

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL
JUNE 18, 1947

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The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held at the Town Hall June 18th at 8:00 P. M. Mayor Madry presided over the meeting and all members were present except Alderman Lanier. Others present were Mr. Hinson, Mr. Hinshaw, Mr. Peacock, Dr. Garvin, Mr. Collier Cobb, Mr. L. J. Phipps and a committee from the Lutheran Church.

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved.

Mr. Cobb presented a report of the activities of the Chapel Hill Planning Board for the fiscal years 1946 and 1947. A copy of the report is attached hereto. Mr. Cobb commented on the construction of numerous buildings on West Franklin Street. He stated that his Board had received very good cooperation for the planning of the majority of the buildings and he felt that the results would be even better in the future. The Planning Board requested that \$1200.00 be appropriated for their use during the year 1947-48.

At the request of Mayor Madry, Mr. Cobb also discussed the necessity of resurfacing the streets of the town. He stated that he felt the town could not afford to take the risk of a hard winter on the streets, and he urged that extensive work be planned for this summer.

Alderman Hobbs expressed the Boards appreciation to Mr. Cobb for the work done by the Planning Board and also thanked him for his suggestions relative to street improvements.

Mr. Phipps and a committee from the Lutheran Church came before the Board to request that the Town construct a sewer line connecting with the line going across the property of Betty Smith Jones in order to enable the Church to hook to this line. Mr. Hinson reported that the church wanted to go into the basement of their building, and that this could not be done with the existing lines. The matter was deferred until a later meeting.

There was some discussion of the condition of various vacant lots in town and the Board felt that steps should be taken to have them cleaned up. The lot at the Southeast corner of Carr and Church Streets was particularly mentioned and also the one at the corner of Church and Rosemary Streets. Alderman Burch suggested that the property owners be requested to clean up the lots, since the existing conditions were health hazards.

Mayor Madry read a letter from W. S. Crawford requesting that the town prepare for the proper drainage of water near his property. The Board asked that this and other similar requests be investigated further before any action was taken.

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Two applications for additional cabs were read to the Board. J. C. Merritt, owner of Independent Cab Company, requested permission to take out a license for a third cab, which he is now operating in Carrboro. Thurman Atkins, owner of Hollywood Cab Company, requested permission to place another cab in operation. The Board felt that these Cab Owners should present some evidence that additional cabs were needed in Chapel Hill before issuing further permits. Mr. Hinson was asked to request these owners to present some proof of the need before the applications were considered further.

The Ordinance changing the Zone of the South side of W. Rosemary Street was read to the Board and upon motion of Alderman Hobbs, seconded by Alderman Burch, all members present voting in the affirmative, the following was unanimously adopted:

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

SECTION 1. Whereas the Board of Aldermen, having found it a fact that a petition was filed asking that the South side of West Rosemary Street between Church Street and the Alley leading to Ogburn Furniture Company be changed from Residence Zone B to Business Zone 2; and whereas the Board further finds it a fact that the petitioners signing said petition own more than 50% of the property adjacent to Rosemary Street, and that more than 50% of the residents of the area hereinafter described signed said petition, and that a notice was published in the Chapel Hill Weekly for two successive weeks notifying all citizens interested to appear before the Board of Aldermen at its regular meeting place on June 2, 1947 at 7:30 P. M., and no one appearing to oppose such a change, and the Board finding that it will be for the best interests of the Town to amend the zoning laws and grant the petition; it is therefore ordained as follows:

SECTION 2. That the area hereinafter described is hereby changed from Residence Zone B to Business Zone 2; beginning at the intersection of Rosemary and Church Streets and proceeding thence along the center of Rosemary Street in a westerly direction to the intersection of the ally leading to Ogburn Furniture Company; thence, along said ally in a southerly direction two hundred twenty five feet; thence in an easterly direction parallel to Rosemary Street to Church Street; thence in a northerly direction in the center of Church Street to the point of beginning.

SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of any ordinance in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

This 18th day of June, 1947.

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Clerk

Upon motion of Alderman Burch, seconded by Alderman Davis, all members present voting in the affirmative thereof, the following ordinance was unanimously adopted;

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

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SECTION 1. That from and after this date no building or fixture shall be constructed on the South side of West Rosemary Street, from Church Street to the alley leading to Ogburn Furniture Company, nearer to the present curb line than twenty-two feet.

SECTION 2. All ordinances or parts of any ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Any person or persons violating the terms of this ordinance shall forfeit and pay a penalty of \$50.00 per day for each day such violation occurs.

This 18th day of June, 1947.

Clerk

An ordinance requiring all contractors to deposit a fee with the Town Manager in order to obtain permission to open any street in Chapel Hill was read to the Board, and after discussion the Town Attorney was requested to reword the ordinance so that the depositors would assume all responsibility, and submit the new ordinance to the Board at its next regular meeting.

Mr. Hinson stated that the resignation of Clerk of Court Durham became effective June 30th and that Mr. Durham planned to leave Town around July 15th. He stated that some appointment should be made at an early date so that Mr. Durham would be available to help the new person become familiar with the duties. Mr. Hinson also stated that he had had one application for the job. The Board decided to wait until the Budget was discussed to take up this matter.

Mr. Hinson read a letter from S. A. Nathan in which he requested that the Town rebate sewer taxes charged for years prior to July 1, 1940. The letter stated that at the time Dr. Nathan purchased the property all the taxes were paid the Town office through the year 1940, and that the former manager, Mr. Caldwell, issued a statement that all the taxes had been paid. Dr. Nathan contends that the sewer tax was assessed after the date of the payment and he asked that these taxes be released for the reason that such would have been collected from the sellers of the property had the charge been made at the proper time. The Board requested the Town Attorney to check the matter and report to the Board at its next regular meeting.

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Mr. Hinson reported that a Mr. Jones, who lives in the County, had requested the Town to let him have a plot in the cemetery for his son whose body is being returned from overseas. Mr. Hinson stated that Mr. Jones would probably obtain space in the Carrboro Cemetery, but if he

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did not he wanted some indication from the Board as to whether or not they would grant such permission. Mr. Hinson stated that it was possible that Mr. Jones would not want a three-grave plot and if so, that there were several plots with one space left which could be granted for this purpose. Alderman Patterson made a motion to grant Mr. Jones one space in the Cemetery. Seconded by Alderman Burch and unanimously passed.

Mr. Hinson read the police report of 112 cases for the month of May.

Mr. Hinson brought up the matter of the Budget and it was decided that the Finance Committee would meet Thursday night, June 19th to go over the proposed budget.

Mayor Madry reported that a discussion had been held relative to the proposed Carolina-Duke Boulevard and he felt that some progress had been made. He stated that it was possible that surveying would be started sometime next year, but that it would probably be two or three years before considerable progress was made.

Mayor Madry stated that Mr. Phillips Russel, Chairman of a P. T. A. Committee on Safety had written a letter requesting the Town to prepare a safety lane across Franklin Street for the benefit of the children. Since there was no urgent need for the summer months, the Board deferred the matter to a later date.

Alderman Patterson brought up the matter of the Town purchasing copies of the pamphlet recently prepared by the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Merchants Association. The Board members were in favor of purchasing 1000 copies of the pamphlet, but they felt that something should be done towards correction two errors which were made relative to the University Library. The matter was deferred until a later meeting.

At the close of the meeting, Mr. Hinson informally tendered his resignation as Town Manager, but since all members of the Board were not present and since the meeting was running rather late, the Board decided to defer any action until the Budget meeting to be held Monday, June 23rd.

The meeting adjourned.

Clerk