

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS,
MONDAY, MARCH 25TH, 1867, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M. }

The Common Council met in regular session.

Present—His Honor, the Mayor, John Caven, in the chair, and the following members:

Councilmen Allen, Brown, Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Glazier, Kappes, Kemker, Loomis, Seidensticker and Staub—11.

Absent—Councilmen Fletcher, Grosvenor, Jameson, MacArthur, McNabb, Schmidt and Thompson—7.

The proceedings of the regular session held March 18th, 1867, were read and approved.

Mr. Brown presented the following petition:

INDIANAPOLIS, March 23, 1867.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned, residents of that portion of the Fifth Ward lying south of Merrill street, and between Illinois street and the Bluff Road (now Russell street and South Meridian street), respectfully represent that over a year ago a petition was presented to the Common Council asking that South Illinois street be made the boundary line between the Fifth and Sixth Wards. They now renew this petition, and ask the Council to make the change for the following reasons:

1. It is the natural boundary line.
2. Much confusion exists in the minds of many as to whether the portion

of the Ward referred to is in the Fifth or Sixth Wards, and the change would definitely settle all questions of the kind.

3. Under the School regulations the children residing in the portion of the Ward referred to are compelled to go to the River or Colony Building, or to the Fifth Ward School House, which is the cause of much inconvenience during the winter season.

In petitioning your honorable body for this change, we desire to say that this petition is signed by citizens without distinction as to political party.

John Sage,	Christian Beitzel,
Charles Kansen,	H. Tulon,
August Sagemeier,	And 37 others.

Which was laid upon the table.

Mr. Brown offered the following motion :

That the City Auditor be directed to incorporate in the next ordinance allowing claims the sum of \$29.42 in favor of O'Conner & Dorsey, being the amount of costs of advertising and Clerk's and Treasurer's fees paid by them in a case where precept was issued against property wrongly described, such wrong description being the fault of city officers; and that so much of said amount as includes officers' fees be stopped from the salary of such officers.

Which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Brown offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Chief Fire Engineer and the Committee on Fire Department be instructed to contract with H. C. Silsby, of Seneca Falls, New York, for one of their newly improved Steam Fire Engines: and, also, for the complete repairs of the present Steam Fire Engine No. 3: *Provided*, the same can be had for the sum of \$6,000, one-half payable in cash, and the balance in one year.

Which was laid upon the table until report from Committee on Fire Department should be received.

Mr. Glazier presented the following remonstrance :

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

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

GENTLEMEN:—We, the undersigned property holders on New Jersey street south of McCarty street, would respectfully remonstrate against the proposed grading and graveling of said street at this season, for the reason that said improvement would become burdensome to us at present.

OSGOOD & SMITH,
J. H. KAPPES.

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements, together with the ordinance on the subject.

Mr. Loomis presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, March 16, 1867.

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

We, the undersigned, petition for the grading and graveling of Lord street, between Noble street and the east Corporation line.

Alonzo Meek,	James O'Connell,
Henry W. Evans,	Michael Callehan,
Nicholas Leppert,	And 7 others.

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

His Honor, the Mayor, introduced Special Loan ordinance No. 1—1867, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$100,000 for one year, and making an appropriation to pay the interest thereon,

Which was read the first time and passed to a second reading.

SEALED PROPOSALS.

The sealed proposals for public works were opened and read by the City Clerk, and referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

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

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Fire Department, to whom was referred the proposition of J. T. Elliott, Agent for the American Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, to connect the Chief Fire Engineer's house, the Hook and Ladder, and the various Engine Houses with the Central Alarm Tower by their Patent Alarm Telegraph, for the sum of twenty-nine hundred and fifty dollars, have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully report that in their opinion the advantages to be derived from this proposition is not sufficient to justify the expenditure. A complete system of the Alarm Telegraph with boxes located in all parts of the city, as well as at the Engine Houses, would be a valuable addition to our security against fire, and has been adopted in all the large cities in the country. The present proposition is so small a part of the complete system that but little advantage is to be gained by accepting Mr. Elliott's proposition over the plan now used to give the alarm. The watchman on the Tower can give the alarm as quick as the Patent Telegraph, and only when the bell is not heard at the Engine Houses will the Telegraph have any advantage over the present system.

Your committee would earnestly call your attention to the proposition of the "Seneca Falls Engine Company," herewith submitted. The proposition is the best that has ever been made, and we think it the part of wisdom to accept the proposition immediately. They propose to furnish a first class engine, with their improved boiler, for \$6,000, and to thoroughly rebuild in

every part the old Seneca Falls Engine now owned by the city. This is getting two new and complete engines for the above sum.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY COBURN, }
WILLIAM ALLEN, } *Committee*

On motion so much of the report as relates to the Fire Alarm Telegraph was concurred in.

In relation to the second part of the report Mr. Brown called up the resolution on the subject offered by himself in the early part of the session, to-wit:

Resolved, That the Chief Fire Engineer and the Committee on Fire Department be instructed to contract with H. C. Silsby, of Seneca Falls, New York, for one of their newly improved Steam Fire Engines; and, also, for the complete repairs of the present Steam Fire Engine No. 3: *Provided*, The same can be had for the sum of \$6,000, one-half payable in cash, and the balance in one year.

Mr. Loomis moved to amend the resolution by adding the following:

The first payment shall not be made until both engines are received and in good working order, as per the propositions submitted.

Which amendment was adopted.

Mr. Colley then moved that the resolution, as amended, be postponed and made the special order of business at the meeting of the Council to be held on Monday evening, April 1st, 1867.

Mr. Brown called for the ayes and noes.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Kappes, Seidensticker and Staub—6.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Glazier, Kemker and Loomis—5.

So the motion to postpone was adopted.

Mr. Allen asked and obtained leave of absence.

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

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

To J. Henry Kappes:

SIR:—I think there can be no doubt of the power of the Council to make an appropriation for the relief of the poor of the city.

Respectfully,

B. K. ELLIOTT, *City Attorney.*

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

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

GENTLEMEN:—Your Committee, to whom was referred the petition of the Benevolent Society, respectfully report that they respectfully recommend that such a sum be appropriated as to your honorable body may seem just, to be applied to the relief of the poor and suffering of our city, and herewith submit form of an ordinance.

Respectfully,

J. HENRY KAPPES, }
W. H. LOOMIS. } *Committee.*

On motion the opinion of the City Attorney was approved, and the report of the committee concurred in.

Mr. Kappes also presented special appropriation ordinance No. 15—1867, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the relief of the poor and suffering of the City of Indianapolis,

Which was read the first time by its title, and passed to a second reading.

Mr. Kappes, from the Committee on Benevolence and City Hospital presented the following :

RECAPITULATION OF THE WEEKLY REPORT OF THE CONTENTS OF REGISTER OF PATIENTS OF CITY HOSPITAL ENDING MARCH 23, 1867.

Number of patients in Hospital at last report	30
Number of patients received in Hospital since last report.....	6
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report.....	0
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report.....	6
Number of patients died in Hospital since last report	0
Number of patients remaining in Hospital at present report.....	30

Which was accepted and approved.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

His Honor, the Mayor, made the following report :

MAYOR'S OFFICE, }
Indianapolis, March 25, 1867. }

To the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :

GENTLEMEN:—The amount of fines collected by me during the month of February, 1867, was \$286.15, which I have paid to the City Treasurer, as shown by duplicate quietus of City Auditor filed herewith.

J. CAVEN, *Mayor.*

Which was accepted and approved.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING.

On motion by Mr. Kappes, special appropriation ordinance No. 15—1867, was taken up, read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Seidensticker called up special appropriation ordinance No. 14—1867, and moved to amend by inserting the account of James Johnson for \$121.00 for flagging city's portion of sidewalk on the corner of East and Washington streets.

Which amendment was adopted.

Mr. Brown moved to amend by adding the account of Hugo Marmont for \$63.00, for paving and curbing city's portion of sidewalk on the corner of Illinois and Georgia streets.

Which amendment was adopted.

The ordinance was then read the second time, considered as engrossed, and passed to a third reading.

Mr. Kappes called up special loan ordinance No. 1—1867, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE authorizing the City Treasurer to borrow the sum of \$100,000 for one year, and making an appropriation to pay the interest thereon,

Which was read the second time.

The question then being upon ordering the ordinance engrossed, Mr. Brown called for the ayes and noes.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Glazier, Kappes, Kemker, Loomis, Seidensticker and Staub—10.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance was ordered to be engrossed.

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING.

Mr. Seidensticker called up special appropriation ordinance No. 14—1867, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis,

Which was read the third time and placed upon its passage.

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Coburn, Colley, Emerson, Glazier, Kappes, Kemker, Loomis, Seidensticker and Staub—10.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Mr. Brown presented the following remonstrance :

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

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

We, the undersigned citizens of Indianapolis, respectfully remonstrate against the grading and graveling of the alley between Huron and Elm sts.

John Berry,	Daniel Hays,
William Maskamp,	J. A. Hodges,
Catharine Davens,	And 4 others.

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

Mr. Seidensticker presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

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

The undersigned, property holders on Cherry street, respectfully petition to have said street graded and graveled between Fort Wayne Avenue and Jackson street.

Jos. Deschler,	John C. Norris,
Temple C. Harrison,	Barbara Streicher.

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

Mr. Seidensticker presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

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

We, the undersigned citizens of the City of Indianapolis and owners of property bordering on East street, between Washing and North streets, being advised that certain parties (interested) are circulating a petition addressed to your honors asking for the graveling of the street and paving of the sidewalks on said East street, between the points above named, and being opposed to said improvement at this time, do hereby respectfully protest and remonstrate against said improvement, and pray that the same may be indefinitely postponed.

George W. Durham,	George W. Stilwell,
Cornelia M. Ferre,	William Kuhn,
C. A. Biedemeister,	And 34 others.

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

Mr. Seidensticker presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, March 25, 1867.

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

The undersigned respectfully represents that his real estate, being 30 feet off of west side of lot 4, in Block H, in this city, was taxed this year for \$500 more than last year. He would further represent that last year's valuation said property (\$4,000) was fully up to the actual value of said property; that he has added no improvements on said property by which its value was increased, and that therefore the increase in the assessment was out of proportion to the assessment of other property, and unjust to the undersigned. And he respectfully asks that the tax on this increase in the assessment be refunded to him,

CHAS. GROBE.

Which was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Glazier introduced special ordinance No. 12—1867, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for the erection of lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on Alabama street, between Virginia Avenue and McCarty street,

Which was read the first and second times and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Coburn offered the following motion :

That property owners on Washington street, between Delaware and Tennessee streets, be allowed thirty days to repair the brick pavements, and if not done by that time the Council will consider the propriety of flagging all that remains in bad condition.

Which motion was adopted.

Mr. Coburn offered the following motion :

That the Civil Engineer be instructed to test and regulate the fish-tail iron burners that were ordered some time since for the city street lamps.

Which motion was adopted.

Mr. Seidensticker offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the members of our City School Board be, and they are hereby, earnestly requested to introduce, in at least one of the Wards of this city, the system of joint instruction in the English and German languages, by employing at least four teachers who are capable of instructing in both languages.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Emerson offered the following motion :

That the Street Commissioner be authorized to place gravel on the crossings of streets and alleys on West street, between Washington street and Indiana Avenue wherever needed.

Mr. Colley moved to amend the motion by inserting the west side of New Jersey street, between Massachusetts Avenue and Ft. Wayne Avenue.

On motion the whole matter was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

On motion by Mr. Brown the Council adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, *Mayor*.

ATTEST :

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk*.