

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL.

---

REGULAR SESSION.

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CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE }  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }  
MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1870, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M. }

The Common Council met in regular session.

Present—His Honor, the Mayor, and the following members:

Councilmen Brown, Cottrell, Harrison, Heckman, Kahn, Kennington, Locke, Marsee, Newman, Pyle, Reagan, Shepherd, Thalman, Thoms, Whitsit, Wiles and Woodburn—17.

Absent—Councilman Weaver—1.

The proceedings of the regular session, held August 20, 1870, were read and approved.

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

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. Wiles made the following report :

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

GENTLEMEN :—The Committee on Contracts, to whom was referred sundry proposals for street improvement, have examined the same, and find the following persons to be the lowest bidders, and recommend that contracts be awarded as follows, to-wit :

First.—For grading, paving with brick, and curbing the outside edge of the sidewalk with Flat Rock stone, the south sidewalk on Washington street, from Missouri street to the western arm of the Central Canal, to Louis Renard, at \$1.66 per front foot for paving, and seventy-five cents per front foot for curbing.

Second.—For grading, and paving with brick the sidewalks on Ohio street, from Meridian to Noble street, to Oliver Keely, at 69½ cents per front foot.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. WILES, }  
LEON KAHN, } Committee.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Newman made the following report :

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

GENTLEMEN :—The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred Nos. 33, 36, 37 and 38, with the substitute offered by Dr. J. H. Woodburn of the Third Ward, have had that matter under consideration, and recommend the passage of said substitute, and that said Ordinances be laid on the table.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN S. NEWMAN, }  
TEMPLE C. HARRISON, } Committee.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following report :

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

GENTLEMEN :—The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred

the petition of William H. Drapier on the subject of assessment for taxation for 1869, beg leave to report that they have had that matter under consideration, and are of the opinion that the petition presents no legal nor equitable grounds for relief. The petitioner admits that he refused to be listed, and in such case it became the duty of the Assessor or his deputy to assess said Drapier from the best information he could obtain, and having done so, we think no grounds exist for relief against the petitioner's wilful act.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN S. NEWMAN, ISAAC THALMAN, AUSTIN H. BROWN, THOMAS COTTRELL,	}	Committee.
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Which was concurred in.

Mr. Harrison made the following report :

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

GENTLEMEN :—Your Committee on the Revision of Ordinances, to whom was referred a petition signed by E. H. Barry, H. H. Lee, W. P. Bingham & Co., Tucker & Smith, Charles F. Meyer, Andrew Wylie, Stephen Gray & Co., G. A. Birchard, and Joseph Becker, praying that express wagons be prohibited from standing on Pennsylvania street, between Washington and Market, herewith report an Ordinance in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

Respectfully submitted,

TEMPLE C. HARRISON, THOMAS COTTRELL, ERIE LOCKE,	}	Committee.
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Which was received.

Also, General Ordinance No. 50, 1870, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to prevent the standing of public hacks, carriages or express wagons on North Pennsylvania street, between Market and Washington streets.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Harrison made the following report :

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

GENTLEMEN:—Your Committee on Revision of Ordinances, to whom was referred an Ordinance to “repeal an Ordinance relative to the collection of fines, penalties, judgments, costs and forfeitures,” ordained October 22d, 1870, beg to report, that the Ordinance proposed to be repealed is one which provides for the working of city prisoners on the streets, and in the opinion of your Committee ought to be repealed. We therefore report back the Ordinance referred to, and recommend that it be passed.

Respectfully submitted,

TEMPLE C. HARRISON,	} Committee.
THOMAS COTTRELL,	
ERIE LOCKE,	

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Thalman made the following report:

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

GENTLEMEN:—Your Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred the matter of putting a culvert on Market street, between Hiland street and corporation line east, respectfully report, that we recommend that the Street Commissioner be ordered to immediately put in a wooden culvert, so far as is necessary to finish the grade of said Market street, between the points above named.

ISAAC THALMAN,	} Committee.
JOHN L. MARSEE,	
CHRIS. HECKMAN,	

Which was concurred in, and the Street Commissioner instructed to do said work.

Mr. Thalman made the following report:

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

GENTLEMEN:—Your Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred sundry papers, respectfully report as follows:

First.—A petition was referred to us, signed by James E. Davis and others, asking that an Ordinance be passed for grading and paving with brick the east sidewalk on Liberty street, from Lockerby to

North streets. We would recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and the Ordinance be put on its passage.

Second.—A petition was also referred to us, signed by Robert Deny and others, asking to change the name of East Cumberland street, between South Delaware and the eastern terminus of East Cumberland street, to that of East Pearl street. We would recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and the name of said street be so changed.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC THALMAN, JOHN L. MARSEE, CHRIS. HECKMAN,	}	Committee.
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Which was concurred in.

Mr. Thalman made the following report:

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

GENTLEMEN :—The undersigned, members of the Committees on the Judiciary and Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred the remonstrance of William Cook and others, against the vacation of a certain alley in out-lot No. 85, in said city, have had that matter under consideration, and beg leave to report that they are of the opinion that it would not be any injury to any citizen to vacate said alley, as petitioned for ; that it has not been opened for years, nor one on the east of it, extending eastward, which it is said is kept enclosed, and has been, by said Cook, one of the remonstrants ; that no public convenience will be affected by the vacation of said alley. All of which they submit to the Council, and pray to be discharged from the further consideration of said subject.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN S. NEWMAN, ISAAC THALMAN, JOHN L. MARSEE, TEMPLE C. HARRISON,	}	Committee.
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Mr. Heckman, from the same Committee, made the following minority report :

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

GENTLEMEN :—The undersigned, members of the Committee on

Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred the remonstrance of William Cook and 23 others, against the vacation of an alley in out-lot No. 85, in said city, dissent from the report of the majority of said Committee, and a majority of the Committee on the Judiciary, adverse to said remonstrance, and submit the following considerations in opposition to said report.

The majority of said Committee base their conclusion on these grounds, namely :

First.—That it will not be any injury to any citizen to vacate said alley.

Second.—That said alley has not been opened for years ; and

Third.—That William Cook, one of the remonstrants, has kept another alley, lying east of the one in controversy, and in another square, closed for years.

If it were true that Mr. Cook has improperly and illegally kept some other alley closed against the public for years past, the undersigned are unable to see how that justifies other citizens, or this Council, in obstructing or destroying the alley named, in square 85, which was long ago donated to the public, and the vacation of which will be equivalent to giving twenty-five hundred dollars worth of public ground to private individuals, who happen to own the lots immediately adjoining the alley.

2d. If Cook or others are obstructing an alley east of out-lot No. 85, the law furnishes a remedy to all parties injured thereby ; in addition to which, this Council can at pleasure take measures to compel the opening of that alley ; whereas, if the petition now pending for the vacation of the alley in out-lot No. 85 is granted, both the city and lot owners, interested in keeping the alley open, are without remedy, unless the courts shall declare the order of vacation null and void, as the undersigned believe they would do.

3d. The majority are mistaken, as the undersigned are informed, in their statement : the fact being, that Mr. Cook has not obstructed or enclosed, nor had any agency in enclosing, the alley spoken of in said majority report.

As to the second ground of the majority report, that the alley in

out-lot 85 has not been opened for years, the undersigned beg leave to remark that such a persistent violation of law, and of the rights of the public by parties asking the vacation of this alley is, to say the least of it, a novel, if not a modest, reason for asking the City Council to not only give them valuable public ground in perpetuity, but to also absolve them from the legal penalties they have incurred by its unlawful appropriation to their private use in the past. Moreover, this argument is deprived of any force by the additional consideration, that only a few months since, on application of parties living on said out-lot, this Council passed an order that said alley should be opened, which order has been disregarded and defied by the parties who have wrongfully enclosed the same.

As to the argument of the majority, that it will not be any injury to any citizen to vacate said alley, the undersigned remark that the numerous signatures to said remonstrance, and the reasons therein set forth against the proposed vacation, lead them to a totally different conclusion to that arrived at in the majority report. They think the almost unanimous judgment of the owners of property in out-lot 85, that such vacation will be a serious injury to them, is not over-balanced by this opinion of the majority of the two Committees.

Again: The power of the Council to vacate a street or alley does not depend on the question, whether special injuries will result to particular individuals in consequence of such vacation. The authority of the Council is not absolute, to be exercised at its sole will and pleasure, but it is strictly statutory, and exercisable only on the terms prescribed by law. The only authority the Council has in the premises is given in the 86th section of the Act of 1867, for the incorporation of Cities. This section gives the same power to City Councils to vacate streets and alleys, that County Commissioners have to vacate streets and alleys in towns.

What rights and powers County Commissioners have are defined in Chapter 75, of the Revised Code of 1852, pages 632-633, Vol. I, Gavin & Hord's edition of the Statutes.

The 6th section of that act defines who may petition for the vacation of a street or alley, what the petition shall contain, and the notice that shall be given of its pending. Section 7 is as follows:

“If no opposition be made to such petition, the Board of County

Commissioners may vacate, with such restrictions as they may deem for the public good, but if opposition be made, such application shall be continued until the next term of the Board, when, if the objectors consent to such vacation, or if two-thirds of all the real estate holders of the town petition therefor, the Board may grant the prayer of the petitioners."

Objections have been made, in the form of written remonstrance, against the proposed vacation, by more than three-fourths of the lot owners in out-lot 85; and the undersigned deny the authority of the Council to proceed to vacate said alley, unless two-thirds of the real estate holders of the city petition therefor; and the question whether any one will be, in fact, injured by vacating said alley, is utterly unimportant, so long as the objections already filed are not overcome by such a petition as the Statute requires for that purpose.

One other suggestion the undersigned would volunteer on the subject of vacating alleys in general, and this alley in particular. It is well known that a large portion of the fires that have occurred in this city have originated in out-houses, stables, etc., situated on alleys, and the vacation of the same adds to the difficulty of suppressing fires on or adjoining the squares where fires take place, by obstructing ready access to the rear of lots, and if practiced to any considerable extent must leave such property to the mercy of the flames, and greatly add to the danger of adjoining property in consequence of bringing the fire engines near to buildings so shut off from streets and alleys. For this reason, if no other, the undersigned submit that no street or alley ought to be vacated, unless there are strong public reasons for so doing.

Respectfully submitted,

C. HECKMAN,  
THOMAS COTTRELL.

Mr. Kennington moved to concur in the minority report.

The question being on Mr. Kennington's motion,

Those who voted in the affirmative were, Councilmen Cottrell, Heckman, Kennington, Reagan, Whitsit and Wiles—6.

Those who voted in the negative were, Councilmen Brown,



Harrison, Kahn, Locke, Marsee, Newman, Pyle, Shepherd, Thalman, Thoms and Woodburn—11.

So the motion to concur in the minority report was lost.

Mr. Shepherd moved to concur in the majority report,

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Brown, Harrison, Kahn, Locke, Marsee, Newman, Pyle, Reagan, Shepherd, Thalman, Thoms, and Woodburn—12.

Negative—Councilmen Cottrell, Heckman, Kennington, Whitsit, and Wiles—5.

Mr. Locke made the following report ;

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

Your Committee on Bridges report that Hanway & Rubush are the lowest bidders for the construction and extension of the wooden bridge over Pogue's Run on South street, their bid being four dollars (\$4.00) per hundred feet, board measure.

We would therefore recommend that the contract be awarded to them.

Also, that the contract for the building of the wooden bridge over Pogue's Run on Garden street, be awarded to Daniel Shearer, he being the lowest bidder, viz., four dollars per one hundred feet, board measure.

ERIE LOCKE,  
AUSTIN H. BROWN,  
J. L. MARSEE.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Marsee made the following report :

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

Your Committee on Fire Department, to whom was referred the bids for furnishing this city with two thousand feet of rubber hose, would respectfully report that they tested the sample sections furnished by each bidder, with the following result, to-wit :

Stilz's sample burst at 250 lbs. pressure.

Silsby's sample burst at 300 lbs. pressure.

Fishback's sample burst at 325 lbs. pressure.

The only sections that did not burst at a pressure of 325 lbs. were those of Mooney & Co. We would therefore recommend that the contract for furnishing said hose be awarded to Mooney & Co., at \$1.30 per foot.

JOHN L. MARSEE,  
ISAAC THALMAN,  
EDWARD REAGAN.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following report:

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

Your Committee to whom was referred the communication from the Managers of the Water Works, would respectfully report that the President of said Works proposes to run the water pipes, so as to take the place of three of the cisterns recommended by the Chief Fire Engineer, for the sum of twelve hundred dollars.

JOHN L. MARSEE,  
ISAAC THALMAN,  
EDWARD REAGAN.

Which was received.

The following report of the Chief Fire Engineer upon the subject of Fire Cisterns, was called up :

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

OFFICE CHIEF FIRE ENGINEER,  
INDIANAPOLIS, August 13th, 1870. }

GENTLEMEN: I would respectfully recommend that Fire Cisterns be located at or near the following named places, to-wit :

Corner of West and McCarty streets, 500 barrels.

Corner of Butler and Jackson streets, 600 barrels.

Corner of Christian and College Avenues, 600 barrels.

Corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Ash streets, 600 barrels.

Corner of East and Dougherty streets, 600 barrels.

Corner of Kentucky Avenue and Sharpe streets, near Glass works,  
600 barrels.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL GLAZIER,

*Chief Fire Engineer.*

On motion, the report was concurred in, and the City Clerk instructed to advertise for proposals to build the cisterns above referred to.

Mr. Wiles made the following report :

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

INDIANAPOLIS, August 20, 1870.

GENTLEMEN : Your Committee on Gas Light, to whom was referred sundry gas ordinances, would report :

That they have handed special ordinances No. 142, 1870, to the Gas Inspector, with instructions to that officer to ascertain whether the Gas Company have laid, or propose to lay the necessary gas main, viz., on West McCarty street, between Illinois and Meridian streets.

They report back, and recommend the engrossment and passage of special ordinance No. 149, to light Broadway, between Cherry street and Forest Home Avenue. (The committee would recommend that this ordinance be amended by striking out "Christian Avenue," and substituting Cherry street.)

Special ordinance, No. 151, to light Scioto and Potomac Alleys, in square 56.

Special ordinance, No. 152, to light East Market street from the late corporate limits to Highland street.

Special ordinance No. 153, to light the first, last, and west alley north of the National road, between Blackford and Blake streets.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. WILES,  
LEON KAHN,  
ROBERT KENNINGTON.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Thoms introduced special appropriation ordinance No. 44—1870, entitled,

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the city of Indianapolis.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Thoms made the following report :

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

GENTLEMEN : The Committee on Printing and Stationery, to whom was referred the bids of the following named persons : E. J. Metzger, West & Hawkins, Commercial Company, Wright & Holman, and John H. Holiday, find that for the printing of the blanks for the city officers and the Council ; the printing of proceedings of the Council ; and the printing of hand-bills and posters, Wright & Holman are the lowest bidders.

Your Committee report that for the blank book work the bids are so vague that it is hard to determine who is the lowest bidder.

For the advertising, your committee find two competitors, the Evening Commercial and Evening News. The Council not having directed that proposals be invited for this class of work, your committee ask for further instructions.

F. THOMS, AUSTIN H. BROWN, TEMPLE C. HARRISON,	}	Committee.
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Which was concurred in, and the contract for printing the Council proceedings and the necessary blanks was awarded to Wright & Holman.

Mr. Wiles moved that the advertising be awarded to the Indianapolis Daily Journal.

Mr. Brown offered the following amendment :

That the City Clerk be directed to advertise for proposals for the advertising, and that all the newspapers be invited to bid, and to accompany the same with proof, under oath, showing the largest list of subscribers at this date in the city of Indianapolis.

Which amendment was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative, Councilmen Brown, Cottrell, Heckman, Kennington, Locke, Marsee, Reagan, Shepherd, Thalman and Whitsit—10.

Negative, Councilmen Harrison, Kahn, Newman, Pyle, Thoms, Wiles, and Woodburn—7.

Dr. Woodburn presented the following :

Recapitulation of the Weekly Report of Contents of Register of Patients of City Hospital, ending August 29, 1870 :

Number of patients in Hospital at last report .....	38
Number of patients received in Hospital since last report .....	13
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report .....	1
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report ....	16
Number of patients died in Hospital since last report .....	...
Total number of patients remaining in hospital at present report	34

Recapitulation of the Weekly Report of Contents of Register of Patients of City Hospital, ending August 13, 1870 :

Number of patients in Hospital at last report.....	33
Number of patients received in Hospital since last report.....	16
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report.....	...
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report...	7
Number of patients died in Hospital since last report .....	1
Number of patients remaining in Hospital at present report .....	41

Recapitulation of the Weekly Report of Contents of Register of Patients of City Hospital, ending August 20, 1870 :

Number of patients in Hospital at last report.....	41
Number of patients received in Hospital since last report.....	5
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report.....	0
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report....	8
Number of patients died in hospital since last report .....	...
Number of patients remaining in Hospital at present report .....	38

Which were received.

Mr. Shepherd presented the following petition :

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

GENTLEMEN: We the undersigned citizens and property-owners living in the vicinity of the central branch of the canal would respectfully petition your honorable body to take immediate steps towards the vacation and filling up that portion of said central canal lying south of Market street, and extending to the southern limits of the city. The above described canal is a nuisance, and breeds pestilence throughout the southwestern portion of our city. By giving this your immediate attention, we, your petitioners, will ever pray.

Signed by J. P. Meikel, D. Fred Klumpp, Charles Sage, August Nagel, Zeph Hollingsworth, Charles Climer, and 141 others.

Which was received.

Also, the following report :

GENTLEMEN:—The Select Committee, to whom was referred the matter of the Central Canal, would report that they have conferred with the Water Works Company, and they agree to surrender said Canal, south of Market street, to the use of the public and the city, for the sum of \$20,000, to be paid in the bonds of the city. Your committee report an Ordinance on the subject, which they recommend be passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
 JAMES McB. SHEPHERD, }  
 J. H. WOODBURN, } Committee.  
 JOHN PYLE, }

Which was received.

Also, General Ordinance No. 51, 1870, entitled,

AN ORDINANCE, Authorizing the issuing of city bonds to compensate the Water Works Company for surrendering the Central Canal south of Market street.

Which was read the first time.

On motion the whole matter was postponed.

By consent, Mr. Thoms offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That Mariah Rhodius be, and is hereby, granted the privilege of taking the bowlders and putting in curb and flag stones in alley south of her property, on Meridian street, said flag stones to extend from front to rear of her property, in order to make a good passage way to the rear of her premises; said passage way not to be more than three feet in width, and to be done at her own expense and to the satisfaction of the Civil Engineer.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Heckman presented the following :

*Order of Vacation.*—In the matter of vacating so much of the south sidewalk of Washington street, from the intersection of the Michigan road with Washington street to the old corporation line east.

Comes now the petitioner and produces proof that he has given the legal notice of the petition to vacate as aforesaid, in the Indianapolis Daily Journal, a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in the city of Indianapolis, which proof is as follows :

*State of Indiana, Marion county, ss:*

Personally appeared before the undersigned, Ansel C. Grooms, Notary Public, Henry A. Loudon, clerk for Journal Company, publishers of the Weekly Indiana State Journal, a newspaper, of general circulation, printed and published in the city of Indianapolis, in the county aforesaid, who being duly sworn, upon his oath saith, that the notice, of which the attached is a true copy, was duly published in said paper for three weeks successively, the first of which publication was on the 12th day of August, 1870, and the last on the 26th day of August, 1870.

HENRY A. LOUDON.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this twenty-sixth day of August, 1870.

ANSEL C. GROOMS,

[L. s.]

Notary Public.

And also, by posting up notice, which proof is as follows, to-wit :

*Notice of Vacation.*—Notice is hereby given that a petition has been presented to the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, praying for the vacation of so much of the south sidewalk of Washington street, from the intersection of the Michigan road with Washington

street to the old corporation line east, as will make the said sidewalk straight and intersections perfect, and that the petition will be heard and proceedings taken for the vacation of said portion of said sidewalk at the meeting of the Common Council of said city, to be held on the 27th day of August, 1870.

J. R. HEIM.

*State of Indiana, Marion county, ss:*

Before me, John G. Waters, a Notary Public in and for said county and State aforesaid, on the 27th day of August, 1870, came Jacob F. Heim, and on his oath saith, that on the 13th day of August, 1870, he posted on or near the line of the proposed vacation three printed notices, of which the attached is a true copy.

JACOB F. HEIM.

Subscribed and sworn to this 28th day of August, 1870.

[L. s.]

JOHN G. WATERS, Notary Public.

And no person appearing to object to said vacation, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Common Council that the petitioner has fulfilled the requirements of the law by giving the requisite legal notice, it is therefore ordered by the Common Council that the vacation be and is hereby ordered in accordance with the prayer of the petitioner.

Which was referred to the special committee formerly appointed on the same subject, together with the Civil Engineer.

Mr. Thalman made the following report :

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

GENTLEMEN: Your Special Committee to whom was referred the bill and communications of Moses Lane, (engineer,) asking the payment of \$1,800 for his services in preparing plans, profiles, and specifications for the sewerage of the city of Indianapolis, respectfully report that in our opinion the charge is exorbitant, and should not be paid. As Mr. Lane made no surveys personally, but took his points from the surveys made by our City Engineer, his time devoted to the work must have been short outside of preparing the maps and plans. In our opinion, the sum of \$1,000 would be paying him liberally for his entire service, and would recommend that amount be



tendered him, leaving a balance due, after deducting the payment already made, of \$500.

ISAAC THALMAN,  
THOMAS COTTRELL, } Committee.  
W. D. WILES.

Which was referred to a committee of civil engineers composed of Messrs. R. M. Patterson and James Brown.

Mr. Thalman made the following report:

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

GENTLEMEN: Your Special Committee to whom was referred a remonstrance from property-owners on East Washington street, between the intersection of the Michigan road, and the corporation line, east, remonstrating against cutting down the grade of south sidewalk lower than the first profile made by the City Engineer, respectfully report that in our opinion the first grade established by the City Engineer would cut down the street sufficiently to make a gradual slope, and a very handsome grade, as it seems to be the wish of a large majority of the property-holders along the line of said improvement, to have the grade so fixed, we would recommend that the prayer of the remonstrants be granted.

ISAAC THALMAN,  
F. THOMS, } Committee.  
EDWARD REAGAN, }

Which was concurred in.

His Honor, the Mayor, presented the following communication:

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

GENTLEMEN: We clip the following communication from the Sentinel of yesterday, to your City Council, and from the charges made against us therein, we deem it but proper that we should reply, not only in our own defense, but that you may better understand the truth of the charges on which the gentleman bases his claims upon your generosity:

*To the Mayor and Common Council:*

"GENTLEMEN: On or about the 9th day of June last, your honorable body accepted an invitation from the city council of Connersville to attend and witness an exhibition of the Holly system of water works in said city, given in connection with the 'prize drill' between Company A Cincinnati Zouaves, Company A Connersville Zouaves, and Company A Indianapolis National Guards. The proceeds, less expenses, were to be divided between the three military companies equally, and one item of expense presented by the committee at Connersville was eighty-five dollars for carriages and dinner for the city council of Indianapolis, which amount was deducted from the share coming to Company A Indianapolis National Guards. Believing that the citizens of Indianapolis desire the maintenance of a military organization in our city, and as such organizations can not exist without money, I would most respectfully ask your honorable body to appropriate the sum of \$85, payable to Company A, Indianapolis Guards. Respectfully,  
JOHN L. HANNA,  
"Captain Company A, I. N. G."

We certainly think Captain Hanna too much of a gentleman to make such charges, based on not even the slightest foundation of truth, had he taken the trouble to investigate their correctness.

In the first place, no "item of expense was presented" by the city council of this city, nor by any committee or member thereof against said Zouave company, or either of them, for dinner, or carriage hire of the members of the Indianapolis city council, or any other persons, and not one dollar of the money belonging to the Zouave companies was appropriated to pay for the dinner and carriage hire of the members of the Indianapolis city council or other guests of this city.

The expense of the members of the Indianapolis city council, as well as all other guests of the city for dinner and carriage hire, was paid directly by the city council of this city.

In preparing to receive the members of the Indianapolis council, as well as other invited guests, we contracted with Mr. Kerr, of this city, to furnish dinner for the guests of the city, which he did, and afterwards brought in his bill, which we paid in full.

This, gentlemen, we think is a full and complete denial of all the charges made in the gentleman's communication.

We are, gentlemen, very respectfully,

W. H. BECK, Mayor.

Attest: H. F. KANE, City Clerk.

CONNERSVILLE, Indiana, August 23d, 1870.

Which was referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims.

His Honor, the Mayor, presented the following invitation:

INDIANAPOLIS, BLOOMINGTON AND WESTERN RAILWAY, }  
INDIANAPOLIS STATION, August 26, 1870. }

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

GENTLEMEN: I am requested by the managers of the Indianapolis, Bloomington, and Western Railroad to extend to you, individually and collectively, an invitation to accompany them in a trip over their new line of railway. The train will leave Indianapolis on the 13th of September, at 7 A. M., and arrive at Peoria, Illinois, the same evening. Returning, will leave Peoria next morning for home.

Respectfully,

W. F. SLATER, Superintendent

Indiana Division.

Which was accepted.

Mr. Kahn made the following motion:

*Motion:* That a Committee of three, together with the Chief Fire Engineer, be appointed to confer with the Water Works Company in regard to the fire plugs they are about to place in this city.

Which was adopted, and the following committee appointed:

Councilmen Kahn, Brown, and Locke.

#### REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The Civil Engineer made the following report:

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

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, August 29th, 1870.

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

August and Fred'k Richter, for building stone abutments for bridge over arm of Central Canal where the same crosses Washington street :

456.25 yards masonry at \$5.44 per yard .....	\$2,482.00
523 yards excavation at 34 cents per yard ....	177.82
266 yards embankment at 25 cents per yard.	66.50

Total ..... \$2,726.32

Also, Joseph Kruger, for paving with brick the west sidewalk on Alabama street, from North to St. Clair street :

Length 802.6, at 70 cents per lineal foot ..... \$561.75

Also, James Mahoney, for grading, and graveling, and covering with rolling mill cinders Severn alley from New York to Vermont street :

East side.....448 feet,  
West side.....448 feet,

Total.....869 feet, at 75 cents per lineal foot...\$672.00

John Richardson, for grading and graveling Wilkins street and sidewalks, from Tennessee to Chestnut street :

North side.....1,456.5 feet,  
South side.....1,454.0 feet,

Total length.....2,510.5 feet, at 64 cts. per lin. foot \$1,606.66

Also, Helm & Russee—partial estimate—for building stone abutment walls on New York street where the same crosses the Central Canal :

191.88 yards masonry at \$5.24 per yard.....	1,005.45
101 yards excavation at 20 cents per yard.....	20.20—\$1,025.65

Respectfully submitted,

R. M. PATTERSON, Civil Engineer.

Which was concurred in.

The City Clerk made the following report :

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

INDIANAPOLIS, August 27th, 1870.

The City Clerk respectfully reports to the Council :

1st. First and final estimate allowed Richard Carr for grading and

bowldering the gutters on Benton street, from Maryland to Market street.

2d. First and final estimate allowed John A. Whitsett for grading and paving with brick the west sidewalk on Virginia avenue, from Louisiana to South street.

3d. First and final estimate allowed Richard Carr for grading and bowldering Chesapeake alley, from Illinois to Meridian street.

4th. Contract and bond of James Mahoney for grading and graveling the first alley east of Liberty street running north and south from Vermont to Michigan street.

5th. Contract and bond of the Massilon Bridge Company for building an iron arch bridge over the Central canal on First street.

6th. First and final estimate allowed Patterson & Dunning for grading and bowldering New Jersey street, from the north side of St. Clair street to Fort Wayne avenue.

7th. First and last estimate allowed James Mahoney for grading and graveling Severn alley, from New York to Vermont street.

8th. First and final estimate allowed to Joseph Kinger for grading and paving with brick the west sidewalk on Alabama street, from North to St. Clair street.

9th. First and final estimate allowed John Richardson for grading and graveling Wilkins street from Tennessee to Chestnut street.

Respectfully submitted,

DAN. M. RANSELL, City Clerk.

Which was concurred in, except the approval of the estimates and the contracts and bonds approved.

Pending the discussion of a motion made by Mr. Wiles to strike out that part of the report relative to allowing Patterson & Dunning an estimate for New Jersey street,

The Council adjourned.

DANIEL MACAULY, Mayor.

ATTEST :

Attest: D. M. RANSELL, City Clerk.