

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE }  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST, 1864, 7½ O'CLOCK, P. M. }

The Common Council met in regular session.

Present—His Honor, the Mayor, John Caven, in the chair,  
and the following members:

Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn,  
Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey,  
Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—16.

Absent—Councilmen Colley and Wallace—2.

The proceedings of the special session, held January 14th, and  
the proceedings of the regular session, held January 18th, 1864,  
were read and approved.

By Mr. Haughey—Petition:

INDIANAPOLIS, January 21, 1864.

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

*Gentlemen*—Your petitioners would respectfully represent that  
Lot numbered nine (9), in Square numbered three (3), in the city  
of Indianapolis, is held in the name of "Trustees of the Society  
of Friends," (Hicksite,) for religious purposes, and is exempted by  
statute from taxation; and that the same is not and has not at  
any time since or during such occupancy been assessed for State  
or county revenue, in consequence of said State laws exempting  
said property. That said property was assessed by the City of

Indianapolis for purposes of taxation in the years 1861, 1862 and 1863, said levy amounting in all to the sum of thirty-one dollars and thirteen cents (\$31 13); that the tax of the year 1861, with penalty and interest, amounting to nine dollars and eighty-five cents (\$9 85), has been paid, and that the sum of twenty-one dollars and twenty-eight cents (\$21 28) remains charged to said property, and for which it is liable to be sold. Your petitioners therefore ask that the above described property should be released from said tax thus assessed contrary to law, and refund to them the sum of nine dollars and eighty-five cents (\$9 85) paid on account of the same.

Respectfully submitted.

J. T. WRIGHT,

For Trustees Society of Friends.

On motion of Mr. Haughey, that part of the petition asking to be released from the payment of \$21 28, now due against the property, was granted.

By Mr. Lefever—Petition:

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1, 1864.

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

The undersigned, your petitioners would respectfully represent that in the summer of 1863, we placed a stone curb in front of E. S. Alvord's property on Pennsylvania street, and in order to make the work complete, we finished the city's portion at the corner of Ohio and Pennsylvania streets; also, at the corner of the alley immediately south of Ohio street, amounting in all for the City to forty-five feet of curbing, at sixty-five cents per foot, \$20 25, for which amount we would ask your honorable body to instruct the City Clerk to draw an order in our favor.

Respectfully submitted.

SCOTT & NICHOLSON.

Which, on motion of Mr. Lefever, was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

By Mr. Glazier—Petition:

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1st, 1864.

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

We the undersigned property-holders on the west side of Meridian street, between Washington and Maryland streets, respectfully petition your honorable body to order a change in the grade of the gutter on the west side of Meridian street, between Washington and Maryland streets, that the highest point in said gutter shall be at the junction of Pearl and Meridian streets, that the water may flow each way from Pearl street.

This petition is made for the reason that the gutter, as now constructed, has not sufficient fall to carry off the water.

L. W. HASSELMAN,  
JOHN FISHBACK,

A. E. VINTON,  
J. H. VAJEN.

On motion of Mr. Haughey, the prayer of the petitioners was granted.

By Mr. McNabb, from the Committee on Accounts:

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

SECTION 1. *Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis,* That the following named persons be allowed the amounts set opposite their respective names, from any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, as follows:

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

William McDougal, services as fireman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	\$62 00
E. H. Webster, services as fireman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	62 00
James Fox, services as fireman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	24 00
James Smith, services as driver, ending January 31st, 1864.....	52 00
August Nagel, services as driver, ending January 31st, 1864.....	10 00
William Curtis, services as driver, ending January 31st, 1864.....	24 00
John Foudray, Jr., services as driver, ending January 31st, 1864.....	36 00
William Miller, services as driver, ending January 31st, 1864.....	62 00
Sam'l Blythe, services, as driver, ending January 31st, 1864.....	62 00
George Kentzel, services as driver, ending January 31st 1864.....	62 00
E. H. L. Kuhlman, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	6 25
Leonard Gay, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	12 50
Philip Socks, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	18 75
Aaron Rosier, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	12 50
George Williams, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	6 25
Frederick Weser, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	18 75
George Thomas, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	18 75
James Pierce, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	18 75
Amount carried forward.....	\$568 50

Amount brought forward.....	\$568 50
Charles Lauer, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	18 75
Henry Buscher, Jr., services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	18 75
Casper Freschour, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	18 75
William Price, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	6 25
Henry Buscher, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	12 50
John Sheidler, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	15 62
Herman Hilgemeyer, services as pipeman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	3 12
Chas. W. Rhoads, services as watchman ending January 31st, 1864.....	62 00
Lafayette Doughty, services as watchman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	62 00
William Dawson, services as driver, ending January 31st, 1864.....	62 00
Charles E. Curtis, services as engineer in Fire Department, ending January 31st, 1864.....	75 00
Dan'l Glazier, services as engineer in Fire Department, ending January 31st, 1864.....	75 00
John Scheidler, services as fireman, ending January 31st, 1864.....	38 00
Andrew J. Hinesley, sundries for Fire Department.....	13 55
Tutewiler & Sutton, repairs on Engine Houses.....	6 00
D. Root & Co., city's portion for erecting lamp posts, lamps and fixtures on Pennsylvania street, between Michigan street and donation line north.....	87 29
Kruger & Co., balance due on cisterns built by them at the intersection of Meridian and Circle streets.....	564 90
Kruger & Co., balance due on cistern at the corner of New Jersey and Market streets.....	351 30
James G. Douglass, books and stationery, Assessor's blanks, &c.....	208 10
R. L. & A. W. McOuat, sundries for Clerk's office.....	7 10
William Wallace, costs in sundry suits.....	116 24
D. B. McDonough, repairs in Clerk's office.....	26 86
Patrick Moriarty, amount of second estimate for grading and graveling East street and sidewalks, between South and Bicking streets.....	39 05
Haugh & Shove, sundries furnished Street Commissioner	3 53
Amount carried forward.....	\$2460 16

Amount brought forward.....	\$2460	16
Williamson & Haugh, sundries furnished Street Commissioner.....		1 00
Ellis Barnes, printing.....	385	40
Elder, Harkness & Bingham, printing.....	78	55
W. J. H. Robinson, Jail expenses to December 31st, 1863.....	679	20
Hume, Lord & Co., sundries for office.....	16	75
Michael Shea, assisting Civil Engineer.....	39	60
Alexander Wood, assisting Civil Engineer.....	39	60
I. L. Frankum, sundries for Treasurer's office.....	2	75
T. A. Loyd & Co., tape-line for Engineer.....	1	15
Richard Heninger, printing.....	295	00
John G. Waters, assisting Clerk.....	75	00
Joseph K. English, amount paid for sawing and carrying wood into the City Treasurer's office.....	19	25
John Burrows, hauling wood to the poor.....	24	00
William Wells, hauling wood to the poor.....	16	50
Jesse Broomfield, hauling wood to the poor.....	22	50
John W. Kemper, hauling wood to the poor.....	1	50
David Brouse, hauling wood to the poor.....	21	00
William Boaz, services rendered in distributing wood, &c.	49	65
William Boaz, Jr., hauling wood to the poor.....	69	00
Hugh Slavin, hauling wood to the poor.....	60	50
Henry Coburn, hauling wood to the poor.....	69	00
Elder, Harkness & Bingham, street improvement.....	6	25
Frederick J. Rapp, articles furnished Street Commissioner.....	26	75
Benjamin Pottage, articles furnished Street Commissioner.....	44	65
Thomas Wren, gravel furnished Street Commissioner...	25	00
D. V. Culley, gravel furnished Street Commissioner.....	55	70
George Stiliz, articles furnished Street Commissioner....	19	10
Simeon Beyheimer, gravel furnished Street Commissioner.....	5	60
Nim. K. Knotts, sundries for offices.....	11	50
Spiegel, Thoms & Co., mattresses for Fire Department..	18	00
McKernan & Pierce, gravel furnished Street Commissioner.....	10	00
Wheatly & McCord, lumber furnished Street Commissioner.....	35	36

## POLICE EXPENSES.

David Powell, services as chief of police, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	62	00
W. S. Johnson, services as lieutenant of police, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	45	50

Amount carried forward..... \$4792 47

Amount brought forward.....	\$4792 47
George Taffe, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	52 50
George W. Luckey, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Thos. D. Amos, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Wm. W. Loucks, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Hannibal Taffe, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Joseph Charles, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	50 75
W. W. Brennemer, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	52 50
Robert Redmond, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Sam'l Buser, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	52 50
F. Lang, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	45 50
Henry Paul, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Stephen Wilson, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
A. Unversaw, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	47 25
H. S. Adams, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	49 00
J. W. Bradley, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
A. E. Catterson, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	52 50
D. I. Thompson, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	50 75
Jesse T. Murphy, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	52 50
Jacob B. Power, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Jos. P. Duvall, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
John S. Bray, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
William Bretney, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	52 50
Wm. Oyler, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Amount carried forward.....	\$6001 75

Amount brought forward.....	\$6001 75
M. W. E. Doran, services as policeman to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Robert B. Barbee, services as policeman to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	40 25
William Williams, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
John Gray, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
George Thomas, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	54 25
Levi Wilmington, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	42 87
Hugh Regan, services as policeman, to January 31st, 1864, inclusive.....	10 50
J. & W. C. Burk, coal for Fire Department.....	170 00
Total.....	<u>\$6482 34</u>

## RECAPITULATION.

Fire Department.....	\$1243 79
Police.....	1627 37
Cisterns.....	916 20
Jail expenses.....	679 20
Specific appropriations.....	492 86
Printing.....	758 95
Street repairs.....	226 69
Books and stationery.....	208 10
Costs.....	116 24
Street improvements.....	212 94
Total.....	<u>\$6482 34</u>

SEC. 2. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue warrants upon the City Treasury to the persons named, and for the amounts as set forth specifically in section first of this ordinance.

SEC. 3. This ordinance to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Ordained and established this 1st day of February, 1864.

JOHN CAVEN, *Mayor.*

Attest:

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk.*

The ordinance was read a first time, and, on motion of Mr. Haughey, was read a second time by its title.

Mr Lefever then moved that the rules be suspended, and the ordinance read a third time now.

The question being, on the suspension of the rules, those who voted in the affirmative, were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, H. A. Fletcher, Haughey, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—12. Noes, none.

So the rules were suspended, and the ordinance read a third time.

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, H. A. Fletcher, Haughey, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—12. Noes, none.

So the ordinance passed.

Dr. P. H. Jameson, Chairman of the Committee on Revision of Ordinances, reported an ordinance, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE imposing a penalty upon persons, having unlawful possession of Burglarious Instruments.

Which was read a first time, and on motion of Dr. Jameson, was read a second time by its title.

Dr. Jameson, then moved that the rules be suspended, and the ordinance read a third time now.

The question being, on the suspension of the rules, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15. Noes, none.

So the rules were suspended, and the ordinance read a third time.

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15.

Noes, none.

So the ordinance passed.

Dr. P. H. Jameson, Chairman of the Committee on Revision of Ordinances, reported an ordinance entitled:

AN ORDINANCE for the relief of Thomas J. Bryant and others.

Which was read a first time, and on motion of Dr. Jameson, was read a second time by its title.

Dr. Jameson, then moved that the rules be suspended, and the ordinance read a third time now.

The question being on the suspension of the rules, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15. Noes, none.

So the rules were suspended, and the ordinance read a third time.

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15.

Noes, none.

So the ordinance passed.

By Mr. Emerson, Chairman Committee on Bridges:

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1st, 1864.

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

*Mr. President:*—Your Committee on Bridges would recommend, that the Street Commissioner be allowed the privilege, of hiring some suitable man to work upon bridges, during the present season, provided his compensation will not exceed \$2 00 per day, for the time actually employed.

R. B. EMERSON,

WM. BOAZ,

J. STAUB.

} Committee.

Which, on motion of Dr. Jameson, was concurred in.

By Mr. Brown, Chairman Committee on Streets and Alleys:

*Resolved,* That the following first and final estimate allowed D. Root & Co., for furnishing and erecting lamp-posts lamp and fixtures, on East street, between South street and Pogue's Run, be and the same is hereby adopted as the estimate of this Council, and the property owners are hereby required to pay the sum set opposite their respective names.

The question being, on the adoption of the resolution, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15.

Noes, none.

So the resolution passed.

First and final estimate allowed D. Root & Co., for furnishing and erecting lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on East street, between South street and Pogues Run, made at 13 cents per lineal foot.

OWNERS' NAMES.	Lot.	Square.	Out-Lot.	Feet.		Assessment.
				Feet.	Inches.	
Cornelius Loucks.....	1	101		73	10	\$9 59½
Thomas Tull.....	2	101		20	0	2 60
Andrew Curtis.....	3	101		20	0	2 60
Elizabeth H. Smith.....	4	101		20	0	2 60
Mary Reed Eval.....	5	101		20	0	2 60
B. F. Tuttle, middle part.....	.....	101		101	9½	13 23¼
Benjamin Davis.....	8	101		101	8½	13 10¼
Wm. B. Wilkinson, south part.....	18	81		110	0	14 30
Kate T. & J. W. Reed, north part.....	18	81		70	0	9 10
Samuel Daniels.....	19	81		45	0	5 85
School Trustees, 20 and.....	21	81		90	0	11 70
Joseph Battle.....	22	81		45	0	5 85
Joseph Battle, off south side.....	23	81		15	0	1 95
George W. Hill, north side.....	23	81		30	0	3 90
Andrew May.....	24	81		45	0	5 85
Andrew May.....	25	80		45	0	5 85
George Youngerman, south half.....	26	80		22	6	2 92½
Joseph Heinback, north half.....	26	80		22	6	2 92½
Hiram & Samuel Seibert.....	27	80		45	0	5 85
Joshua Black.....	28	80		45	0	5 85
Joseph Heinback.....	29	80		45	0	5 85
Henry Withoef.....	30	80		45	0	5 85
Samuel Seibert.....	31	80		86	0	11 18
James Turner, Landers' Subdivision...	1		93	37	4	4 85½
M. M. Landis.....	2		93	37	0	4 81
Theresa Bausa.....	3		93	37	0	4 81
Jacob Rubush.....	4		93	37	0	4 81
Jesse Jones, 1, 2 and.....	3		93	118	4	15 38½
Ind'p's & Cin. R. R., north part.....	.....		93	118	4	19 28½
James B. Mann.....	12		87	38	0	4 94
Richard O'Neil, south half.....	11		87	26	6	3 44½
Hiram Seibert, north half.....	11		87	26	6	3 44½
Eliza Jane Tyler.....	10		87	53	0	6 89
G. W. Buchanan.....	9		87	53	0	6 89
Andrew May.....	8		87	53	0	6 89
John T. Pressley.....	7		87	53	0	6 89
George W. Hill.....	5 & 6		87	106	0	13 78
St. Paul Church, 11 and.....	12		85	90	0	11 70
Wm. Cook.....	13		85	45	0	5 85
Mary Howard.....	14		85	45	0	5 85
Mildred DePew.....	15		85	45	0	5 85
Henry Hahn, 16 and.....	17		85	90	0	11 70
Common Council.....	.....		.....	.....	.....	40 83
				2615	5	\$340 00

I certify the above estimate correct, and made in accordance with an order of the Common Council.

JAMES WOOD, *Civil Engineer.*

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1, 1864.

By Mr. Brown, from Select Committee :

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1, 1864.

*Mr. President*—The select committee to whom was referred the claim of Ambrose F. Shortridge, late City Treasurer, beg leave to report that they have given the subject that careful consideration which its importance demanded, calling to their assistance, for the purpose of an investigation of the books and accounts of the Treasurer's office, two competent gentlemen of integrity.

The committee find the books of the Treasurer's office to have been carelessly kept. They now show many erasures and interlineations, exhibiting such alterations that they cannot be relied upon as evidence in any suit that might be instituted to recover any real or supposed balance due from or to Mr. Shortridge. And in this connection your committee would say that, although the books of the present Treasurer are more reliable than those of his predecessors, yet they are not as perfectly kept as they should be; and we believe the city would be much benefitted by the creation of the office of City Auditor, whose books, properly kept, would serve as a check upon those of the Treasurer. As it now is, we have to rely more upon the integrity of those who hold that important office than a proper system of checks and balances.

Your committee can find nothing to warrant the claim that the city is indebted to Mr. Shortridge. When he retired from office a committee was appointed by the Council to examine his official books and papers, and settle with him. That committee made a report to Council, which was concurred in, showing that Mr. Shortridge paid over to the committee \$8,366 15, as his final balance, which amount the committee placed in the hands of Mr. S.'s successor in office, and took his receipt therefor. This was, to all intents and purposes, a final settlement, and was for some time so regarded by Mr. Shortridge. He cannot, in the opinion of your committee, now ask to have that settlement set aside and the accounts opened up anew. Could he legally do so, we do not believe he has any just claim against the city.

We think it equally clear that the action of Council, subsequent to the final settlement alluded to, in ordering the books to be examined and suit brought against Mr. Shortridge for an amount ascertained by such examination to be due from him, was wholly illegal. That suit has been dismissed, and to enforce any claim against Mr. Shortridge a new one would have to be instituted. We cannot advise the Council to do this, for the reasons before given, and for the additional reason that, should Mr. S. see fit to plead the statute of limitations, the city would lose any suit that might be instituted to collect any supposed balance due from him, which balance, in our opinion, could not be definitely established to the satisfaction of a jury, owing to the careless manner in which the books were kept.

The committee did not deem it any part of their business to investigate any charges that might have been made affecting the character for integrity, of Mr. Shortridge or Mr. Daniel B. Culley, who was City Clerk during a part of Mr. S.'s term, (and who was afterwards employed by the Council to make an examination of the books of the Treasurer's office.) But it is due both of these gentlemen to say that we found no evidence, during the course of our investigation, to justify the belief that either had been guilty of any attempt to defraud the city.

Your committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

AUSTIN H. BROWN,  
W. CLINTON THOMPSON, } *Special Committee.*  
H. A. FLETCHER,

Mr. Coburn, asked and obtained leave for N. B. Taylor, Esq., to be heard on behalf of Mr. Shortridge.

On motion of Mr. Brown, the report was concurred in.

From the City Clerk—Report:

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1st, 1864.

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

*Gentlemen*—I would report that affidavits have been filed with me as follows: By John Stumph, contractor for grading and bouldering Pennsylvania street, between Ohio and Michigan streets, against seventeen feet and six inches by one hundred and fifty-seven feet and six inches north of one hundred and ninety feet off the south-east corner of square sixteen, owned by A. L. Roach, for forty-six dollars and forty-six cents. By M. Shea, on behalf of D. Root & Co., contractors for erecting lamp posts, lamps and fixtures on Pennsylvania street, between Michigan street and the donation line north, against thirty-five feet off of lot nineteen in out-lot one hundred and seventy-three, owned by Alfred Booth, for four dollars and seventy-two cents. You will please order precepts to issue against them.

Respectfully,

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk.*

On motion of Mr. Allen, the report was concurred in, and the precepts ordered.

From the Marshal—Report:

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1st, 1864.

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

At the last regular meeting of the Common Council, I was instructed to notify the Adams Express Co., to replace the lamp-post, broken down in front of their office, I notified them according to order, but they refused replacing it, stating that it was not broken down by their employees.

JOHN UNVERSAW, *City Marshal.*

Which, on motion of Mr. H. A. Fletcher, was received.

From the Chief Fire Engineer—Report:

INDIANAPOLIS, February 1st, 1864.

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

*Gentlemen*—Allow me to call your attention to our fire-alarm bell. The bell at its present place does not give an efficient alarm. It is very difficult to hear it at any of the engine houses, and in windy or stormy weather it is impossible to hear it at all, except in those localities where the wind may drive the sound. The reasons why this bell does not operate better are, first, that the bell is not hung high enough to carry the sound over the buildings; and second, it is too far from the look-out to be rung with sufficient force. The bell, being off so far, requires great leverage to ring it at all, and consequently the ringing apparatus is liable to break at any time when the bell is being rung. Although the said apparatus is examined every few days, and every time it is used, it has nevertheless given way several times while ringing within the last six months.

I would recommend, if the Council should not intend to build a look-out at some suitable place, that the alarm tower be so altered as to move into the alley west of this building, that the south portion of the stairway in said alley be removed, that a brick or stone wall be built on each side of the alley, of sufficient height to allow wagons to pass, and the old frame be put upon said walls.

Most respectfully,

CHARLES RICHMANN,

*Chief Fire Engineer.*

Which, on motion of Mr. Haughey, was referred to the Committee on the Fire Department.

The Chief of Police submitted the following :

PAY ROLL and Report of the Police Force of the City of Indianapolis, for the month ending Jan. 31, 1864.

NAMES.	Number of Days Run.	Intoxication.	Prostitution.	Associating with Prostit's.	Assault and Battery.	Assault and Battery with intent to kill.	Grand Larceny	Petit Larceny	Disturbing the Peace.	Driving on Sidewalk.	Exhibiting Show without License.	Violating Dog Ordinance.	Violating Sunday Ordinance.	Obstructing Sidewalks.	Obstructing Gutters.	Feeding on Streets.	Hitching to Shade Trees.	Hitching to Lamp Posts.	Shooting in Streets.	Resisting Officers.	Carrying Concealed Weapons.	Gambling.	Running Vehicles without License.	Committing Nuisance.	Violating Cemetery Ordinance.	Total.	
David Powell, Captain.....	31																										
William S. Johnson, Lieutenant.....	26																										
George Taffe.....	30	3																									5
George Lucky.....	31																										
Thomas D. Anos.....	31	8					3		1																		15
William W. Loucks.....	31	6	1				1	1																			10
Hannibal Taffe.....	31	3																									3
Joseph Charles.....	29	2																									2
William W. Brennemmer.....	30	3																									3
Robert Redmond.....	31	5	1																								8
Samuel Buser.....	30	14																									14
Frederick Lang.....	26	6		2																							10
Henry Paul.....	31	2					1		1																		6
Stephen Wilson.....	31	4																									4
Andrew Unversaw.....	27	7																									7
Hubbard S. Adams.....	28	9			1																						11
Jephtha W. Bradley.....	31	3							1																		4
Abel E. Catterson.....	30																										
Daniel I. Thompson.....	29	3																									3
Jesse T. Murphy.....	30	1																									1
Jacob B. Power.....	31	6			1									1													7
Joseph P. Duvall.....	31	4					2																				7
John S. Bray.....	31	2			2				2																		6
William Bretney.....	30	11			1								1														13
M. W. E. Doran.....	31	4							1																		5
Robert B. Barbee.....	23	4			1				3																		8
William Williams.....	31	11																									11
John Gray.....	31	7					1																	1			9
George Thomas.....	31	12																						1			13
Levi Wilmington.....	24 1/2	7					3																	1			11
Hugh Kegan.....	6																										
Total.....		246	2	2	6		11	1	7				1	1					1						17	196	

I certify, on honor, that the above Pay Roll and Report is correct and just, and that it was made out in accordance with orders to me directed by the Common Council of the city of Indianapolis.

DAVID POWELL, Chief of Police.

Which, on motion, was accepted and approved.

Mr. Glazier, introduced an ordinance entitled :

AN ORDINANCE for the grading and bouldering of Virginia Avenue, and curbing the outer edge of the sidewalks with white oak plank, between Washington street and Pogue's Run.

Which was read the first time, and on motion, of Mr. S. A. Fletcher, Jr., was read a second time by its title.

Mr. Coburn, introduced an ordinance entitled :

AN ORDINANCE for grading and boulding Massachusetts Avenue, and curbing the outer edge of the sidewalks with white oak plank, between Pennsylvania and New Jersey streets.

Which was read a first time, and on motion, of Mr. Coburn, was read a second time by its title.

By Mr. Brown—Motion :

That the Civil Engineer, be instructed to re-advertise for proposals for erecting gas posts on North Illinois street, between St. Clair and North streets.

Which motion was adopted.

By Mr. H. A. Fletcher :

*Resolved*, That a sum not exceeding \$75 00 be appropriated by the Common Council, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the reception of each Veteran Regiment of Volunteers, on its arrival in the city, the bills to be paid when audited by James M. Ray, Esq., and approved by the Mayor.

The question being, shall the resolution pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, McNabb and Thompson—12.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Brown, Lefever and Staub—3.

So the resolution passed.

By Mr. H. A. Fletcher :

*Resolved*, That Cox, Lord and Peck be allowed a final estimate for furnishing and erecting lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on Meridian street, between North street and the donation line north, when finished to the satisfaction of the Civil Engineer.

The question being, shall the resolution pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15.

Noes, none.

So the resolution passed.

By Mr. Brown :

*Whereas*, That it is the sense of this city that all persons engaged in the sale of intoxicating liquors should pay a city license ; therefore,

*Be it Resolved*, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to report an ordinance regulating the licensing of such establishments, at the next meeting of the Council.

The question being, on the adoption of the resolution, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Boaz, Blake, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15. Noes, none.

So the resolution passed.

By Dr. Jameson—Motion :

That the Chief Fire Engineer be instructed to fill the cisterns at the City Hospital as often as the same may be desired by the Surgeon in charge,

Which motion was adopted.

By Mr. Haughey—Motion :

That the Street Commissioner be and is hereby instructed to repair the sidewalk on the north side of the Court House yard, with plank.

Which motion was adopted.

By Mr. Haughey—Motion :

That the Finance Committee be instructed to report, at the next meeting of the Common Council, the present financial condition of the city ; also, the probable expense of carrying on the different departments of the city government next year.

Which motion was adopted.

Dr. Jameson stated that pressing duties prevented his attendance at the last meeting of the Council when the street railroad ordinance was under consideration and he asked to have his vote recorded aye, on the passage of the ordinance.

Which was granted.

On motion, the Council adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, *Mayor*.

ATTEST :

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk*.