MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL HELD ON FEBRUARY 14, 1940

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The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Chapel Hill held its regular monthly meeting in the Town Hall on February 14, 1940, with Mayor Foushee presiding and the following aldermen present: Messrs. P. L. Burch, R. J. M. Hobbs, F. O. Bowman, R. W. Madry, G. B. Hellen, and P. H. Robertson. Also present were C. P. Hinshaw, E. E. Peacock, J. L. Caldwell and A. R. Hollett.

Subject: Changing of East Side of North Columbia Between Rosemary and North Sts. from Residence Zone B to Business Zone #2.

Mr. S. H. Basnight and Mr. L. J. Phipps appeared before the Board in the interest of the change and urged immediate attention to the petition. It was stated by the Mayor that the Zoning Committee had taken no action since a quorum was not present at the meeting. The attorney stated that an advertisement should appear in the local paper at least twice for a public hearing which is prerequisite to any change.

Upon motion by Alderman Burch and seconded by Alderman Hellen, the Board of Aldermen moved that the petition be granted and set Friday, February 23, 1940, at 4 P.M. as the date of a public hearing at which time the Board of Aldermen will hold a called meeting to hear from the public and to adopt an ordinance changing the zone if approved by the public.

Mr. Caldwell was instructed to send notices to interested parties.

Subject: Presentation of Placque by Movie Guild.

The Movie Guild appeared in a body to donate to the Town a placque with the names of Town officials responsible for the Town Hall inscribed upon it. In a short speech in behalf of the Movie Guild Mr. E. C. Smith presented the placque and Mayor Foushee accepted it, expressing the Town's appreciation and gratefulness.

Subject: Petition by Mr. A. T. Morris to change a part of McCauley Street from Resident Zone A to Resident Zone B.

Mr. A. T. Morris presented a petition to the Board asking that the area on both sides of McCauley Street between Ransom Street and a proposed street known as Pritchard Street be changed from Resident Zone A to Resident Zone B.

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The Board of Aldermen accepted the petition and agreed that McCauley Street from Pittsboro Road west to the proposed Pritchard Street be changed from Resident Zone "A" to "B".

Upon motion by Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Hellen, the Board of Aldermen moved to have published in the Chapel Hill Weekly the following two weeks a notice of public hearing pursuant to the change, This hearing to be held the same time, February 28, at 4 P.M., as the preceeding hearing heretofore set out.

Subject: Changing of Area in the Northwest corner of the Town, Encircled by Rosemary Street and Mitchell Lane, from Resident Zone A to Resident Zone B.

At the suggestion of Attorney Hinshaw the Board of Aldermen, upon motion by Alderman Robertson and seconded by Alderman Hellen, moved to hold a hearing at the same date set out above to change the area in the Northwest corner of the Town bounded on the north and west by the Town line, on the south by Rosemary Street, and on the east by Mitchell Lane, which is a development from the W. H. Craig Estate and Emma Whitaker properties, from Resident Zone A to Resident Zone B.

Subject: Report that Live Stock Being Kept in Town.

Alderman Bowman reported that he had received several complaints about someone keeping horses within the corporate limits in the prohibited area in violation of a Town Ordinance. The Board instructed the Town Manager to have Chief Sloan inform the party to move the horses out of the restricted area.

Subject: Sewer Plant Extension.

Mr.Caldwell reported that he thought W.P.A. aid could be secured and that it could be constructed with W.P.A. help. A W.P.A. representative is expected within the next few days to help work up a project.

Subject: Ransom Street Overhead Bridge.

The Board asked Mr. Hollett concerning the plans of the University in regard to the disposition of the overhead bridge on Ransom Street. Mr. Hollett stated that the railroad is being torn down and a walking tunnel being constructed. The street will be filled in and the grade extended back 100 feet on each side of the street.

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The University is anxious to hear from the Town in regard to its wishes concerning the grade of the street. It is now very dangerous as the street is very steep at the bridge.

Upon motion by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Hellen, the Board of Aldermen asked that the University be requested, in its operations, to put the street into proper condition, cut down the grade, and pave and gutter the street after the bridge has been torn down.

Subject: Codification of Ordinances.

Alderman Hobbs reported that the codified laws prepared by the W.P.A. had been turned over to Mr. Albert Coats of the Institute of Government who promised to complete the codification by June.

The Board instructed the Clerk to write Mr. Coats thanking him for his work and suggesting that as the work progresses to submit the finished portions to the committee and board for approval.

Subject: Widening of Highway by Carolina Inn.

Mr. Caldwell read a letter from Mr. Burton of the State Highway Division in regard to the project of widening the highway by the Carolina Inn after the underpass has been taken down by the University. The Highway Department wants a right-of-way by the Inn without cost.

Upon motion by Alderman Robertson and seconded by Alderman Hellen, the Board of Aldermen asked that a letter be sent to President Graham informing him of the Highway proposition and urging him to take the necessary steps to produce a clear right-of-way.

Upon motion by Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Bowman, the Board of Aldermen followed Mr. Hollett's suggestion by resolving that a committee composed of members from the Board of Aldermen, School Board, and University should meet and go ahead with plans for securing the right-of-way and ironing out preliminary details.

Subject: Report of Committee to Investigate Requests of Volunteer Firemen.

Alderman Burch reported that the firemen did not wish any salary or attendance fee for their services, but wanted to use the money which was placed in the budget for use of the fire department as a fund from which members could be reimbursed for damages to clothing while attending fires. If any of this money is unspent at the end of the fiscal year, the firemen want it turned over to them to be placed in their treasury for use as they see fit. The firemen will appoint a committee of three to handle all claims and pass on the expenditure of the money .

The committee recommends that the requests be granted.

Upon motion by Alderman Burch and seconded by Alderman Hellen, the Board of Aldermen accepted the recommendation of the committee and granted the request of the volunteer firemen.

Mr. Burch stated that the volunteers also wanted the Board to adopt a policy in regard to the time of service after which a volunteer may be put on the inactive list and still have his insurance paid by the Town. The firemen suggest that all new men taken in be between the ages of 21 and 27, and that after reaching the age of 50 they may retire with their insurance continued by the Town if they have served faithfully and attended 60% or more of the fires.

Upon motion by Alderman Burch and seconded by Alderman Madry, the Board of Aldermen accepted the recommendation of the firemen and adopted the following policy: All firemen hereinafter elected to the department must be between the ages of 21 and 27. If after becoming 50 years of age, which means he has served the department from 23 to 29 years, he should wish to retire and be placed on the inactive list with insurance paid so long as he might live, he can do so if he has attended as many as sixty per cent (60%) of the fires. Any present member, if after becoming 50, has become permanently disabled and has served the department faithfully for 25 or more years, may be put on the inactive list with insurance paid by the Town. The Board requests that a permanent attendance record of each fire be kept and an annual report on attendance be presented to the Board along with an annual financial report of the department.

Subject: Petition to Put Evergreen Lane in Shape.

Mr. Caldwell read a petition from citizens using Evergreen Lane requesting the Town to put it in shape.

Upon motion by Alderman Hellen and seconded by Alderman Robertson, the Board of Aldermen authorized the Town Manager to put Evergreen Lane in passible condition.

Subject: Sewer Rental Collected by Town and due Miss Josephine Pritchard.

Mr. Caldwell stated that several years ago Miss Josephine Pritchard had a sewer line constructed on Ransom Street from McCauley Street to a point in front of the Paulsen House.

She entered into a contract with the Town on the 12th day of April, 1933, that as connections were made to the line, the property owner would pay the town the regular sewer rental charge, and as these rents are paid the town will reimburse Miss Pritchard until she has

fully recovered the amount of her original expenditure. Several payments were made but it was then decided to wait until enough had been collected to pay the balance due which is $360.66. Mr. Caldwell stated that this had now been done and that it was in order to pay Miss Pritchard the balance.

Upon motion by Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Hobbs, the Board of Aldermen authorized the City Manager to pay Miss Josephine Pritchard $360.66, the balance due on her contract.

Subject: Beer License of George Edwards.

Mr. Caldwell stated that Chief Sloan wanted to know the wishes of the Board in regard to the issuance of Beer License to George Edwards who is operating a cafe in the Old Colored Theatre and selling beer. He has not applied for the Town license as yet, and Chief Sloan recommends that the Board not grant him any beer license as his past record is bad. Other testimony was given as to his bad character.

The Board of Aldermen instructed that Chief Sloan forbid George Edwards from selling beer in Chapel Hill.

Subject: Letter from Mr. Ralph Trimble in regard to Transit.

Mr. Caldwell read a letter from Mr. Trimble who offered $75.00 to purchase an old transit which the Town owns and is slightly damaged.

Upon suggestion of Alderman Madry the Board of Aldermen asked the Mayor to investigate the matter and recommend to the Board.

Subject: Auditor's Report.

Mr. Peacock suggested that the Town keep a permanent inventory record of all equipment owned by the Town. At the end of every fiscal year the head of each department should turn in to the City Manager an inventory of his department. This should be entered on the permanent record kept in the office and checked against that record to see if it agrees.

Upon motion by Alderman Hellen and seconded by Alderman Robertson, the Board of Aldermen authorized the City Manager to start a permanent inventory record as suggested by the auditor.

Gasoline checked up approximately five gallons over during the past month. Vouchers were supported better this month. One small check to Edwin Caldwell for a damage claim was discussed. It was pointed out that all claims should be passed on by the attorney. The budget statement was reviewed and showed a 2.8% over expenditure to date.

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Subject: Tax Refund to G. S. Lane.

Due to an error in addition on the abstract of Mr. G. S. Lane, his personal property valuation was overstated by $400 and taxes erroneously charged on the incorrect valuation. Taxes in the amount of $6.44 should be refunded as a result of the error.

Upon motion by Alderman Bowman and seconded byAlderman Hobbs, the Board of Aldermen authorized the City Manager to make a refund to Mr. G. S. Lane of $6.44 for 1939 taxes erroneously paid.

Subject: Stenographic Services for Town Office.

Mr. Caldwell stated that all the money in the budget for stenographic help had been expended and asked the Board to appropriate enough out of the contingency fund to carry over through June.

Upon motion by Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Burch, the Board of Aldermen appropriated up to $195.00 out of the contingency fund to be used for stenographic services in the Town office.

Subject: Preparation for Sale of Bonds.

The Board asked the Manager to invite Mr. Morehead, Bond Attorney, over for the next regular meeting in order to lay plans for the sale of necessary bonds during the next fiscal year.

Subject: Letter from World's Fair.

The Mayor read a letter stating that the World's Fair Committee would like to hold a Chapel Hill Day next summer if the Town would send the High School Band to New York. The Board asked the Mayor to investigate.

Subject: Parking Meters.

Upon motion of Alderman Bowman, seconded by Alderman Robertson, the Mayor appointed a committee of Aldermen Bowman and Burch to investigate the possibility of using parking meters in the business district along Franklin Street.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

R. L. Swain

Town Clerk