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A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, was held Monday, May 7, 1973, at 3:00 o'clock p.m., in the Council Chamber, City Hall, with Mayor John M. Belk presiding, and Councilmembers Fred D. Alexander, Ruth M. Easterling, Sandy R. Jordan, James D. McDuffie, Milton Short, James B. Whittington and Joe D. Withrow present.

ABSENT: None.

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INVOCATION.

The invocation was given by Councilman Milton Short.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, the minutes of the special meeting on April 26 and the Regular Meeting, on April 30, 1973, were approved as submitted.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1973 PROCLAIMED FIRE SERVICE APPRECIATION DAY.

Mayor Belk presented the following proclamation:

"WHEREAS, Fire Service Appreciation Day is designed to focus attention to the varied and technical services being offered by the fire departments of the United States and Canada; and

WHEREAS, many fire departments are placing emphasis on this observance with open houses of fire stations, demonstrations and programs before service clubs; and

WHEREAS, today's firemen are technically trained and highly skilled professional public servants, and they perform many public services in addition to the suppression of fire, such as dwelling inspections, pre-fire planning, inspections of commercial industrial facilities, hospitals, schools and rest homes:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John M. Belk, Mayor of the City of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 12, 1973 as

FIRE SERVICE APPRECIATION DAY

in Charlotte, and urge all citizens to visit their nearest fire station on this date to become acquainted with these men, their apparatus and equipment and the professional type service they provide.

WITNESS MY HAND and the official Seal of the City of Charlotte this seventh day of May, 1973."

Firemen Jack Pettis and William H. Hartis were present to receive the proclamation.

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WEEK OF MAY 6-12 PROCLAIMED AS CONSUMER CREDIT WEEK.

Mayor Belk presented the following proclamation:

"WHEREAS, members of the Credit Bureau and the Credit Managers Association of Greater Charlotte, including our retail establishments, service organizations and financial institutions, are observing Consumer Credit Week in the true spirit of free American enterprise; and

WHEREAS, these local organizations, in cooperation with the International Consumer Credit Association and the Credit Women-International seek to promote the responsible extension of consumer credit through this observance and its theme, "Consumer Credit - Your Key to Better Living;" and

WHEREAS, citizens of this community will benefit from the granting of consumer credit by our local organization as a service which depends upon the prudent use of credit and the prompt discharge of credit obligations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John M. Belk, Mayor of Charlotte, do hereby proclaim May 6 - 12, 1973, as

CONSUMER CREDIT WEEK

and urge that all citizens join with me and the sponsoring groups in the promotion and activities of this worthy annual observance.

WITNESS MY HAND and the official seal of the City of Charlotte this 7th day of May, 1973."

Mr. John Rapp was present to receive the proclamation.

CITY MANAGER, DAVID BURKHALTER, PRESENTED WITH CAKE ON HIS SECOND ANNIVERSARY WITH THE CITY.

Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, was presented a cake for his second anniversary with the City.

Mayor Belk stated we have a very unusual City Manager, and this is his second anniversary with the City, and he and the Council are proud to have him represent the City of Charlotte.

LEFT TURNS, BOTH EAST AND WEST, AT INDEPENDENCE AND HAWTHORNE LANE ELIMINATED AND RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS AT PLAZA AND INDEPENDENCE AUTHORIZED.

Mr. Herman Hoose, Director of Traffic Engineering, stated on February 12, 1973, he presented to Council a recommended traffic control plan to improve intersection capacity and accident reduction at Independence Boulevard and Hawthorne Lane. At that time he stated he was also studying Hawthorne Lane and Central Avenue, and Pecan and the Plaza at Independence.

He referred to a sketch of the proposed movement of traffic at Hawthorne Lane and Independence. He stated the capacity and the accidents are the main cause of the problems at this intersection. It is the highest accident intersection in the City of Charlotte; the traffic volume is the highest in the City of Charlotte. The 12-hour traffic volume at this intersection from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on an average day is 33,836 vehicles on Independence; on Hawthorne Lane it is 10,813 for a total of 44,649 vehicles through the intersection. There is a separate turn lane for Independence left turn traffic; the time period varies from 14 to 19 seconds of green. The left turn from Independence Boulevard to the north on Hawthorne Lane for the 12 hour period is 1,642 vehicles; from Independence Boulevard to the south on Hawthorne Lane is 1,019 vehicles. Left turns from Hawthorne Lane to Independence Boulevard from the south is 606 vehicles, and from the north 454 vehicles.

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He stated the accident records for the past three years shows 134 accidents with 45 or 33% being vehicles involved in left turn movements.

Mr. Hoose stated the recommendation is to prohibit the left turns. He then explained how the traffic could be routed over existing streets. By using the existing streets to make the left turns now being made at the intersection, the additional traffic volume, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Bay Street and Lamar Avenue would be 2,096 vehicles. The present traffic is 261 vehicles. Assuming they would follow this route, the additional traffic making the turns using Sunnyside Avenue and Oakland Avenue would be 1,625 with the present two-way traffic volume on these streets being 161 vehicles.

He stated prohibiting the left turns at the intersection would increase the capacity of the two streets. During the a.m. peak period it would increase the traffic on Independence Boulevard for a total of 858 vehicles and 264 vehicles on Hawthorne Lane. During the p.m. peak it would increase the capacity 1122 on Independence Boulevard and 196 vehicles for Hawthorne Lane. During any one hour of the non-peak period it would increase the capacity by 990 vehicles for Independence Boulevard and 293 vehicles for Hawthorne Lane. This would increase the efficiency of this intersection on each approach by 1,000 vehicles on Independence Boulevard and by 272 vehicles on Hawthorne Lane. This would also eliminate 33% of the accidents.

Mr. Hoose stated the cost to make the changes, fixing up five intersections with the radii, removing the barrier and overhead signs, the marking and establishing six 11 foot lanes is \$43,500.00. He stated there is no guarantee that everyone will follow the route he has set out and they will probably seek another way.

Councilman Alexander stated it looks to him as if most of the traffic negotiating these left turns is local traffic. He asked to what extent these large trucks on Independence Boulevard make these left turns? That he has not seen any of them making this turn. That by local traffic he is talking about cars and pick up trucks and inner-city delivery trucks. Mr. Hoose stated the left turns are all vehicular and are the smallest part of the movement; but everytime one vehicle moves left, one and half can move straight through on each lane. This is tying up an intersection for a very small percent. He stated this recommendation today is not a complete answer but is just one step in alleviating a problem. A corridor study is to be made of the area to improve the eastern facility. That we all know something has to be done but at this time they do not have all the answers. This problem is becoming more severe. There has been about a 5% increase in the traffic since his original report in February. When 12th Street is open through the Northwest Expressway there will probably be an increase of six or eight thousand more vehicles. This recommendation today is not the ultimate answer; but is to relieve a situation from an accident standpoint that can be helped.

Mr. Hoose stated there is another backup on Independence below the bridge where there is a left turn movement for Independence at Pecan. That the study took in the complete area of Independence at Pecan and Independence at the Plaza. He stated it is on a downgrade across the bridge and an upgrade coming from Pecan Avenue. At present there is a left turn lane and an indicator for a left turn at this intersection; but none at the Plaza. Their survey showed that the people turning left moved up and around and came back out. This backed up the left turn to where it would close down one lane across the bridge and instead of three lanes it was cut down to two lanes, which backed the traffic up towards Hawthorne. He stated they are recommending that we set up a 560 foot lane at the Plaza and move the left turn equipment to this intersection; instead of making a right and left back they improve the intersection. This would alleviate the problem of the backup coming over the bridge.

He stated there is a TOPICS project at Central Avenue and there is a city project to take care of the offsets at Central; they have prohibited one light left turn movement there at Central and Hawthorne which speeded up the movement of other traffic.

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Councilman Alexander stated what is disturbing him is that we will not widen any of these residential streets; the only thing we will do is to widen the radius on the corners. He asked if we will have to take off all the parking on the streets? Mr. Hoose replied parking is off on the east side of each of the streets. Councilman Alexander stated these streets are just too small and this makes a dangerous situation; then you have the accident rate at the intersection. He stated we do not want to keep these accidents; at the same time we are creating another problem when we run that traffic through these streets. The only thing the city is doing is widening the radius on the street and you cannot widen the streets. Mr. Hoose replied there will be two 12 foot lanes, and one 8 foot parking lane.

Mayor Belk asked if they just eliminate the left turns at Hawthorne Lane and not include the route around the block would it make any difference? Mr. Hoose stated it would help the movement; it would increase the capacity of the intersection and help cut down on the accidents. That he is not saying that everyone who normally makes this left turn would follow this suggested movement; that he is saying this is a possible movement for the 2,000 vehicles. By eliminating the left turn it would accomplish what was intended to do.

Mr. J. L. Guin, 1801 Bay Street, stated he appreciates very much the Mayor and Council's interest in this intersection. That he is most concerned about the impact of this traffic on their neighborhood. Last week he asked that the Planning Commission be brought into this study and to hear what they have to say about the impact this will bring on their well kept neighborhood. That they have been putting up with the Morton Salt trucks going in front of their door for several years; that he has not complained because that is the minimum; but about one out of 18 left turns is a truck. That 18 million cars per year cross that intersection, and there have been only 50 accidents and not a single fatality in the last several years. He says it should be given more study, and bring the Planning Commission in to tell what the impact will be on their neighborhood. Mr. Guin stated his home is at the corner of Bay and Lamar Avenue, and his zoning is now for multi-family; that he moved there 14 years ago.

Mayor Belk asked Mr. Guin if he has more problems from the left turns or from the Krispy Kreme Donut Shop? Mr. Guin replied he would say less from the left turns.

Mrs. Lee Peery, 2024 Bucknell Avenue, stated she is a member of the Myers Park Action Committee which is one that makes up the Charlotte Citizens Action Team. She stated she is here to support that citizens of the Elizabeth Community; that she would also like to add her sympathy to Mr. Guin to bring the Planning Commission into this as it affects the neighborhood. Myers Park is also an inner-city neighborhood, and they can see this possibly happening to other neighborhoods. That she does not want to see Charlotte weakened by chopping up neighborhoods one by one. That she has a great deal of respect for Mr. Hoose and people who work out this sort of thing.

Councilman Alexander stated he cannot make himself be concerned with endorsing a motion which would attempt to alleviate one problem and create another. As he sees it the solution to what we are trying to do is tied in with a lot of factors. One is trying to get into the highway to get to Sixth Street, around the left street going in that direction, which unfortunately did not work out, and we cannot resolve that. That he is in favor for the time being deferring any action on this corner.

Councilman Alexander moved that action as recommended be deferred at this time. The motion did not receive a second.

Councilman Whittington stated he thinks everybody on this Council is concerned about this intersection because of the capacity and the accident rate there; that it is fair to say that Mr. Hoose has done the best he can do for the time being with the situation as it relates to Hawthorne and Independence Boulevard.

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Councilman Whittington moved that the left turns at this intersection, going both east and west, be eliminated and that Council give Mr. Hoose the authority to make the improvements necessary at The Plaza, and appropriate the necessary money for the signalization and the other things that have to be done. The motion was seconded by Councilman McDuffie.

Councilman Whittington stated everybody in the audience should understand that when the Northwest Expressway opens that Council and the Engineering Department may have to do even more. But for the time being he thinks this should be done, and he believes this is all that can be done.

Councilman Whittington stated he is asking to eliminate the left turns and that is all; that he is not saying to go down Lamar or Bay Street; he is just saying go straight. All he is saying is to eliminate the left turns at this intersection going east and west and give Mr. Hoose the money and the authority to make corrections as he pointed out at the Plaza with the proper signals, signing and so forth.

Councilman Alexander made a substitute motion that the recommendation in regard to Pecan be executed but action on Hawthorne Lane and Independence section be deferred. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short.

Councilman McDuffie stated he cannot see doing this piecemeal. That in effect Council has ordered Mr. Hoose to come back with a plan to help alleviate the problem. That Independence Boulevard was built 20 years ago; that Council is obligated to move traffic throughout the whole city. If we tried to build Independence Boulevard today, no one would be in favor of it; it is already carrying traffic that it was not designed to carry until 1990. All this traffic cannot go away; it has to go somewhere. That Mr. Hoose has pointed out that a good many people will find their way in some other direction - down Seventh Street - and they will not even come to this intersection. That Council is obligated to do something for those people who use that route coming and going from work; that Council did not create the traffic; that everyone who has an automobile is part of the problem. If you prohibit the left turns they have to go somewhere; and Mr. Hoose has offered a partial solution. Most of the homes in this area are zoned something other than single family. He stated he is sympathetic with the people who live there; but what are we to do everytime a question like this comes up? What is needed is an underpass which would cost a couple of million dollars. Councilman Alexander replied we know we are not going to get an underpass anytime soon, and there is no point in piling that traffic down through these streets now.

Councilman Short stated we did not create the traffic; but neither did these people who live out there except for whatever few cars they have. It seems to him if we are going to reduce, if not demolish the livability of the homes in this area, that loss should be stood by those who actually did create the traffic, namely, the public, rather than by those who just happen to be trapped there because they have been living there, and some of them for many years. He stated a good number of these people in the northwestern corner and the northeastern corner petitioned recently to have their property rezoned for business; and it is a little hard for him to see how we can deny them the zoning for business, and at the same time impose upon them something that greatly reduces, if not ruins, the use of this area for residential living. Councilman McDuffie stated this is a good case to rezone their property, which he can support. But the question here is if the people on Kenilworth Avenue or Eastway or the other streets that make up Independence Boulevard that have to absorb the traffic, how can he say we not do it in one particular neighborhood when the need is there. Councilman Short replied what we are trying to do is to create the free interchange; and just two or three blocks away there is a tremendous interchange; but this interchange was paid for; and it seems to him if we are going to create an interchange here that is similar, then the public should have to pay for it. Councilman McDuffie replied he does not doubt that we will have to get to the problem by creating an underpass; but for right now, with the traffic backed up for six blocks everyday, and 134 accidents, if you prevent one serious injury, it would be worth the inconvenience for the people who live there.

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Councilman Short stated he went over to the tax department and checked the value of the property running in four directions from the center of this intersection, and running a half block down. It is \$492,080 appraised value. Who should stand the loss if traffic makes it untenable to live there, the public or the people who are caught there.

The vote was taken on the substitute motion and lost as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Alexander and Short.

NAYS: Councilmembers Easterling, Jordan, McDuffie, Whittington and Withrow.

After further discussion, the vote was taken on the original motion, and carried as follows:

YEAS: Councilmembers Whittington, McDuffie, Easterling, Jordan and Withrow.

NAYS: Councilmembers Alexander and Short.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE INTERSECTION OF EAST MOREHEAD STREET AND KENILWORTH AVENUE, APPROVED.

Mr. Hoose, Traffic Director, stated they are attempting to put in left turn lanes on Morehead and one additional lane on Kenilworth Avenue. After some discussion with the Dilworth Community Development Association when they presented two or three plans, they came up with the recommendation today. He stated this is a temporary solution to the problem due to the narrow lane. This does not involve the cutting of any trees; it involves setting up five lanes, 9-foot, 10-foot and 11-foot lane, 10-foot and 10-foot on each side. They are asking permission to buy a piece of right of way, which he pointed out on the map, to increase the grade going down toward the hospital area. This will substitute for the sidewalk they take. They have purchased the signal equipment to set up an 8-movement which is a left turn from each direction. He stated this proposed improvement was a part of the Powell Bill Project. The estimated cost, including the construction and the right of way is \$18,400.00. The signal system is \$11,840. This will be a temporary measure. Some point brought out about it being close to an apartment; the sidewalk will be the only thing which will be four foot closer than it is today. There are no trees at all in this area.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, and seconded by Councilman Jordan to approve the improvements as recommended.

Mr. Jeffrey Huberman, President of the Dilworth Community Development Association, stated when they first became aware of the problem in the original plan of the city, they became concerned about the ultimate impact on the residential neighborhood, over the trees that would be removed, and over several other areas. Their task force headed by Mrs. Theo Robinson worked with the city in inquiring about all the available facts. During this time she was aided by the Traffic Engineering Department, the Planning Commission, Tree Commission, Office of the City Manager, and others of the city staffs. He stated after gathering the data they realized that something must be done because this intersection was rated 68 in the city in accidents according to the TOPICS report. However, they concluded that other solutions must be available in order not to damage the 12 trees along Morehead Street. Subsequently, on February 21 they sent their recommendations to Mr. Bernard Corbett of the Traffic Engineering Department, outlining four alternate suggestions. The proposal before Council today is one of the four suggestions, and they are very satisfied with this proposal and they urge Council to accept it. He stated members of the City Staff have been very cooperative with them, and he would like to publicly thank all of those who worked with them in achieving this solution today. This demonstrates how a Community Development Association, such as theirs, can work hand in hand with the City in achieving something of vital importance to all of us, and at the same time benefit all the citizens of Charlotte.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

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CITY MANAGER DIRECTED TO HAVE ALL CITY DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED WITH THE TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS APPROVED UNDER RECENT BOND ISSUE TO MOVE WITH GREATEST SPEED IN GETTING THE PROJECTS STARTED.

The following motion was made at the Council meeting on April 30, and left on the table for one week:

Councilman Whittington moved that the City Council direct the City Manager to have all City Departments involved with the transportation projects approved under the recent Bond Issue to move with the greatest speed possible, consistent with sound financial planning, in getting these bond projects started. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow.

Councilwoman Easterling stated she thinks this motion is very good, but she thinks it is after the fact because she believes the day after the vote on the bonds, the city staff concerned with this, were consulting with each other and going ahead with it. But she does think it should go into the minutes and be a part of the record that this is being done. Councilman Whittington stated that is the reason for the motion.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 782-X AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 520-X, THE 1972-73 BUDGET ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS UNTIL BOND FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

Councilman Short moved adoption of the subject ordinance transferring \$1,308,000 for transportation projects until bond funds are available. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington.

Councilman Whittington stated in the capital improvement projects, when these items were listed by priority, he believes The Plaza was No. 3 and Independence Freeway at The Plaza was either two or three. That he does not want anyone in the Department of Public Works to forget that. That he realizes this has to be state money.

He stated in the 1965 bond issue Poplar Street was never completed and we ran out of funds, and now Poplar Street is on the bottom. Mr. Burkhalter, City Manager, stated that is not the order of priority. Councilman Whittington replied he does not want someone out in the city, who has been told since 1965, we were going to do Poplar Street, and find it again on the bottom. That he realizes what Mr. Burkhalter is saying, but the public does not know that. That he is just trying to be consistent about what we have been telling the people all these years.

Councilman Jordan stated he thinks Poplar Street is a good argument because all the businesses are out on Poplar now so you could move ahead on this now.

Councilman McDuffie stated according to the schedule, The Plaza will not be done until 1975. The Public Works Director advised the Plaza money will not be needed until the State completes its portion, and the city will pay its share of it. That is the reason they wanted to get it in there as seed money to assure the State that we have the money available to pay our share of the right-of-way and sidewalks. It is in there in a later year; but that does not mean it has not already been discussed with the State, and they will be coming back to Council next Monday with the total new priority list based on the bond program passed, passed on their review of the projects with the State, and the whole new outlook with the new administration in Raleigh. He stated Staff will give their best recommendation next week; then the people in Raleigh say they will come down very shortly and discuss the whole package with Council.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 20, beginning at Page 71.

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MEETING AUTHORIZED SET UP WITH BRUCE A. LENTZ, STATE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION.

Mayor Belk stated he noticed where the Highway Commission met last week. He asked if there is anything Mr. Hopson can tell Council? Mr. Hopson replied he does not think they took any action last week. Perrin Anderson is the Chairman of an ad hoc committee of some of the commissioners who are making a study of the whole urban system throughout the State of North Carolina. He stated they will give Council as much information as they have on this.

Mayor Belk stated all the highway funds have been appropriated; that he understood they had changed some of this. He asked if this information is wrong? Mr. Hopson replied they are all frozen until this study is completed. They hope to have this before the Commission at its June meeting, and probably acted upon in the July meeting.

Mayor Belk stated if Council is willing he thinks it might be appropriate to suggest that an appointment be made with Mr. Lentz, Secretary of Transportation, and go over this with him. That he understands this will be frozen until July, and he is suggesting that Council go up there and talk to Mr. Lentz before this all comes out. Councilman Whittington stated he would be willing to go any day; that he thinks it is a good idea, and he should involve Mr. Anderson also. Mayor Belk stated as soon as the delegates get out of Raleigh, and before they unfreeze these funds, he wants Council to meet with Mr. Lentz.

Councilman Alexander asked if there is a possibility on account of the freeze that some of our priorities will be changed? Mayor Belk replied that is the reason he wants to go up there. Mr. Hopson stated they want our thoughts immediately, and then if we want to follow it up with a Council or Committee that is alright; but they want our thoughts immediately. Time is of the essence.

After further discussion, Councilman Alexander moved that an appointment be set up with Mr. Lentz after the delegation is out of Raleigh. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and carried unanimously.

CONSULTANTS FOR BOND PROJECTS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE 1973 BOND REFERENDUM, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman McDuffie, and seconded by Councilman Short, approving the following consultant firms to prepare plans for the following projects:

- (1) Ralph Whitehead and Associates, Charlotte for the Tyvola Road-Farmbrook Drive to Park Road - Kings Drive Relocation.
- (2) Consoer Townsend and Associates, Nashville, Tennessee, for the Randolph Road project.
- (3) Wilbur Smith and Associates, Columbia, South Carolina, for the Remount Road project.

Councilman McDuffie asked how many of these consultants firms are located in Charlotte? Mr. Hopson, Public Works Director, replied there is only one. He would have liked to have all local firms; but Whitehead is the only local firm of any magnitude that does this type work. That is the reason they had to go outside. He stated these are all urban related firms, and they think they are tops in this part of the Country.

The vote was taken on the motion and carried unanimously.

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ORDINANCE NO. 783-X AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 520-X, THE 1972-73 BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDING THE TABLE OF ORGANIZATION FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO INITIATE THE 1973 TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject ordinance adding the following positions: One Civil Engineer I, one Engineering Aide IV and three Engineering Aide III to the Engineering Division, and one Real Estate Agent I to the Right of Way Division.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 20, at Page 73.

PETITION TO THE NORTH CAROLINA STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION REQUESTING THAT THEY ABANDON CERTAIN STREETS WITHIN AREAS TO BE ANNEXED, APPROVED.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, subject petition was approved requesting the State Highway Commission to abandon certain streets within the areas to be annexed.

RESOLUTIONS AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ANNEXATION REPORTS BY APPENDING THERETO A LIST OF STREETS WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE CITY FOR MAINTENANCE.

Motion was made by Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, adopting the following resolutions amending the Official Annexation Reports.

- (1) Resolution Amending the Official Annexation Report for the Hickory Grove Area heretofore approved on November 6, 1972, to append thereto a list of the streets in the area to be annexed which will be accepted for maintenance, excluding however, those streets which form a part of the State Highway System.
- (2) Resolution Amending the Official Annexation Report for the Statesville Road-Derita Road Area heretofore approved on November 6, 1972, to append thereto a list of the streets in the area to be annexed which will be accepted for maintenance, excluding however, those streets which form a part of the State Highway System.
- (3) Resolution Amending the Official Annexation Report for the Albemarle Road-York Road area heretofore approved on November 6, 1972, to append thereto a list of the streets in the area to be annexed which will be accepted for maintenance, excluding however, those streets which form a part of the State Highway System.

The resolutions are recorded in full in Resolutions Book 9, beginning at Page 143 and ending at Page 162.

ORDINANCE NO. 784-X AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$225,000 FROM UNAPPROPRIATED BALANCE OF THE BOND FUND TO UPPER BRIAR CREEK OUTFALL ACCOUNT FOR COMPLETION OF THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR UPPER BRIAR CREEK OUTFALL.

Councilman Whittington moved adoption of the subject ordinance authorizing the transfer of \$225,000 from Unappropriated Balance of the Bond Fund to Upper Briar Creek Outfall Account for completion of the construction contract for Upper Briar Creek Outfall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 20, at Page 74.

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ORDINANCE NO. 785-X ORDERING THE DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF A BUILDING LOCATED AT 3401-11 NORTH DAVIDSON STREET PURSUANT TO THE BUILDING CODE OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE AND SECTION 6.61, ARTICLE IV, CHAPTER 6, CHARTER OF THE CITY OF CHARLOTTE.

Upon motion of Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman McDuffie, and unanimously carried, the subject ordinance was adopted ordering the demolition and removal of a building located at 3401-11 North Davidson Street pursuant to the Building Code of the City of Charlotte.

The ordinance is recorded in full in Ordinance Book 20, at Page 75.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS ON MAY 29, 1973 FOR ZONING CHANGES.

Motion was made by Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, adopting the subject resolution providing for public hearings on Tuesday, May 29, 1973, in the Board Room on the Fourth Floor of the Educational Center, at 701 East Second Street, beginning at 8:00 o'clock p.m., on Petitions No. 73-15 through 73-19 for zoning changes.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 9, at Page 163.

SETTLEMENT IN THE CASE OF CITY VS. ALLEN A. BAILEY AND WIFE, DEFERRED.

The settlement in the case of the City vs. Allen A. Bailey and wife, in the amount of \$2100 for property damages during the widening of Sharon Lane was presented for Council's consideration.

Councilman Short asked the City Attorney to put something in the record that would indicate why it was not possible to save this money through the use of a lawn sprinkler. Mr. Underhill stated because of the size of this property and the location of the azaleas, according to the property owner he relied entirely on his built-in sprinkler system; it was for that reason the property owner alleges he lost three or four hundred azaleas.

Councilman Short asked the City Attorney if he actually has this information from the property owner in some letter? Mr. Underhill replied the property owner indicated he would testify to that effect; the property owner indicated in the pre-trial conference he was prepared to put on evidence that everything was done that was possible to save the azaleas.

After further discussion, Councilman Short moved that Council defer action on the settlement and ask Mr. Bailey to give the City a letter explaining what was actually done. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and carried unanimously.

REQUEST THAT COUNCIL UPDATE ITS LIST OF APPRAISERS.

Councilman Withrow stated he thinks Council should take a look at its list of appraisers and update the list.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF TAXES COLLECTED THROUGH ILLEGAL LEVY AND CLERICAL ERROR FROM ELEVEN ACCOUNTS.

Upon motion of Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Jordan, and unanimously carried, the subject resolution was adopted authorizing the refund of \$353.40 in taxes collected through illegal levy and clerical error from eleven (11) accounts.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 9, at Page 164.

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RESOLUTION FIXING DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, JUNE 4, ON PETITION OF REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO CLOSE A PORTION OF A PUBLIC ALLEY WITHIN THE BLOCK BOUNDED BY EAST TRADE, SOUTH COLLEGE, EAST FOURTH AND SOUTH TRYON STREETS.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, adopting a resolution fixing date of public hearing on Monday, June 4, on petition of Redevelopment Commission to close a portion of the public alley within the block bounded by East Trade, South College, East Fourth and South Tryon Streets.

The resolution is recorded in full in Resolutions Book 9, at Pages 165-166.

CONTRACTS FOR WATER MAINS AND SANITARY SEWER CONSTRUCTION, APPROVED.

Councilman Short moved approval of the following contracts for water mains and sanitary sewer construction, which motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously:

- (a) Contract with American Cyanamid Company for construction of approximately 8,600 feet of 12-inch C. I. water main and one fire hydrant to serve properties located on Wilkinson Boulevard, outside the city, at an estimated cost of \$119,000.00. The funds will be advanced by applicant under the terms of the existing city policies as related to such water main construction.
- (b) Contract with G. W. Baan and T. P. Elliott, Jr., Owners in a joint venture, for construction of approximately 400 feet of 6-inch C. I. water main and one fire hydrant to serve property abutting on Stoney Ridge Trail, outside the city, at an estimated cost of \$2,150.00. Funds will be advanced by the applicant under terms of existing city policies as related to such water main construction.
- (c) Contract with Nichols Thurman Development Company for construction of approximately 4,761 linear feet of 8-inch trunk from Taggart Creek Outfall, on the south side of I-85 along a branch to the Nichols Thurman property at I-85, near Ashley Road, inside the city, at an estimated cost of \$62,800.00. The applicant has deposited the required amount as stated in the contract. Upon acceptance of public bids, the applicant will deposit the remainder of the money.
- (d) Contract with H. B. Owsley and Son, Inc. for construction of approximately 325 linear feet of 8-inch sewer main in Grover Road, from existing sewer at its intersection with U. S. 21, thence west to Owsley property at 5701 Old Pineville Road, inside the city, at an estimated cost of \$4,600.00. The applicant has deposited 100% of the estimated cost and is non-refundable.
- (e) Contract with The Ervin Company for construction of approximately 2,135 linear feet of 8-inch and 10-inch sewer pipe to serve a portion of Walden, beginning at McAlpine Creek Outfall, thence northwest to site on Carmel Road Extension, outside the city, at an estimated cost of \$33,135.00. The applicant has deposited 10% of the estimated cost, plus the estimated cost of the right of way. Upon receiving bids on this project, the applicant will deposit the remainder of the money and is refundable as per contract.
- (f) Contract with Hobart Smith Construction Company, Inc. for construction of approximately 7,459 linear feet of 8-inch main and trunk in Heritage Woods Subdivision, east of Sardis Road, southeast of McAlpine Creek and west of Sardis Road North, outside the city, at an estimated cost of \$60,000.00. The applicant is to construct approximately 5,464 feet of 8-inch mains and approximately 1,345 feet of trunk sewers within the subdivision. The City will own, and maintain, and operate same, and receive the revenue at no cost to the City. City forces will construct approximately 650 linear feet of trunk at an estimated cost of \$5,370.00. The applicant has deposited 100% of this estimated cost and will be refunded as per agreement.

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- (g) Contract with Bob Godley Enterprises for construction of approximately 1,548 linear feet of 8-inch trunk and sewer main in Planters Industrial Park, off LaSalle Street, inside the city, at an estimated cost of \$15,000.00. The applicant is to construct this sewerage system at no cost to the City. Upon completion, the City will own, maintain and operate. All revenue generated through this system will be retained by the City.

PROPERTY TRANSACTION AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, approval was made of the acquisition of 10' x 11.83' of easement at 5320-5336 Rea Road, from Kenway Corporation, at \$1.00, for sanitary sewer to serve Five Knolls Estate Project.

AGREEMENT WITH NORFOLK AND SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, APPROVED.

Motion was made by Councilman Whittington, seconded by Councilman Withrow, and unanimously carried, approving subject agreement with Norfolk and Southern Railway Company permitting the City to construct a 12-inch C. I. water main under their tracks at Newell-Hickory Grove Road.

ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENT WITH STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION, APPROVED.

Councilman Withrow moved approval of an encroachment agreement with the State Highway Commission permitting the city to construct an 8-inch C. I. water main within the right of way of Sugar Creek Road, SR2480. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

SPECIAL OFFICER PERMITS AUTHORIZED.

Upon motion of Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, the following Special Officer permits were authorized:

- (a) Renewal of permit to Nezzie O. King for use on the premises of K-Mart, Inc., 3700 N. Independence Boulevard.
- (b) Renewal of permit to William Joshua Moses for use on the premises of Stanley Drug Stores, Inc., 1949 East Seventh Street.
- (c) Renewal of permit to Nahum R. Pillsbury, Jr. for use on the premises of Charlotte Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, 1600 East Third Street.
- (d) Renewal of permit to Stephen J. Wilson for use on the premises of Charlotte Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, 1600 East Third Street.

CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMUNITY FACILITIES COMMITTEE, AND TO THE AUDITORIUM-COLISEUM-CIVIC CENTER AUTHORITY, DEFERRED.

Councilman Short moved that consideration of appointment to the Community Facilities Committee be deferred. The motion was seconded by Councilman Withrow, and carried unanimously.

Councilman Alexander moved that consideration of appointment to the Auditorium-Coliseum-Civic Center Authority be deferred. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and carried unanimously.

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APPOINTMENT OF NICK COLLIAS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD.

Councilman Whittington moved appointment of Nick Collias to the Civil Service Board for an unexpired term to end on May 15, 1975. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

CONTRACT AWARDED KENNEDY VALVE MFG. COMPANY, INC. FOR GATE VALVES OF VARIOUS SIZES.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to the low bidder, Kennedy Valve Mfg. Company, Inc., in the amount of \$18,884.11, on a unit price basis, for gate valves of various sizes.

The following bids were received:

Kennedy Valve Mfg. Co., Inc.	\$18,884.11
Pump & Lighting Company, Inc.	19,435.18
ITT Grinnell Corporation	20,343.13
American Cast Iron Pipe Co.	20,521.20

CONTRACT AWARDED POMONA PIPE PRODUCTS FOR VITRIFIED CLAY PIPE.

Upon motion of Councilman Short, seconded by Councilman Whittington, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded the low bidder, Pomona Pipe Products, in the amount of \$49,032.00, on a unit price basis, for vitrified clay pipe required for sanitary sewer construction and maintenance in the drainage system of the City.

The following bids were received:

Pomona Pipe Products	\$49,032.00
Griffin Pipe Products Co.	51,977.00

CONTRACT AWARDED ITT GRINNELL CORPORATION FOR CORPORATION STOPS AND COUPLINGS.

Councilman Jordan moved award of contract to the low bidder, ITT Grinnell Corporation, in the amount of \$5,224.58, on a unit price basis, for corporation stops and couplings. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and carried unanimously.

The following bids were received:

ITT Grinnell Corporation	\$5,224.58
Atlas Supply Company	5,238.59
Mueller Company	5,471.70
Pump & lighting Co., Inc.	5,993.36
Hays Mfg. Division	6,214.28
Southern Meter & Supply Co.	6,218.20

CONTRACT AWARDED ITT GRINNELL CORPORATION FOR CURB STOPS.

Upon motion of Councilman Alexander, seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried, contract was awarded the low bidder, ITT Grinnell Corporation, in the amount of \$9,345.28, on a unit price basis, for curb stops.

The following bids were received:

ITT Grinnell Corp.	\$9,345.28
Atlas Supply Company	9,373.70
Mueller Company	9,764.00
The Ford Meter Box Co., Inc.	10,207.00

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CONTRACT AWARDED ITT GRINNELL CORPORATION FOR CHECK AND GATE VALVES.

Motion was made by Councilman Jordan, seconded by Councilman Alexander, and unanimously carried, awarding contract to ITT Grinnell Corporation, in the amount of \$7,713.09, on a unit price basis, for check and gate valves.

The following bids were received:

ITT Grinnell Corporation	\$7,713.09
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Bids not meeting specifications:

Atlas Supply Company	\$5,077.62
Southern Meter & Supply Company	1,545.84

CONTRACT AWARDED BELL AND HOWELL COMPANY FOR ELECTRONIC INSERTING SYSTEM FOR WATER AND SEWER ACCOUNTS DIVISION.

Councilman Whittington moved award of contract to the low-bidder, Bell & Howell Company, in the amount of \$28,895.00, for Electronic Inserting System for Water & Sewer Accounts Division. The motion was seconded by Councilman Short, and unanimously carried.

The following bids were received:

Bell & Howell Company	\$28,895.00
Pitney Bowes, Inc.	29,149.12

MOTION TO REQUEST MR. LITTLE TO DELAY THE DEMOLITION OF THE BANK BUILDING AT 122 SOUTH TRYON STREET THROUGH THE MONTH OF MAY.

Dr. Douglas M. Glasgow, President of the Mecklenburg Historical Association, stated he is appearing before Council concerning the old bank building at 122 South Tryon Street. He stated it has a tremendous amount of history involved, and it is unfortunate that this most historic building is on such an expensive lot; but it might be saved if they can get enough people concerned. He stated their concern is that this building is where banking began in Charlotte, where the confederacy had either its last meeting, or the next to the last meeting, where the Charlotte Observer was founded, where the Mecklenburg County Medical Society started and its journal was begun and published for a number of years, where the Southern Manufacturers Club, which started much of Charlotte's business and which was the social center of Charlotte long before country clubs and where a number of churches met initially and then moved elsewhere.

Dr. Glasgow stated they feel this building is such a part of Charlotte that every effort possible should be made to save it. They have been told that it is in an unfortunate location, ruining a piece of prime property. But if it were already preserved, the builders, architects, could get around this and still put up the Empire State building, or whatever they wanted to over, around it or behind it. They feel this building is of much importance; it is something that is uniquely Charlotte. He stated a City is like a person, it should have its own personality. We must have these skyscrapers and the other buildings that make for progress and for business, but we should also keep a few of the things that make us a unique city and are unique to Charlotte. In our rush, we have allowed most of the things that are uniquely Charlotte to disappear. This is one of the last two buildings that existed prior to 1860, the old First Presbyterian Church being the other. Therefore they feel a special effort should be made to preserve this building if there is anyway possible. He stated that is the reason they are here today.

Dr. Glasgow stated they appeared before the County Commissioners today, and they adopted a very nice resolution. He stated they feel if they had a little more time a fair effort could be made. If they can not do something by the end of May, then no one could point their finger at Mr. Little and say that he had not been fair. Dr. Glasgow stated they would like to have the rest of May to make this effort.

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After a lengthy discussion, Councilman Whittington moved that Council request Mr. Little to delay the demolition of this building through the month of May, and if, at that time, the Historical Commission, Dr. Glasgow's group, and the city and county cannot do anything, then we should not proceed beyond that point. The motion was seconded by Councilman Alexander, and carried unanimously.

Later in the meeting, Councilman Withrow requested that the following letter be made a part of the minutes:

May 4, 1973 . . .

The Editor
The Charlotte Observer
Charlotte, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

There has been so much comment about the preservation of the old bank building on South Tryon that I decided to poll the other trustees of the Mecklenburg Historical Association to get their opinions. I reached a majority of them and they were unanimously of the same opinion that I am.

As history enthusiasts, we of course would hope to preserve as many historic buildings as possible, but we are reasonable, sensible citizens and not impractical dreamers. We believe that a million and a half dollars is an insuperable barrier to the preservation of a building of the quality of the building in question. Any possible fund raising plan might raise a few hundred thousand dollars, but an attempt at any larger sum would be futile. In military parlance, we believe it unwise to waste men and ammunition on a position that cannot be taken. In our considered judgment the odds are too great against us; it is not a practical undertaking. Our efforts will be more wisely spent on raising funds for preservation projects that are already underway.

Although we deeply regret that this building must be destroyed, our sorrow at its passing is lessened somewhat by the fact that there is nothing worthwhile left of the original building. All of the woodwork, the plastering, and flooring is gone, and the brickwork is irreparable damaged by the immovable cement stucco. Only a shell is left. Nothing of the original building would show. Is it worth a million and a half dollars? We doubt it.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Stenhouse, Chairman
Historic Sites Committee of the
Mecklenburg Historical Association."

CITIZEN SPEAKS ON SEVERAL DIFFERENT SUBJECTS.

Mrs. Clara Skurla, 737 Lockridge Road, also spoke on the restoration of the Bank Building at 122 South Tryon Street.

Mrs. Skurla stated The Children's Theatre had their grand opening and no member of Council was present and they were very disappointed. During the discussion, Councilman Short requested Mrs. Skurla to express to Mrs. Phyllis Robertson the Councilmembers' regrets because they did not receive an invitation.

Mrs. Skurla also reminded Council this is "Be Kind to Animal Week", and stated if this is true then why are the dogs in Charlotte, made by law, to be kept penned up, or leashed. Leasing dogs makes them mean. She asked why we do not take dog obedience schools into the neighborhoods and assist these people who do not know how to train their pets.

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MOTION TO ESTABLISH A 1975 CELEBRATION COMMITTEE LEFT ON TABLE FOR ONE WEEK.

Mayor Belk asked if there would be any benefit to appointing a committee for the May 20, 1975 Celebration of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. That at the Bi-centennial the City and County did back this, and it pushed the Alexander Home and Polk Home in Pineville which was a restored facsimile. He asked if it would not be better to have something to work on and tie in with that year. Some of these other areas, not just in Charlotte, but in the surrounding areas, could be brought in. Dr. Glasgow stated it would; that this has been talked about privately, and it is hoped we can really have something in 1975. There are some people trying to authenticate more accurately the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Even the doubters say "if you can find something, wouldn't it be great?" That he thinks we should have a grand celebration in 1975. Mayor Belk suggested that they consider who they would like on the committee, and the city and county will get it rolling for 1975. This will not relieve the present problem but it will have affect on others of similar type.

Councilman Alexander moved that Council establish a 1975 Celebration Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jordan, and left on the table for one week.

CITY MANAGER REQUESTED TO REPLY TO LETTER FROM JACK MOORE ON THE EXTENSION OF PARK ROAD AND THE WSOC EDITORIAL ON VIOLATION OF NO PARKING SIGNS.

Councilman McDuffie requested the City Manager to write a letter to Mr. Jack L. Moore, 3019 Parkstone Drive, in reply to his note written on the flyer which was handed out in his neighborhood about the extension of Park Road. He stated he believes the good citizens like this should receive an answer. That Mr. Moore is in favor of extending Park Road, while the flyer put out by a neighborhood group, is talking against it.

Councilman McDuffie stated WSOC had an editorial about the violation of NO Parking by trucks. He requested the City Manager to answer the editorial. That the editorial says to take down the signs or enforce the regulations.

SUGGESTION THAT \$10 FINE FOR LITTERING BE INCREASED TO \$50 FINE.

Councilman Withrow stated the litter ordinance contains a fine of \$10.00; that he would like to suggest that it be raised from \$10 to \$50. If we make a \$50 fine out of this, he believes people will think twice before throwing anything out of cars and trucks. That he would like for Council to think about increasing this to a \$50 fine.

Councilman Withrow stated he understands the police officers only have citations for traffic violations, and he would like to suggest that we find out the cost of making citations specifically for littering, and this be given to the policemen in order that they can give out tickets.

The City Attorney stated the forms that were used were declared illegal by the courts; they were not proper citations. The City of Raleigh had everyone of their parking tickets thrown out because of the form they were using. Now they have gone to this uniform form that meets the requirements of the law. That he does not think the city would want to tamper with this form, but would want to draw up a separate citation.

Councilman Short requested the City Attorney to comment on the fact that the \$10 is not a fine in the criminal sense but is a civil penalty. Mr. Underhill replied that is exactly right; it is not a criminal fine. Right now the violation of the state law for littering is a \$50 or \$100 fine. If the officer charges you with the violation of a city ordinance, then you can be subject to a maximum penalty of \$50.00 or 30 days, or both. The penalty you put in usually is something that would allow an inspector, someone in Community Improvement, to write a civil citation as opposed to citing someone to court on a criminal warrant.

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Councilman Short stated he is not opposed to what Mr. Withrow is saying; but he brought this up to point out there are some advantages in what we have now. A \$10 civil penalty can be levied by various employees and that does not have to be the police, and this broadens the opportunity to catch people. Councilman Withrow replied the thing is we are not catching anyone. He stated he thinks just bringing this up will instill a little sense of pride in people that we need to really go all out to try to instill pride in our people to not do this sort of thing.

SUGGESTION THAT CITY TAKE ACTION TO DO AWAY WITH THE USE OF DISPOSABLE BOTTLES.

Councilman Withrow stated a lot of states are doing away with disposable bottles. These bottles not only create the littering we are talking about, but it creates a problem in the landfills. That he thinks Charlotte should think about this, and if it should be done from the State level he thinks we should go to the State Representatives.

REQUEST THAT STATE HIGHWAY ENGINEER SIGN I-85 AND I-77 AND HAVE FENCES CHECKED TO KEEP PEDESTRIANS OFF THE EXPRESSWAYS.

Councilman Whittington requested the City Manager to write Mr. Perrin Anderson and the Chief Highway Engineer in Albemarle, and request them to sign I-77 and I-85 and to check the fences as pedestrians are going from one side of the expressways to the other. He stated that is like being on a tight rope over the Grand Canyon with the wind blowing 50 MPH. That he does not know how we can stop it.

The City Manager advised he has already written them.

LETTER OF COMMENDATION FROM PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES TO POLICE CHIEF GOODMAN.

Councilman Whittington stated all members of Council received a copy of a letter from the White House to Chief Goodman, dated April 16. He asked that it be made a part of the record, and that a letter of commendation be sent to Chief Goodman from the City Council.

The letter is as follows:

"THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 16, 1973

Dear Chief Goodman:

For the first time since 1955 serious crime in the United States has actually declined. All Americans are greatly heartened by this event, and may have worked to bring it about.

But the major credit for turning the tide against the criminal forces in America belongs to our nation's law enforcement officers. This is particularly true of the men and women who serve on the front lines in our nation's major cities.

In your city of Charlotte, serious crime has been cut by 11.8 per cent and every member of your department is to be congratulated on this outstanding achievement. These results are a tribute to your leadership and to the dedication and professionalism of Charlotte's law enforcement team.

Our fight to make our cities safe is far from over. But we have reached a critical turning point, and you may be assured that I continue to stand with you in this cause. In the months ahead, I will do everything I can to help build the citizen support you must have to free our nation from the menace of crime.

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On behalf of every law-abiding American, I salute the men and the leadership of the Charlotte Police Department.

Sincerely,

Richard Nixon

Mr. J. C. Goodman, Jr.
Chief of Police
Department of Police
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202"

TRAFFIC ENGINEERING DIRECTOR REQUESTED TO STUDY MAKING SEVENTH STREET FROM LAUREL TO NORTH TRYON IN THE MORNINGS AND NORTH TRYON TO LAUREL IN THE EVENINGS ONE WAY ON THREE LANES - TOWARD ALLEVIATING SOME OF THE TRAFFIC PROBLEMS ON INDEPENDENCE.

Councilman Whittington requested that the Traffic Engineer make a study of making East Seventh Street, one way on three lanes in the morning, from Laurel Avenue to North Tryon Street - that would leave one lane going in the opposite direction - and the same thing from North Tryon Street to Laurel Avenue in the evening. He stated the idea would be the same as what was done on Fourth Street when Third Street was under construction. He stated this is a further way that we can see if there is anything that can be done to eliminate this traffic on Independence Boulevard, particularly at the peak hours. All he is asking is that a study be made.

APPRECIATION EXPRESSED TO CITY STAFF FOR THE WORK BEING DONE IN MARSHALL PARK AND TENTATIVE DATE FOR FORMAL DEDICATION SET FOR JUNE 2.

Councilman Short stated he would like to express his personal appreciation for the work that has been done at Marshall Park, and he is probably speaking for all the councilmembers. Mr. Bobo, Mr. Hopson, Mr. Guerrant and Mr. Tom McDermott have worked very hard on this park, and the results are now showing. He stated the tentative date for the formal dedication and opening of the park is now June 2 with a city-wide picnic in the park and on the walkway, and a band concert.

NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM TO BE SET UP TO ASSIST CITIZENS OVER THE AGE OF 60 BY PROVIDING HUNDREDS OF MEALS DURING THE COURSE OF A DAY.

Councilman Short stated through the Older American's Act, which is a federal act setting up a program to assist those over the age of 60, Charlotte will receive, beginning June 1, a nutritional program which will amount to hundreds of meals during the course of a day for older people. He stated he is bragging about this a little bit as Council's delegate to COG. That Centralina COG sought to get this program implemented in Charlotte, and they are advised it will be implemented. The money is essentially federal money that goes through the State. Most of it is earmarked for rural areas. A certain amount was set up for urban areas, and there was only enough for one of the larger cities in the State, and Charlotte has been selected as that larger city. He stated this will be an excellent program for elderly people here.

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING RECOMMENDING MORE STREET LIGHTS IN HIGH CRIME AREAS.

Councilman Short requested that the Council Agenda for the next meeting include an appearance by the Chamber of Commerce Community Action Committee to speak on the subject of more street lights in high crime areas. He stated he has had the pleasure of conferring with this Committee, and they are going to give Council some real interesting information about crime reduction through the use of additional street lighting. Councilman Short requested also that Mr. Hoose, Chief Goodman and perhaps Mr. Connerat be present for this portion of the agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION OF COUNCIL CALLED TO CONFER WITH CITY ATTORNEY.

Councilman Short moved that the City Council hold an Executive Session in the Second Floor Conference Room, at the conclusion of this meeting, for the purpose of conferring with the City Attorney on the status of a lawsuit entitled "Home Furniture Company, et al. vs. Romney, et al", in accordance with G.S. 143-318.3. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Easterling, and carried unanimously.

MOTION APPOINTING ARCHITECTS FOR FIRE STATION SITES TO BE PLACED ON AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING.

Councilman Short stated at an earlier date there was some discussion of architects for fire stations. On March 5, Council publicly mentioned the names of three architects for this purpose; and the architects named at that time for two fire stations was one in the Carmel-Providence area, and one in the Nations Ford area. Mr. Jim Malcolm was named for the Carmel-Providence area, and Mr. Chuck Wheatley for the Nations Ford area.

He stated he appreciates and approves of the system for selecting architects that the City Manager has suggested to Council by memorandum dated May 2. But before Council can move into this sort of procedures, it will have to honor the arrangements Council has already made.

Councilman Short moved that Council proceed with the appointment of Mr. Jim Malcolm for the Carmel-Providence area fire station, and Mr. Chuck Wheatley for the Nations Ford area fire station. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and left on the table for one week.

PROCEDURES FOR SELECTION OF ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS TO BE PLACED ON AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING.

Councilman Alexander stated sometime ago he raised the question about Council's procedures for the selection of architects and engineers. That the City Manager and Staff has come up with a proposed suggestion, and he moved that these procedures be placed on the Council agenda for the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Whittington, and left on the table for one week.

Additional information was requested on Items 2 and 4 in the memorandum to be a part of the information at the next meeting.

REQUEST THAT TAX RATE BE HELD OR LOWERED.

Councilman Jordan stated he is sure all the Department Heads are making their requests for budget items this year, and Councilmembers are getting a number of requests from different organizations to provide funds for this year. That he personally would like to see us, if at all possible, to hold the tax rate as it is, or even to lower it. He thinks Council should be very careful in considering all the requests it is getting.

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INFORMATION REQUESTED ON REVENUE SHARING, AMBULANCE SERVICE AND NURSERIES.

Mayor Belk stated he has talked to the City Manager about the following three subjects at one time, and he would like them to be a part of the record.

He stated we have a lot of revenue sharing that has been promised us. That he thinks we should find all the agencies we have, and the people involved in any of these, or any of the programs we might adjust to and get lined up for this.

That he gets questions all the time from people wanting to know about the revenue sharing for this or that project. Since Revenue Sharing is coming in, he thinks we should be prepared for it.

Mayor Belk requested the City Manager to bring Council a summary of all the nurseries in Charlotte.

Mayor Belk requested that Dr. Carr and his Committee review the ambulance service, and bring Council their recommendations on whether there should be any change in the service or if it should be left the way it is now.

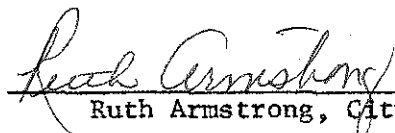
COUNCIL ADVISED OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING ON MAY 10, AND THAT BUDGET PRESENTATION FOR THE CITY WILL BE MADE ON MAY 25.

The City Manager reminded Council that the Transportation Committee will meet on Thursday, May 10, at 3:30 p.m.

He stated the budget presentation will be made to Council on May 25, at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT.

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


Ruth Armstrong, City Clerk