

February 13, 1900.]

CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

A. D. Jones
99

SPECIAL MEETING.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS,
February 13, 1900. }

The Common Council of the City of Indianapolis met in the Council Chamber, Tuesday evening, February 13, 1900, at 8 o'clock, in special session, pursuant to the following call:

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., February 12, 1900.

Mr. John F. Geckler, Esq., City Clerk:

Sir—You are hereby notified that there is hereby called a special meeting of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, to be held in the Council Chamber in said city on Tuesday evening, the 13th day of February, 1900, at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of introducing an appropriation ordinance and resolutions relating to the investigation of city affairs. You will cause notice of such meeting to be served upon each member of the Common Council of said city.

JOHN H. CRALL,

President of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, Ind.

I, John F. Geckler, Clerk of the Common Council, do hereby certify that I have served above notice upon the President and each member of the Common Council prior to the time of meeting, pursuant to the rules.

JOHN F. GECKLER,
City Clerk.

Present, Hon. John H. Crall, President of the Common Council, in the chair, and 18 members, viz.: Messrs. Bernauer, Billingsley, Daller, Dickson, Evans, Higgins, Horan, Kaiser, Keller, Kelly, Megrew, Moriarity, Munro, McGrew, Negley, Reilly, Spiegel and Wheeler.

Absent—2, viz.: Messrs. Knight and Perrott.

COMMUNICATIONS, ETC., FROM MAYOR.

His Honor, the Mayor, presented the following communication:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS,
INDIANAPOLIS, IND., February 10, 1900. }

To the President and Members of the Common Council:

Gentlemen—Assuming that the City Comptroller will recommend an ordinance which will carefully provide for the purpose and legitimate

expenditure of the money thereby appropriated, I have this day approved Resolution No. 3, "Requesting City Comptroller to report an ordinance for \$500 to be used by the Committee on Investigation and Impeachment."

Respectfully submitted,

T. TAGGART,
Mayor.

Which was read and ordered spread on the minutes.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

Communication from City Comptroller:

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
OFFICE OF CITY COMPTROLLER,
INDIANAPOLIS, IND., February 13, 1900. }

To the President and Members of the Common Council:

Gentlemen—I herewith submit, for your consideration, an ordinance appropriating the sum of \$500 with which to pay the expenses of an investigation of the dismissal of members of the Fire and Police Forces, as provided in Resolution No. 1, passed by your honorable body on January 15, 1900, and recommend the passage of the same.

Very respectfully,

E. M. JOHNSON,
City Comptroller.

Which was read and referred to Committee on Finance.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES.

Under this order of business, the following ordinance was introduced:

By Mr. Megrew:

App. O. No. 1, 1900. An ordinance appropriating the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for the employment and compensation of a stenographer for the Committee on Investigation and Impeachment of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, and providing for the disbursement of said money, and fixing a time when said ordinance shall take effect.

Whereas, By the terms of Resolution No. 1, 1900, the Committee on Investigation and Impeachment of the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis was directed to investigate the dismissal of certain members of the Fire and Police Forces of said city by the Board of Public Safety, for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the provisions of the City Charter have been in any way violated by any such dismissal; and

Whereas, It is necessary, in any such investigation, that such committee shall have the services of a stenographer to take down in short-

hand the testimony produced before such committee on the subject aforesaid, and to have such parts thereof transcribed as the committee may desire to report to the said Council; and

Whereas, The City Comptroller has recommended the appropriation of the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for the purpose aforesaid, subject to the conditions hereinafter expressed; therefore.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, That the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) be and the same is hereby appropriated, to be used and expended in the following manner, and no other:

One hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) of said sum to be used in the employment of a stenographer for said committee, at five dollars (\$5) per day, for the period of thirty days, to take down in shorthand all testimony taken before said committee.

Three hundred and fifty dollars (\$350) of said sum to be used in compensating such stenographer for transcribing such part of the shorthand notes of such testimony as said committee may desire to report to the Common Council, such transcribing to be paid for at legal rates.

Sec. 2. No part of said moneys herein appropriated shall be used for any other purpose than hereinbefore expressed, and no part of said appropriation shall be available for any purposes after the first day of April, 1900.

Sec. 3. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

Which was read a first time.

Mr. Bernauer moved that the constitutional rules be suspended for the purpose of placing App. O. No. 1, 1900, on its final passage.

Which motion was lost by the following vote:

AYES 8—viz.: Messrs. Bernauer, Dickson, Higgins, Horan, Kelly, Moriarity, McGrew and Reilly.

NOES 11—viz.: Messrs. Billingsley, Daller, Evans, Kaiser, Keller, Me-grew, Munro, Negley, Spiegel, Wheeler and President Crall.

Whereupon App. O. No. 1, 1900, was referred to Committee on Finance.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Mr. Negley offered the following resolution:

Resolution No. 5, 1900—

Be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, That Resolution No. 1, 1900, passed by this body on the 15th day of January, 1900, and approved and signed by the Mayor on the 20th day of January, 1900, be and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Whereas, Section ninety-six (96) of the Charter of the City of Indianapolis provides that no member of the Police or Fire Departments of said city shall be discharged for political causes; and

Whereas, A large number of the members of said Police and Fire Departments have recently been discharged without trial or opportunity to make a defense; and

Whereas, It is currently reported, and openly stated in the newspapers of said city, that said members of the Police and Fire Departments have been discharged for political reasons and party affiliations, and for no other reason; and

Whereas, It is commonly reported, and openly charged in the newspapers, that gross violations of the provisions of the City Charter and other valid and existing laws and ordinances have been perpetrated, committed, aided and abetted by various persons holding various offices and appointments under and by virtue of the Charter of the City of Indianapolis by election and appointment, the same being greatly prejudicial to the public welfare if true as reported; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis, That pursuant to authority vested in this Common Council by section twenty-seven (27) of the Charter of said city, a Special Committee on Investigation and Impeachment, to be composed of seven (7) members of this body, not more than five (5) of whom shall be of one political party, and including therein the members of the present Standing Committee on Investigation and Impeachment, be appointed by the President of this Common Council to investigate the alleged violations of said City Charter involved in the dismissal and discharge of said members of the Indianapolis Fire and Police Departments; and to investigate also any and all acts, both public and private, official and unofficial, of any and all officers and employes of said city, both elective and appointive, which are or may be found to be prejudicial to the public welfare and good government, or violations of said City Charter; and the result of said investigation and the finding of said Special Committee shall be by said committee reported in full to this Common Council upon the termination of said investigation.

And pursuant thereto said Special Committee is hereby vested with full power to cause the City Clerk of said city to issue a subpoena or subpoenas, attachment or attachments, by order of the Chairman of said Special Committee or any member thereof authorized to act for him, for any and all witnesses and any and all books, papers, documents, plats, statements, orders or reports, or any copy or copies thereof, which may be desired by said Special Committee for the purposes of said investigation; and said City Clerk shall have said subpoenas and attachments duly served by and through the Police Department of said city, or by any other person duly authorized by said Special Committee to act in such capacity, and due return shall be made of the same to said Special Committee by the Department, person or persons serving the same. Said Special Committee shall have full power to hold its meetings at such times and places in said city as it may deem best, and to continue and adjourn said meetings from time to time until said investigation, finding and report have been completed; and be it further

Resolved, That the Mayor is hereby respectfully requested to officially act on this resolution at his earliest convenience.

Which was read and, on motion of Mr. Evans, adopted by the following vote:

AYES 11—viz.: Messrs. Billingsley, Daller, Evans, Kaiser, Keller, McGrew, Munro, Negley, Spiegel, Wheeler and President Crall.

NOES 8—viz.: Messrs. Bernauer, Dickson, Higgins, Horan, Kelly, Moriarity, McGrew and Reilly.

February 13, 1900.]

CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

103

On motion of Mr. Negley, the Common Council, at 8:20 o'clock P. M., adjourned.

Geo. H. Grace
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President.

ATTEST :

John F. Geske City Clerk.