

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION—JULY 6, 1891.

The Common Council of the City of Indianapolis met in the Council Chamber, on Monday evening, July 6th, A. D. 1891, at 8:00 o'clock, in regular session.

PRESENT—Hon. Manford D. Yontz, President of the Common Council in the Chair, and 18 members, viz: Councilmen Austin, Burns, Cooper, Coy, Dunn, Gasper, Gauss, Hicklin, Martindale, Murphy, Myers, McGill, Nolan, Olsen, Pearson, Rassmann, Trusler, and Weber.

ABSENT, 6—viz: Councilmen Davis, Markey, Sherer, Strehhan, Sweetland, and Woollen.

COMMUNICATIONS, ETC., FROM THE MAYOR.

His Honor, the Mayor, presented the following communication; which was received:

To the Members of the Common Council:

Gentlemen:—I have approved Appropriation Ordinance No. 5, passed at your session held June 22d.
T. L. SULLIVAN, Mayor.

The City Clerk, for the Board of Public Works, submitted the following communication and Special Ordinance:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, OFFICE OF THE BOARD, }
Indianapolis, July 6th, 1891. }

To the Honorable President and Members of the Common Council:

Gentlemen:—The Board of Public Works of the City of Indianapolis, respectfully beg leave to report herewith an ordinance specifically ordering the improvement of Twelfth street, between Pennsylvania and Meridian streets.

Very respectfully,
A. W. CONDUITT, Ch'n.

S. O. No. 3, 1891—An ordinance authorizing the improvement of the roadway of Twelfth street, from the west curb line of Pennsylvania street to the east line of Meridian street, by grading and paving the roadway to a width of twenty-five feet, with Standard Asphalt Sheet Pavement, together with the wings of connecting alleys, widening the sidewalks thereof, and curbing with stone the outer edges thereof, and properly grading and dressing the lawns.

Which communication was received, and the ordinance read the first time and referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Committee on Natural Gas, through Councilman Murphy, submitted the following report; which was received:

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, the undersigned, members of your Committee on Natural Gas, would respectfully report that we have had General Ordinance No. 21, 1891, authorizing corporations, etc., to lay and maintain pipes in the streets, alleys, avenues and lanes of the City of Indianapolis, for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants in the unsupplied and outlying districts of said city with natural gas, under consideration, and would recommend that said ordinance be passed.

Respectfully submitted,

M. J. Murphy, Ch'n,
Simeon Coy,
Edward Dunn,
Committee on Natural Gas.

REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES.

The Memorial Committee appointed by the Chair at a previous meeting, submitted the following; which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote:

MR. PRESIDENT:

Your Special Committee appointed to prepare and present a suitable memorial on the death of the late Joseph E. McDonald, beg leave to make report as follows:

The Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, deeply deploring the demise of the Honorable Joseph E. McDonald, adopts the following

MEMORIAL:

The Honorable Joseph Ewing McDonald departed this life at his home in this city on the night of June 21, 1891. Surrounded by loving friends and beautiful flowers, he met death bravely.

He was born in Ohio in 1819, and was, therefore, nearly seventy-two years of age. He had been conspicuous among the great jurists and statesmen of the Nation for over a quarter of a century; and though always prominent in the mighty political struggles of his country, his honor was unswayed, and his conduct above even the criticism of his political opponents. In politics he was a Democrat of the Jacksonian school, and wedded with all the strength of his convictions to the principles of that faith. As a representative of Indiana upon the floor of the United States Senate, he served his State with fidelity, vigilance and distinguished ability, at all times standing among the foremost statesmen and lawyers of that, the greatest legislative body of all the nations of the earth. Possessed of a giant intellect, spotless honor, perfect poise and a pure heart, his life was one of rare symmetry, and presents a character seldom duplicated in the history of the great public men of the United States. He lived in our midst for over thirty years, having located in Indianapolis in 1859. He was our neighbor, our friend, our confident, our adviser. Full of years and honor, his career was without reproach; grand, fearless, steadfast in the right. Strong, considerate and generous, he enjoyed the perfect confidence and love of all who knew him. While his loss may well be mourned throughout the country he loved and served so well, it must be permitted to those of his own city to deeply deplore the termination of a life so illustrious and full of public usefulness. Pure in life, prepared for death, our great leader, crowned with the love and respect of his countrymen, has gone from us forever. The *Franklin Jacksonian*, in language most concise, portrays his character as follows:

"As a statesman, he was the champion of the Constitution, the pioneer of peace, the prince of patriots, of tried courage, lofty wisdom, broad intelligence, noble aspiration and true manhood. He always planted the royal banner of pardon and love upon the battlements of sectionalism or personal strife. As a personal friend, we idolized him. On his bosom radiated the star of honor, and to whose memory will be issued the highest patent of nobility. His impress will be left upon the country so long as truth, courage and fidelity to principle shall find a home in the hearts and hopes of men."

Truly we can say of him—

"Death makes no conquest of this conqueror;
For, now he lives in fame though not in life."

Therefore,

Be it Resolved by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, That, deeply mourning the death of our beloved townsman, the Honorable Joseph E. McDonald, it now records this testimonial of their high appreciation of his noble character, matchless ability and patriotic devotion to public duty.

Resolved, That we extend to the widow and family of the deceased our tenderest sympathies in this hour of their boundless grief and painful solitude.

The City Clerk is directed to spread this memorial in full upon the records of this Council, and to have a copy thereof, appropriately enrolled, delivered to the family of the deceased.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBT. C. MCGILL,
MICHAEL J. BURNS,
O. R. OLSEN,
ROBT. MARTINDALE,
JOHN R. PEARSON,
LEON O. BAILEY, City Att'y.
Memorial Committee.

Councilman Burns submitted the following resolution :

Resolved by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, That we have learned with regret the unfortunate accident by which our Fellow-Councilman, Henry Sweetland, while acting as a peace-maker, fell a victim to the bullet of a ruffian. We extend our sincerest sympathy, and are much pleased to know of his rapid improvement, and trust he may soon again occupy his place in this body.

Which was unanimously adopted.

INTRODUCTION OF GENERAL ORDINANCES.

By Councilman Gauss. Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Ordinances :

G. O. No. 23, 1891—An ordinance to amend Section one of an ordinance entitled "An ordinance authorizing the construction and regulating the maintainance of incandescent and arc electric lighting and power plants in the City of Indianapolis," known as General Ordinance No. 44, 1888; ordained and established the 19th day of November, 1888.

By Councilman Murphy. Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys :

G. O. No. 24, 1891—An ordinance to change the name of Munson street to Barth avenue.

By Councilman Murphy. Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys :

G. O. No 25, 1891—An ordinance requiring the Indianapolis Union Railway Company to station and maintain a flagman at the crossing of the Belt Railroad tracks over Gatling street, in the City of Indianapolis.

By Councilman McGill. Read the first time and referred to the Committee on Ordinances :

G. O. No. 26, 1891—An ordinance to increase the public revenue of the City of Indianapolis, by requiring all retail dealers in intoxicating liquors to obtain and pay for license thereof.

By Councilman Myers. Read first time and referred to Committee on Railroads.

G. O. No. 27, 1891—An ordinance approving a certain contract, granting the right to lay and maintain a switch or side-track across Kentucky avenue, in the City of Indianapolis, Ind.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Councilman Rassmann introduced the following motion; which was adopted:

Moved by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, Ind., That the City Clerk be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to secure the printing in pamphlet form of three thousand (3000) copies, for general circulation, of the City, Ward and Precinct boundaries of the City of Indianapolis.

Councilman Myers introduced the following petition; which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys, with G. O. No. 25, 1891:

Indianapolis, June 15, 1891.

To the Honorable President and Members of the Common Council:

Gentlemen:—Your petitioners, residents of the Fourteenth Ward, living in the vicinity of the Belt Railway crossing at Gatlin street, do respectfully request you to require the Union Railway Company to place a flagman at the above-named crossing, as a great many people are required to cross there every day, to the extreme danger of loss of life or limb, on account of the fast moving trains.

Signed, Gustav J. T. Meyer, The National Card Co., The Star Capsule Co.—and 25 others.

Councilman Myers introduced the following motion; which was referred to the City Comptroller:

Moved, That the City Comptroller be instructed to produce at the next meeting of this Council, the City Engineer's estimate of the cost of the building of the Fall Creek dyke, the City Commissioners' report on the same, and all other papers in his office relating to the claims of James W. Brown, Assistant City Engineer.

Councilman Coy introduced the following motion; which was adopted:

Moved by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, That the Committee on Arrangements of the Common Council heretofore appointed to take charge of all details connected with the funeral of the late Joseph E. McDonald, and the attendance thereon of the members of the Common Council and the City officers, be, and is hereby, directed to approve all claims or accounts against the city arising out of said funeral, and to file the same with the City Comptroller; and said City Comptroller is hereby authorized to audit said accounts and to pay the same out of the funds heretofore appropriated to the Department of Finance for incidental expenses of the City officers.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING.

On motion by Councilman Austin, G. O. No. 21, 1891, was read the second time:

G. O. 21, 1891—An ordinance authorizing corporations, firms, companies or individuals to lay and maintain pipes in the streets, alleys, avenues and lanes in the City of Indianapolis, for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants in the unsupplied and outstanding districts in said city with natural gas for heating and illuminating purposes.

Councilman Pearson offered the following amendment :

I move to amend Section 17 as follows: After the words "in the year 1887," in line 4, by inserting the words: "*Provided, however,* That the rates charged or paid for gas under this ordinance, shall under no circumstances exceed those prescribed in General Ordinance number 14, 1887."

Councilman Olsen moved to lay the above amendment on the table.

Which motion failed of adoption, by the following vote :

AYES, 9—viz: Councilmen Austin, Coy, Dunn, Martindale, Murphy, Myers, Olsen, Trusler, and Weber.

NAYS, 10—viz: Councilmen Burns, Cooper, Gasper, Gauss, Hicklin, McGill, Nolan, Pearson, Rassmann, and President Yontz.

The amendment offered by Councilman Pearson, then failed of adoption, by the following vote :

AYES, 4—viz: Councilmen Gasper, Hicklin, McGill, and Pearson.

NAYS, 15—viz: Councilmen Austin, Burns, Cooper, Coy, Dunn, Gauss, Martindale, Murphy, Myers, Nolan, Olsen, Rassmann, Trusler, Weber, and President Yontz.

On motion by Councilman Coy, G. O. 21, 1891, was then ordered engrossed, read the third time and passed, by the following vote :

AYES, 17—viz: Councilmen Austin, Burns, Cooper, Coy, Dunn, Gauss, Hicklin, Martindale, Murphy, Myers, McGill, Nolan, Olsen, Rassmann, Trusler, Weber, and President Yontz.

NAYS, 2—viz: Councilmen Gasper, and Pearson.

On motion, the Common Council then adjourned.

Manford D. Yontz, President.

Attest: *C. B. Sweiff*, City Clerk.