MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL HELD JANUARY 19, 1942 IN THE TOWN HALL

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The Board of Aldermen held its regular monthly meeting in the Town Hall on January 19, 1942, with Mayor Foushee presiding and the following Aldermen present: Messrs. R. J. M. Hobbs, P. L. Burch, G. O. Davis, F. O. Bowman, R. B. Fitch, R. W. Madry. Also present were J. L. Caldwell, E. E. Peacock and C. P. Hinshaw.

Subject: Auditor's Report.

Mr. Peacock reported that all the vouchers for the month of December were in order. The gasoline report revealed an overage for the last month and also revealed a charge of 33 gallons to the Community Center. After some discussion, final action on this item was left for the next meeting. The budget was 2.3% underspent in total although several items were overspent to date. It was suggested that the Finance Committee study the budget report and take some action on the matter at their next meeting.

Subject: Compensation of Mr. W. S. Swaim.

Upon motion of Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Burch, the Board of Aldermen voted to allow compensation of Mr. W. S. Swaim through January 15, 1942.

Subject: Appointment of H. D. Byrd as Town Clerk and Accountant.

Upon motion of Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Madry, the Board of Aldermen authorized the appointment of Mr. H. D. Byrd as Town Clerk and Accountant at a salary of $125.00 per month and further authorized Mr. Byrd to use his signature as needed in the duties of his office.

Subject: Report of the Finance Committee.

Alderman Hobbs stated that the Finance Committee, in collaboration with Mr. Caldwell, was continuing a drive to collect all delinquent personal property taxes. Mr. Caldwell reported that several citizens had expressed a desire to pay these delinquent taxes in installments and that the Finance Committee had approved a plan whereby these persons might sign a statement promising to pay these taxes in installments.

Subject: Movie Guild.

There was some discussion on the delinquency of the Movie Guild account. Mr. Caldwell stated that Alderman Burch had contacted their representive, and Mr. E. Carrington Smith, who was present, promised to report on the matter for the next meeting.

Subject: Proposed Erection of a New Cleaning and Pressing Plant by Mr. Carl M. Smith.

Mr. Carl M. Smith presented a request to the Board of Aldermen that

he be allowed to erect a combination dry cleaning and pressing plant on Columbia Street on the vacant lot behind Strowd Motor Company and next to Gooch's Cafe. Mr. Smith said that he had investigated the matter and found that there was no State ordinance to prevent the construction of such a plant in the fire district, but that there was a restriction as to the type of building to be constructed. He further stated that the State Fire Marshal had advised that if such a building was constructed and business undertaken, if it later became a fire hazard that the business would be subject to condemnation. After some discussion of the matter, Alderman Burch made a motion to authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to interpret the City ordinances relating to pressing shops as applying to cleaning and pressing establishments if and when such establishments presented plans which have been approved by the State Labor Department and the State Insurance Commissioner. The motion was seconded by Alderman Madry and passed by the Board.

Subject: Report of Planning Board.

Secretary L. J. Phipps submitted reports of the Planning Board relating to plans for the entrance to the new building being constructed by the North Carolina Theatres, Incorporated, on Franklin Street and to the lowering of the sidewalk, moving and removal of trees on the east side of South Columbia Street. Upon the motion of Alderman Burch and seconded by Alderman Fitch, the Board voted to accept the resolution of the Planning Commission on the first proposal reading "Scheme No. 2 which provides for a colonial front with a colonial portico extending over the sidewalk and with four marble columns between the sidewalk and the curb line was approved by the Planning Board subject to inspection and approval of final detail working plans and with recommendation to the Board of Aldermen that permission be granted the North Carolina Theatres, Incorporated, to build a portico supported by marble columns over the sidewalk instead of the usual marquee."

Upon the motion of Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Hobbs the Board voted to accept the resolution of the Planning Board relating to the second proposal and reading "That the sidewalk be lowered to the grade of the curb on the east side of South Columbia Street and surfaced with gravel. That the two old elm trees be removed, that the three other trees be moved and lowered to grade in accordance with the recommendation of Mr. LeClair, that one additional tree be planted in the space now occupied by the Town Police Station, and that a low retaining wall be built in front of the Archer and Roberson property with the lawn sloping to the top of the retaining wall and that the University of North Carolina be requested to lend to the Board the services of Mr. LeClair as a consultant in the moving, lowering and planting of the trees", and further provided that expenses of the project were to be paid out of the paving fund.

Accounts Recommended to be charged off by Finance Committee.

	1940	1939	1938
Sam Anthony -	6.07		
W. E. Barker-			.91
Frederick W. Barlow-	1.40	1.00	
L. L. Barrett-		1.00	
H. W. Boring -	1.00	2.00	
C. P. Buckner-		3.18	
G. A. Cannady-		1.00	1.00
Jack Cotton -	1.00		
Arthur Clark-	1.81	1.89	2.24
J. P. Davis-		1.00	1.41
Mrs. Estelle Escourido 1941-3.60	4.02		
George Edwards -		2.00	
Raymond Edwards-	1.00		
Mack Farrington -		1.00	
James Foushee -	2.00		
A. E. Haddock -	5.83		
W. L. Hall -		1.00	
J. M. Harper- (1937-1.00; 1936-7.19)	3.58		
J. H. Hamer -		2.21	1.00
Luther Hargraves-	2.21		5.83
Jack Johnson-		2.40	
Brasel Lanier -			1.00
L. K. Landrus -		2.66	
R. E. Moore-		1.00	
Joe Mason -	1.00		
Richard Mungo-		.86	
W. H. Peeler-		1.40	
Bert Leo Prems -	1.00		
Mance Perry -	1.00	1.00	5.00
Abel Riggsbee -	1.00	1.00	
Charles S. Templeton-		1.00	
Iris Thompson -		1.00	
James Titus-			.83
E. D. Turner, Jr. -		7.44	
B. J. Willingham - 1936 1937 1941		10.42	
7.19 1.00 3.60	33.92	47.46	19.22

1130 Total Release $112.39

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Subject: Appointment of Buildings Inspector.

Upon motion of Alderman Burch and seconded by Alderman Madry the Board voted to appoint Mr. J. C. Little as Buildings Inspector for the Town. Upon the suggestion of Mayor Foushee, it was agreed that Alderman Burch, Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Little should make a study of the old Town ordinances relating to compensation for the Buildings Inspector and present a report on the matter to the next Board meeting.

Subject: Discussion of Need for Ordinances relating to construction of Building fronts on various streets.

Mayor Foushee told the Board that there was an apparent need for some ordinance regulating construction of building fronts on various streets in Town. Mr. Baity of the Town Planning Board suggested that persuasion be resorted to, in order to bring about such regulation rather than resort to force. After some discussion, the matter was left open for future action.

Subject: Release of Charges to C. L. Lindsay property.

Mr. L. J. Phipps presented a request from Mr. C. L. Lindsay that the sewer charges on the old theatre property on West Franklin Street from 1929 to 1936 and the sewer charges on the old Jones property in Pottersfield from 1934 to January 1, 1938 be released. Mr. Lindsay claims that the sewers on the property described were not used on the dates above. Alderman Hobbs moved that Mr. Lindsay be released from payment for a total of 11½ years sewer rental at the rate of $12.00 per year for the above dates on the above named property since the charge was made erroneously because the sewer was not in use for those periods. This motion was seconded by Alderman Bowman and passed by the Board.

Subject: Request for refund of taxes to Mr. J. F. A. Thompson.

The Clerk read a request from Mr. J. F. A. Thompson that Mr. Thompson be refunded $4.80 on his taxes as the amount paid on 1941 taxes on a lot on Rosemary Street valued at $300 and sold to Miss Ruth Shepard prior to the 1941 listing. Mr. Thompson presented a receipt from the County Tax Collector showing the release of this amount on his 1941 County Taxes. Upon motion of Alderman Burch, seconded by Alderman Madry, the Board voted to refund Mr. Thompson $4.80 as erroneous payment on his 1941 taxes.

Subject: Charge off of Accounts recommended by Finance Committee.

Alderman Hobbs reported that the Finance Committee had made a list of personal property taxes now delinquent which are considered uncollectible for various and sundry reasons. The Clerk read the list set out on the following pages of these minutes. Upon motion of Alderman Madry and seconded by Alderman Burch, the Board authorized the release of these accounts.

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Subject: Action on Little Creek Suit. brought by E. H. Lawrence et al.

Mr. Hinshaw requested that the Board of Aldermen appoint a committee to determine the extent of the injury to the parties bringing suit. It was agreed that the committee be composed of Mayor Foushee, Alderman Bowman, Mr. Hinshaw, Mr. Caldwell, Mr. Hollett and two members to be appointed by the University. Upon motion of Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Burch, the Board instructed Mr. Hinshaw to file an answer to the complaint and authorized the employment of Mr. A. H. Graham as counsel with Mr. Hinshaw in the case.

Subject: Request by State Highway Commission regarding construction of the Airport Road.

Mayor Foushee presented a request by the State Highway Commission for the Town to furnish a guarantee of right-of-way within the Town limits for the construction of the proposed airport road and also a request that the Town furnish 13,000 cubic yards of borrow dirt in the proposed project. After considerable discussion, the matter was left open for future action.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Boyd
Town Clerk