

October 8, 1951

Mr. Edwin S. Lanier, Mayor
Town of Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Lanier:

In pursuance of our recent telephone conversation I am writing you with respect to the case of Mrs. Gladys H. Groves, 704 Gimghoul Road, who is attempting to secure action by the court overruling the zoning ordinance of the town of Chapel Hill and the adverse decision of the Board of Adjustment. The majority of the property holders and neighbors feel very strongly that this exception should not be permitted.

Just prior to the opening of the August term of court we learned that this appeal was to be made to the court on Monday, August 6. The time was too short to take the matter up with the Board of Aldermen, and so many of the neighbors were away that it was not possible to get a meeting of a really representative group. About half a dozen of us, therefore, got together and agreed that it was essential in a matter of such importance that the town attorney have assistance in handling the case before the court, that this was really a responsibility which should be assumed by the town, but that since time was not available for action by the Board of Aldermen we should secure the services of a lawyer for this purpose. Mr. L. J. Phipps had done some previous work with respect to the covenant embodied in the deeds of the Gimghoul development, and was, therefore, familiar with the situation, so we engaged his services. We agreed to underwrite his fee if the Board could not see its way clear to do so.

As soon as everyone had returned from vacation, we had a meeting of all interested neighbors, totalling half of the residents and the owners of over half of the lots. This group voted to continue to support the town in opposing Mrs. Groves' action and to assume responsibility for Mr. Phipps' fee if the town could not assume it, but I was authorized to present the matter to you and the Board of Aldermen and to request that the Board assume this obligation.

Minutes Regular Meeting
Board of Aldermen--Chapel Hill, N. C.
October 8, 1951

The regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen was held in the Town Hall on October 8, 1951 at 8:00 P.M.

Present were Mayor Lanier, Aldermen Fowler, Fitch, Burch, Davis, Cornwell, and Putnam, Town Manager Rose, and Town Attorney Hinshaw.

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 24, 1951 were read and approved.

Mr. Fitch brought up the question of whether the Town could deed or sale the Negro Recreation Center to the Recreation Committee. Mr. Hinshaw was asked to check on this and report at the next meeting of the Board.

Mr. Rose read a letter from Dr. W. P. Richardson concerning Mrs. Gladys H. Groves' attempt to secure action by the court overruling the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Chapel Hill and the adverse decision given her by the Board of Adjustment. Dr. Richardson explained that the neighbors in that section had hired a lawyer to represent them in this case, and he was asking the Board to assume the responsibility of the attorney's fees in opposing Mrs. Groves' efforts to build. After discussing this matter, Mr. Cornwell moved that this inquiry be denied. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fitch and unanimously passed.

Mr. Rose read a letter from Mr. F. Burton Jones requesting the Board to bear part or all of the expense of a sewer line on Vance Street Extension. After much discussion, Mr. Fitch moved that Mr. Jones be charged with the cost of the sewer line from a point 200 feet away from his property to his property line. This motion was seconded by Mr. Putnam and unanimously passed.

A copy of the Police and the Clerk of the Recorder's Court report for the month of September, 1951 was presented to each member.

The report of the Health Department for the month of September, 1951 was read by Mr. Rose.

October 8, 1951

Page 325

Mr. Rose reported that he had talked with several people about the Clerk of Court's job, and that Mr. B. J. Howard had been recommended to him. He said that he had talked with Mr. Howard and he wanted the job and would like to try it. On this recommendation, Mr. Cornwell moved that Mr. B. J. Howard be appointed to fill the job as Clerk of the Recorder's Court for a 90 day probational period at the present salary of \$2100 a year, beginning work not later than October 22, 1951. This motion was seconded by Mr. Davis and unanimously passed.

Mr. Rose reported that Mr. David B. Roberts was leaving the Police Department on October 15, 1951.

Mr. Rose reported that people on the Durham Road were complaining about the amount of dust the construction on that road was causing. He said that he had called several State Highway Representatives and they had promised to do something about it.

Mr. Rose reported that he had talked with several contractors about paving and that they say that it will be at least 30 days before they can do anything, and in view of this, he had abandoned the idea until next Spring.

Mr. Rose reported that the Rotary Club of Chapel Hill planned to sponsor a Bicycle Safety Campaign and that he had talked with Chief Sloan about it, and they thought that it was a very worthy project and would encourage the campaign.

Mr. Rose reported that all the new street lighting equipment had arrived and that he and Mr. Culbreth had located the positions on West Franklin Street for all the lights. He stated that he hoped to have all of the lights up by Thanksgiving.

Mr. Rose reported that Mrs. E. W. Neville of 425A Cameron Avenue had paid a sewer rental for 1950 and she was not connected to the city sewer line. Mr. Putnam moved that Mrs. E. W. Neville be reimbursed the \$12.00 sewer rental erroneously charged to her in 1950. This motion was seconded by Mr. Fitch and passed unanimously.

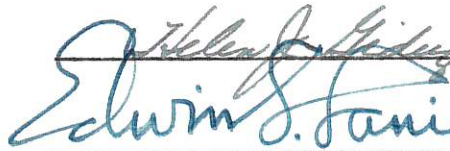

Mr. Rose recommended parking on one side of Henderson Street from Rosemary to North Streets. Mr. Cornwell moved that an ordinance be drawn limiting parking on Henderson Street to the West side only between Rosemary and North Streets. This motion was seconded by Mr. Putnam and unanimously passed.

Mr. Burch recommended to the Finance Committee and the Town Manager that the policy insuring volunteer firemen is advisable and he highly recommends it. Mr. Burch moved that this matter be referred to the Finance Committee and the Town Manager. This motion was seconded by Mr. Putnam and unanimously passed.

Mr. Cornwell asked Mr. Lanier for a copy of the Recreation Ordinance and stated that if this ordinance did not provide for a Negro representative, he would like to recommend that this ordinance be rewritten to take care of this.

Upon motion of Mr. Putnam, seconded by Mr. Burch, and unanimous consent, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M. o'clock.

After hearing the minutes of the Board of Alderman for October 8, 1951, read as amended, on motion made by Alderman Putnam and seconded by Alderman Burch, the minutes were approved by vote of the Board of Aldermen, this the 22nd day of October, 1951.

 Town Clerk
 Mayor

NORTH CAROLINA
ORANGE COUNTY
TOWN OF CHAPEL HILL

O A T H

I, B. J. Howard, do solemnly swear
that I will support both the Constitution of the United States
and of the State of North Carolina, and that I will perform
the duties of Clerk of the Recorder's Court of the Town of Chapel
Hill to the best of my ability, so help me, God.

B. J. Howard

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of
October, 1951.

William S. Stewart, Judge.

The Honorable Edwin L. Lanier

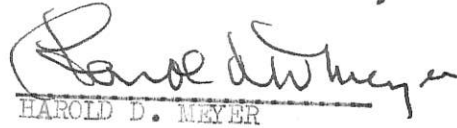
-2-

October 22, 1951

Certainly annexation is ultimate. Many of us hope that you and the City Council will move forward with the plan of annexation and gradually incorporate all of the outlying areas into a greater Chapel Hill.

Thanks for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,


HAROLD D. MEYER

HDM/h