# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN HELD IN THE TOWN HALL ON OCTOBER 14, 1942

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The Board of Aldermen held its regular monthly meeting in the Town Hall on October 14, 1942 with Mayor Madry presiding and the following Aldermen present: Messrs. R. J. M. Hobbs, P. L. Burch, R. H. Wettach, R. B. Fitch, and F. O. Bowman. Also present were J. L. Caldwell, C. P. Hinshaw, and E. E. Peacock.

### Subject: Moving of Mrs. Jackson's House

Mr. H. A. Whitfield requested the Board to indemnify Mrs. Norma F. Jackson for the expense and inconvenience arising from her house moving requiring more time than had been originally anticipated. Upon the motion of Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Burch, the Board voted to reimburse Mrs. Jackson to the extent of \$42.00 for inconvenience and expense caused by the incompletion of her home provided that this payment will release the Town of Chapel Hill of all future liability and further provided that the payment be made from joint Town and University funds for acquisition of the airport road right-of-ways.

### Subject: Strowd Sewer Rental

Mr. H. A. Whitfield appeared before the Board in behalf of the T. W. Strowd Heirs and stated that their house had been unoccupied for over twelve months and asked that the sewer rental on the property be released for one year. Upon motion of Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Fitch, the Board voted to release one year's sewer rent on the Strowd property provided the house has been unoccupied for that period.

### Subject: Police Department

Chief Sloan gave a general report of departmental activities for the month. In this connection the City Attorney was instructed to draw up an ordinance relative to double parking.

# Subject: Fire Department

Alderman Burch stated that Mr. J. S. Boone had been selected to succeed Mr. P. R. Perry as Fire Chief. He stated that a majority of the volunteers were a little dissatisfied and further stated that they felt that the Board members had interfered with the department's activities. Mr. Perry was present and stated that his resignation had been submitted due to the fact that his work prevented his giving the necessary time to the job. He felt that the new chief should be selected from the volunteer group. Mrs. C. E. Vashaw, Secretary of the Fire Department, was also present and felt that the new chief should not be one of the paid firemen. He also stated that the Department should be notified of any difficulties and be allowed to settle them. Mayor Madry appointed Al-

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derman Burch and Mr. Caldwell to investigate the matter and report to the Board. Mr. Vashaw spoke again and asked that Mr. Perry be retained as Chief until the annual election in January. The Board passed a motion by Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Wettach to allow the department to decide on the selection of a new fire chief.

## Subject: Auditor's Report

Mr. Peacock reported a gasoline shortage of 37 gailons. He reported that there were some unsigned gasoline cards and asked that firemen be instructed to be more careful in filling out the cards and that they be instructed to keep the gasoline tank locked at all times.

### Subject: Poe - Mangum Release

The Board was informed that the County Board of Assessment had reduced the valuation of the Poe-Mangum lot on Rosemary Street during 1941. Upon motion of Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Bowman, the Board voted to reduce the valuation of this property on the town records for 1941 to agree with the county valuation of \$800.00.

# Subject: Releases

Upon motion of Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Hobbs the Board voted to release three years' sewer rental amounting to \$36.00 on the property of S. H. Basnight since this charge had been erroneously made.

Upon motion of Alderman Hobbs and seconded by Alderman Burch the Board voted to release the poll tax charged to John S. Williams for 1939 and 1941 since Mr. Williams was not a resident of the Town for that period.

## Subject: Compensation for Mr. Johns

Alderman Burch reported that Mr. J. B. Johns had spent considerable time in obtaining options on the Airport Road right-of-ways and deserved some compensation. After some discussion the Board asked Mr. Johns to submit a bill for his services to the Board for approval.

# Subject: Fire Truck

Mayor Madry reported that the special committee was still working and seeking information on the fire truck situation.

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#### Subject: Sewerage Disposal Plant

Mr. Caldwell reported that the situation at the Sewerage Disposal Plant was being largely corrected. He stated that it would cost approximately \$1800.00 to complete the job and Mr. Rogerson had stated that the University would furnish  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the cost. He felt that this would take care of the matter at least temporarily. Alderman Hobbs moved that the Board authorize the payment for one-half of the work at the Sewerage Disposal Plant, the amount not to exceed \$1000.00. This motion was seconded by Alderman Bowman and passed by the Board. The Board also instructed Mr. Caldwell to write Mr. Hollett and ask him to be present at the next regular Board meeting.

### Subject: Airport Road Right-of-Ways

Mr. Caldwell gave a report of the expenditures on the Airport Road right-of-ways to date. He also reported that destruction of sewer lines on the project had created a health hazard and that the town had expended some money to have the situation corrected. The Board felt that the Town had no responsibility in the matter and instructed the Manager to send the bill to the State Highway Commission. The Right-of-Way committee recommended a settlement of \$500.00 to Mr. W. S. Kutz in connection with the right-of-ways on his property and upon motion of Alderman Wettach and seconded by Alderman Hobbs, the Board voted to adopt the recommendation of the committee.

#### Subject: Town Junk

Mr. Caldwell reported that the town had been offered \$55.00 for certain unusable scrap at the Town barn. Upon motion of Alderman Burch and seconded by Alderman Hobbs the Board authorized the Town Manager to sell the unusable town scrap for \$35.00.

### Subject: Trimming Shrubbery

Upon motion of Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Burch the Board voted to instruct the Town Manager to trim Miss Alice Jones' hedge when necessary. The Board also passed a motion made by Alderman Bowman and seconded by Alderman Hobbs to authorize the Town Manager to remove any shrubbery obstructing the streets and sidewalks in town.

# Subject: New Member of Planning Board

Mr. William Meade Prince was unanimously appointed to fill the unexpired term of the late Col. Joseph Hyde Pratt as a member of the Town Planning Board.

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### Subject: Street Committee

Mayor Madry appointed Aldermen F. O. Bowman and R. H. Wettach to serve as members of the Street Committee.

# Subject: Salary Raises

Alderman Hobbs reporting as chairman of the Finance Committee stated that the committee felt that Mr. Boone's appointment as Fire Chief was the solution to his proposed raise in salary. On the raise in Mr. Caldwell's salary, the committee did not feel justified in granting a raise until the matter of his overdraft could be settled and final action was deferred until the next meeting when the auditor could present some figures.

## Subject: New Board Members

Action on the selection of a new Board member to succeed Mr. G. O. Davis was deferred to the next Board meeting.

## Subject: Sidewalks

Alderman Hobbs stated there was a need for approximately one hundred feet of sidewalk in front of Miss Katherine Lackey's property on Gimghoul Road. Upon the motion of Alderman Burch and seconded by Alderman Bowman the Board authorized the Town Manager to construct a sidewalk in front of Miss Katherine Lackey's property on Gimghoul Road.

# Subject: Special Tax Collector

Mr. Hinshaw suggested to the Board that it might be advantageous to employ a special tax collector for delinquent taxes in view of current conditions. Upon motion of Alderman Wettach and seconded by Alderman Fitch the Board authorized the employment of Mr. W. P. Jordan as Special Tax Collector for one month at a salary of \$50.00.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

H. D. Barro

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