

PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

REGULAR SESSION—JANUARY 9, 1888.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, met in the Aldermanic Chamber, Monday evening, January 9th, A. D. 1888, at eight o'clock, in regular session.

PRESENT—Hon. Granville S. Wright, President of the Board of Aldermen, in the Chair, and Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, and Tousey—9.

ABSENT, 1—viz: Alderman Clark.

The Proceedings of the Board of Aldermen for the regular session held January 2d, 1888, having been printed and placed on the desk of the Aldermen, said Journals were approved as published.

MESSAGES AND PAPERS FROM THE COMMON COUNCIL.

The following message was read and received:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I submit herewith the following papers for your consideration, favorably passed upon by the Common Council, at its regular session held December 19th, 1887.

For the Common Council:

JOSEPH T. FANNING, Acting City Clerk.

The following report from His Honor, the Mayor, (see page 831, *ante*), was read and received:

To the Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—On the 16th inst., the Broad Ripple Natural Gas Company presented its bond to me for approval, as provided for by the second Section of the natural gas ordinance of June 27th. The bond is in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars, and is signed by the corporation as principal, and Frank A. Maus, Robert C. Light, Omer B. Boardman, John Strange, Jackson Dawson and William Hild, as sureties.

I approved said bond, and filed the same with the City Clerk, on the 17th inst.

Respectfully submitted,

C. S. DENNY, Mayor.

The report from the City Attorney on sundry matters (see page 832, *ante*), was read, and the action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The following report from the Acting City Clerk (see page 833, *ante*), was read:

To the Mayor, Common Council and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I herewith report the following entitled affidavits, now on file in the office of the City Clerk, for the collection of street improvement assessments by precepts, to wit:

J. L. Spaulding vs. Lemon, Barr & Trimble, for..... \$14 40
 J. L. Spaulding vs. Geo. W. Sill, for..... 14 40

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH T. FANNING,
 Acting City Clerk.

And the favorable action of the Common Council thereon was concurred in, and the precepts ordered to issue, by the following vote:

AYES, 8—viz: Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The report from the Committee on Finance on the claim of S. Loftin, Treasurer, (see pages 833 and 834, *ante*), was read, and the favorable action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The report from the Committee on Streets and Alleys and City Attorney, on the matter of opening an alley in the middle part of Out lot 160, (see pages 835 and 836, *ante*), was read, and the favorable action of the Common Council thereon concurred in.

The report from the Committee on Streets and Alleys, accompanied with the following resolution (see page 835, *ante*), was read:

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, the petition of J. L. Spaulding and others, praying for the opening of a street connecting the western terminus of Beacon street with a street recently opened along the Indiana, Bloomington & Western Railroad tracks to the Belt Railroad, called Bloomington street, be granted, and that the same be referred to the Board of City Commissioners with instructions to assess benefits and damages, and to make due report to the Council and Board of Aldermen of the proceedings in this matter, and to return all petitions and notices. That the City Clerk be, and he is hereby, instructed to issue, and the Superintendent of Metropolitan Police Force to serve, notice on the Board of City Commissioners and upon the property holders, and to make due return thereof.

Provided, That before the Clerk issue said notice to the said Board of City Commissioners, a bond shall be filed with said Clerk to the approval of the Mayor, guaranteeing the payment of all costs and expenses in this matter.

And the favorable action of the Common Council thereon, was concurred in, and the resolution concurrently adopted, by the following vote:

AYES, 8—viz: Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The following contract and bond (see page 838, *ante*), was read and concurrently approved:

Contract and bond of J. L. Fisher, for grading and paving with brick, the north sidewalk of Woodlawn avenue, from Spruce street to Reid street.

Bond, \$500.00; surety, J. L. Spaulding.

The petition of Richardson & Evans, Barns, McMurtey & Co., and Franklin Landers, relative to the trestle bent over Geisendorff street (see page 801, *ante*), was read, and the action of the Common Council thereon concurred in.

The following motions (see pages 837 and 838, *ante*), were read and concurrently adopted:

That the City Civil Engineer be instructed to examine into the condition of the Vandalia Railroad crossing at the intersection of West street, as the No. 6 Fire Engine, in responding to a fire call, had a very narrow escape from being wrecked.

That the City Civil Engineer is hereby ordered to re-advertise for bids for the improving of the first alley north of McCarty street, from the first alley east of Alabama street to the first alley west of New Jersey street, as provided for in Special Ordinance No. 179, 1886.

That the City Civil Engineer be, and is hereby, instructed to direct the Gas Company to dis-mantle the first lamp-post west of Pogue's Run, on the south side of Clifford avenue, and re-mantle the second lamp post west of Pogue's Run on the north side of Clifford avenue.

That the C., C., C. & I., and L. E. & W. Railroad Companies be, and are hereby, directed to plank their crossings at Massachusetts and Clifford avenues; and if not done within ten days, the Street Commissioner to do the work, and charge and collect the cost of the same from said railroad companies.

That the police be requested to enforce the ordinance for keeping wagons and other obstructions out of the streets and alleys of the city.

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to repair the stone crossing on Pine street across Fletcher avenue.

That J. A. Mitchell be, and is hereby, granted permission to lay a brick sidewalk in front of his property on Highland avenue, at his own expense, and under the direction of the City Civil Engineer.

The following message was read and received:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—I submit herewith the following papers for your consideration, favorably passed upon by the Common Council, at a regular session, held Monday evening, January 2, 1888.

For the Common Council:

Jno. W. BOWLUS, City Clerk.

The report from the Acting City Clerk, showing the amount of orders drawn upon the City Treasury during the month of December, 1887, (see page 12, *ante*), was read and received.

The report from the Acting City Clerk, showing the amount of orders drawn upon the City Treasury during the year 1887, (see pages 13 and 14, *ante*), was read and received.

The report from the City Civil Engineer, submitting certain contracts and bonds (see page 15, *ante*), was read, and the favorable action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The following motion (see page 19, *ante*), was read, and referred to the Committee on Railroads:

That the Street Commissioner be ordered to at once remove the switch or railroad track out and from west Market street, from Mississippi street to Missouri street, or to the Big Four tracks, and put the same in repair.

The report from the Board of Public Improvements and Street Commissioner, showing expenditures in the Street Repairs Department for the month of December, 1887, together with the total expenditures for the year 1887, (see pages 16 and 17, *ante*), was read and received.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES.

This being the regular appropriation night, the following entitled Appropriation Ordinances (passed by the Common Council) were placed on their final passage, without a suspension of the Rules:

The following entitled ordinance was read the first and second times, and then read the third time:

Ap. O. 1, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of the Fire Department. [Amount appropriated, \$360.24.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 9—viz: Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was read the first and second times, and then read the third time:

Ap. O. 2, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of the City Hospital and Branch [Amount appropriated, \$1,571.55.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 9—viz: Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was read the first and second times, and then read the third time:

Ap. O. 3, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis. [Amount appropriated, \$11,891.63.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 9—viz: Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was read the first and second times, and then read the third time:

Ap. O. 4, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the City of Indianapolis, on account of Station House. [Amount appropriated, \$250 80.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 9—viz: Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

The following entitled ordinance was read the first and second times, and then read the third time:

Ap. O. 5, 1888—An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of the compensations of the officers and members of the Fire and Police Departments, the Committee Clerk, City Janitor, Assistant City Janitor, Tomlinson Hall Janitor, Tomlinson Hall Assistant Janitor, and Market Masters of the East and West Markets. [Amount appropriated, \$10,975 33.]

And it was passed by the following vote:

AYES, 9—viz: Aldermen Connett, Laut, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, Tousey, and President Wright.

NAYS—None.

INTRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

President Wright presented the following petition; which was granted, and the Rental Committee instructed to let the Hall for the amount stated in the petition:

To the Honorable Board of Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of Indianapolis:

Gentlemen:—The undersigned hereby respectfully petition your honorable bodies to grant to them the use of Tomlinson Hall on the evening of January 17th inst., for the sum of twenty dollars (\$20.00), the Hall to be used for a lecture by the well known Astronomer, Richard Proctor. The proceeds of the lecture are to be devoted to the purchase of books for the Reference Libraries of the High Schools of this city. The above reduction in price is asked in view of the use to be made of the proceeds of the lecture.

Respectfully submitted,

L. H. JONES,
Superintendent of Schools.

W. W. GRANT,
Principal of High School No. 1.

T. G. ALFORD,
Principal of High School No. 2.

President Wright submitted the following communication; which was received, and referred to the Committee on Public Light:

To the Members of the Board of Aldermen:

4 *Gentlemen:*—Mayor Denny, in his recent message to the Common Council, makes the following recommendations:

“A contract already exists with the Indianapolis Gas Light and Coke Company for lighting the streets, which expires in the near future. That a material saving

can be made in this department after that date, there is, of course, little doubt. There is much to consider in connection with this subject of future street lighting. I hope the Committee on Public Light will give the matter their immediate and earnest attention, so that the question of a future contract for street lighting will be fully understood before the present one expires."

I deem it my duty to call your attention to the above recommendation, and desire to join with the Mayor in his request, and ask that the Committee on Public Light of this Board at once begin the consideration of this very important question. All of the various means and methods of street lighting ought to be carefully and thoroughly investigated with reference to the *best light* and the *cheapest price*.

At no time should the city pay an extra price for any service or product, and particularly at this time, considering the city's financial condition, caused by its limited resources, an extra price for street lighting, must not be entertained.

In connection with artificial gas light, I think the committee ought to consider the various methods and cost of electric lighting, as well as natural gas. I believe the latter might be made available for this purpose. Sixty-six thousand dollars per annum for 2 640 lamps—or at the rate of \$2.28 per thousand cubic feet—is too much to pay for gas for street lights. If a contract is again made with the Gas Light and Coke Co., it ought to be made at a very material reduction from the present price. We have less than sixty days in which to investigate, consider and determine upon a contract, the present one expiring March 1st.

I believe these questions ought to be considered in joint session of the committees of the Board of Aldermen and Common Council, and I therefore recommend such a course.

Alderman Rail offered the following motion; which was adopted:

That the resolution compelling the Citizens' Street Railway Company to place platforms on the rear end of their cars, be taken from the Clerk's desk and referred to the Railroad Committee.

And on motion by Alderman Rail, the consideration of the above matter was made a "Special Order" for the next regular meeting.

On motion, the Board of Aldermen then adjourned.

G. S. Wright, President.

Attest: *M. W. Loomis*, Clerk.