

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL
SEPTEMBER 21, 1945

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The Mayor presided, with the following Board members present: Aldermen Burch, Lanier, Fitch, Strowd, Hobbs. The Town Auditor, Mr. Peacock, was also present.

Extra Compensation for Mr. Gaskill

Mr. Hinson brought up a matter of paying Mr. Gaskill, Mr. Peacock's assistant on the audit, \$100.00 to recompense him for time lost at the University Press. Mr. Hinson read a letter from the University Press stating that Mr. Gaskill had lost \$160.00 in time while working on the Town's books and doing work formerly done by Mr. Nash. Upon motion of Alderman Burch, seconded by Alderman Fitch, it was unanimously voted to pay this amount to Mr. Gaskill for services rendered the Town.

Marker for Town of Chapel Hill

The Mayor read a letter from Lt. Col. Frank Dawson, Commanding Officer of C.A.P., requesting that the Town of Chapel Hill place a marker on one of its buildings as per specifications furnished by C.A.P., stating that Chapel Hill now has no such marker and it saves a great many pilots' lives, and serves as an advertisement. The letter stated that this could be done for \$75.00 by the man who letters all of these markers.

Mr. Lanier suggested Memorial Hall or Woollen Gymnasium and also suggested that the University might bear the cost of such a sign. Mr. Hobbs stated that this was a civic project and that he did not think the University should be asked to do it. Mr. Strowd informed the Board that there is already a 15-foot board on top of his garage where the Ford Motor sign was and that if the cost was not too exorbitant he would be glad to have it re-lettered. The Airport was thought to be the most appropriate place for this sign. Mr. Hobbs suggested that the Mayor write a letter asking for more details on this sign.

Recreation Center

The Mayor read a letter from Mr. J. Minor Gwynn urging that adequate recreational facilities be provided for children and suggesting that a building be built in connection with the new school building for this purpose, and financed by a bond issue. Mr. Lanier made a motion that this matter be referred to the Recreation Committee and a copy to the Planning Committee. This motion was not seconded. Mr. Hobbs stated that he did not agree with the idea of connecting such a building to the new school building, and suggested that this matter, together with Mr. Lanier's former resolution to provide a Recreation Center for the Town as a War Memorial be referred to a Civic Committee consisting of Board Members and citizens, appointed by the Mayor. It was decided that this matter be discussed at the next meeting since the budget and tax rate had to be approved at this meeting.

New Budget and Tax Rate

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The Mayor reviewed a list of towns comparable to Chapel Hill to show what other

towns are doing as to tax rates, etc. The question of Aldermen's salary for attendance, which had been set at \$90.00 maximum per year, was brought up. Mr. Hobbs stated that he would not be in favor of increasing the budget to raise this attendance salary for this year but that he would favor a reasonable increase in pay for the Mayor and Aldermen for next year. It was brought out that the Mayor's salary was formerly \$300.00 a year and was cut to \$100.00 eight or ten years ago. The Town Manager was asked to put on the agenda to bring to the attention of the Board an increase for the Mayor and Aldermen when next year's budget is considered - the maximum pay for Aldermen to be considered at \$120.00 per year.

At this point the Mayor asked Alderman Hobbs, Chairman of the Finance Committee, to take the chair.

The item shown as salary for the Town Clerk was changed from \$2400.00 for this year to \$1800.00, and the extra \$600.00 added to the Contingency Fund. The item of Supplies and Materials for the Recorder's Court was raised from \$100.00 to \$300.00, taking \$200.00 off the Contingency Fund, leaving it at \$1900.00.

Alderman Lanier brought up the question of paying the volunteer firemen - stating that he thought it a better plan to pay them in money instead of the \$75.00 allotted each year for the barbecue. After some discussion it was decided that the barbecue is a better means of compensation.

The Mayor stated that it is probable that Government loans will be available soon for towns and that Chapel Hill should get its application in for the use of some of this money for the extension project on the sewage treatment plant.

In the Revenue Section it was noted that there is still due the Town \$120.00 from the Chapel Hill Movie Guild. Upon motion of Alderman Strowd, seconded by Alderman Fitch, all members voting in the affirmative except Alderman Burch, the Town Manager was authorized to write Mr. Carrington Smith, Manager of the Carolina Theatre, to the effect that his privilege of showing movies on Sundays will be taken away unless this Board is satisfied that the Movie Guild does not owe the Town the amount of \$120.00 shown as not collected.

After some discussion and upon motion of Alderman Burch, seconded by Alderman Hobbs, all those present voting in the affirmative, it was agreed that the \$12.00 a year ~~sewer~~ rental fee be billed in advance with the tax bills, and that Mr. Hinson write a letter of explanation to go out with the bills, explaining that if a person leaves town he will be refunded - any part of a month counting as a whole month.

Another police car immediately and two more policemen in the near future were decided to be the most pertinent needs at present.

Alderman Strowd told the Board about traffic signs that he has seen in other town for schools and was asked to get more information of this type of sign.

Upon motion of Alderman Hobbs, seconded by Alderman Burch, and unanimously passed, the budget as set up, fixing the tax rate for the year at \$1.63, was approved.

The meeting adjourned.

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Sarah G. Raine
Acting Clerk