

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE }
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH, 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, Stanton and Woodburn—16.

Absent—Councilmen Burgess and Colley—2.

The proceedings of the regular session held February 3d, 1868,
were read and approved.

Mr. Coburn presented the following communication:

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 10, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The American Fire Alarm and Police Telegraph Company,
respectfully, propose to erect and put in readiness for operation in your city
the system of Fire Alarm Telegraph similar to that now in use in the City
of Cleveland, (which is known as the single circuit system,) in accordance
with the following specifications, and upon the conditions thereto annexed,
to-wit:

FOR THE SIGNAL STATIONS,

Thirty-five (35) cast iron signal boxes, with combination locks, five keys to each lock, containing a magnetic call-bell and telegraphic key for the purpose of designating the location of a fire.

FOR THE ENGINE HOUSE GONGS,

Four (4) Engine House Gongs, not less than nine inches in diameter, with a telegraph key to each; also, one of smaller size, to be located in the dwelling of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department; also, a similar one in the signal or watch tower.

WIRE.

A sufficient quantity, not to exceed fifteen (15) miles, of annealed and spliced galvanized iron wire for the purpose of connecting the signal boxes and Engine House gongs on a single circuit; said wire to be well secured by proper insulators, to strong iron supports, on the highest houses obtainable near the line of circuit, or on poles, where suitable buildings cannot be had.

POLES.

All the poles used to be of sound timber, neatly dressed, not less than twenty-five (25) feet long, and to be well set in the ground.

BATTERY.

A sufficient number of cups of grove battery for the purpose of working the system properly, together with all the necessary stands or shelving for the same.

The whole to be completed and put in readiness for operation within three (3) months from the date of contract, upon the following

CONDITIONS:

The City of Indianapolis shall, within thirty (30) days after the date of contract, if required by the undersigned, designate the localities of the signal boxes and gongs, and place a suitable room for the battery, &c, at the disposal of the undersigned for the purposes herein contemplated; shall guarantee the right of way through the public highways, and shall, when notified that the system is ready for inspection, forthwith inspect and test the same, when, if found completed in accordance with the foregoing specifications, the said city shall pay to the undersigned the sum of four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500).

It is further agreed that we will furnish the city with the proper signals from our signal code.

Terms of payment to be made satisfactory to the city.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GAMEWELL & CO.,

Per J. THOMAS ELLIOTT, Agent.

Which was referred to the Committee on Fire Department and the Special Committee on the subject.

Mr. Geisel offered the following motion:

That the City Treasurer be directed to hereafter furnish to the City Clerk, for the use of the Council, the financial statement required by section 33 of the City Charter.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Goddard offered the following motion :

That the Street Commissioner be authorized to bowlder the gutters on the south and north sides of Washington street, between Mississippi and Missouri streets, as soon as the weather will permit.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Goddard, also, presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 10, 1868.

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

Your petitioner, William W. Smith, would respectfully show unto your honorable body that he is the owner, in fee simple, of lot No. 1, in out-lot No. 11, in the City of Indianapolis, that the same has improvements thereon of the value of \$850.00, that the same was assessed by the City Assessor at \$1,500.00. Your petitioner would respectfully submit to your honorable body that said assessment is erroneous, and entirely too high; and farther, that your petitioner, upon his said petition, previous to the paying of his taxes for the year 1866, by order of your honorable body, had said assessment reduced to the sum of \$850.00, and paid his taxes accordingly, as per receipt filed herewith.

Your petitioner is now informed that said assessment still stands against him, and that the City Treasurer's books, as he is informed, show no reduction whatever.

Your petitioner therefore respectfully asks that the former action of the Council be affirmed, and that the City Treasurer be notified of said reduction and instructed to receive the taxes accordingly.

WILLIAM W. SMITH.

Which was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Goddard introduced general ordinance No. 123, entitled :

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

Which was read the first time by its title.

Mr. Seidensticker presented the following communication :

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 10, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Printing and Stationery struck from the bill of the Daily Telegraph Company, presented for their approval, the amount charged for publishing and printing the City Delinquent List, being, according to the committees decision, unauthorized.

I would beg leave to refer your honorable body to a resolution passed July 17, 1865, (Council Pro. 1865, p. 161,) under which the former committee felt itself authorized to pay for publishing the city delinquent list, published in our paper, and also for all other advertisements that are published in the Daily and Weekly Journal.

Hoping that your honorable body, in accordance with the resolution above referred to, will allow the bill,

I remain yours respectfully,

E. J. METZGER,
For Daily Telegraph Co.

In reference to which Mr. Seidensticker offered the following motion :

That the Committee on Printing and Stationery be instructed to include the amount of the Daily Telegraph Co.'s bill for publishing the delinquent tax sale list in their next ordinance of appropriation, if the rate of charges is correct.

The question being on the adoption of the motion,

Mr. MacArthur called for the eyes and noses.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Coburn, Davis, Goddard, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Schmidt, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—11.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Brown, Cottrell, Foster, Geisel and Henschen—5.

So the motion was adopted.

Mr. Seidensticker, per Mr. Brown, offered the following communication and resolutions :

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 10, 1868.

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

In a meeting of the citizens of the Sixth Ward, held at Koeninger's Hall on Saturday the 8th of February, 1868, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Council be respectfully requested to rescind their order for shutting off the gas in the street lamps at 12 o'clock at night.

Resolved, That G. Zscheche, Julius Wilde, and M. Hoffmann be appointed a committee to present these resolutions to Council.

O. J. WILDE,
GUSTAVUS ZSCHECHE, } *Committee.*
MICHAEL HOFFMANN, }

Which was referred to the Committee on Gas.

Mr. MacArthur offered the following motion :

That the City Civil Engineer be instructed to have the names of the several streets placed on the corners of each street in the most conspicuous places, whether it be on the lamp posts or on the corner of buildings.

Which was referred to a special committee previously appointed, composed of Messrs. Stanton, Geisel and Woodburn.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. Kappes, from the Committee on Benevolence and Hospitals, made the following report:

RECAPITULATION OF THE WEEKLY REPORT OF CONTENTS OF REGISTER OF PATIENTS OF CITY HOSPITAL, ENDING FEBRUARY 1, 1868.

Number of patients in the Hospital at last report.....	21
Number of patients received in the Hospital since last report.....	1
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report	0
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report.....	4
Number of patients died in the Hospital since last report.....	0
Number of patients remaining in the Hospital at present.....	18

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Brown, from Select Committee, made the following report:

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 10, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—We, the undersigned, the committee to whom was referred the petition of many citizens of the Seventh and Eighth Wards in reference to removing a certain railroad switch from the west side of Virginia Avenue to a certain point on the east side of said Avenue and on Louisiana street, recommend that the prayer of the petition be granted.

In reference to the petition of the Cincinnati, Lafayette and Chicago Railroad Company, asking permission to lay down an additional track from the west side of Virginia Avenue to or near the east line of the Corporation, we are of the opinion that such a grant would be very injurious to the private property bordering on Louisiana street between the points named, and that the requirements of the Railroad Company are not such as will warrant the Council in granting such an additional right of way.

AUSTIN H. BROWN,	} Committee.
J. W. DAVIS,	
W. H. LOOMIS,	
THOS COTTRELL,	

In reference to which Mr. Brown offered the following motion:

That the report be concurred in, and that it be referred to the City Attorney, with instructions to report whether, in his opinion, the Railroad Company has any vested right to maintain, in the street, the tracks or switches proposed to be removed; and if not, that he be requested to report to the Council a form of notice to be served on said Company.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Schmidt, from Select Committee, made the following report:

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 10, 1868.

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

The Committee on Gas, with selected members of the Council, have examined the several bids for lighting and extinguishing the gas lamps of the city, and find Mr. O. H. P. Bly the lowest bidder, at twenty (20) cents per lamp per month, according to specifications of City Auditor, and giving good security, viz., J. M. W. Langsdale. By general rule of City Council the contract should be awarded to said Mr. O. H. P. Bly.

The committee would recommend as best bidders Messrs. Schulmeier & Kalb, whose bids are thirty-three (33) cents per post per month, also with good security, and whose past experience as contractors has given the city good satisfaction, we leave the matter in the discretion of your honorable body.

C. F. SCHMIDT,
SAM'L GODDARD, } *Committee.*
P. H. JAMESON, }

Which was received.

Mr. MacArthur moved that the contract be awarded to the lowest bidder, and that he enter upon his duties the first day of March, 1868.

Mr. Kappes moved to amend by awarding to Schulmeier & Kalb.

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

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Geisel, Kappes, Loomis, Schmidt and Seidensticker—6.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Coburn, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, MacArthur, Stanton and Woodburn—10.

So Mr. Kappes' amendment was lost.

The question then being on Mr. MacArthur's motion, the ayes and noes were called.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Coburn, Cottrell, Davis, Foster, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—12.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Geisel, Kappes, Loomis and Schmidt—4.

So the motion to award the contract to O. H. P. Bly was adopted.

Mr. Brown offered the following motion :

That the Civil Engineer incorporate in the contract of the Lamp-Lighter a provision that the Council reserves the right to rescind the contract at any time, on failure of the contractor to comply with the terms thereof, in its opinion.

Which was adopted.

On motion by Mr. Stanton, the Council adjourned.

DANIEL MACAULEY, *Mayor.*

ATTEST :

D. M. RANSELL, *City Clerk.*