

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF ALDERMEN TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL
NOVEMBER 12, 1947

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The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held at the Town Hall Wednesday, November 12th at 8:00 P. M. The following members were present: Aldermen Burch, Hobbs, Lanier, Davis and Fitch. Mayor Madry presided over the meeting and **others** present were Town Manager Ray, Attorney Hinshaw and Auditor Peacock.

The minutes of the meetings held October 8, October 20, and November 3rd were read and approved. The minutes of a meeting of the Zoning Board held October 24th were also read and approved. The Zoning Board approved the request of Willie Markham for permission to construct additional buildings on the back of his lot on West Rosemary Street, and also approved the request of J. B. Goldston for permission to construct a duplex apartment back of the Goldston Dwelling house fronting on Rosemary Street and back of the new express company building fronting on Columbia Street. It was the opinion of the Zoning Board that **neither** of these matters was in conflict with the present zoning ordinances. Upon motion of Mr. Lanier, seconded by Mr. Fitch and passed the request of Mr. Markham was granted **subject** to the provisions stated by the Zoning Board. Upon motion of Mr. Hobbs, seconded by Mr. Fitch and passed, the request of Mr. Goldston was also granted, subject to the required setbacks.

Mr. P. R. Perry, Chief of the Fire Department presented a letter to the Board requesting that some provision be made whereby the four firemen working in the main business blocks would be allowed to keep one or two cars parked on the street all day in order to have them available in the event of a fire. The Board decided that this matter should be considered by the committee now working on the traffic and parking problem, and asked that they make a report on this matter at the next meeting. Another request of the Fire Department was that of providing funds for miscellaneous expenses of the department. The letter stated that the department sponsored a square dance several years ago and raised funds for this purpose. After discussion, the Board decided that there would be a question of the legality of expending taxpayers money for such a purpose and stated that they would encourage the department to hold a firemen's ball or some similar entertainment to raise money for the department's use. Mr. Perry also stated that equipment had been loaned to the University and others in cases of emergency and that since no one had been delegated authority for such action the department would like for some one in the department to be given such authority if the department was to continue to loan equipment. After discussion, the Board **decided** that this matter should be left to the discretion of the Town Manager. Mr. Hobbs stated that the department should never, under **any** circumstances, loan any part of essential equipment, but that any surplus equipment which would not be needed in event of a fire could possibly be let out by the proper person.

Mr. Jack Hazzard and Mr. E. B. Cline came before the Board to request that something be done to help relieve the congestion of traffic

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on Roberson Street. Mr. Hazzard reported that Roberson Street was being used as a by-pass for traffic from Raleigh and Pittsboro headed toward Greensboro. He stated that the hazzard on Roberson Street was aggravated due to the fact that it was such a narrow street. Mr. Hazzard also suggested that if Cameron Avenue pavement was extended for one block to Graham Street and if Graham Street were then paved, a lot of the through traffic would take this route since Graham Street was much wider than Roberson. There was some discussion of the possible need of a stoplight at the intersection of Roberson and Franklin Streets as a safety measure for the many children attending Orange County Training School, and necessarily having to cross Franklin Street at this particular corner. Mr. Hazzard stated that the problem confronting he and Mr. Cline was that of parking on Roberson Street. He stated that "no parking" signs had been placed for the length of the two business buildings on Roberson Street several months ago, and that the conditions on Roberson Street had been improved until recently. Mr. Hazzard stated that his business was operating at full capacity and during most of the day the garage and entrance to his business was filled with cars and that often customers drove on Roberson Street, leaving their cars for a few minutes in order to contact a service man. He stated that during this interval the police were tagging the cars for violating the no-parking ordinances. He further stated that several customers had been presented tickets even before they left the cars. It was brought out that the law did not consider a car parked if the driver was still occupying the car. Mr. Hazzard requested that the Police Department be instructed not to tag the cars when they were being left for only a few minutes. He suggested that at least a five minute interval be allowed. It was agreed that it would be practically impossible to enforce a five-minute limit unless a man was stationed there at all times. Mr. Hazzard then suggested that the ordinance be amended to allow a 30-minute parking time.

After much discussion, Mr. Ray suggested that a committee be appointed to study the problem as a whole and to empower that committee to act in order to work out some temporary solution, if possible, whereby the customers of Mr. Hazzard and Mr. Cline could park on Roberson Street for short periods. Mayor Madry appointed the following committee: P. L. Burch, Chairman, G. O. Davis, and R. B. Fitch. The committee was requested to **ack** on this matter as soon as possible.

With reference to the appointment of a Chapel Hill-Carrboro Committee to work jointly and in cooperation with the Chapel Hill Planning Board, Mayor Madry appointed the following members: Winslow Williams, I. A. West, Charles C. Craig, and Hubert Robinson.

Mr. Hinshaw reported that he had made some investigation with reference to the suit for damages proposed to be entered against the Town by Mr. Charlie Lloyd and others, but stated that he wished to withhold any recommendation until he had an opportunity to make further inquiries.

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Mr. Hobbs suggested that Mr. Ray be requested to contact Mr. Bonner Sawyer and retain his services in case court action became necessary.

Mayor Madry reported that he had talked with Mr. George C. Franklin with reference to the proposed zoning ordinance, and that Mr. Franklin had stated that he would be in Chapel Hill within the next few days to work on the matter.

Mr. Hobbs moved that the following resolution be adopted:

Whereas, the Local Government Commission of North Carolina, has reported to the Board of Aldermen that the Local Government Commission has sold the bonds, hereinafter described, in accordance with law and that the award made contemplates that the bonds shall bear interest as hereinafter provided; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Chapel Hill that the \$2,000 Street Improvement Bonds of the Town of Chapel Hill dated October 1, 1947, numbered 1 and 2, to be issued pursuant to the bond ordinance entitled "An Ordinance authorizing the issuance of \$12,000 of bonds of the Town of Chapel Hill for the improvement of public streets", adopted by the Board of Aldermen on September 17, 1947, shall bear interest at the rate of five per centum (5%) per annum, and that the \$10,000 Street Improvement Bonds of said Town dated October 1, 1947, numbered 3 to 12, inclusive, to be issued pursuant to said bond ordinance, shall bear interest at the rate of one and one-half per centum (1 1/2%) per annum."

Mr. Burch seconded the motion, and the motion was adopted. Those voting for the motion were Messrs. Burch, Hobbs, Lanier, Davis, and Fitch. No one voted against it.

Mr. Ray brought up the matter of Mr. W. H. Parker's request to purchase a plot in the Chapel Hill Cemetery. Mr. Hobbs stated that in view of the fact that there were few plots left in the present cemetery and a site for a new cemetery had not been located, he felt that persons residing in other towns and communities should not be permitted to purchase the few remaining plots. Mr. Lanier stated that some definite policy should be adopted if out-of-town residents were to be refused permission to purchase a plot. After discussion, Mr. Fitch made a motion that Mr. Parker be permitted to purchase a plot in the Chapel Hill Cemetery. Mr. Lanier seconded the motion and it was passed. Those voting for the motion were Messrs. Burch, Lanier, Davis, and Fitch. Mr. Hobbs voted against it.

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Mr. Peacock reported that he and Mr. Ray had discussed the budget with officials of the University and that an increase of \$3500 over last years contribution had been tentatively agreed upon.

There was some discussion of the proposed bond issues for the sewerage disposal plant and other improvements. No definite action was taken at this time, but the matter was deferred until the next regular meeting.

Upon motion duly seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned.