14, and the last Regular Meeting, on Monday, January 17, 1972, were approved as submitted.

EMPLOYEE PLAQUE PRESENTED TO WILLIAM L. KLUTZ ON RETIREMENT.

Mayor Belk recognized Mr. William L. Klutz and stated he is retiring after serving the City in the Motor Transport Division of the Public Works Department from October 18, 1960 to January 14, 1972. He thanked Mr. Klutz for his service and wished him well in his retirement.

HEARING ON PETITION NO. 71-16 BY SCHLOSS OUTDOOR ADVERTISING TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE TEXT OF SECTION 23-83(c) TO PERMIT SIGNS ON PREMISES OCCUPIED BY OTHER USES PROVIDED THE SIGN IS AT LEAST 50 FEET FROM ANY BUILDING AND WITHIN 5 FEET OF THE PROPERTY BOUNDARY.

The scheduled public hearing was held on the subject petition.

Mr. Fred Bryant, Assistant Planning Director, advised this is a request that was filed by Schloss Advertising almost a year ago. The original hearing was held in March of 1971. It went through a long series of delays in terms of the Planning Commission's recommendation on the matter; then additional delays in terms of reaching a decision on the matter. As a result Council indicated it would like to have another public hearing and it was scheduled, at the request of Council, for a time other than the normal public hearing time.

He stated the request is for a text amendment which would in some respects lessen the requirements or ease the requirements for advertising signs as they are now permitted in B-2 and industrial districts.

Mr. Ben Horack, Attorney for the petitioner, stated the petition was originally heard in March 1971. After that hearing Council asked Mr. Silverman, with Schloss Outdoor Advertising, to meet with the members of the Planning Commission to see what might be done or should be done in

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order to evolve some changes in the text of the existing ordinance as it relates to advertising signs. That meeting was held during May, and they had a very kind and cordial reception. However, nothing further transpired until the Planning Commission came forth with its recommendation in September, which basically was a negative one as it related to the petitioner's proposal. When the matter came before Council in November, the Council scheduled this meeting.

Mr. Horack stated this is not talking about residential districts and not talking about office districts or even B-1 districts. That it is talking, basically, about B-2 and industrial areas. He stated the existing ordinance relates to advertising signs on the premises. It also recognizes that this premises may be wholly vacant or unoccupied, or it may be partly occupied and partly unoccupied. If the premises is completely vacant, then any number of advertising signs can be erected on it. When a part of the premises is occupied by an established use and the other part is vacant, the existing ordinance allows an advertising sign on the vacant portion 75 feet from any portion of the premises that is occupied by an existing established use. That established use can be anything; it can be a parking area, storage area, junk yard or whatever.

Mr. Horack stated they do not think that a storage yard or parking area or a concrete mixing plant should have a requirement of 75 feet from that use.

Mr. Horack passed around copies of a suggested ordinance. He stated it is substantially different from what they started off with. The new proposal calls for four different standards. They are not alternate standards, they must all be complied with in addition to restrictions that already exist apart from the section of the zoning ordinance which is being considered now. It relates to sign locations on both the occupied and the unoccupied portions of a premise. He stated the amendment sets out the definition of a "building" which says a "building" is something with four walls around it, and has an area of 500 square feet of enclosed space. The idea is to weed out all shacks, sheds, roofs held up by four posts and such. He stated that is one of the standards. The next standard is the relationship of 75 feet away from a building. Another is there can only be one sign on a premises, or on the portion of the premises where any kind of established use exists - building or no building. Under the existing ordinance, an advertising sign may not be on a portion of the premises where there is an established use. Their proposal says it can, but under very stringent circumstances. The next is that it has to be in the outer perimeter; that they are suggesting 10 feet from the outer perimeter of whatever the established use is on the premises. Another is that it must be located 150 feet away from any advertising sign on that side of the street, wherever it may be.

Mr. Horack referred to Congress's Highway Bill that undertakes to control outdoor advertising. He stated that Act authorizes and directs the U. S. Secretary of the Department of Transportation to evolve guidelines for States to implement a highway or state-controlled program. The Secretary of the Department of Transportation has edicted and evolved a spacing requirement which says there must be 100 feet between advertising signs. He stated he understands that the North Carolina State Highway Department and the Department of Transportation have prepared an agreement which implements this with those standards. That this has not yet been approved. That South Carolina has already passed an Act that is in effect which provides that no sign may be erected within a distance of 100 feet of another such sign structure inside an incorporated municipality on the same side of a highway; but the subsection shall not apply to advertising displays which are separated by a building or other obstruction in such a manner that only one display is located within the minimum spacing distance, i.e. 100 feet. He stated he understands this is also included in the North Carolina Agreement.

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Mr. Horack stated in the proposal today they have increased this distance of 100-foot spacing to 150 feet, and there are no provisions about unobstructed space in between.

Mr. Silverman of Schloss Outdoor Advertising Company was present to answer any questions.

Speaking in opposition was Mr. Fred Sizer, representing the Charlotte Section of the American Institute of Architect, North Carolina Chapter, who stated they believe Charlotte to be already afflicted with what they call galloping signs of blight. They feel any existing sign ordinance which permits a city to already degenerate along these lines to this extent should not be altered towards a more liberal one, but to a more stringent one.

He stated there are three points which they could support in order to reinforce present community sign ordinances.

- (1) To ascertain that within the development of Charlotte's comprehensive three dimensional master planning for the community it shall spell out what streets and neighborhoods shall sustain advertising while not in others.
- (2) Further, it supports for stronger sign ordinances rather than more liberal ones in regards to location, size and projection of signs.
- (3) Establish a review board or commission of acknowledged professionals such as graphic artists, artists in general, architects and businessmen to determine the mechanics by which a proposed advertising design could be effectively and justly reviewed against obvious garishness.

He stated they believe such measures could assist immeasurably in getting the community sign off this big sell, massive creation, competing against one another, and adding to the visual confusion which already exists to a certain extent; destroying effective communication and eroding property values.

Council decision was deferred for a recommendation of the Planning Commission.

PETITION NO. 72-1 BY GRINDSTAFF, CREEL, JONES, CONNER, FINK AND PATRICK COMPANY FOR A CHANGE IN ZONING OF A PARCEL OF LAND AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF PROVIDENCE ROAD AND SHARON AMITY ROAD, DENIED.

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

ORDINANCE NO. 362-Z AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP BY CHANGING THE ZONING FROM R-9MF AND O-6 TO O-6 AND B-2 OF LAND ON THE NORTH SIDE OF MONROE ROAD, JUST EAST OF THE McALWAY ROAD INTERSECTION.

Councilman Alexander moved the adoption of the subject ordinance changing the zoning of 2.721 acres of land on the north side of Monroe Road, east of McAlway Road Intersection, as recommended by the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 462.

PETITION NO. 72-3 BY CENTURY STEEL AND IRON COMPANY, INC. FOR A CHANGE IN ZONING ON THE NORTHEAST SIDE OF EAST 28TH STREET, BETWEEN DAVIDSON STREET AND YADKIN AVENUE, DENIED.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Calhoun, and unanimously carried, the subject petition, requesting the rezoning of property from I-1 to I-2, on the northeast side of East 28th Street, was denied as recommended by the Planning Commission.

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ORDINANCE NO. 363-X APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE CHARLOTTE MODEL CITIES PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1972 AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1972.

Motion was made by Councilman McDuffie, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinance appropriating a total of \$3,273,979 for the operation of the Charlotte Model Cities Program for the year beginning January 1, 1972 and ending December 31, 1972.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 463.

LETTERS OF AGREEMENT AND CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE MODEL CITIES DEPARTMENT AND THE SEVERAL AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF VARIOUS 1972 MODEL CITIES PROGRAM PROJECTS, APPROVED.

Councilman Alexander moved approval of the subject letters of agreement and contracts between the City of Charlotte Model Cities Department and the several agencies responsible for the administration of various 1972 Model Cities Program Projects. The motion was seconded by Councilman McDuffie, and carried unanimously.

The total of all contract amounts contained in the approval is \$2,484,727, and are as follows:

SCHEDULE A. LETTERS OF AGREEMENT

<u>Program</u>	<u>Administering Agency</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
Neighborhood Agent Program	City of Charlotte	\$130,000
Neighborhood Centers System	City of Charlotte	<u>257,596</u>
	Sub-Total	\$387,596

SCHEDULE B. CONTRACTS

<u>Program</u>	<u>Administering Agency</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
Education Program	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education	\$460,000
Adult Education Program	Central Piedmont Community College	5,000
Leadership Training Program	J. C. Smith University	1,825
Upward Bound	J. C. Smith University	19,656
Model Cities Mental Health Program	Mecklenburg Mental Health Dept.	33,518
Health Support Unit	Mecklenburg County Health Dept.	149,000
Model Cities Night Medical Service	Charlotte Visual Care, Inc.	27,500
	Charlotte Memorial Hospital	106,180
	Westside Professional Assoc.	29,120
	Eckerd Drugs, Inc.	10,800

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<u>Program</u>	<u>Administering Agency</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
Open House Therapeutic Community	Open House, Inc.	\$47,030
Prevention of Alcoholism	Charlotte Council on Alcoholism	10,000
Senior Citizen Opportunity Program	The Community Health Association	55,000
Pre-School Day Care	Freedom Neighborhood Assn., Inc.	21,000
Home and Family Life Support	Charlotte Area Fund and Mecklenburg County Extension Service	50,000
Teenage Parent Service	Florence Crittendon Service	172,600
Community Relations	City of Charlotte (Community Relations Committee)	31,826
Culture and Recreation Program	J. C. Smith University	207,578
Police Community Relations	City of Charlotte (Police Department)	41,400
Work Release-Building Maintenance Program	Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Department	65,655
Manpower Services	OIC - Charlotte Bureau	174,263
Model Cities Construction Training Program	Carolinas Construction Training Council	111,621
Business Development Center	Progress Association for Economic Development	138,559
Model Organization to Improve Our Neighborhoods	MOTION, Inc.	<u>128,000</u>
	Sub-Total	\$2,097,131
	TOTAL	\$2,484,727

COUNCIL ACTION OF JANUARY 4, 1972 RESCINDED ADOPTING ORDINANCE NO. 338-X, AND ORDINANCE NO. 364-X AUTHORIZING TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR A FENCE AND CONCESSION STAND AT HARDING HIGH SCHOOL AND LIGHTS AT A HIGH SCHOOL ON THE EAST SIDE OF CHARLOTTE, ADOPTED.

Councilman Jordan moved that Council action of January 4, 1972, adopting Ordinance No. 338-X, be rescinded and that Council adopt a new ordinance authorizing the transfer of \$1,500 for a fence and concession stand at Harding High School and \$10,000 for lights at a high school on the east side of Charlotte. The motion was seconded by Councilman McDuffie.

Mayor Belk asked if this can be done; can you allocate \$10,000 and not specify the exact location? Mr. Bobo, Assistant City Manager, replied the action of Council on January 4, authorized funds to be used for concessions and lighting of a high school field; that fencing was needed also, and by adopting the new ordinance it sets out that \$1,500 of the funds will be used for concessions and fencing at Harding High School, and the \$10,000 will be used to light a field on the east side of Charlotte. Councilman Calhoun stated he thinks Council should pin it down as to which high school will receive the lighting and be sure it is in the city. Councilman McDuffie stated he understands it is between Garinger High and Myers

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Park High School. Mr. Bobo suggested that the location be left open for the School Board Athletic Director to determine the location. He stated the present lighted field at Harding is not sufficient to accommodate everyone; so they are asking for another lighted field. There is one on the west side of Charlotte, and they would like to place one on the east side of Charlotte. At the moment they are talking about Garinger. But so staff will not have to come back to Council again on this, it is best to appropriate the money and let them work out what school will be used.

Councilman Alexander asked if Council can appropriate money that is for an operation outside the city? Mr. Underhill, City Attorney, replied money could be transferred to the Park & Recreation who has the authority to operate recreation programs either within or outside the city limits. Councilman Calhoun stated as matters now stand that is not the decision, as each of the high schools are in the city; it is either Garinger or Myers Park.

Councilman McDuffie stated one thing he would ask that when the field is lighted that it be made as useful as possible. That the Myers Park field would involve two play areas; that he understands the athletic director would like to have the lighting but does not want to split his fields up. If enough lighting is done, they can use it for two little league games at once or two softball games.

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

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 465.

ORDINANCE NO. 365-X AMENDING THE 1971-72 BUDGET ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TERMINATION OF A BUYER I POSITION AND THE ADDITION OF A BUYER II POSITION IN THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Calhoun, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinance amending the 1971-72 Budget Ordinance authorizing the termination of a Buyer I position and the addition of a Buyer II position in the Purchasing Department.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 466.

MAYOR LEAVES MEETING AND MAYOR PRO TEM PRESIDES.

Mayor Belk left the meeting at this time, and Mayor pro tem Alexander presided during his absence.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING, ADOPTING, APPROVING, ACCEPTING AND RATIFYING THE EXECUTION OF GRANT AGREEMENT FOR LAND ACQUISITION BETWEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE CITY FOR AIRPORT USE.

Councilman Jordan moved adoption of subject resolution authorizing, adopting, approving, accepting and ratifying the execution of grant agreement in an estimated amount of \$1,215,000 for land Acquisition (Project No. 8-37-0012-02) between the Federal Government and the City for Airport use. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 8, at Page 38.

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PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS AUTHORIZED.

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

- (a) Acquisition of 10' x 1,575.75' of easement at 2650 Milton Road, from The Kingston Corporation, at \$1.00, for sanitary sewer to serve Barrington Oaks Apartments.
- (b) Acquisition of 25' x 150.62' of easement at 2009 McDonald Drive, from James Russell Hutchins and wife, Minnie P., at \$150.00, for Interstate 77 sanitary sewer relocation.
- (c) Acquisition of 24' x 22' x 40' of easement at 4019 Barlowe Road, from Rudolph Smith and wife, Emma S., at \$1.00, for Parkway Avenue Trunk sanitary sewer construction.
- (d) Acquisition of 20' x 28.33' of easement at 616 Dewolfe Street, from Benny Warren McKinzie and wife, Doris B., at \$80.00, for Parkway Avenue trunk sanitary sewer construction.
- (e) Acquisition of 20' x 78.14' of easement at 620 Dewolfe Street, from Roy Northey, Jr. and wife, Jewel C., at \$80.00, for Parkway Avenue trunk sanitary sewer construction.

AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE CITY AND MECKLENBURG ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS, INC. AND CITY AND JOHN CROSLAND COMPANY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF KINGSWOOD AND BEVERLY WOODS EAST SEWER SYSTEMS BY THE CITY, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan and seconded by Councilman Withrow, approving the subject agreements between the City and Mecklenburg Engineers and Contractors, Inc. and the City and John Crosland Company for the acquisition of Kingswood and Beverly Woods East sewer systems by the City.

Councilman Jordan asked if the city purchases the systems now, or at budget time? Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, replied they will be purchased right away; there is revenue coming in from this, and the payments will be \$64,000 annually, plus the revenues. This is the systematic way of gradually taking these systems over. That the city also takes over the water which they have agreed to give to the city when it is annexed, and they are doing this in advance. That the date of the first payment is July 1, 1972. The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

Councilman McDuffie stated he heard today of a water system that the City has not considered taking over yet; but it has some defects and is not operating properly. He asked when the city in the future buys a system, if it assumes the bad as well as the good? Mr. Burkhalter replied the city does, but it is not buying any system that does not go into the city's outfall as soon as it is completed. Mr. Bobo, Assistant City Manager, stated the city is not buying any private plants; there are a number of private system plants which do have defects but the city is not buying them. The city is only buying those systems that can be served by gravity. The City will not take over any area until the outfall is completed.

INSTALLATION OF SANITARY SEWER EXTENSIONS, APPROVED.

Councilman Withrow moved approval of the following installations of sanitary sewer extensions, which motion was seconded by Councilman Calhoun, and carried unanimously:

- (a) Contract with Redman Development Corporation for the extension of 575 linear feet of 8-inch sewer mains to serve The Glenn Apartments, inside the city, at an estimated cost of \$7,560.00, with all cost of construction to be borne by the applicant whose deposit in the full amount has been received and will be refunded as per terms of the agreement.

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- (b) Contract with Mill-Power Supply Company for the extension of 385 linear feet of 8-inch sanitary sewer main to serve property on Barringer Drive, inside the city, at an estimated cost of \$3,550.00, with all cost of construction to be borne by the applicant, whose deposit in the full amount has been received and will be refunded as per terms of the agreement.

MAYOR RETURNS AND PRESIDES FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SESSION.

Mayor Belk returned to the meeting at this time and presided for the remainder of the Session.

ORDINANCE NO. 366-X ORDERING THE REMOVAL OF WEEDS AND GRASS ON PROPERTY ADJACENT TO 1425 SHAMROCK DRIVE.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, the subject ordinance was adopted ordering the removal of weeds and grass on property adjacent to 1425 Shamrock Drive, pursuant to Section 6.103 and 6.104 of the City Charter, Chapter 10, Article I, Section 10-9 of the City Code and Chapter 160-200 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 18, at Page 467.

TRANSFER OF CEMETERY LOT, AUTHORIZED.

Motion was made by Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Calhoun, and unanimously carried, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a cemetery deed with William S. Kinghorn and wife, Lucille Funderburk Kinghorn, for Graves No. 2 and No. 3, in south 1/2 of Lot 56, Section BB, transferred from Mrs. Charles G. Rutledge, at \$3.00 for transfer deed.

CONTRACT AWARDED POMONA PIPE PRODUCTS FOR VITRIFIED CLAY PIPE.

Councilman Jordan moved award of contract to the low bidder, Pomona Pipe Products, in the amount of \$48,498.00, on a unit price basis, for vitrified clay pipe. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alexander, and carried unanimously.

The following bids were received:

Pomona Pipe Products	\$48,498.00
Industrial Maintenance Overflow Corp.	53,406.00
Griffin Pipe Products Co.	53,433.00

CONTRACT AWARDED PARNELL MARTIN SUPPLY COMPANY FOR C. I. SOIL PIPE AND FITTINGS.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded the low bidder, Parnell Martin Supply Company, in the amount of \$32,252.25, on a unit price basis, for C. I. Soil Pipe and fittings.

The following bids were received:

Parnell-Martin Supply Co.	\$32,252.25
Crane Supply Company	32,556.89
Horne-Wilson, Inc.	33,421.63
Atlas Supply Company	33,483.09
Grinnell Company, Inc.	33,730.06

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CONTRACT AWARDED O. L. NIXON GRADING COMPANY FOR SANITARY SEWER CONSTRUCTION TO SERVE FALCONBRIDGE SUBDIVISION.

Councilman Alexander moved award of contract to the low bidder, O. L. Nixon Grading Company, in the amount of \$25,604.89, on a unit price basis, for Sanitary Sewer Construction to serve Falconbridge Subdivision. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The following bids were received:

O. L. Nixon Grading Company	\$25,604.89
Ben B. Propst	28,932.50
Dickerson, Inc.	36,539.75
Joe R. Abernethy Const. Co.	44,920.00
Thomas Structure Co.	45,816.80
Propst Construction Co., Inc.	56,847.12

CONTRACT AWARDED L & N ROYAL TIRE SERVICE TO RENEW CONTRACT ON A NEGOTIATED BASIS FOR THE SECOND YEAR, FOR TIRE RECAPPING AND REPAIRS.

Upon motion of Councilman Withrow, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the subject contract was awarded L & N Royal Tire Service, in the amount of \$18,490.62, on a unit price basis, for a period of one year, with the option of the City and agreement by supplier to renew contract on a negotiated basis for the second year, subject to appropriation of funds by City Council, for tire recapping and repairs.

The following bids were received:

L & N Royal Tire Service	\$18,490.62
Griffin Bros. Tire Sales, Inc.	21,755.00
Sultan of Tires, Carolina Tire & Retreading	22,801.41
Carolina Tire Company	27,127.03

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE PAY PLAN OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE BY ASSIGNING CLASS NO. 379, ASSISTANT MODEL CITIES DIRECTOR-RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND TRAINING TO PAY RANGE 48, PAY STEPS A-F.

After explanation by Assistant City Manager, Mr. Carstarphen, motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, adopting subject resolution amending the Pay Plan of the City of Charlotte by assigning Class No. 379, Assistant Model Cities Director-Research, Evaluation and Training to Pay Range 48, Pay Steps A-F.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 8, at Page 39.

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER REQUESTED TO SET UP MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE MODEL NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION.

Councilman Alexander requested Mr. Carstarphen, Assistant City Manager, to see that a regular monthly meeting of the Model Neighborhood Commission is arranged. Mr. Carstarphen replied he will be happy to pass this on to the Director, Mr. Wilson; that he knows Mr. Wilson has expressed some concern about this.

Mr. Carstarphen stated the activities of this operation have been focused on the internal side of things for the past several months; the Citizens Task Force has been meeting regularly and has had a great deal of input into the plan, but the Commission itself has not met very frequently. He stated he is sure the Commission will be scheduled for more frequent meetings.

Councilman Alexander stated they should be scheduled monthly. Too much gets ahead of the Commission, and it makes the meetings too long.

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COMMENTS BY TOM SYKES ON LIMITING APPEARANCES BEFORE CITY COUNCIL, AND SCHEDULING APPEARANCES ON AGENDA.

Mr. Tom Sykes stated there is discussion going on relative to allowing people like himself to come down and talk to the Mayor and Council. There have been some editorial comments concerning this. He stated he would hate to go into a bank and not be able to talk to someone, or to go into an insurance office and not be able to talk to someone.

Mr. Sykes stated Council was elected to hear what the citizens of this community have to say. That some three months ago, three young men appeared before Council and asked for the use of the fire station on Belmont Avenue for a club house. They got the club house. But if Council had told them they had to be on the agenda, they would not have known how to get on an agenda.

Mr. Sykes stated there are a number of items on the agenda today, and the gentleman who took up most of the time today was paid by someone to come and speak for them.

He stated Council better hear the people; they have a duty to hear them. That it is not right to have an editorial comment to come out in favor of deleting the public from appearing before this Body; that the citizens have already been left out of government too much. Everywhere he looks the citizens have no way to talk to government. That is one thing wrong with this government today. They build big offices for themselves and hide behind their desks or their agendas, or in some way evade the people they should hear.

He stated he was before Council six or eight weeks ago and he told Council it did not listen in 1968; but they did hear in 1968 about the licensing of businesses in this city. It is costing about \$3.5 million a year for the three years that have been wasted on this matter. Council did not listen, but it did hear. He stated nothing has been done on that, and he would like to get involved; that he lives in the county, but he pays city taxes and he buys a privilege license. That he is not too happy with some of the people who do not buy privilege licenses.

Mr. Sykes stated very little time has been taken up today by public demand; everything has been outlined, and some of the stuff had no business on the agenda. He stated they should look for a way for the City Council to lighten the workload rather than to take the voice of the public out of this room; rather than to take the people out of this room. That he does not agree with this, and he does not agree with any editorial support it has received.

Councilman Calhoun stated Mr. Sykes is saying something that was not said before. That Council is delighted to have the people to come when they have something to say that is proper; that Council wants to keep out the chaff and the guff that is unnecessary. He stated these suggestions have been made and were made properly and apparently were endorsed by the newspaper.

Mr. Sykes stated he is only repeating what Councilman Calhoun has said and that is they should put their subject on the agenda prior to the meeting. Councilman Calhoun stated if they have something that is proper and they want to take some time, it will be necessary to digest what they are going to say, and he wants them scheduled properly.

Mr. Sykes replied that is not the way it should be; this is not government. If something happens on Saturday or Sunday, and he wants to come to Council on Monday and talk about it, he does not think he should be placed on the agenda. Councilman Calhoun stated he would be welcome if it is an emergency; but if it is something that comes up on a Tuesday or Monday, there is no reason why he cannot have it scheduled.

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Mr. Sykes stated some of Council's ways of doing business should be changed. Councilman Calhoun replied that was mentioned also, and it will be done. He stated if there is a justifiable complaint, he will always be heard; that he will be given an opportunity for a fair hearing.

Councilman McDuffie stated he does not agree that you have to be on the agenda, but perhaps a time limit is needed for the presentation, and then have it on the agenda for the next week.

Councilman Jordan stated this has not been acted upon by Council. It was only a discussion. That Mr. Calhoun also brought up the time spent by Council in presenting matters at the end of the meeting; that many of these things can be turned over to the City Manager for handling. Nothing has been decided upon; this is only a suggestion made by Councilman Calhoun.

Mayor Belk stated the point is to have better meetings so that more people will receive better results and that more people who have something to say can be heard, and we can have a better operation. This is the purpose. That if Mr. Sykes has any suggestions, he would appreciate him bringing them to the City Manager or to him.

USE OF PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM BY OIC OFFICE, AUTHORIZED.

Mr. Freeman Watts, with OIC, stated they would like to use a public address system for recruitment purposes on the following dates and at the following locations:

1. Dalton Village, Little Rock Apartments, January 26, 1972, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
2. Greenville Area, February 7, 1972, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
3. Dilworth Area, February 14, 1972, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
4. North Charlotte, February 21, 1972, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, approving the use of the public address system as indicated.

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SUGGESTED FOR USE IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER SO THAT AUDIENCE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SEE THE MAPS AND GRAPHS THAT ARE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL.

Councilman McDuffie stated a system is needed so that the audience can see what is being presented to Council. Several years ago, Council used closed circuit TV on a trial basis. That at a meeting in Raleigh-Durham, there was a system of closed circuit television and the cost was minimum for a couple of units. There should be one or two viewers in the Council Chamber and one in the hall. That unless this room is going to be enlarged and made acceptable to public hearings, one day he is going to walk out in the audience and see what they see, and not be in a proper position to vote. That he is a little disgusted with it dragging on and the people being excluded. That people come to Council because they are interested, and they cannot know what they are supposed to know.

Councilman McDuffie suggested that Council have the Manager to look into the possibility of the use of closed circuit television, at a minor cost that would last an indefinite period of time.

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DISCUSSION OF AUDITORIUM-COLISEUM FUNDS AND REQUEST THAT \$70,000 OF SURPLUS BE USED TO FUND HANDICAPPED PROGRAMS.

Councilman McDuffie stated last week Council could not find any funds for the handicapped program. He stated the City Charter requires funds and proceeds from the Coliseum-Authority be paid in principal and interest unless otherwise directed by City Council. That since he has been here, he has not directed any use of any funds, and they do have a surplus.

Councilman McDuffie suggested that Council ask the City Manager to ask the Finance Director, who is in charge of funds, to tell Council what the balance is in Coliseum-Authority monies with the idea that Council could request \$70,000 be transferred from their surplus to be paid on principal and interest of the bonds to the general fund and be used for the handicapped program which Council has been unable to fund to use the Veteran's Recreation Building.

Mayor Belk stated he would recommend that the City Manager not furnish this information as long as Councilman McDuffie has the law suit as it would be a conflict of interest.

Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, stated anyone can go down to the Finance Office and get the information. Councilman McDuffie stated perhaps it would be better if he went himself.

Mr. Burkhalter stated the Auditorium-Coliseum Authority has been combined with the Civic Center. The Civic Center is not open, but staff has met with the Authority and urged them to assume the financial liability for the early initial promotion of the Civic Center. That he does not think they have enough money to even do this properly.

Councilman McDuffie stated the theory is they should operate with a budget, and if they need funds, they would come from the general funds as any other department of the city. The City Manager replied they are not supposed to operate on city funds; they are supposed to generate their own money. Councilman McDuffie stated the way he understands it, they are not supposed to have any funds left over, and they should ask for funds to operate on during the year, and when they make a surplus, then they pay the principal and interest. That is what the Charter calls for. Some years ago, City Council apparently authorized them to hold the surplus which is contrary to the Charter. If they had to bring a budget, they would be like Park and Recreation and would ask for whatever money they need to operate on.

LOCATION SITES BEING CONSIDERED FOR HOUSE OF ASSURANCE REQUESTED MADE PUBLIC PRIOR TO ACTION BEING TAKEN.

Councilman McDuffie stated the House of Assurance is going to come up next week or the week after. That he understands they are looking for a new location, and he would hope whatever sites are mentioned would be made available to the public so these sections of the city being considered will have an equal opportunity to express their support or objection to having the Center in their neighborhood. This Council invites opposition in projects when they allow protest to sway whether a controversial project is going to be placed in their neighborhood. It seems those who are best organized and run the biggest campaign against, the city listen to and puts them somewhere else. Those who are less affluent and object the least end up with undesirable, or so called undesirable operations. That he does not want something brought to him without it being made known to the public and everyone have an equal opportunity to state how they feel about it. That this applies not only to the House of Assurance but other projects as well.

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COUNCILMAN WHITTINGTON REPORTED TO BE MUCH IMPROVED AND MAKING MORE PROGRESS.

Mr. Burkhalter advised that Councilman Whittington told him he was able to walk down the hall and back, and hopes to be out of the hospital in the very near future. He stated he looks well and says he is getting along fine.

PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR CONGRATULATED ON PROGRAMS OF PUBLIC RELATIONS.

Mayor Belk stated he would like to congratulate Mr. Wheeler, Public Information Director, on the fine job he is doing in public relations. That he has had several shows, and is also having different members of the organization to appear so that citizens can get to know the people at City Hall better. That the people will be able to understand and appreciate more the problems.

ADJOURNMENT.

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



Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk