MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL HELD DECEMBER 11, 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 December 11, 1940. Mayor Foushee presided and the following Aldermen were present: Messrs. P. L. Burch, G.B.Hellen, R. J. M. Hobbs, R. W. Madry, F. O. Bowman, P. H. Robertson. Also present were J. L. Caldwell, C. P. Hinshaw and E. E. Peacock. The minutes of the last regular meeting and called meeting were read by the Clerk and approved by the Board.

Subject: Traffic Conditions on Franklin Street.

Alderman Bowman brought to the attention of the Board the need of more strict enforcement of the traffic ordinance in regard to double parking and speeding on Franklin Street within the business district. He was of the opinion that more attention should be paid to double parking than the riding of bicycles by children on the sidewalks. After considerable discussion, Alderman Hobbs suggested that a committee be appointed to study the traffic situation on Franklin Street and bring some recommendation before the Board.

The Mayor asked Aldermen Burch and Bowman to meet with Chief Sloan and report any recommendations for improvement.

The Clerk was asked to write Superintendent Honeycutt and the Principals of each school requesting that they announce in chapel the ordinance prohibiting the riding of bicycles on the sidewalks in Chapel Hill.

Subject: Barbecue Supper for 100 Visiting South Americans.

Alderman Hellen reported that he had not discussed the matter with the Kiwanis Club, but was of the opinion that the Club would be glad to cooperate with the Town in sponsoring the supper.

Alderman Madry stated that the Rotary Club had agreed to participate in the affair and might make some additional contribution, other than their regular dinner fee, if necessary.

Alderman Robertson reported that the American Legion would see that $5.00 is contributed toward the supper. Upon motion by Alderman Madry and seconded by Alderman Bowman, the Board of Aldermen authorized the same Committee to investigate and ascertain what it willcost to give the supper and then have a special meeting called to formulate more definite plans.

Subject: Bond to Refund West Franklin Street Debt.

Mr. Morehead, Bond Attorney, appeared before the Board and stated that he and Mr. John Manning had drawn an act authorizing the Town to fund the West Franklin Street debt. The other act gave authority to correct the assessment, but did not authorize payment. There has been some question as to whether this refund is a debt or not, and this new

act will clarify this point. Mr. Morehead asked permission to submit the proposed act to the New York Bond Attorneys for approval.

Upon motion by Alderman Bowman, seconded by Alderman Hellen, the Board of Aldermen authorized Mr. Morehead to submit the act to the New York Bond Attorneys for approval and afterwards be turned over to our representative to be passed by the Legislature at the next General Assembly.

Subject: Discussion on Fire Truck and Street Improvement Bonds.

The Mayor stated that the Board should be thinking about the matters which the Town iscontemplating issuing bonds to finance. Alderman Burch reported that the University had not committed itself in regard to paying one-half the cost of the fire truck. Alderman Hellen suggested that the Town should have modern equipment, and that an estimate of cost should be submitted to the University in time to get into their budget request for next year.

Upon motion of Burch and seconded by Alderman Madry, the Board of Aldermen agreed that the Town should approach the University on the matter and see if they would be willing to go 50-50 in the purchase of fire equipment which would cost approximately $11,500.00, and that the information be presented to them in time to get it in their budget request to the Legislature.

The Mayor appointed Mr. Burch and Mr. Madry to convey the resolution to the proper University authorities.

The Board asked the Committee to stress the need of the new equipment, give the capacity of the new and old truck, and present figures on the cost of new equipment and of an additional fireman.

Subject: Privilege Licenses on out of town bakeries.

The Mayor stated that Mrs. Neal had asked him to bring before the Board the question of charging privilege licenses on out of town bakeries. The Board of Aldermen questioned the legality of such licenses. The Town Attorney stated that he would have to investigate the matter before rendering an opinion.

Upon motion by Alderman Robertson, and seconded by Alderman Hobbs, the Board of Aldermen referred the matter to the Town Attorney for an opinion.

Subject: Historical Marker for Chapel Hill.

Alderman Hobbs reported that in a recent conversation with A. R. Newsome he learned that the North Carolina Historical Society was ready

to give to the Town and erect a historical marker designating Chapel Hill as the home of the University of North Carolina, and giving dates and the history of the place. The marker has already been made and is ready for the Town to receive it.

Upon motion by Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Hellen, The Board of Aldermen agreed to accept the marker which will be placed at a place satisfactory to a committee composed of the Town Manager, the Mayor, Mr. Burch, member of the Board, and two representatives from the campus committee.

Subject: Publishing fire cracker ordinance.

The Board asked the Clerk to have published in the Chapel Hill Weekly the fire cracker ordinance and asked that the Chief of Police be instructed to enforce the ordinance.

Subject: Community Christmas Tree.

Upon motion by Alderman Burch, and seconded by Alderman Madry, the Board of Aldermen agreed to furnish the community Christmas tree as in past years and authorized the expenditure charged to the contingency fund.

Subject: Refund of taxes to Buck Barnette.

Upon motion by Alderman Hellen and seconded by Alderman Bowman, The Board of Aldermen authorized the refund of $2.48 to Buck Barnette for taxes charged and paid erroneously, as Buck Barnette lives outside of the Town limits.

Subject: Rock Wall on Pittsboro Highway by Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and High School.

Mr. Caldwell reported that the W.P.A. had improved the sidewalk in front of the High School and had constructed a rock wall on the property line from McCauley Street to the High School. Due to the dangerous drive from the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity into the highway the wall was continued without interuption thus closing the drive into the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Mr. Caldwell reported that the fraternity boys several years ago had agreed to the closing of this driveway if the Town built them an entrance to the rear of their property. This has been done, and now since the drive in front of the fraternity has been closed, the boys are protesting, claiming that it is now more dangerous than when open.

Upon motion by Alderman Hellen and seconded by Alderman Bowman, the Board of Aldermen authorized that the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity be notified that it is the consensus of the Board that the driveway should be closed in the interest of public safety and to safeguard the school children using the sidewalk.

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Subject: Street Lights on West University Drive.

Mr. Caldwell stated that there was some disagreement among the residents on West University Drive as to where they want the street light placed. Alderman Madry suggested that the Board not take any action until the people agree and the Board concurred.

Subject: Town Ordinances.

Mr. Caldwell stated that he had tried to get the ordinances which the W.P.A. codified from Mr. Albert Coates, but was unsuccessful. The Board asked the Town Attorney to aid the Manager in securing the ordinances for the next meeting.

Subject: Fire Hydrant for Pottersfield.

Mr. Caldwell stated that the University Electric and Water Division could not run a water line for the hydrant at present, but would consider the request at a later date.

Subject: Beautification of the Business District.

Mr. Caldwell reported that it had come to his attention that if Mr. Hill were approached on the subject of improving the architecture on the front of his building, he might start the process of making the appearance of the business houses to conform with the architecture of the University.

Alderman Madry moved the appointment of a committee with Alderman Hobbs as chairman to investigate the possibility of beautifying the business district. Alderman Hellen seconded and the Board approved.

The Mayor appointed Aldermen Burch and Madry to serve on the Committee with Alderman Hobbs.

Subject: Bus Station.

The City Manager reported that he had written officials of the bus company in regard to making different arrangements for loading and unloading passengers after the expiration of their lease on the present bus station, but had not received a reply as yet.

Alderman Bowman and Burch, who were appointed on a committee to investigate the bus situation, agreed to go to Raleigh on Wednesday to investigate the matter.

Subject: Vacancy on Cemetery Committee.

The Board deferred the matter until the next meeting and asked Alderman Hobbs to see Mr. Suggs and find out from him who takes an active interest in the cemetery.

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Subject: The Street Committee stated that it would make a recommendation at the next meeting in regard to the improving of a street in the new negro development in Whitaker Field.

Subject: Complaint by Charles Valentine.

Alderman Robertson reported that Mr. Valentine had complained to him that the Town garbage truck had failed to gather his garbage and trash. City Manager reported that Mr. Valentine's garbage containers did not conform to the regulations of the Town. The Board of Aldermen authorized that Mr. Valentine be instructed to conform with the law and his garbage and trash would be collected without delay.

Subject: Community Center for Negroes.

Alderman Hobbs reported that the project had been approved, but that the last word received was that in the interest of national defense the Government had postponed the project. Colonel Pratt is to go to Raleigh in the near future to revive interest in the project.

Subject: City Manager reported that the W.P.A. was getting along nicely with the sewer plant extension.

Subject: Street Committee Report.

Alderman Madry stated that the Street Committee had conferred with Colonel Pratt for suggestions and had gone over most of the streets. The Committee recommended that the University be asked to close the drive leading into the parking lot back of Graham Memorial, as the driveway from Franklin Street is very steep and dangerous. Another entrance to this parking lot is located just east of this driveway.

Upon motion of Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Hellen, the Board of Aldermen accepted the recommendation of the Street Committee in regard to requesting the University to close the driveway.

The Street Committee reported that the sidewalk in front of Battle Dormitory and between Battle Dormitory and the old Methodist Church is in very bad shape. The Committee recommends that the sidewalk be graded level and that the slope to the street be terraced with rock steps the distance between Battle Dormitory and the old Methodist Church, and suggested that the University might bear a portion of the cost.

Alderman Madry moved the appointment of a committee to confer with the University authorities and work out some plan for improving the sidewalk at the aforesaid place.

Alderman Hellen seconded the motion, and the Board of Aldermen approved.

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The Mayor appointed the Street Committee of Aldermen Robertson and Madry and Alderman Hobbs to serve on the Committee.

Subject: Police Department.

Alderman Bowman stated that he would like to make an observation concerning the Police Department. He stated that the question of "where are our policemen" had been asked several times recently and that he would like to bring it to the attention of the Board. Alderman Burch answered that there are only two policemen on duty at any one time and that they spend a good deal of their time at dangerous corners near the schools, circulating through the campus, out on calls, etc.

The Board of Aldermen asked Mr. Burch to instruct Chief Sloan to enforce the speeding laws on Main Street more vigorously.

The Clerk read the Police Report for November.

Subject: Auditor's Report.

Mr. Peacock stated that the gas report was off badly for November. This was probably caused by carelessness in making out the cards, that several cards were dropped in the box without having any amounts placed on them. The Board asked the City Manager to instruct the firemen to be more careful in filling out the cards. The auditor stated that all checks were in order for November.

Subject: Letter from Baptist Church.

The Bptist Church wrote a letter to the Board asking that they be notified when the Board is to consider a proposed change in the zoning law to permit a service station to be erected on Columbia Street in front of the Baptist Church.

The Board of Aldermen instructed the Clerk to answer the letter stating that when this proposed change is brought to the attention of the Board for consideration, the Baptist Church will be notified and its interest considered.

Subject: Revenue Anticipation Note. ✓

Upon motion by Alderman Hellen and seconded by Alderman Hobbs, the Board of Aldermen adopted the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL:

Section 1. That the Revenue Note in the amount of $7,500 dated October 3, 1940, and due January 3, 1941, payable at the Concord National Bank, Concord, North Carolina, be renewed as the Town does not

have in its treasury sufficient funds to pay the principal at maturity.

Section 2. That the Renewal Note be dated January 3, 1941, and mature April 3, 1941, bearing interest at the rate of 2¼% per annum and payable at the Concord National Bank, Concord, North Carolina.

Section 3. That the original note was issued pursuant to the Municipal Finance Act, 1921, as amended, for necessary expenses and for the purpose of meeting appropriations made for the current fiscal year and in anticipation of the collection of taxes and revenues of the current fiscal year.

Section 4. That the Mayor and Clerk of the Town of Chapel Hill be authorized to sign the note under the corporate seal of the Town.

Signed: J. M. Foushee, Mayor
W. S. Swaim, Clerk

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

W. S. Swaim
Town Clerk