

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

COMMON COUNCIL.

---

REGULAR SESSION.

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CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE }  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH, 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 Brown, Coburn, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Geisel, God-  
dard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt,  
Seidensticker and Woodburn—15.

Absent—Councilmen Burgess, Colley and Stanton—3.

The proceedings of the regular session held February 10th, 1868,  
were read and approved.

Business was resumed in the order in which it was left off at last  
regular meeting, viz:

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING.

On motion by Mr. Seidensticker, the vote ordering the engross-  
ment of the Gas Inspector ordinance was re-considered.

Various amendments were then adopted, and the ordinance ordered  
to be engrossed as amended.

Mr. Goddard called up general ordinance No. 123, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to establish the office of City Measurer and regulate the business thereof

Which was read the second time, and referred to the Committee on Revision of Ordinances.

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING.

Mr. Seidensticker called up general ordinance No. 95, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE adding to the duties of the City Marshal and Chief of Police, as heretofore defined.

Which was read the third time and placed upon its passage.

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, Schmidt, Seidensticker and Woodburn—13.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Kappes called up special appropriation ordinance No. 9—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating moneys for the payment of sundry claims on account of the City Hospital for the month of January, 1868.

Which was read the third time and placed upon its passage.

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Seidensticker called up general ordinance No. 122, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE creating the office of Gas Inspector, defining his duties and fixing his salary.

Which was read the third time and placed upon its passage.

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Coburn, Davis, Foster,

Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker and Woodburn—14.

Councilman Cottrell voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

On motion by Mr. McArthur, the election of Gas Inspector was made the special order for Monday evening, February 24th, 1868.

Mr. Brown called up the pending amendments to the ordinance protecting public morality, decency and order.

The question being on the adoption of the amendments, the ayes and noes were called.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Kappes, Loomis and MacArthur—10.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Coburn, Jameson, Schmidt, Seidensticker and Woodburn—5.

So the amendments were adopted.

Mr. Seidensticker moved to refer the ordinance and amendments to the City Attorney.

The ayes and noes being called on the reference, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Coburn, Jameson, Schmidt, Seidensticker and Woodburn—5.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Brown, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Kappes, Loomis and MacArthur—10.

So the motion to refer was not adopted.

Mr. Davis moved that the rules be suspended, and that the report from the Fire Committee be taken up.

The question being on a suspension of the rules, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Coburn, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker and Woodburn—14.

Councilman Loomis voting in the negative.

So the rules were suspended.

Mr. Coburn, from the Committee on Fire Department and Select Committee, made the following report:

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 17, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Fire Department and Fire Alarm Telegraph would report, that after examining the American Telegraph Company's alarm, exhibited to them in this city, they visited Cleveland, Ohio, to examine the working and success of their system of Alarm Telegraph. In Cleveland they have what is known as the Cushman. Your Committee went to Cleveland, having doubts as to the success of their system, as it was represented that no reliability could be placed in its working. The alarm is given by manipulating a key, and any person can learn in two minutes to give the correct alarm. We found the Chief Fire Engineer and the Fire Department enthusiastic in its praise; but not satisfied with this, we took especial pains to inquire of a number of prominent citizens of its workings, and found all spoke favorably of its success and reliability. We are of the opinion that, for our city, it is as good as the Automatic system of the American Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, and costing five thousand dollars less. And in case any more boxes are wanted by the city or private individuals, they can be obtained at forty dollars, while the Automatic boxes cost two hundred and fifty.

We would therefore recommend that the accompanying proposition of Shawk & Franz, of Cleveland, Ohio, to build their Alarm Telegraph for the city—putting in thirty-five alarm boxes and fifteen miles of wire, for the sum of five thousand five hundred dollars—be accepted; one-half to be paid on the completion and working of the same, and the balance in sixty days after it has been tested and found to give satisfaction.

For the following reasons we would ask that your Committee be instructed to contract with Messrs. Shawk & Franz to erect their alarm telegraph for the city:

First. As a matter of economy, by doing away with the Central Watch and Alarm Tower, which now costs us two thousand dollars a year, we will be able to pay for the telegraph, and keep it in repair and working order, in three years from the time of its adoption.

Second. The city can be districted and a part only of the department be run to every fire; the balance of the department can be called to the fire by the Chief, if required, thus saving the wear and tear on machinery and horses, and the consumption of a large amount of fuel, where the whole department is required to turn out to every alarm, as at present.

Third. The almost instantaneous communication to all the engine houses of the exact locality of the fire, thus enabling them to reach the fire before it communicates to adjoining property.

Fourth. The additional protection that outside property (that is, property remote from the present watch-tower and engine houses) will have by having alarm boxes placed all over the corporate limits of the city.

Fifth. The additional protection that large manufacturing establishments, depots, &c., can receive, if they choose to avail themselves of it, as we are to have a guarantee that all boxes are to be only forty dollars to private parties.

Sixth. Rendering the present department more efficient and prompt, thus, for a time, obviating the necessity of the purchase of any more engines, hose reels, &c.

The proposition of Gamewell & Co., through Mr. Elliott, their agent, to erect the Cleveland system of alarms, we regard as not made in good faith, as Shawk & Franz have their alarm covered by patent, as your Committee have ample proof.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY COBURN,	} Committee.
J. H. KAPPES,	
P. H. JAMESON,	
J. W. DAVIS,	

The undersigned did not visit Cleveland, but has seen the working of the telegraph in this city, and concurs with the recommendation of the Committee.  
AUSTIN H. BROWN.

Also, the following proposition of Shawk & Franz to the City of Indianapolis :

We will furnish and put up fifteen miles of line and thirty-five fire alarm instruments, of our make, for the sum of fifty-five hundred dollars. In case there should be less than fifteen miles of line needed, we will make a deduction of one hundred dollars per mile for every mile less than fifteen. Should there be more than fifteen miles of line needed, the city shall pay us one hundred dollars extra for every mile more than fifteen.

SHAWK & FRANZ,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

February 8, 1868.

Which was read and laid over for one week.

By unanimous consent, the Civil Engineer made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 17, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—I hereby report the following work finished according to contract :

James Mahoney, for grading and graveling West street and sidewalks, between the north side of Merrill street and the south side of Root street—

Length on east side.....	1220 feet.	
Length on west side.....	1220 feet.	
	—————	
Total length.....	2440 feet.	
At thirty-eight cents per lineal foot.....	—————	\$927 20

Respectfully, R. M. PATTERSON, *Civil Engineer.*

Which was concurred in.

Dr. Jameson presented two bills against the city—one for \$86.00 for extra work, in favor of Wm. Hadley, and one in favor of E. W. Hathaway for \$3.00,

Which was referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims.

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

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 17, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Finance, having had under consideration sundry matters in reference to erroneous assessments and taxation, beg leave to report in sundry cases as follows :

1st. Lewis Neis, claiming that improvements on south half of lots 19, 20, and 21, in out-lot 179, for the year 1866, were assessed too high, we recommend that seven dollars and fifty cents be refunded.

2d. W. R. Hogshire, asking deduction on account of mistake in return, we report adversely.

3d. William W. Smith, asking reduction on assessment for the year 1867, we report adversely.

4th. A. F. Noble, asking for refunding of ninety dollars of taxes on account of non-residence, we report favorable.

5th. David S. Durbin, asking that his personal taxes be refunded, the committee report adversely, there being a conflict between the assessors tax statement and the petition.

6th. Robert Neighbors, asking that seven dollars and fifty cents be refunded on account of taxes overpaid on lots 29 and 30, in out-lot 116, we report favorably.

7th. Also, the City Treasurer's report, dated December 14th, 1867, after having submitted the same to the City Auditor, and, after his consideration of the matter therein set forth, we report the same correct in all respects. The Auditor shall report the necessary ordinances.

Respectfully submitted,

P. H. JAMESON,  
C. F. SCHMIDT,  
THOMAS COTTRELL, } *Committee.*

Which was concurred in.

On motion by Mr. Kappes, the Council adjourned.

DANIEL MACAULEY, *Mayor*

ATTEST:

D. M. RANSDALL, *City Clerk.*