

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL.

---

REGULAR SESSION.

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CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }  
MONDAY, JANUARY 20TH, 1868, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M. }

The Common Council met in regular session.

Present—His Honor, the Mayor, Daniel Macauley, in the chair,  
and the following members :

Councilmen Coburn, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker and Woodburn—13.

Absent—Councilmen Brown, Burgess, Colley, Schmidt and Stanton—5.

The proceedings of the regular session held January 13th, 1867, were read and approved.

Mr. Coburn offered the following motion :

That the Chief Fire Engineer and Committee on Fire Department be instructed to inquire into the cost of constructing fire cisterns after the following plan: sinking a pipe down and through the strata of clay that underlies the surface of the ground fifty feet, and the construction of a small cistern at the surface of sufficient size to insert the suction hose of the engines.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Geisel offered the following motion :

That the City Auditor be directed to advertise for proposals to light the street lamps for one year from the expiration of F. Schulmeyers' contract, which will expire February 4th, 1868.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Loomis presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1868.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

GENTLEMEN:—We, the undersigned property holders on Benton street, in the City of Indianapolis, respectfully ask your honorable body to vacate Benton street, between Harrison and Bates streets, for the following reasons, to-wit:

1. The condition of this street between Bates and Harrison streets is such that it permits of no grading, because the Railroad track is so low that in case said street should be cut down it would greatly reduce the value of real estate on that street.

2. The embankment is not high enough for bridging.

James O'Connell,

R. R. Barnecko,

O. J. Syner,

Anton Richter.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Mr. Loomis, also, presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1868.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned, resident property holders on Virginia Avenue, and on streets contiguous thereto, ask to represent to your honorable body as follows:

1st. The almost continuous switching of cars across Virginia Avenue by the Indianapolis and Cincinnati Railroad Company, is not only a detriment to our respective properties, but a sore and troublesome inconvenience to all the people who travel on the Avenue.

2d. The main switch of the said Company is located about 40 feet west of the west line of Virginia Avenue, on their track and in Louisiana street, so that in making up their trains they run back occupying the entire width of said Avenue and sidewalks, and there remain until the switch is changed and the cars again put in motion, delaying in the mean time Street Cars, pedestrians, and vehicles, besides endangering the lives of our citizens.

We therefore petition your honorable body to compel the said Railroad Company to locate their main switch at said point east of said Avenue, so as to clear and relieve said street at each switching of trains. And as in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

C. E. Whitsit,

A. H. Baker,

S. Coffman,

J. S. Lurby,

S. Ayler,

And 53 others.

In reference to which Mr. Loomis offered the following motion :

That the prayer of the petitioners be granted, provided the said Company are not allowed to leave their cars standing on Louisiana street, between Virginia Avenue and East street.

Mr. Loomis, also, presented the following remonstrance :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1868.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

Remonstrance of the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad Company against the petition asking the removal of the switches of said Company located on Louisiana street near Virginia Avenue, in the City of Indianapolis :

The undersigned, the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad Co., respectfully, but earnestly, remonstrate against granting the prayer of petitioners, asking that said Company be compelled to remove her main switch to the yard and freight house of said Company, now located west of Virginia Avenue on Louisiana street: and remonstrant represents —

That the removal of said switch would involve great expense in making the change asked, and great delay in the business of the Company, and would result in greater damage to the Company and her patrons than benefit to the citizens of Indianapolis.

That a change in the location of the Union track would be necessary on the north side of Louisiana street, extending across Virginia Avenue; and, also, the location of another track across the said Avenue on the south side of the present main track, reaching the south side of the freight house and yard, and would thus place the whole business of switching trains at an unusual distance from the freight house, and so much more time would be consumed, and expense occasioned, as the distance of this main switch from the freight house is increased.

And your remonstrant, the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad Company, represents to the Council that the property on the south-east corner of East and Louisiana streets is owned and occupied by her with a side track, and that it is desirable to have a direct and independent connection between this side track and the side tracks of the freight house and yard, and between said side track and the Machine Shop yards.

That in the erection of Noble street bridge space for a double track was provided for, and it was understood between the officers of the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad Company and the city authorities, that the business necessities of the Company would eventually require this track, and that when that time should arrive the right of way for this track would be granted.

That Louisiana street, as a thoroughfare, is practically as much obstructed by one track as if two or three were located thereon.

That more than three-fourths of all the property lying along the south side of Louisiana street, from East street to the corporation line of the city—where the Machine Shops of the Company are located—belongs to the undersigned.

That said Company greatly desires to do all she can to accommodate the public, in this regard, and, in some just and suitable way, relieve Virginia Avenue as much as possible from present annoyance and obstruction.

That if permission is granted this Company to locate a second track on Louisiana street, as indicated herein, being as near to as possible, and on the south side of the present main track, by which the south freight house and yard tracks, the East street side track, and the shop yard tracks may be connected independent of the present main track, with a switch thereto from the main track located east of Virginia Avenue, the obstruction to travel on said Avenue, caused by switching as at present, could be very much relieved, and this Company and the public benefited.

And the undersigned, the Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad Company, prays, that should the petition be granted over this remonstrance, that then permission be given to lay the track indicated in this remonstrance.

The Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Lafayette Railroad Co., by

W. H. L. NOBLE, Agent.

On motion, all the papers, petition, motion and remonstrance, were referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys, together with Mr. Cottrell and Mr. Loomis.

Mr. Seidensticker presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1867.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

GENTLEMEN:—I propose to build a steam boiler, on the plan of my improvement, to be 5 feet 6 inches long, and 25 inches in diameter, to be entirely safe with a pressure of 50 pounds of steam, and capable of raising 10 to 20 pounds of steam within six minutes from the time the fire is lighted. This boiler I will attach to an engine at the Eagle Foundry and Machine Works, (Hasselman & Vinton's old stand.)

When the boiler is completed, which will be at the earliest practicable time, I desire a committee of gentlemen appointed by the Council to witness a trial of said boiler. If it prove to be as I represent then the city to purchase it of me for the sum of nine hundred and fifty dollars (\$950), for use on one of their Fire Engines.

Respectfully submitted,

ALFRED S. FOSTER.

Which was referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

His Honor, the Mayor, presented a precept issued by Joseph Bernauer vs. G. W. Joseph, with the statement that said Joseph had never been asked for the money.

Which was referred to the City Attorney.

His Honor, the Mayor, presented the following communication :

PARKERSBURG, Jan. 16, 1868.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

I am informed by Mr. John Harris, of Cairo, that you want an experienced well-borer to superintend the drilling of an Artesian Well, or to put it down by contract. I have had four years' experience in sinking wells, and am ready to take it by the foot or the day. My terms are five dollars per day and found; but I would rather take it by contract.

If you want recommends I would refer you to Mr. W. A. Ludlum, Sup't of the Logan Oil Co., of Cincinnati, now stopping at Volcano, Wood county, W. Va., or to J. E. French, ex-Sup't of the Great Belt Co. of Cleveland, Ohio.

If you want to employ me please address,

J. O. HUMPHREY,  
Walker Sta., Wood co., W. Va.

P. S. If I take it I want the privilege of furnishing my own hands. I have a set of as good hands as can be found anywhere.

PARKERSBURG, W. VA., Jan. 14, 1868.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

GENTLEMEN:—Hearing through other parties that you propose to have an Artesian Well put down in your city, I take the opportunity to offer you my services to put down the same. As regards capability, reference, &c., will give you all satisfaction. Hoping to hear from you, I remain yours, &c.

H. C. WOODBURN.

Which were laid on the table.

## REPORTS FROM BOARDS.

Mr. Loomis, from the Board of Police, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1867.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

GENTLEMEN:—Your Board of Police have the honor to respectfully report the accompanying ordinance asking an appropriation of fifty dollars to each member of the police force for uniform, agreeable to the practice of uniforming the force, as per order of the Board made in June, 1866.

As, also, the opinion of B. K. Elliott, City Attorney, as to the legality of such an appropriation. Respectfully submitted,

W. H. LOOMIS, } *Board of*  
A. P. STANTON, } *Police.*

Which was received.

Mr. Loomis, also, introduced special appropriation ordinance No. 7—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the purchase of uniforms for the Police Force of the City of Indianapolis.

Which was read the first time by its title.

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. Coburn, from the Committee on Accounts and Claims, introduced special appropriation ordinance No. 8—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis.

Which was read the first time by its title.

Mr. Kappes, from the Committee on Benevolence and Hospitals, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1867.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

RECAPITULATION OF THE WEEKLY REPORT OF CONTENTS OF REGISTER OF PATIENTS OF CITY HOSPITAL, ENDING JANUARY 18, 1868.

Number of patients in Hospital at last report.....	17
Number of patients received in Hospital since last report.....	2
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report.....	0
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report.....	1
Number of patients died in Hospital since last report.....	1
Number of patients remaining in Hospital at present report.....	17

Which was concurred in.

Dr. Jameson, from the Select Committee, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1868.

*To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :*

The Special Committee, to whom was referred matters relative to lighting of city lamps, &c., would respectfully report schedule and directions for that purpose, the same being as nearly as practicable in conformity with the following rules :

First. When governed by the sun lamps to be lighted 45 minutes after the setting, and extinguished one hour before the rising of the same.

Second. When the moon is 45 minutes or more above the horizon, either after rising or before setting, lamps shall not be burned, except seven nights nearest and including change of the moon.

Third. All lamps to be extinguished at or before midnight, except on Washington street, between Benton and Blackford streets, and in the East Market House.

Fourth. When under the foregoing rules the computed time is less than one hour, lamps shall not be lighted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. H. JAMESON, }  
HENRY GEISEL, } *Committee.*

Also, the following resolution :

1. *Resolved*, That the Civil Engineer be directed to procure 5 feet per hour McHenry burners for all the city lamps, not already having said burners, and have the same put on the said lamps, at the earliest time practicable; also, two gross tips for said burners, to be used in repairing the same.

2. *Resolved*, That the Indianapolis Gas Light and Coke Co. be requested to attach 5 additional gas meters to the city lamp posts, at such points in different parts of the city as shall indicate an average pressure, the same to be done under the supervision of the Civil Engineer, or such agent as the city may employ to inspect the gas of said Company.

Mr. Davis moved that the further consideration of the matter be postponed until next regular meeting, and that it be made the special order, and called for the ayes and noes on the motion.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Davis, Foster, Goddard, Henschen, Kappes, Loomis, Seidensticker and Woodburn—8.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Coburn, Geisel, Jameson and MacArthur—4.

So the motion to postpone was adopted.

## REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The Street Commissioner made the following report:

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1868.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

The close of the year, and the present almost total suspense of public works suggests to me the propriety of presenting to your honorable body, and the public, a comparative statement of the amount of money expended by me, and the work performed by me, under your direction, during the year 1867.

The total amount of appropriation made to and drawn by me from January 1st, until July 1st, 1867, is \$7,007.44, from this I realized, after deducting \$224.00 for discount on orders leaving the sum of \$6,783.44. Besides this, there were \$13,541.84 paid by the City Auditor from July 1st until December 31st 1867, for work done in my department.

Total of appropriations,	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$20,549 28
Deduct discount or orders,	-	-	-	-	-	-	224 00
Total expenses,	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$20,325 28

This sum represents the total amount of resources placed at my disposal during the year 1867, and from them all the expenses connected with my department, including the overseers of the chain-gang, have been paid.

With this amount of money I have, during the year 1867, performed the following work:

I have built five entire new bridges across Pogue's Run and the Central Canal, two of them with stone abutments.

Also, two new foot bridges across Pogue's Run.

I have, also, repaired four foot bridges across the Central Canal.

I built one hundred and two wooden culverts, and one hundred and thirty-nine foot bridges.

I opened and re-graded the gutters in two hundred and forty-two squares.

Repaired the bowldering in fifty-two squares.

Cleaned and scraped sixty-six squares of bowldered streets.

Bowldered the crossings, also, of two gutters half asquare long each.

I filled up with gravel and spalls one hundred and twenty-two crossings.

Removed the surplus earth from all the new cisterns that were built during the year.

I repaired and deepened three ditches; one from Lake McCarty to Bluff Road; one from Massachusetts Avenue down Railroad street to Pogue's Run; and one on South East street.

Also, repaired two stone tumbles.

Laid down one flag-stone crossing.

Built one stone culvert with flag-stone covering.

Graded and graveled one crossing 40 by 60 feet.

Graded and graveled the Eastern Market Square, and cleaned both Market Squares during the year.

Straightened Pogue's Run at intersection of Winston street.

I cleaned the snow from all the principal crossings in the city, and cut all the ice out of the culverts, where it was needed, in the year 1867.

Re-floored two bridges over Pogue's Run and the Central Canal.

Besides this, I hauled and deposited on the street more than 5,500 yards of gravel and spalls for filling up holes in and repairing streets.

Filled up, according to Council's orders, one private lot where water had become stagnant so as to create a nuisance in the neighborhood.

I am at present engaged in grading and leveling the Governor's Circle.

The list includes of course only the larger items of the work performed

by me, and set forth in my monthly reports. Innumerable small jobs of repairing culverts, foot and other bridges, streets, gutters, etc., which have never been reported by me, but all such work has been promptly attended to by me when brought to my knowledge.

I have purchased and paid for all the materials as well as for the labor necessary in my department, and no bills or debts are outstanding against the city contracted by my department.

I hope this report of the work actually performed by me, under your direction, during the last year, will be sufficient proof to the public that the money appropriated for my department has been economically expended, and that full value therefor has been received by the city.

Respectfully,

AUGUST RICHTER, *Street Commissioner.*

Which was concurred in.

The City Clerk made the following report:

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK, }  
Indianapolis, Jan. 20, 1868. }

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

GENTLEMEN:—The City Clerk would respectfully report the following affidavits on file in his office for the collection of street assessment by precept, as follows:

Samuel Lefever against Samuel Chapman, for \$40.50.  
Samuel Lefever against Wm. C. Means, for \$139 50.  
Samuel Lefever against Winslow S. Pierce, for \$78.75.

And would recommend that you order the precepts to issue.

Respectfully,

D. M. RANSELL, *City Clerk.*

Which was concurred in.

The City Civil Engineer made the following report:

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 13, 1867.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

I hereby report the following work finished according to contract:

The Indianapolis Gas Light and Coke Co. for the erection of lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on Market street, between Mississippi and Missouri sts.

3 intermediate posts at \$33 per post, - - - - - \$99 00

Also, for erecting lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on California street, between New York and Vermont streets.

1 corner post at \$35, - - - - - \$35 00  
2 intermediate posts at \$33 per post, - - - - - 66 00

Total estimate, - - - - - \$101 00

Respectfully,

R. M. PATTERSON, *Civil Engineer.*

Which was concurred in.

The City Assessor made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 20, 1867.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :

GENTLEMEN:—I herewith present a list of the names of persons assessed and the amount of personal property given in by each, of which the following is a condensed summary :

	<i>No. Lists.</i>	<i>No. Polls.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
WILLIAM PHIPPS	143	118	\$128,712	
Last report	166	140	109,088	
Total	309	258		\$237,790
A. M. STRONG	139	124	\$19,128	
Last report	190	174	13,842	
Total	329	298		\$42,960
H. P. RANDELL	134	110	\$55,627	
Last report	234	213	84,993	
Total	368	323		\$140,620
NELSON HOSS	62	45	\$16,587	
Last report	86	63	27,805	
Total	148	108		\$44,393
WM. HADLEY	159	124	\$248,896	
Last report	193	179	180,364	
Total	352	303		\$429,260
Total No. Lists	1506	No. Polls 1290	Total amount	\$895,024

Respectfully submitted,

WM. HADLEY, *City Assessor.*

Which was received.

On motion by Mr. Davis, the Council adjourned.

DANIEL MACAULEY, *Mayor.*

ATTEST :

D. M. RANDELL, *City Clerk.*