

- Stated Meeting -

Common Council Chamber
Indianapolis, April 3d 1854.

Council met. Present Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Karns, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts & Strickland, Councilmen, & Caleb Scudder, Mayor.

The minutes of the preceeding meeting read and approved.

The Treasurer made Monthly report, referred to the Mayor and Clerk for examination.

The following report was read:

"To the Common Council of Indianapolis:

The undersigned have this day visited the public cisterns in the city, and find them in good order, and well supplied with water.

Joseph Little, Chief Fire Warden.
William Hughey, Street Commissioner

To the City Council:

Having heard frequent reports (Since the late fire adjoining P. Sponables in regard to the cistern near Mr. Lynch's School room, I would beg leave to make the following report:

The aforesaid cistern up to the time the old Council Chamber was on fire was in good order, after that occurrence, I then had the same refilled. After the fire adjoining Mr. Sponables, I went with Mr. William Wood, and found two feet of water in the cistern.

Mr. Wood went down into the cistern, and found two breaks in the plastering within four feet of the top of the cistern which caused the leak. The plastering was repaired and the cistern filled with water and is now in good order.

Wm Hughey, St. Com.

The Civil Engineer made the following report:

The undersigned respectfully reports to the Common Council that Mr. Owen Cullings has declined taking the contract for building the bridge over Pogues Run, on Market Street, upon the terms prescribed by your honorable body at your last Meeting, but stated that he would build the bridge for the sum of "One Hundred and Ten Dollars cash" or one hundred & twenty five dollars in city orders, as specified in his proposal.

The Council will please direct what is to be done in this matter.

On Motion, by Mr. Karns, the Engineer was ordered, to contract for said bridge at the \$110 cash.

The undersigned respectfully asks the advice of the Council in regard to drawing contracts for Street and sidewalk improvements, as he feels considerable uncertainty as to what the law is on the subject, whether it be the Common Council, or the propertyholders, or both, that should subscribe such contract as the contracting party of the second part. It appears to the undersigned, that the charter does not define this important particular, or is not explicit on the subject, the Council will therefore please instruct him in the matter, or pass an order for the City Attorney to draw up a legal form of contract for present and future use

Jas Wood, Civil Engineer

Indianapolis, Apl 3d 1854.

On Motion, referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The Civil Engineer reported the estimate, specification & bid for improvement of Vermont Street, between Mississippi street and the canal.

On Motion by Mr Pitts,
The whole matter was laid on the table -

Mr Maguire brought forward the ordinance granting the use of Maryland street, from Donation line to Union Railroad track, to the Central Indiana Railway Company with certain requirements, among others the building of a bridge across East Street, which requirements have not been complied with as far as said bridge is concerned.

On Motion by Mr. Bradshaw,
The subject matter was postponed until the bridge ordered heretofore by the Council shall be completed.

The following accounts were presented:

141.	Karns & Pratt, to putting up dials etc for Town Clock	39.00
140.	Murphy & Field " painting dials for town clock etc.	36.50
	N. McCarty, amt pd for redemption of lot No. 2. in Square No. 37. in the city of Indianapolis sold by the State officers for failure to pay taxes	18.70
142.	Levi Comegys To hauling four Sticks of timber 24 ft l. for city	4.00
143.	Ketchum & Merrill, Lantern for Relief fire Company	11.00
144.	Wesley Hughey Labor	6.25
139.	Richard Week "	11.37
145.	J M Kemper Lumber	5.94
		<u>132.76</u>

146. John Dunlop Jr. Rent of Council Chamber to 1st April.	45.00
138. A. Sold & Guysendorf Rep. W.L.F. Engine	10.00
147. Indianapolis Coal Co. 50 Bus. Coal	6.00
148. Robert Johnson, Removing nuisance	4.70
All of which were allowed.	

137. Mr Bradshaw, Chairman of the committee on accounts reported back the account of Davis & Little, for \$75.50 for standard weights, etc., and recommended its payment.

The Council, on Motion, concurred in the report, & the accounts was allowed.

Mr Delzell from the Committee on Streets and alleys made the following report:

The Committee on Streets and alleys to whom was referred the petition of Mr. French, relative to the occupancy of Meridian Street, reports as follows, they are unwilling to grant the privilege of occupying the streets or alleys of the city by any person, conceiving that they have no legal right so to do they, therefore, report against the granting the prayer of the petition and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject

Saml Delzell, Chn

On Motion,

The report of the Committee was concurred in, and the committee discharged.

Mr. Carlisle, from the Committee on the Fire Department made the following report:

The committee on the fire department to whom was the resolution directing the City Clerk to procure suction hose for the Invincible Fire Company, respectfully report that they have examined into the whole matter, and herewith return said resolution, and ask that it be adopted.

On behalf of the Committee D. Carlisle, Chn

Resolved, That the City Clerk be directed to procure a suction hose for the Western Liberties Fire Engine.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Delzell, Durham, Karns, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, & Strickland - 10
Noes: None.

Mr. Karns presented the following petition:

To the members of the Common Council of Indianapolis:

The undersigned would respectfully represent that their petition last year for filling hole made by your order, and grading Vermont street, between Pennsylvania and Meridian street, was not carried into effect, though ordered by your Board, as they understood.

We would respectfully urge the necessity of immediate attention to this rule, being an obstruction to the street, and dangerous, and besides a nuisance in warm weather from standing water. We, then expressed, and now repeat it, that we will pay the proportions falling to us of the expense, according to rules of street grading.

James W. Yandee
Isaiah Mansur
Jeremy Mansur.

On Motion by Mr. Karns, it was Ordered, That the Civil Engineer be directed to advertise for bids for the improvement of Vermont street, between Pennsylvania & Meridian Streets.

The following petition was presented and read:

To the Honorable, the Common Council of Indianapolis:

The undersigned would respectfully petition your honorable body the street laid out in a circular form beginning at or near the intersection of Meridian Street with Louisiana street, and running from thence in a curved line in the direction of the Madison Depot through Block No. 97. This street was originally laid out with a view of having convenient access to said Depot from the Steam Mill of the proprietors of the ground. Since then a right of way for a railroad track has been obtained along said street and the track constructed, and a number of other tracks have been constructed into the Union Depot, upon which locomotives are necessarily standing during a large portion of the day, blocking up the North end of said street, and rendering it entirely useless for ordinary use.

The undersigned would also respectfully ask that the alleys in said Block No. 97 be vacated, as they were laid out by the proprietors before the construction of the Union track, which track has been so located as to render one of them unsuitable. There has been also permanent improvements made rendering the use of the two others impossible. These alleys have never been thrown open to the public use, and the desire now is to have them vacated, so as to make others suitable to the permanent improvement now made on said Block.

The undersigned is the administrator of the estate of A.W. Morris to which estate said Block belongs.

T. A. Morris

April 3d 1854

The undersigned would also respectfully ask permission to arch, with brick, over the private alley running North and South through Block No. 87, at its entrance into Louisiana Street. The arch to be high enough to allow the use of the alleys by wagons, etc., the object in arching this alley is to connect the upper stories of the American House with a new building on the West. This alley has been opened about eight Months.

M. Morris.

April 3rd 1854

On Motion by Mr Dunlap

The following petitions were referred to the Judiciary Committee with instructions to draft an ordinance granting the prayer of the petitioners.

Mr Nelson presented the following petition:

To the Common Council of Indianapolis:

We, the undersigned property holders petition your honorable body, to order the gutter in square No. 54, North side of Washington street to be graded and bouldered at the expense of the property holders.

J. P. Michael - 18 feet: Charles Mayer 35½ feet: Philip Woemer, 16 feet: V. Butsch, 18 feet: M. Reck, 16 feet. B. Pottage 23½ feet Weaver & Williams, 18½ feet; Pierson & Cottrell 18½ feet H. Bates 110 feet: Thomas Buist 18½ feet - total 292½ feet.

On Motion,

Referred to the Civil Engineer.

Mr Nelson presented the following petition:

To the Common Council of Indianapolis:

We, the undersigned property holders petition your honorable body to order such sidewalks as are not graded and paved in square No. 54, North side of Washington Street to be graded and paved at the expense of the property holders.

Charles Mayer, 35½ feet: Pierson & Cottrell, 18½ feet; Weaver & Williams 18½ feet; Philip Woemer, 16 feet; M. Rech 16 feet: John Butsch 18 feet; B. Pottage 23½ feet; Thomas Buist 18½ J.P. Michael 18 feet. H Bates 110 feet - 292½ feet Total

On Motion

Referred to the Civil Engineer.

Mr Dunlap presented the following petition:

Gentlemen of the Common Council:

The undersigned managers and proprietors of the Uncle Tom's Opera Troupe would respectfully petition your honorable body for the following purpose, viz: That, whereas he wishes to exhibit a series of plays both of a tragic & comic character, in the Washington Hall of your city for the space of six or eight nights beginning on Thursday evening, Apl 6; and, whereas, the peices played by said troupe, are of a strictly moral character, and of a high order of theatrical merit, therefore, we respectfully pray your honorable body to permit us to exhibit before your citizens at the lowest rate of license you shall judge proper & reasonable.

And your petitioners will ever pray

Moffitt & Rogers
Managers & Proprietor

On Motion by Mr. Dunlop it was

Ordered, That license be granted to Moffitt & Rogers for a Theatrical performance at the rate of \$5 per night.

Mr Maguire presented the application of Mr. Foultz for the privilege of erecting a frame building on his lot just West of the State House.

After some discussion,
On Motion by Mr. Maguire,

The ordinance relative to frame buildings was referred to the Committee on the Fire Department with instruction to report what amendment, if any, is necessary, in their opinion to perfect the said ordinance.

Mr. Delzell from a select committee on that subject reported adverse to the purchase of any lot, and recommended the leasing of Sibord property for the use of the Invincible Fire Company No. 2,

On Motion by Mr.

The Select Committee to whom was referred the matter of procuring a lot on which to erect an engine house for Invincible Fire Company No. 2, were authorized to procure a lease for ground of Sibold at the rate of rent per year as proposed, and, also, with the express stipulation that said Sibold will at the expiration of twenty years pay for any and all improvements made on said lot at their appraised value, or sell the lot at its appraised value

On Motion, Mr. Delzell was granted leave of absence.

Mr. Nelson offered for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the City Attorney be and he is hereby directed to institute a suit against Levi Comegys and Joseph McCord, for the recovery of the possession of lot No. 4, in the subdivision of lots numbered 1, 2, & 3. in square 37, in the city of Indianapolis, as subdivided by John Siter agent for Liber, Price & Co. at the ensuing term of the Marion Circuit court.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Durham, Karns, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, & Strickland - 9.

Mr Pitts offered for adoption the following resolution:

"Resolved that the Judiciary Com. be instructed to draw up an ordinance: Repealing part of an ordinance entitled an ordinance for the Regulation of Omnibuses wagons vehicles &c. So much of said ordinance to Be Repealed as Refers to wagons, Carts &c. and to Remain in force: against Omnibuses hecney Coaches Drays Bagge Wagons, &c."

Mr Maguire present the following resolution as a substitute for the foregoing. Mr. Pitts accepted it.

"Resolved, That the judiciary committee be instructed to inquire into the propriety of repealing or modifying the Ordinance in relation to licensing Omnibuses, Drays, Wagons, Carts, &c. and report at the next meeting of the Council."

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Durham, Karns, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, Strickland, & Wingate - 10

Noes: None.

Mr Dunlap moved that the Civil Engineer's estimate of the cost of improvement of Bluffroad "hole" be taken from the table.

Which Motion prevailed.

On Motion by Mr. Dunlap it was

Ordered, That the Civil Engineer be directed to advertise for bids for said improvement.

On Motion by Mr. Durham it was

Ordered, That the Civil Engineer be directed to furnish estimates of the labor performed by Mr Huntington on Ohio Street, & on New. Jersey Street sidewalk, between Ohio & New York streets.

On Motion by Mr Nelson,

The resolution suspending the ordinance relative to Sealer of Weights and Measures was extended till next meeting.

Mr Pitts offered the following resolution for adoption:

"Resolved, That the Marshall be required to immediately notify the Lafayette Railroad Company to grade North street between all their tracks that cross North street, and plank between the rails of their several tracks."

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Durham, Karns, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, Strickland & Wingate. 10

Noes: None.

On Motion by Mr Pitts it was

Ordered, That the Civil Engineer be directed to ascertain whether the Lafayette Railroad Company's track is higher at the crossing of Market street than the ordinance allows, which permits said Company to lay their track in said city.

The subject of the Meridian street improvement was discussed, but nothing done.

Mr Karns presented a petition of L. D. Wilson praying the Council to order the collection of a sum of money due him, upon Engineers estimate, of labor performed on East sidewalk of Pennsylvania street, between Washington street, and Michigan street, by property holders.

On Motion

Referred to Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Carlisle presented the following petition:

To the Common Council of Indianapolis

I have done fifty dollars worth of work on Market Street for, Carroll, on his contract, which I have not been paid for and no prospect of getting it unless your honorable body should direct it to be paid out of the estimate given him by the Engineer, as there is plenty left on the estimate to pay it.

Anthony Lowman

On Motion by Mr Nelson

Laid on the table.

Mr. Maguire moved that a select Committee be appointed to present an account to the Trustees of the Blind Asylum of the sum assessed against them for improving Meridian Street:

Which Motion prevailed.

Messrs. Maguire & Karns were appointed said committee.

On Motion

Adjourned

Attest:

D. B. Culley
City Clerk