

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL.

ADJOURNED SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE }
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }
Thursday, August 19th, 1875—7½ o'clock P. M. }

The Common Council met as a Board of Equalization, pursuant to adjournment.

Present—His Honor, the Mayor, John Caven in the chair, William Hadley, City Assessor, Benjamin C. Wright, City Clerk, and the following members :

Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hall, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—15.

Absent—Councilmen Bollman, Buehrig, Diffley, Kenzel, Laughlin, McGill, Ransdell, Reed, Schmidt, Ward and Webster—11.

Mr. Geiger, from the Special Committee, submitted the following report :

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION.

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—We have heard and adjusted all complaints that came before us, as, in our judgment, right and justice required.

We have made deductions, amounting in the aggregate to.....	\$33,200 00	
We have added, for the purpose of equalizing.....	4,650 00	
Actual amount of deduction.....	\$28,550 00	
		Polls.
Amount of Assessor's return.....	\$70,510,198 00	and 11,677
Actual deductions.....	28,550 00	
Leaving.....	\$70,481,648 00	
Personal property added since Assessor's return.....	135,430 00	and 37
Total amount.	\$70,617,078 00	and 11,714

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. GEIGER,

D. M. RANSELL,

ISAAC THALMAN,

THOMAS MADDEN,

H. F. ALBERSHARDT,

LEON KAHN,

Board of Equalization.

WM. HADLEY,

City Assessor.

BENJ. C. WRIGHT,

City Clerk.

Which was concurred in.

On motion, the Board of Equalization adjourned.

The Common Council met pursuant to adjournment.

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

Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hall, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—15.

Absent—Councilmen Bollman, Buehrig, Diffley, Kenzel, Laughlin, McGill, Ransdell, Reed, Schmidt, Ward and Webster—11.

On motion, Councilmen Diffley, Reed and Ransdell were excused.

The Special Committee on Equalization submitted a report as set fourth above. which was concurred in.

By consent, Mr. Geiger, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—In presenting the estimates of expenses for the current year, and the accompanying ordinance fixing the tax levy, your Committee on Finance cannot but call the attention of the Council to the necessity that compels an increase of taxation. And without any desire to cast reflection on what has been the policy pursued in former years in making the assessment, we are brought to the conclusion that extraordinary and general expenses of the city government should be provided for by the administration that creates them.

Upon a careful examination of the course heretofore adopted in fixing the tax levy, it has shown the amount realized to be entirely inadequate to meet the current expenses. This has been especially true for the past few years. Expenses in the several departments have been necessarily increased by the rapid growth of the city, and the demands of the people for improvements in keeping with that growth, and while we do not wish to particularize, we cannot refrain from saying that in the matters of gas, street improvements, sewers, fire department, engine houses, police, water works and bridges, the improvements have been called for and required by the people, and are the natural result of the unprecedented advancement in the population and wealth of the city.

While a high rate of taxation is to be deplored, your committee believes that the proposed rate will not prove burdensome. Notwithstanding floating indebtedness of the city may sometimes be a necessity, the emergency, however, for continuing the same cannot exist at this time, when the funded debt as presented herewith shows that it would be unwise or inexpedient to increase it or the floating debt another dollar.

In providing for the revenue, your committee have set apart a special fund as required by the charter to meet the interest on the public debt, and a further portion to provide for the final extinguishment of the same, (this latter has not heretofore been done, as required by law,) and the levy recommended is deemed sufficient to cover the full expense of the city.

The accompanying estimates (not appropriations) of expenses show that they have been made fully up to the requirements of the city, and in the items of sewers, street improvements, bridges and street repairs, are in excess of what will or should be expended in those departments.

The heavy rains of the summer have added largely to the expenses in street repairs, bridges and sewers, that otherwise would not have been incurred.

Expenses are increased in the items of gas and water, as before stated, from the growth and wants of the city.

While recommending the strictest economy and the utmost vigilance in the administration of the various departments, the policy of the city should be not to impede its prosperity and growth by refusing to make the permanent and necessary improvements demanded by tax payers.

Respectfully submitted,

G. W. GEIGER,

D. M. RANSELL,

ENOS B. REED,

LEON KAHN,

I. W. STRATFORD,

Committee on Finance.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following statement :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Herewith please find a recapitulation of statement of the indebtedness of the city, as made by the Finance Committee, June 7, 1875 :

August 16, 1875.]

COMMON COUNCIL.

Railroad bonds bearing 6 per cent interest.....		\$155,000 00
Bonds bearing 7-30 per cent. interest, loan bond.....	\$900,000	
Park purchase bonds.....	109,500	1,009,500 00
Temporary loans due in September and November.....		200,000 00
Sellers farm bonds, bearing 8 per cent. interest.....		21,000 00
City orders issued from April 1, to May 14, (unpaid) estimated.....		70,000 00
Grand total.....		<u>\$1,455,500 09</u>

Since making the above statement, new bonds have been issued as follows :

Sold during July, 20 year bonds, bearing 7-30 per cent. interest. to pay temporary loans due in September and November,.....	\$200,000	
Sellers farm note not included in last statement \$10,000 with 3 years interest at 6 per cent.....	11,800	
Gave W. W. Northrop, for lot for Engine House, bonds running 20 years, with 7-30 per cent. interest.....	7,000	
Sold warrants to pay interest.....	50,000	\$268,800 00
Total.....		<u>\$1,724,300 00</u>
We will pay at maturity, without any additional loan, temporary loans due in September and November...	\$200,000	
Sellers farm note.....	11,800	
City orders.....	70,000	
City warrants issued for interest.....	50,000	
Amount set aside as a sinking fund.....	35,000	\$366,800 00
Leaving the total debt of the city.....		<u>\$1,357,500 00</u>

STATEMENT OF DETAIL ESTIMATES FOR THE FISCAL YEARS
1875 AND 1876.

Bill posting.....	\$250
Bridges.....	35,000
Bobbs' Dispensary.....	2,000
Board of Health.....	1,200
City Hospital.....	2,700
City Assessors Office.....	4,000
City Civil Engineer's Office.....	4,000
City Commissioner and costs.....	1,500
City warrants issued before May 12,.....	70,000
Damages.....	25,000
Drinking fountains.....	750
Elections.....	500
Fire Department.....	108,000
Fuel and ice.....	400

Gas and fixtures and lighting of same.....	85,000
Gravel roads.....	3,000
Interest on loans.....	95,029
Interest on city orders estimated.....	15,000
Insurance.....	500
Incidental expenses.....	1,000
Markets.....	1,000
Police and Station Houses.....	72,000
Public cisterns.....	7,000
Printing and stationery.....	13,000
Parks.....	1,500
Rents.....	2,000
Removing nuisances.....	500
Sewers.....	63,600
Street repairs.....	75,000
Street improvements.....	40,000
Salaries.....	22,380
Sellers Farm, notes and interest.....	11,800
Sinking fund.....	35,000
Steam road roller.....	300
Tomlinson estate.....	7,000
Taxes refunded.....	2,500
Treasurer's per cent.....	10,000
Transfers.....	500
Water rent.....	20,000
	<u>\$834,209</u>
Deduct this from for amount in hands of the Treasurer, and for incidental receipts during the year.....	35,000
	<u>\$829,209</u>

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR.

Tax duplicate for 1875, \$70,616,078.00 at \$1.19.....	840,343
Poll tax for 1875, \$11,714 at 50 cents.....	5,857
Total.....	<u>\$846,200</u>
Add for delinquent taxes for 1874, \$167,000 at .75.....	\$125,250

SYNOPSIS OF INTEREST.

On bonds, series A. B. and C. and Southern Park.....	\$73,693 00
On bonds, series D for January.....	7,300 00
On bonds, W. W. Northup for January.....	255 50
On bonds, Sellers Farm.....	1,680 00
On Railroad bonds.....	9,300 00
Discount on warrants issued to pay interest.....	2,800 00
	<u>\$95,029 00</u>

Which was received.

Mr. Geiger introduced general ordinance No. 68, 1875, entitled :

An ordinance making a general tax levy for the year 1875, upon the taxable property within the limits of the city of Indianapolis.

Which was read the first and second times and engrossed, and read the third time and passed by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hall, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—15.

Negative—None.

Mr. Madden moved to reconsider the vote by which special ordinance No. 92, 1875, entitled "An ordinance to grade and pave the east sidewalk on Illinois street, between South street and south side of Pogues Run," was passed August 16th, 1875, and that the ordinance be stricken from the files.

Which was adopted.

By consent, Mr. Madden introduced special ordinance No. 176, 1875, entitled :

An ordinance to provide for grading and paving the east sidewalk on Illinois street, between South and Merrill streets, where not already paved.

Which was read the first time.

By consent, the roll was called for the purpose of introducing new business and hearing reports from committess.

Mr. Adams, from the Committee on Judiciary, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Judiciary, to whom was referred sundry papers, would offer the following report.

In the matter of Sullivan street, which was presented to the Council in the shape of

a report of the Board of Health, in which they declare the street in its present condition a nuisance, and recommend the abatement of same by grading and graveling the said street, between Bradshaw and Buchanan streets, to which the property owners on said street assent. The difficulty that now exists, is, that the east side of the street is faced by a strip of ground varying in width from four to seven feet, and belonging to the city; and immediately east of said ground, is a fifteen foot alley.

In order to make the property on the east side of said street benefitted by the improvement of same, your Committee recommend the vacation of the fifteen foot alley; one-half of which would revert to the property adjoining, and the other half and the strip of ground to Sullivan street, thereby widening said street about twelve feet. We recommend the City Attorney be instructed to prepare the necessary papers for the vacation of said alley, and present the same to this Council at an early day.

The Board of Health represent that the slaughter houses in the south-western quarter of the city are nuisances, and as such, have been brought before the City Court, and suggest the City Marshal be instructed to close up those establishments. Your Committee are of the opinion that the above slaughter houses are, as they are now being conducted nuisances, and should be abated by due process of law, and at as early a date as possible. Your Committee are also of the opinion that the Council can not instruct the Marshal to close up the above houses, without an order of Court, or the passage of an ordinance prescribing the distance from the City limits whereto they can be maintained.

Your Committee would further report on the petition of Hezekiah Smith, R. W. Lundy, M. F. Teague and James Baird, in which they severally claim damages by reason of high water and overflow, and as claimed by some of the petitions, by imperfect drainage. In the judgment of your Committee, any claims for loss or damage occasioned by the recent floods and by surface drainage, should not be allowed. As the immense amount of rain during the last three months was something extraordinary, and partook of a public calamity, and any damage resulting therefrom, was not occasioned by the city or its officers, and your committee would recommend the above claims be not allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. ADAMS,

JOHN J. DIFFLEY,

H. F. ALBERSHARDT,

Committee on Judiciary.

The part of the report in reference to Sullivan street was referred back to the Committee with the City Attorney, with instructions to report next Monday night; the remainder of the report was concurred in.

Mr. Adams, from Special Committee, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen.:—Your Committee to whom was referred the petition of several citizens asking the Council to take such action, as the Charter permits, with reference to the removal of the dams on Fall Creek, now owned by the Messrs. Geisendorff, would present the following report :

The City must sooner or later have complete and undisputed control of Fall Creek, it can not allow the free and natural flow of the water thereof interfered with by mill dams or other obstructions. Their removal and the extinguishment of the leases and rights under which they are maintained are demanded by considerations of public interest second to few. Among them we call your attention to the fact that the City Engineer has established the drainage of several of the north and south streets so as to drain into Fall Creek and the State Ditch, in fact, he has made the latter the base line for drainage for a large section of the north and north-eastern part of the city. The gutters of streets in these quarters are on a level with the bottom of the State Ditch, and when the dams are built to their full height or as high as Geisendorff claims he has a legal right to build and maintain them, the water in Fall Creek is forced back into the Ditch and from thence to the streets above referred to. The removal of the dams would give a fall of several feet more than the creek now has, and permit the ditch to be lowered or sewered. And in the event of their removal a large body of valuable land on and along the Creek would be redeemed and rendered valuable, and the city would be relieved of the expense of building bridges over the mill races.

At a not very distant day sanitary precautions will demand that the City provide some way to flush and cleanse the sewers. By dividing the waters of Fall Creek the desired result can be accomplished. And in case the City should want to use the water of the creek for fire or domestic purposes the extinguishment of the dam rights would enable her so to do.

The courts have established and settled the fact that the Messrs. Geisendorff have a right, under their deed from West to construct and maintain their dams, and as the water privilege, together with numerous ice ponds, on and along their mill race, has grown to be a source of revenue to the owner. They would probably ask a price that would be considered exorbitant by one unacquainted with their value.

Your Committee would suggest by which the City can gain possession of the dams. One by arbitration, and the other by the City annexing the ground contiguous to the Creek, and then proceed to condemn by process of law. The latter seems to your Committee to be the most practicable or feasible, and we recommend that the City Attorney be instructed to render his opinion to this Council upon the same.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. ADAMS.
F. M. HOOK.
C. F. DARELL.

Which was concurred in, and City Attorney instructed to report as early as practicable.

Mr. Albershardt offered the following motion :

Moved, That I F. Schweikle and I. A. Hanson have permission to fill up the alley in rear of their property on Arsenal avenue, between Ohio and Market streets, and the City Civil Engineer be directed to set the grade stakes, said work to be done at their own expense.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys and City Civil Engineer, with power to act.

Also, the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen:—The Councilmen from the Ninth Ward, to whom was referred the ordinance for “grading and graveling Hyland streets and sidewalks from Washington to Ohio,” would respectfully report in favor of the passage of said ordinance.

F. SCHMIDT,

H. F. ALBERSHARDT,

Ninth Ward Councilmen.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Craft, from the Committee on Railroads, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, members of the Committee on Railroads, to whom was referred the petition of the Peru & Chicago Railroad Company, asking permission to lay down a switch on and along Park avenue, and crossing the streets and alleys between North and Cross streets, would report that we have fully considered the matter of said petition, and being fully persuaded that any additional switches on the line indicated would be of great public inconvenience, and a hardship upon the residents on the east side of the said Peru avenue, and citizens living east of said proposed switch.

We would therefore recommend that the prayer of the said Peru & Chicago Railroad Company be not granted.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. CRAFT,

JOHN STUCKMEYER,

Committee on Railroads.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Curran, from the Committee on Bridges, submitted the following report:

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Bridges to whom was referred sundry motions, beg leave to submit the following report:

FIRST.

A motion was offered by Councilman Adams, directing the Street Commissioner to build a wooden bridge over the State Ditch at crossing of Sheldon and Tinker street.

Your Committee recommend that the City Civil Engineer advertise for the performance of said work.

SECOND.

A motion was offered by Councilman Adams, directing the Street Commissioner to repair damage to bridges along the State Ditch and Pogues Run, and to rebuild said bridges where the same has been washed away.

Your Committee recommend that the City Civil Engineer advertise for proposals for carrying out the above motion.

THIRD.

A motion was also offered by Councilman Curran, directing the City Civil Engineer to advertise for proposals for building an iron bridge and stone abutments over the I. C. & L. R. R. track on Benton street.

Your Committee recommend that the City Civil Engineer carry out the provisions of said motion.

Respectfully submitted,

P. H. CURRAN,

I. W. STRATFORD.

I. THALMAN,

Committee on Bridges.

The first and second sections were concurred in. The third section was concurred in by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Albershardt, Curran, Hall, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—8.

Negative—Councilmen Adams, Craft, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hook and Kahn—7.

Mr. Geiger, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the motion of Councilmen Hook “instructing the City Clerk to take up city warrant No. 14,260, drawn May 5th, 1875, in favor of Bruner & Riner, for the sum of \$5,147.26, and issue in lieu thereof warrants of smaller denominated,” beg leave to report that in the opinion of the committee the request should be granted, and we recommend that the Mayor and City Clerk be and are hereby directed to issue to said Bruner & Riner nine warrants of five hundred dollars each and five of one hundred dollars each, and one for one hundred and forty-seven dollars and twenty-six cents, being the amount of said warrant in full ; date the same May 5th, 1875, and take up said warrant, and in the presence of the Mayor and Treasurer destroy said original warrant and make a report of the transaction to the Council.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. GEIGER,
LEON KAHN,
I. W. STRATFORD,
Committee on Finance.
CAS. BYFIELD,
City Attorney.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—We have examined the petition of Ella Thomas and report in favor of allowing the claim, as it is for a house wrongly located. We recommend that the Clerk, in carrying on the delinquency, carry so the parts of the same lots owned by Victor Plogstreth, the amount of the tax on this house \$9.90, and that the Committee on Accounts incorporate in the next account ordinance, an order for \$9.90 in favor of Ella Thomas.

We have also examined the petition of Caroline Jones, and find that the intrinsic value of the house at the present time, perhaps, is not greater than represented in the petition ; that the appraisalment for 1873 was the same as for 1874, and paid by Deloss Root, the owner at that time, without complaint. We think, to allow this claim would be a precedent for opening up an unlimited number of claims on old

buildings, that more modern improvements have rendered valueless, in the minds of some purchasers, and yet the rents make them of some value, and in a case like this, where the matter has been allowed to rest for a year after the books have been returned, and paid without objection being made at the Board of Equalization, which was properly advertised, and was in session to hear and adjust all appraisements. We therefore report against allowing the claim.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. GEIGER,
LEON KAHN,
I. W. STRATFORD,
Committee on Finance.
WM. HADLEY,
City Assessor.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Gimber, from the Committee on Streets and Alleys, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred sundry papers, submit the following report :

FIRST.

An ordinance and remonstrance against the same, "for grading and graveling Third street, between Central Canal and the Michigan Road," was referred to your committee, and we report back said ordinance and remonstrance, recommending that the ordinance be stricken from the files.

SECOND.

Also, an ordinance, with a petition for and a remonstrance against, for grading and graveling the first alley west of West street, from Michigan to North street.

Your Committee find upon examination, that a decided majority remonstrate the ordinance, and we therefore recommend that it be stricken from the files.

THIRD.

Also, an ordinance providing for the grading and graveling, paving and curbing McCarty street from Delaware to East street.

Your Committee recommend that said ordinance be postponed until water mains have been laid down on said street, and now under contemplation by Water Works Company.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY GIMBER,

ISAAC THALMAN,

Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 16, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Streets and Alleys to whom was referred sundry papers, beg leave to submit the following report :

FIRST.

A motion was offered by Councilman Craft "directing your Committee to examine Ohio street between New Jersey and East street, and report what is necessary to be done for the better drainage of said Ohio street."

We recommend that the motion be referred to the Civil Engineer and that he be directed to submit a report on the subject.

SECOND.

A motion was offered by Councilman Adams "directing the Street Commissioner to refill and repair with gravel the holes in the first alley west of Peru Railroad, running from Christian to Home avenue."

Your Committee recommend that the Street Commissioner carry out the provisions of said motion, provided the alley be improved.

THIRD.

Also, a motion offered by Councilman Ward "directing the Street Commissioner and Civil Engineer to provide for the better drainage of North street at the intersection of Delaware street."

We recommend that the Civil Engineer make such improvement as is necessary to better drain said locality.

FOURTH.

Also, a motion offered by Councilman Hall "directing the Committee on Sellers' Farm to contract with some party for the repair of road leading to said Farm."

We recommend that the Civil Engineer advertise for proposals for doing said work.

FIFTH.

Also, a motion offered by Councilman Craft "granting permission to James Braden to improve the streets adjoining his property on the corner of Sturm street and State avenue."

We recommend the passage of said motion, providing that said Braden improve the full width of the streets and not less than one-half square in length. The whole work to be done under the direction of the City Civil Engineer.

SIXTH.

A remonstrance was also referred, signed by S. J. & S. W. Patterson, remonstrating against a cement pipe being laid in the old bed of Fall Creek crossing Michigan Road.

Your Committee report in favor of said remonstrance, and recommend said work be not done.

SEVENTH.

An ordinance and a remonstrance against the same, providing for grading and graveling the first alley east of St. Clair and John street, was also referred to your Committee, and upon examining into the matter, we find that the alley needs improving very much, and we therefore report against the remonstrance and recommend that the ordinance be passed.

EIGHTH.

An ordinance and a remonstrance against the same, providing for macadamizing, curbing and bouldering Alabama street, from Washington to Ohio street, was also referred to your Committee, and we report, in view of the fact of the street being in fair condition, and several parties remonstrating, that the ordinance be stricken from the files.

NINTH.

An ordinance was also referred, providing for repairing the Delaware street pavement from Washington street to Massachusetts avenue.

Your Committee report in favor of the passage of said ordinance.

TENTH

A communication signed by the members of the Real Estate Exchange, relative to block pavements of the Thilmany patent, was also referred to your committee, and we suggest that the Board of Exchange notify proper parties of the pendency of an ordinance for improving Delaware street, and that they will be permitted to lay a square of their pavement at their own expense, as a test of their patent.

ELEVENTH.

An ordinance and remonstrance against the same, "for macadamizing Delaware street from Washington street to Massachusetts avenue," was referred to your Committee, and in considering the remonstrants numerous and the improvement a heavy one, we report agasnst the passage of the ordinance, recommending that it be stricken from the files.

TWELFTH.

A petition was referred to us, signed by the owners and the residents of property in the vicinity of Pogues Run, asking Council to devise some meams by which damage from overflow of Pogues Run will hereafter be prevented.

Your Committee report that we have examined into the matter, and find that the stone arches over Washington street are sufficient to carry the water off in the heaviest volumes, provided the trestle work of the railroads below said arch is removed, and we recommend that immediate steps be taken to cause such removal.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY GIMBER,
W. F. REASNER,
ISAAC THALMAN,

Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred the report of the Civil Engineer of August 9, 1875, beg leave to submit the following report:

The seventh paragraph of said report recommends that an iron bridge be substituted for the stone culvert over Pogues Run on East street.

We recommend that said culvert be repaired and that no bridge is necessary.

The ninth paragraph recommends the repairing of the wooden bridge on New York street and the Run.

Your Committee concur in said recommendation and direct that the Street Commissioner do said work.

The eleventh paragraph recommends that the bed of Pogues Run be lowered two feet and the bottom planked.

Your Committee report against said recommendation, believing it to be too great an expense to incur at this time.

The eleventh paragraph also recommends that the Marshal be instructed to notify lumber merchants along the line of said Run to protect their yards with walls or fences, to prevent material from washing in and obstructing the flow of water.

Your Committee recommend that the Marshal be directed to file against any parties who do anything to obstruct the flow of water in the said Pogues Run.

A petition signed by S. J. Patterson et al., relative to the Fall Creek levee, was also referred to your Committee, and we report that we have examined into the matter and recommend that a Committee of three of the Council be appointed to confer with S. J. Patterson, with a view of purchasing the neck of ground near the mouth of Fall Creek in order to straighten the said Fall Creek and run it southward along with the river.

Respectfully submitted,

H. GIMBER,
W. F. REASNER.
ISAAC THALMAN.

Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Which was concurred in, and the Chair appointed as such Special Committee Councilmen Gimber, Reasner and Thalman.

Also, the following motion :

Moved, That the Chief Fire Engineer be and he is hereby directed to slush the south Illinois street sewer, under the direction of the City Civil Engineer, and the Street Commissioner is hereby instructed to open the man-holes in said sewer, in order to let the gas escape which has accumulated therein.

Which was adopted.

Dr. Hook offered the following motion :

Moved, That the Street Commissioner be and he is hereby directed to repair the north sidewalk of Seventh street between Vermont and the I. P. & C. R. R. without delay.

Which was adopted.

Dr. Hook from the Committee on opening Streets and Alleys, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

To the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Opening and Laying out of Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred the petition of Wm. H. English, and plat accompanying the same, “for the opening of a certain alley lying 120 feet north of and parallel with Washington street, running from Noble street westwardly to the first alley running north and south,” respectfully report in favor of opening the aforesaid alley, and herewith report back said petition and plat with the accompanying resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

F. M. HOOK,

ROBT. C. MCGILL,

I. W. STRATFORD,

Committee on opening Streets and Alleys.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following resolution :

Resolved, That the petition of Wm. H. English praying for the laying out and opening of a certain alley, in a width of ten feet, lying 120 feet north of and parallel with Washington street, running from Noble street to the first alley running north and south, be referred to the Commissioners, with instructions to assess benefits and damages, and to make due report; and that for the purpose of such opening and laying out of such alley, the Common Council do propose to appropriate such real estate and property as may be necessary therefor.

The said Commissioners are instructed to return, as part of their report, all petitions and notices.

The City Clerk is hereby directed to issue, and the City Marshal to serve the proper notices upon the Commissioners and property owners.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—14.

Negative—None.

Also, the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Opening and Laying Out of Streets, etc., to whom was referred the petition of B. Ward and others and Wm. H. English, and plat accompanying the same for the laying out and opening of Court street, between East and Noble street, respectfully report in favor of opening said Court street between said points, and we herewith report the accompanying resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

F. M. HOOK,

I. W. STRATFORD,

ROBT. C. MCGILL.

Committee on Opening Streets and Alleys.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following resolution :

Resolved, That the petition of B. Ward and others and Wm. H. English, praying for the laying out and opening of Court street in a width of twenty-eight feet between East and Noble street, be referred to the Commissioners, with instructions to assess benefits and damages, and to make due report ; and that for the purposes of such opening and laying out of such street, the Common Council do propose to appropriate such real estate and property as may be necessary therefor The said Commissioners are instructed to return, as part of their report, all petitions and notices. The City Clerk is hereby directed to issue, and the City Marshal to serve the proper notices upon the Commissioners and property owners.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thallman—14.

Negative—None.

Also, the following resolution :

Resolved, That the owners of the following described real estate, to-wit : Lots No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 in E. S. Alvord & Co.'s subdivision of Ingram

Fletcher's addition to the city of Indianapolis be, and they are hereby required to fill or drain the same, as, in the opinion of this Council, there is a hole or excavation thereon, in which water has or may become stagnant or noxious as to be a nuisance and injurious to the health and comfort of said city and of the inhabitants thereof, and that the Street Commissioner be and he is hereby required to notify the owners thereof, as provided by an ordinance passed April 28, 1866, entitled, "An ordinance providing for the drainage and filling up of ponds, excavations and holes, and prescribing penalties for the failure to fill up or drain the same," and that in case of the failure of the owners thereof to fill or drain the same, the Street Commissioner proceed to fill or drain the said hole or excavation as provided in said ordinance; provided, that the cost thereof shall not exceed ten per cent. of the value of the aforesaid real estate, as assessed upon the tax duplicate for city purposes.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—14.

Negative—None.

Also, the following resolution:

Resolved, That the owners of the following described real estate, to-wit: *Lot No. 5 in A. L. Wright's first addition to the city of Indianapolis be, and they are hereby required to fill or drain the same, as, in the opinion of this Council, there is a hole or excavation thereon, in which water has or may become so stagnant or noxious as to be a nuisance and injurious to the health and comfort of said city and of the inhabitants thereof, and that the Street Commissioner be, and he is hereby required to notify the owners thereof, as provided by an ordinance passed April 28, 1866, entitled "An ordinance providing for the drainage and filling up of ponds, excavations and holes, and prescribing penalties for the failure to fill up or drain the same, and that in case of the failure of the owners thereof to fill or drain the same, the Street Commissioner proceed to fill or drain the said hole or excavation as provided in said ordinance; provided, that the cost thereof shall not exceed ten per cent. of the value of the aforesaid real estate, as assessed upon the tax duplicate for city purposes.

*This lot lies on the south side of Sixth street between Delaware and Alabama street.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran,

Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—14.

Negative—None.

Mr. Madden offered the following motion :

Moved, That Jacob Efyromson have permission to grade, and pave with brick, at his own expense, in front of his property 421 south Meridian street, under direction of City Civil Engineer.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following motion :

Moved, That Wm. H. Morrison, Drs. Allen and Johnson, and others, be granted the privilege of grading and bouldering the first alley east of Illinois street, running north and south between Georgia street and the first alley north, and that the City Civil Engineer be directed to set the stakes. The work to be done at the expense of the property owners.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following motion :

Moved, That Dr. L. Abbett have permission to excavate the sidewalk for a coal vault in front of his property on the south side of Virginia avenue, between Washington street and Maryland.

Which was adopted.

Dr. Stratford offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the owners of the following described real estate, to-wit: Nos. 29 and 30, in McKernan's sub. of out-lot No. 99, of the city of Indianapolis, be, and they are hereby required to fill or drain the same, as, in the opinion of this Council, there is a hole or excavation thereon, in which water has or may become so stagnant or noxious as to be a nuisance and injurious to the health and comfort of said city and of the inhabitants thereof, and that the Street Commissioner be, and he is hereby required to notify the owners thereof, as provi-

ded by an ordinance passed April 28, 1866, entitled : " An ordinance providing for the drainage and filling up of ponds, excavations and holes, and prescribing penalties for the failure to fill up or drain the same," and that in case of the failure of the owners thereof to fill or drain the same, the Street Commissioner proceed to fill or drain the said hole or excavation as provided by said ordinance : Provided, that the cost thereof shall not exceed ten per cent. of the value of the aforesaid real estate, as assessed upon the tax duplicate for city purposes.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—14.

Negative—None.

Mr. Stuckmeyer offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the owners of the following described real estate, to-wit : lot 326 in Fletcher et al.'s sub. of out-lot No. 98 of the City of Indianapolis, be, and they are hereby required to fill or drain the same, as, in the opinion of this Council, there is a hole or excavation thereon, in which water has or may become so stagnant or noxious as to be a nuisance, and injurious to the health and comfort of said city and of the inhabitants thereof, and that the Street Commissioner be, and he is hereby required to notify the owners thereof, as provided by an ordinance passed April 28, 1866, entitled : " An ordinance providing for the drainage and filling up of ponds, excavations and holes, and prescribing penalties for the failure to fill up or drain the same," and that in case of the failure of the owners thereof to fill or drain the same, the Street Commissioner proceed to fill or drain the said hole or excavation as provided in said ordinance, provided, that the cost thereof shall not exceed ten per cent. of the value of the aforesaid real estate, as assessed upon the tax duplicate for city purposes.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Albershardt, Craft, Curran, Darnell, Geiger, Gimber, Hook, Kahn, Madden, Reasner, Stratford, Stuckmeyer and Thalman—14.

Negative—None.

Mr. Stuckmeyer, from the Committee on Public Buildings, submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Your Committee on Public Buildings to whom was referred sundry papers, respectfully report as follows :

FIRST.

A motion was referred, introduced by Councilman Reasner, "That all Engine and Hose Reel Houses have lightning rods placed on them."

Also, a communication from David Munson, asking Council to allow him to rod the Engine and Hose Reel houses, &c.

Your Committee report adversely to the engine houses or hose reel houses being rodded by any one at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN STUCKMEYER,
C. F. DARNELL,
Committee on Public Buildings.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following motion :

Moved, That the Street Commissioner be instructed to lay a drain pipe in the rear of Tomlinson property fronting on Illinois street, to make a connection with the Illinois street sewer.

Which was referred to the Committee on Sewers.

Mr. Thalman submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen :—Your Special Committee, to whom was referred the resolution regarding the taking of the census of the city, respectfully report as follows :

We recommend that the census be taken as early as practicable, that the number of men employed to do said work shall not exceed twenty-six, and the time that they are to be employed not to exceed ten days. That the matter of employing men and arranging the necessary books and papers be put in charge of the City Assessor, and that he be allowed to employ an additional man to assist him in doing the office work until the census is completed, the wages of the men not to exceed three dollars per day.

We further recommend that the blanks be prepared to take names, sex, age and color. We find the total expense will be about one thousand dollars.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC THALMAN,
LEON KAHN,
Special Committee on Census.

Mr. Madden submitted the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, August 19, 1875.

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

Gentlemen.—A minority of your committee would report against taking the census of the city at this time, inasmuch as a great number of our citizens and taxpayers look upon this as a useless expenditure of the public funds; and in view of the fact, that the necessary improvements and repairs for the current year, have demanded of this Council, that it make a large estimate for general purposes, and a tax levy in proportion, I think it impolitic to incur such an outlay where there seems to be no immediate want.

Respectfully,

THOMAS MADDEN.

Which were referred back to the committee, with instructions to ascertain from the County Commissioners whether they will pay part or half of the expense.

Mr. Thalman offered the following motion :

Moved, That the Street Commissioner be directed to immediately have the log across the Brownsburg gravel road, between Fall Creek and White river bridges removed, as it almost entirely obstructs the travel at said point.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following motion ;

Moved, That the City Civil Engineer be directed to make a survey along the west bank of White river, beginning at high water mark above Indianola, thence south along the bank of the river to the I. & St. Louis Railroad, and report to this Council the probable cost of building a levee between said points, to prevent the river from overflowing west Indianapolis.

Which was adopted.

On motion, the Council adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, Mayor.

Attest :

BENJ. C. WRIGHT, City Clerk.