

Ordinance – Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses

Ordinance designating as an Historic Landmark a property known as the “Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses” (including the 1861 William Jeffers & Company Hand-Powered Pumper, the 1902 American Fire Company Metropolitan Steam-Powered Pumper, and the 1928 American LaFrance & Foamite Company Fire Truck). The property is located at 500 Dalton Avenue, Charlotte NC, and 620 West 28th Street, Charlotte, NC, and is owned by the Charlotte Fire Department.

WHEREAS, all of the prerequisites to the adoption of this ordinance prescribed in Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina have been met; and

WHEREAS, the members of the City Council of Charlotte, North Carolina, have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 19th day of February, 2018, on the question of designating a property known as the Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses as an historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission have taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 12th day of February, 2018, on the question of designating a property known as the Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses as an historic landmark; and

WHEREAS, the William Jeffers & Company Hand-Powered Pumper (1861), the American Fire Engine Company “Metropolitan” Steam-Powered Pumper (1902), and the

Ordinance – Carolina Cadillac Company

American LaFrance & Foamite Company Gasoline-Engine-Powered Pumper (1928) are the only
extant fire

apparatuses of their types that exist in the collection of fire engines owned by the Charlotte Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, the William Jeffers & Company Hand-Powered Pumper (1861), the American Fire Engine Company “Metropolitan” Steam-Powered Pumper (1902), and the American LaFrance & Foamite Company Gasoline-Engine-Powered Pumper (1928) document the evolution of fire engines used by Charlotte firefighters from the last quarter of the nineteenth century until the mid-twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, the William Jeffers & Company Hand-Powered Pumper (1861), the American Fire Engine Company “Metropolitan” Steam-Powered Pumper (1902), and the American LaFrance & Foamite Company Gasoline-Engine-Powered Pumper (1928) have been restored to operational condition and therefore possess educational value, not only for Charlotte but for communities throughout North Carolina.; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charlotte acquired the William Jeffers & Company Hand-Powered Pumper (1861) for use by Charlotte’s African American Volunteer Fire Company. Consequently, the William Jeffers & Company Hand-Powered Pumper is an Important Artifact of Charlotte’s African American history; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission has demonstrated that the property known as the Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses possesses special significance in terms of its history, and/or cultural importance; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses is owned by Charlotte Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the members of the City Council of Charlotte, North Carolina:

1. That the property known as the “Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses” (including the 1861 William Jeffers & Company Hand-Powered Pumper, the 1902 American Fire Company Metropolitan Steam-Powered Pumper, and the 1928 American LaFrance & Foamite Company Fire Truck) is hereby designated as an historic landmark pursuant to Chapter 160A, Article 19, as amended, of the General Statutes of North Carolina. The location of said landmark is noted as being situated at 500 Dalton Avenue, Charlotte NC, and 620 West 28th Street, Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Features of the property are more completely described in the “Survey and Research Report on the Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses” (2017).

2. That said designated historic landmark may be materially altered, restored, or demolished only following issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission. An application for a Certificate of Appropriateness authorizing the demolition of said landmark may not be denied, except if such landmark is judged to be of State-wide significance by duly authorized officials of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History. However, the effective date of such Certificate may be delayed in accordance with Chapter 160A, Article 19, and amendments thereto, and hereinafter adopted.

3. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent or delay ordinary maintenance or repair of any architectural feature in or on said landmark that does not involve a change in design, material or outer appearance thereof, nor to prevent or delay the construction, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition or removal of any such feature when a building inspector or similar official certifies to the Commission that such action is required for the public safety because of an unsafe condition. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the owner of the historic landmark from making any use of the historic landmark not prohibited by other

statutes, ordinances or regulations. Owners of locally designated historic landmarks are expected to be familiar with and to follow *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings*, the guidelines used by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission to evaluate proposed alterations or additions.

4. That a suitable sign may be posted indicating that said property has been designated as an historic landmark and containing any other appropriate information. If the owner consents, the sign may be placed on said historic landmark.

5. That the owners of the historic landmark known as the “Charlotte Firefighting Apparatuses” be given notice of this ordinance as required by applicable law and that copies of this ordinance be filed and indexed in the offices of the City Clerk, Building Standards Department, Mecklenburg County Register of Deeds, and the Tax Supervisor, as required by applicable law.

6. That which is designated as an historic landmark shall be subject to Chapter 160A, Article 19, of the General Statutes of North Carolina as amended, and any amendments to it and any amendments hereinafter adopted.

Adopted the ____ day of _____, 20____, by the members of the City Council of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, North Carolina.

Clerk to City Council

Approved as to form:

Senior Assistant City Attorney