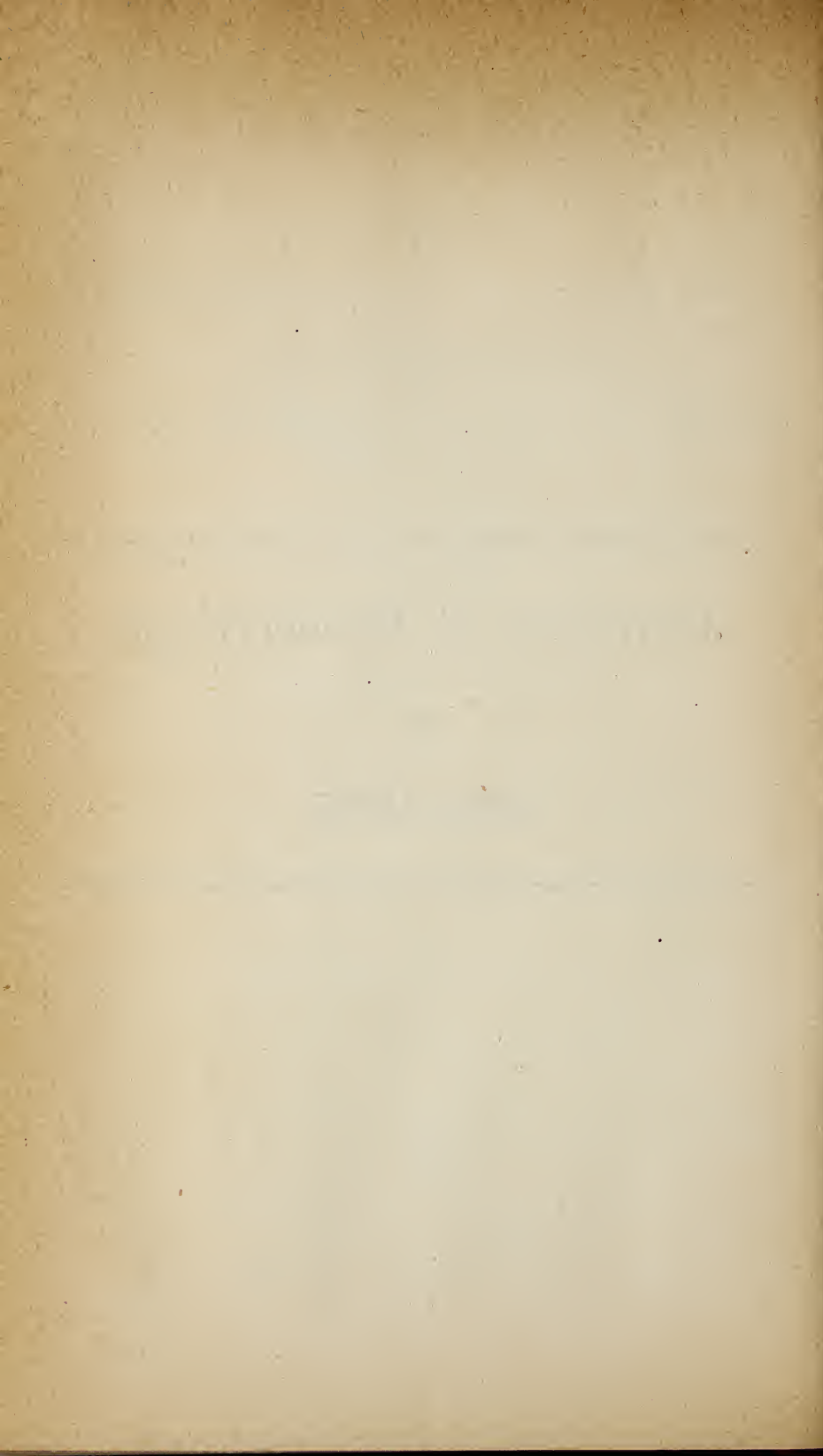

Journals of Proceedings

FOR

1881-1882.



CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Common Council and Board of Aldermen.

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMON COUNCIL.

FIRST REGULAR SESSION—MAY 9, 1881.

The members elect of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, to serve as such until the first day of January, A. D. 1884, convened in the Council Chamber, on Monday evening, May 9th, A. D. 1881, at eight o'clock, in regular session.

Hon. John Caven, Mayor, and ex officio President of the Common Council, took the chair, and directed the City Clerk to call the names of the Councilmen who had been duly elected and qualified as Councilmen of the City of Indianapolis.

The following Councilmen elect were present at this roll call, viz:

First Ward—George Weaver.	Thirteenth Ward—John R. Cowie.
Second Ward—Harvey B. Stout.	Fourteenth Ward—Henry J. Mauer.
Third Ward—James A. Pritchard.	Fifteenth Ward—Patrick Harrold.
Fourth Ward—Allen Caylor.	Sixteenth Ward—James T. Dowling.
Fifth Ward—John R. Pearson.	Seventeenth Ward—Peter F. Bryce.
Sixth Ward—Boswell Ward.	Eighteenth Ward—Simeon Coy.
Seventh Ward—Collins T. Bedford.	Nineteenth Ward—Frederick Hartmann.
Eighth Ward—Ernest H. Koller.	Twentieth Ward—Nelson Yoke.
Ninth Ward—Philip Reichwein.	Twenty-first Ward—Edgar Brundage.
Tenth Ward—Barton W. Cole.	Twenty-second Ward—John Egger.
Eleventh Ward—Isaac Thalman.	Twenty-third Ward—Edward H. Dean.
Twelfth Ward—William H. Morrison.	Twenty-fourth Ward—Ernst F. Krodell.
	Twenty-fifth Ward—John W. Fultz.

There being a quorum present, the Council proceeded with the regular order of business. The Proceedings of the last regular session of the Common Council, held on May 2d, 1881, having been printed and placed on the desks of the Councilmen, said Journals were approved as published.

The City Clerk submitted the following report; which was received, and the official bonds approved:

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—I herewith report, for your approval, the official bonds of the following city officers elect, who have otherwise qualified by filing with me their certificates of election and oath of office, as is required by the City Charter, viz:

DANIEL W. GRUBBS, Mayor. Penalty of bond, \$3,000; giving as security Daniel M. Ransdall and F. A. W. Davis.

RICHARD S. COLTER, City Marshal. Penalty of bond, \$2,000; giving as security Michael Steinhauer and Arthur Mueller.

Respectfully submitted,

JOS. T. MAGNER, City Clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS, ETC., FROM THE MAYOR.

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

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—In this, almost the last hour of ten years of service as Mayor of this city, a few words at parting may not be inappropriate:

My term from May, 1863, to May, 1867, covered the greater part of the period of the war, with all its extraordinary duties and labors. Indianapolis had then about 20,000 inhabitants, and it is probable that of its present 80,000 there is not one-tenth who were here during the war, and remember with us the sound of the recruiting drum and the regiment after regiment that marched through Washington street on their way to the South, or saw the thinned ranks of veterans as they returned.

This city was several times drafted, but we always filled our quota in time to avoid it, and no citizen of Indianapolis went out as a drafted man; and when the war closed, this city had to her credit equal to 731 more men than the Government ever called for.

During 1876 and 1877, those terrible years of panic and business depression and laborers out of employment, my position brought me face to face with its sternest aspects; its assemblages of hungry, hollow-eyed men, gathered to inquire where bread for the morrow was to be had, and whether aught but the breaking of doors remained; the great railroad strike which we succeeded in passing through without the destruction of one cent's worth of property or shedding one drop of blood, and yet many of our citizens, who had large interests at stake, little knew how near destruction came. These matters all threw additional responsibilities on the office of Mayor.

I have also felt it a duty, so far as in my power, to advocate and aid in building up our manufacturing enterprises and public works, and whatever was calculated to bring business and capital to the city.

In my capacity as Police Judge, over 50,000 law violaters have appeared before me. What a terrible array of murderers, robbers, burglars and other criminals, and lowest and most infamous coward, the wife-whipper, for which the whipping-post is too good; the many lost women going down to the pit from whence human

hand seems powerless to save them, many of them more sinned against than sinning, and among the wretched faces I see with memory's eye, are those of more than thirty poor girls who have committed suicide; drunkards, haggard, homeless women and children, vagrants and tramps, and boys in training for the penitentiary and the gallows. Could all this terrible phalanx be arrayed before us at one vision—all these rags and wretchedness, and sad and wicked faces, and blood-stained hands, humanity would shudder at the sight. To try all these by the thousand, and, out of masses of perverted and perjured testimony, to discriminate between and deal justly with the humble, the poor, the weak and the wicked—the mingling of crime and misfortune—is a labor of magnitude, and will severely try the patience, the knowledge, the heart and intellect of the most faithful judge.

I have induced large numbers of the most abandoned drunkards to sign the pledge and kept a record of them, and so far have found that only about one name in ten has appeared again upon the police records.

This occasion recalls to me the ten Councils over which I have presided. Some of the members are still here, and others have grown old, and some are sleeping upon their pillow of earth, and I seem now to see their spirit faces looking upon us, and I am forcibly reminded of the changes which a few years have wrought.

In reference to the salary of the Mayor, I can now speak with more freedom than when it might have seemed to have a personal motive, and that is the demand made upon that officer for contributions—they are incessant, almost hourly—hundreds of cases of absolute humanity, and then the persistent, who will not take no for an answer, are numerous, and even to give a small sum to every applicant would more than absorb the salary; and it is a question whether his compensation shall in a measure enable him to meet these demands, which the position brings, or continually subject to humiliating refusals of small sums, and bring upon him the reproach of illiberality. Let it be fixed at what sum it may, however, it is due to him that it should be understood that he will be required to give a large portion of it away, and that he will not be able to accumulate anything.

The finances of this city are in exceptionally good condition. Our debt is small and our taxes for years have been among the very lowest in the country, and you enter upon your duties with funds in the Treasury sufficient, judiciously expended, to defray the expenses of the coming year.

My intercourse with the members of the Board of Aldermen and Council and city officers with whom I have served for the last two years has been exceedingly pleasant. I have received from them only the greatest kindness, courtesy and respect, and to them one and all I return my sincerest thanks.

At your next meeting you will be presided over by your newly elected Mayor, Hon. D. W. Grubbs, a gentleman of experience and ability, and who will, no doubt, administer his office with great credit to himself and honor to the city, and I know you will give him a kind and cordial support in his arduous duties.

To the political party here in the majority, I would say: Be kind, generous and magnanimous to the minority, and always carefully respect their rights. Moderation and magnanimity in the exercise of power is one of the best evidences that the power is rightfully held.

I have seen Indianapolis grow from a village of 5,000 people to its present size. When first elected Mayor, in 1863, it was a city of about 20,000 inhabitants, and now of 80,000, and still moving on to a greater future; and having served as its Mayor for ten years, and that during its times of trial and emergency, it almost seems like it had been the chief mission of my life; and that I have labored to the best of my ability for its welfare I know, and that I may in some degree have contributed to its prosperity is my chief and proudest memory; and of this city which has so often honored me with its confidence, I would speak, adopting the words of the Psalmist, when he sang of the sacred city of Jerusalem:

If I forget thee, O Indianapolis, may my right hand forget her cunning;
If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth.

Respectfully submitted,

J. CAVEN, Mayor.

May 9th, 1881.

By consent, Councilman Dowling offered the following resolution; which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the sincere thanks of this Council be extended to His Honor, Mayor Caven, for the able, just and efficient manner in which he has performed the duties of his office, and the kind manner in which he has presided over us.

REPORTS, ETC., FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report; which was received, and the estimates (presented therewith) approved:

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I herewith report the following estimates of work done according to contract:

A first and final estimate in behalf of Charles S. Roney, for grading and graveling the first alley north of Home avenue, from Park avenue to Broadway street:

700 $\frac{3}{4}$ lineal feet at 19 cents.....\$133 08

A first and final estimate in behalf of J. L. Spaulding, for grading and graveling King street and sidewalks, from Pennsylvania street to Delaware street:

866 lineal feet at 52 cents.....\$450 32

11 $\frac{4}{10}$ square yards bowldering at 45 cents..... 5 13

Total.....\$455 45

A first and final estimate in behalf of Richter Brothers & Henry Burke, for grading and graveling the first alley west of Virginia avenue, from Buchanan street to Dougherty street:

440 lineal feet at 17 cents.....\$74 80

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PATTERSON, City Civil Engineer.

The following estimate resolution was read:

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, That the accompanying first and final estimate in behalf of Charles S. Roney, for grading and graveling the first alley north of Home avenue, from Park avenue to Broadway street, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of said city; and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

And it was adopted by the following vote:

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Brundage, Bryce, Caylor, Cole, Cowie, Coy, Dean, Dowling, Egger, Fultz, Harrold, Hartmann, Knodel, Koller, Morrison, Pritchard, Reichwein, Stout, Thalman and Ward.

NAYS—None.

The following estimate resolution was read:

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, That the accompanying first and final estimate in behalf of J. L. Spaulding, for grading and graveling King street and sidewalks, from Pennsylvania street to Delaware street, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of said city; and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Brundage, Bryce, Caylor, Cole, Cowie, Coy, Dean, Dowling, Egger, Fultz, Harrold, Hartmann, Knodel, Koller, Morrison, Pritchard, Reichwein, Stout, Thalman and Ward.

NAYS—None.

The following estimate resolution was read :

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, That the accompanying first and final estimate in behalf of Richter Brothers & Henry Burke, for grading and graveling the first alley west of Virginia avenue, from Buchanan street to Dougherty street, be, and the same is hereby, adopted as the estimate of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of said city, and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

And it was adopted by the following vote :

AYES, 20—viz. Councilmen Brundage, Bryce, Caylor, Cole, Cowie, Coy, Dean, Dowling, Egger, Fultz, Harrold, Hartmann, Knodel, Koller, Morrison, Pritchard, Reichwein, Stout, Thalman and Ward.

NAYS—None.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report; which was received, and the contract and bond approved:

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen :

Gentlemen:—I herewith report the contract and bond of Twiname, Amos & Co., for re-graveling Hill avenue, from Columbia avenue to Darwin street. Bond, \$3,000; surety, Ingram Fletcher and Fred Knefler.

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PATTERSON, City Civil Engineer.

The City Attorney submitted the following report; which was received :

Indianapolis, May 9th, 1881.

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen:—I beg leave to report that in the case of John S. Kennedy et al. vs. The City of Indianapolis et al., the Supreme Court of the United States has affirmed the judgment of the Circuit Court for the District of Indiana. This was an action involving the title to a portion of the old Central Canal, or what is now Missouri street. The judgment below was in favor of the city, and this judgment has been affirmed by the Supreme Court.

The case of Mary Tracy vs. The City et al. has been tried in the Superior Court by a jury, and resulted in a verdict in favor of the city. This was an action for personal injuries alleged to have been sustained by falling into an excavation on South Pennsylvania street.

In the case of Malinda L. Murphy vs. The City, pending in the Circuit Court the court has returned judgment in favor of the city on demurrer to the complaint. This was an action for personal injuries claimed to have been sustained by reason of a defect in an alley running between Noble street and Massachusetts avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. HENRY, City Attorney.

The City Attorney submitted the following report; which was received :

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

Gentlemen:—I herewith report three several ordinances to provide for the construction of the sewer contemplated by Senate bill, No. 326, as directed by you.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. HENRY, City Attorney.

The following entitled ordinances, submitted with the above report, were severally read the first time:

- S. O. 60, 1881—An Ordinance providing for the construction of a brick sewer in and along Washington street, from the east line of New Jersey street to the center of Pine street; and providing for the assessment and collection of the cost thereof.
- S. O. 61, 1881—An Ordinance to provide for the construction of a brick sewer over and along the following described route, viz: Commencing at the corner of Washington and Pine streets, thence north on Pine street to Market street, thence east on Market street to Arsenal avenue, thence north on Arsenal avenue to Ohio street, thence east on Ohio street to State street; and providing for the assessment and collection of the cost thereof.
- S. O. 62, 1881—An Ordinance to provide for the construction of a brick sewer in and along the following described route, to-wit: Commencing at the corner of State and Ohio streets, thence north along State street to Sturm street, thence east along Sturm street to the center of Randolph street; and providing for the assessment and collection of the cost thereof.

Councilman Dowling offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The election returns of the Twenty-second Ward, now on file in the office of the City Clerk, signed by the full board, and filling all the requirements of the law, show that at the city election held on Tuesday, the 4th day of May, 1881, the vote for Councilman resulted in 299 votes each for Will F. A. Bernhamer, the sitting member and candidate for re-election, and John Egger; and,

WHEREAS, No election was made by the voters of said ward on said date for said office; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the City Clerk be, and is hereby, directed to notify the Marshal to advertise an election to be held at No. 100 Bradshaw street, in the Twenty-second Ward, on Saturday, the 21st day of May, A. D. 1881, between the hours prescribed by law, for the election of a Councilman to represent said ward in the Common Council for the remainder of the term now begun; and that
....., Republican, be, and is hereby, appointed Inspector for said election, and
....., Republican, and
Democrat, be, and are hereby, appointed Judges of said election.

And it failed of adoption by the following vote:

AYES, 5—viz. Councilmen Coy, Dowling, Fultz, Harrold and Hartmann.

NAYS, 18—viz. Councilmen Bedford, Brundage, Bryce, Caylor, Cole, Cowie, Dean, Egger, Knodel, Koller, Morrison, Pritchard, Reichwein, Stout, Thalman, Ward, Weaver and Yoke.

The following message was read:

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—The Board of Aldermen, in regular session, held in the Aldermanic Chamber, Wednesday evening, May 4th, 1881, adhered to its former action, recommending that the contract for the following street improvement be not awarded:

For grading, bowldering the gutters and curbing with stone the sidewalks of Market street, from Missouri street to Blackford street.

I submit the same for your consideration.

For the Board of Aldermen:

GEO. T. BREUNIG, Clerk.

On motion by Councilman Thalman, the Common Council adhered to its former action, and a Committee of Conference was appointed, consisting of Thalman, Morrison and Cowie.

INTRODUCTION OF GENERAL AND SPECIAL ORDINANCES.

Councilman Morrison introduced the following entitled ordinance; which was read the first time:

Ap. O. 30, 1881—An Ordinance appropriating money for the payment of the salaries of the members of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen, and of the city officers.

Councilman Thalman introduced the following entitled ordinance; which was read the first time:

G. O. 16, 1881—An Ordinance providing that the Fire Board, Hospital Board, Police Board, Board of Public Improvements and Dispensary Board, shall consist of three members each, who shall be members of the Common Council, and defining their term of office; and repealing all laws in conflict therewith.

Councilman Thalman moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of placing the above entitled ordinances (Ap. O. 30, 1881, and G. O. 16, 1881) on their final passage.

Which motion was adopted, and the rules suspended by the following vote:

AYES, 24—viz. Councilmen Bedford, Brundage, Bryce, Caylor, Cole, Cowie, Coy, Dean, Dowling, Egger, Fultz, Harrold, Hartmann, Knodel, Koller, Mauer, Morrison, Pritchard, Reichwein, Stout, Thalman, Ward, Weaver and Yoke.

NAYS—None.

Ap. O. 30, 1881, was then read the second time, ordered engrossed, read the third time, and passed by the following vote:

AYES, 24—viz. Councilmen Bedford, Brundage, Bryce, Caylor, Cole, Cowie, Coy, Dean, Dowling, Egger, Fultz, Harrold, Hartmann, Knodel, Koller, Mauer, Morrison, Pritchard, Reichwein, Stout, Thalman, Ward, Weaver and Yoke.

NAYS—None.

G. O. 16, 1881, was then read the second time.

Councilman Dowling offered the following amendment to the above ordinance; which was laid on the table:

That it be the sense of this Council that the various boards to be elected by the approaching Joint Convention of the Common Council and Board of Aldermen shall be composed of two members of the majority and one member of the minority.

G. O. 16, 1881, was then ordered engrossed, read the third time, and passed by the following vote:

AYES, 24—viz. Councilmen Bedford, Brundage, Bryce, Caylor, Cole, Cowie, Coy, Dean, Dowling, Egger, Fultz, Harrold, Hartmann, Knodel, Koller, Mauer, Morrison, Pritchard, Reichwein; Stout, Thalman, Ward, Weaver and Yoke.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinances were introduced, and severally read the first time:

By Councilman Brundage:

S. O. 63, 1881—An Ordinance to provide for the erection of lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures (complete to burn gas, except the service pipes) on Woodlawn avenue, from Dillon street to Linden street.

By Councilman Pritchard:

G. O. 17, 1881—An Ordinance to prohibit geese from running at large within the City of Indianapolis; and prescribing penalties for the violation thereof.

By Councilman Yoke:

S. O. 64, 1881—An Ordinance to provide for grading and graveling the first alley east of the intersection of South street and Virginia avenue, from South street to Virginia avenue.

The above entitled ordinance was accompanied by the following petition:

Indianapolis, April 11th, 1881.

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The undersigned, owners of real estate adjoining the first alley east of the intersection of South street and Virginia avenue, running from South street to Virginia avenue, respectfully petition for the passage of an ordinance providing for the improvement of the above described alley, by causing the same to be graded and gravelled, where it is not already done.

And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

A. C. May, Geo. L. Curtis, Louis Siersdorfer, Samuel Marks.

INTRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Councilman Bedford offered the following motions; which were referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner clean the gutters and fill the chuck-holes on John street, from Peru avenue to Hanna street.

That the Street Commissioner be directed to clean the gutters on Cherry street.

Councilman Bedford offered the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Contracts and City Attorney:

Resolved, The Board of Aldermen concurring, that Twiname, Amos & Co. have permission to assign to John L. Hanna their contract for re-graveling Columbia avenue, from Malotte avenue to Hill avenue; also, their contract for re-graveling Hill avenue, from Columbia avenue to Darwin street.

Councilman Caylor offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner fill the large mud holes on Indiana avenue, from Fall Creek to corporation line.

Councilman Dean offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the Fire Board be, and are hereby, instructed to place a fire alarm bell and striker in Engine House No. 10.

Councilman Fultz offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the fire alarm box No. 415, formerly located at Ferguson's pork house, be dismantled and located at the corner of Tennessee and Ray streets.

Councilman Koller offered the following motions; which were referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to clean the gutters and fill the chuck-holes on Pine street, from Washington street to North street.

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to clean the gutters and fill the chuck-holes in New York street, from Noble street to Pine street.

Councilman Hartmann offered the following motion; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements:

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to repair with gravel the first alley west of Dillon street, between Meek street and Georgia street.

Councilman Morrison offered the following motions; which were adopted:

That the Police Board be, and are hereby, requested to instruct the police to enforce the law against unchecked dogs.

That the City Civil Engineer and Street Commissioner be, and are hereby, ordered to examine all the bridges belonging to the city, and report if any of said bridges are in a dangerous condition, and what should be done in the way of repairs for the proper maintenance of said bridges.

That the City Civil Engineer be, and is hereby, directed to examine the north and south, east and west crossing of Washington street, between Pogue's Run and the canal, and report to this body where, in his opinion, new stone crossings should be put down, and the old ones repaired.

Councilman Morrison offered the following motion ; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements :

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to place in good condition the city's portion of the sidewalks on North Tennessee street, from Ohio street to First street, a portion of said sidewalks being in bad repair.

Councilman Reichwein offered the following motion ; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements :

That the Street Commissioner fill up all chuck-holes on New York street, from Delaware street to Noble street.

Councilman Stout offered the following motion ; which was referred to the Fire Board :

That the Fire Board and Chief Fire Engineer be, and are hereby, directed to have a fire hydrant located on the northwest corner of Ash and Seventh streets, at the No 9 Engine House.

Councilman Thalman offered the following motion ; which was adopted :

That the thanks are due and hereby tendered to the Hon. M. H. McKay, late Vice President of this Council, for his just and impartial action as such officer.

Councilman Knodel offered the following motion ; which was adopted, and Councilmen Knodel, Dean and Fultz appointed to act as members of the said special committee :

That a special committee of three be appointed, together with the Street Commissioner and Board of Public Improvements, and that said committee ascertain at what price the Three-Notch gravel road can be purchased, from Morris street to the corporation line, and, if the road can be purchased at a reasonable price in the opinion of the committee, that they report at the next regular meeting of this Council in favor of such purchase, and also to offer the necessary resolution authorizing such purchase.

Councilman Weaver offered the following motion ; which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements :

That the Street Commissioner be instructed to build a bridge across the State ditch, near Hill avenue.

Councilman Yoke offered the following motion ; which was adopted :

That the City Civil Engineer be, and is hereby, directed to report at the next meeting of this Council, whether the contract for bowldering and curbing the gutters on South New Jersey street, between Louisiana and South streets, has not expired.

By consent, Councilman Mauer offered the following motion ; which was referred to the Police Board :

That the Police Board be instructed to place the name of Thomas Hart on the pay roll for the first half of May.

PENDING ORDINANCES.

The following entitled ordinance was read the second time :

S. O. 43, 1881—An Ordinance to provide for re-grading and re-bowldering Meridian street, from Washington street to Louisiana street.

Councilman Bryce offered the following remonstrances to the above entitled ordinance :

To the Honorable, the Mayor, the Board of Aldermen and Common Council :

Gentlemen :—The undersigned respectfully show that they are property owners on Meridian street, between Washington and Louisiana streets, and they respectfully but *earnestly* remonstrate against any ordinance proposing to re-grade or re-bowlder said Meridian street, for the following and other substantial reasons, to-wit :

1st. The street needs no such so-called improvement. It is in good repair and condition, and will compare favorably with the best street in the city.

2d. The unnecessary improvement at this time will work a great hardship, peculiarly distressing, as the street seems to be emerging from a period when taxes, insurance and repairs out run income and burden owners.

3d. The street, yet in good condition, was only a few years since improved at the expense of the property owners, and they should not so soon, if ever, be compelled to undergo the great and unnecessary expense of another quite unnecessary so-called, but doubtful, "improvement."

J. F. Ramsey, by H. D. Pierce, under written authority, 22½ ft.; E. V. Pierce, undivided half, 22½ ft.

Indianapolis, April 5th, 1881.

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis :

Gentlemen :—The undersigned, owners of the real estate fronting on South Meridian street, between Washington street and Louisiana street, respectfully remonstrate against the passage of an ordinance providing for the re grading and re-bowldering said street, now pending before the City Council.

1st. Because the city has repaired and continues to repair other bowlder streets in a condition equally as bad as that of South Meridian street, and they deem it unjust that owners on this street should have burthens imposed upon them from which others under similar circumstances are exempt.

2d. Because they believe the real motive for re-grading and re-bowlderidg this street is not on account of the bowldering being worn out, but on account of the complaints by draymen and others of the unusual height of the grade above the gutters, a defect for which the property holders should not be held responsible, as such grade was made on the order of the City Council and not in conformity with the wishes of the owners, and they therefore protest against the injustice of paying for such mistakes.

3d. As property holders on said street, we do not desire to regrade it, but if public complaints of its inconvenience are such as to demand its alteration, then we believe that, in justice, the City Council should remedy the evil they have created, at the expense of the public.

Respectfully submitted,

T. A. Morris, owner of 195 ft.;

Lewis T. Morris (by T. A. Morris), 37 ft.;

John M. Butler, 42 ft.;

J. D. Condit, 239½ ft.;

Wm. S. Hubbard, } 158½

S. Yandes, } ft.;

H. Kaniger, 36½ ft.;

John C. Wright. 62 ft.

} All these parties remonstrate also, for the further reason that the square between Washington and Maryland street is free from the objections named above, and does not need re-grading.

The undersigned, after consulting with some members of the City Council, hereby consent to pay for putting on bowlders after the grading is prepared for the same, provided the city will pay the expense of re-grading the street.

T. A. Morris, 195 ft; L. T. Morris, 37 ft.; Wm. S. Hubbard; S. Yandes.

On motion, the above entitled ordinance (S. O. 43, 1881), with the remonstrances, were referred to the Board of Public Improvements and City Attorney.

The following entitled ordinance was read the second time, one hundred copies ordered printed, and was then referred to the Judiciary Committee and City Attorney:

G. O. 15, 1881—An Ordinance authorizing the Indianapolis, Decatur & Springfield Railway Company to construct and maintain a single and double track into and through the City of Indianapolis, and to adjust certain other tracks, and prescribing the terms thereof.

Councilman Thalman offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the City Clerk be directed to procure certified copy of House Bill No. 378, passed by the last General Assembly, being an act in relation to precept and sales, and have the same printed.

Councilman Dowling offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the City Civil Engineer be directed to report back at next meeting of this Council if the two railroad tracks on Louisiana street, west of Tennessee street, are in their proper places, according to the terms of their Charter.

On motion, the Common Council then adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, Mayor,

President of the Common Council.

Attest. JOS. T. MAGNER, City Clerk.