

PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

REGULAR SESSION—FEBRUARY 13, 1888.

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis, met in the Aldermanic Chamber, Monday evening, February 13th, 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 Clark, Connett, Rail, Reinecke, Smith, Taylor, and Tousey—8.

ABSENT, 2—viz: Aldermen Laut, and Reynolds.

The Proceedings of the Board of Aldermen for the regular session, held January 23d, 1888, having been printed and placed on the desks 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 a regular session, held February 6th, 1888.

For the Common Council:

JNO. W. BOWLUS, City Clerk.

The report from the Mayor, showing fines and fees collected (see page 71, *ante*), was read and received.

The following report from His Honor; the Mayor, (see page 71, *ante*), was read and received :

Indianapolis, February 6, 1888.

To the Council and Board of Aldermen :

Gentlemen:—On the 18th day of January, I approved and filed with the City Clerk, the bond of the Consumers' Gas Trust Co. It is in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars, as the natural gas ordinance requires. It is properly executed by the corporation, as principal, and is signed by fifty seven responsible citizens of Indianapolis as sureties, each obligating himself for one thousand dollars only. Should any considerable number of the sureties cease to be liable or responsible, I will, of course, at at once require a new bond, as the ordinance authorizes.

Respectfully submitted,

C. S. DENNY, Mayor.

The report from the City Attorney (see page 71, *ante*), was read and received.

The report from the City Civil Engineer, submitting certain contracts and bonds (see page 72, *ante*), was read, and the favorable action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

report, the parts of the streets and alleys above described, be, and are hereby, vacated. That the petitioners for said vacation be required to pay to the county treasury, for the city, within twenty (20) days from the adoption of this report, the said sum of sixty-six dollars; otherwise this vacation shall be void. That said petitioners be required to have the proper plat executed and filed with the City Clerk, and recorded in the Recorder's office of Marion county, Indiana, and to have recorded at the same time in the office of the Recorder of said county, a certified copy of this resolution: *Provided*, That until the things herein ordered to be done, shall be done, said parts of streets and alleys shall not be vacated.

And the report was concurred in, and the resolution concurrently adopted, by the following vote:

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

NAYS—None.

The report from the Fire Committee (see page 76, *ante*), was read, and the action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The report of Special Committee of Common Council (see page 77, *ante*), was read, and the action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The report from the Board of Public Health, accompanied with resolution (see pages 80 and 81, *ante*), was read, and unanimously adopted.

The report from the Committee on Public Property (see page 81, *ante*), was read, and the action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The following motion (see page 82, *ante*), was read, and concurrently adopted:

That the City Clerk be directed to advertise for sealed proposals for the renting of Garfield Park, the city reserving the right to reject any and all proposals.

The report from the Committee on Public Property (see page 82, *ante*), was read, and the action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The following resolution (see page 88, *ante*), was read:

WHEREAS, The office of City Auditor has been abolished, and latterly the offices of City Treasurer and Assessor; and

Whereas, It is deemed of the utmost importance that an auditing of the city's financial accounts be had; therefore

Resolved by the Common Council and Board of Aldermen, That the Finance Committee of the Council be, and the same is hereby, authorized and directed to employ a competent person to examine all the accounts of the city, including current, delinquent and omitted tax accounts made within the past two years.

And it was concurrently adopted, by the following vote:

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

NAYS, 1—viz: Alderman Connett.

The following resolution (see page 90, *ante*), was read :

Resolved, That the name of the street known as Rockwood, or Slearer street, running from West street to White River, in Out-lot 129, be changed, and hereafter to be known and designated as Ray street.

And it was concurrently adopted by the following vote :

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

NAYS—None.

The following report from the Committee on Streets and Alleys was read, and the favorable action of the Common Council thereon, (see page 84, *ante*), was concurred in :

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred sundry matters, report thereon as follows:

We recommend that the petition of A. H. Gladden and others, praying for the opening of a twelve foot alley through what is commonly known as the "Base Ball Park," be not granted. It is true that an alley will soon be required, and should be put through said ground, but at the present time it would be too expensive for the property holders adjacent to the proposed alley. As the petition now stands, there is not a property holder on the line of the said alley between Seventh and William streets who asks for said alley. The owner opposes the opening, and the Base Ball Association—that has expended many thousand dollars, and is under contract to expend many more thousand dollars on the said ground, and in support of a ball club to play on the same—is opposed to such opening, and, in the event that the alley should go through, it would have to be compensated for any loss it would sustain as an occupying tenant. Your committee does not feel warranted in recommending that the city assume the responsibility of a suit that would grow out of the immediate opening of said alley.

The report from the Committee on Streets and Alleys, City Attorney and City Civil Engineer, in relation to Police Telephone Stations (see pages 84 and 85, *ante*), was read, and the action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in.

The following motions (see pages 88, 89 and 90, *ante*), were read and concurrently adopted :

That the City Civil Engineer be, and is hereby, directed to re-advertise the ordinance to provide for the erection of lamp-posts on the north side of Washington street, between Bloomington street and Belmont avenue.

That the Committee on Office Fixtures and Supplies of the Common Council be instructed to have the old Council Proceedings re-bound, so far as necessary, and to procure a new book case and file case necessary to safely keep the important papers in the City Clerk's office.

That John Stroble and John Krupp be permitted to lay a stone crossing on the south side of Phipps street across Madison avenue, at their own expense, under the direction of the City Civil Engineer.

The following motion (see page 90, *ante*), was read, and referred to the Police Committee :

That the Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners be requested to provide a covering for the Police Patrol Wagon, so that the occupants of the wagon will not be seen by the public while said occupants are being conveyed to or from the Station House.

The following motion (see page 93, *ante*), was read, and referred to the Committee on Finance and Accounts & Claims:

That the Finance Committee of the Common Council be, and the same is hereby, authorized and directed to make a contract with the County Treasurer for the collection of omitted taxes due the city.

The following petitions (see page 93, *ante*), were read, and the action of the Common Council thereon, concurred in:

Indianapolis, Jan. 31, 1888.

To the Mayor, Councilmen and Board of Aldermen of the City of Indianapolis;

Gentlemen:—We respectfully ask that Tomlinson Hall be granted to the "Grand Army of the Republic" for the annual meeting of the Department Encampment on the day and evening of February 22d and the day of February 23d. The Commander in Chief has accepted an invitation to be present, and it is expected that there will be over five thousand delegates and Comrades in attendance.

Respectfully, I. N. WALKER, A. A. G. G. A. R.

To the Mayor, Common Council, and Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—We, the undersigned, a committee appointed by the Grand Chancellor of the Grand Lodge K. P. of the State of Indiana, and for the purpose of securing Tomlinson Hall on Sunday, the 19th day of February, 1888, for divine services in celebrating the 24th anniversary of the Order, would respectfully ask that owing to the fact that the chairs will not have to be removed, and there being no expense except the heating of the Hall, that said Hall be given or rented on said occasion at a reduced rate.

PHIL. REICHWEIN,
FRED. WARD,
JACOB BOSS.

REPORTS, ETC., FROM STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Committee on Public Property, through Alderman Connett, submitted the following report; which was adopted:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Public Property, respectfully report that the action of the Council in appointing Thomas Markey Commissioner of Garfield Park, be not concurred in.

M. F. Connett,
M. M. Reynolds.

The Committee on Railroads, through Alderman Reynolds, submitted the following report; which was concurred in:

To the President and Members of the Board of Aldermen:

Gentlemen:—Your Committee on Railroads make the following report on sundry matters referred to it:

1. As to the motion ordering the Street Commissioner to remove the railroad track on Market street, west of the State House, we recommend that said motion be amended to read as follows, to-wit:

Moved, That the Street Commissioner be instructed to notify the State House Commissioners to remove the switch track from Market street, extending from the

State House to the C, I. St. L. & O. R. R., and to put the said street in as good repair as when said track was placed there; and if the same is not done, said Street Commissioner is hereby ordered to do said work, and to collect the cost thereof from the said Board of State House Commissioners.

2. We recommend that all resolutions introduced last year and referred to this committee concerning the Citizens' Street Railway Company, and have not been acted on, be returned to the Clerk's files, and action be deferred thereon until the Council shall have acted on sundry matters now pending in said body, and relating to the same subjects.

Respectfully submitted,

M. M. Reynolds,
J. H. Taylor,
John Rail,
Committee on Railroads.

Alderman Clark offered the following resolution; which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Rules:

Resolved, That the provision in Rule 15 of the Manual of Rules of the Board of Aldermen, which provides for a Committee on Public Light and Education, be amended so as to make said committee a Committee on Natural Gas, Public Light and Education.

Alderman Rail offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Board of Aldermen that it is deemed inexpedient and unwise at the present time to amend the ordinance providing for the introduction of natural gas into the city, until after practical experience has demonstrated what amendments, if any, would be necessary.

Alderman Smith moved to lay the resolution on the table.

The ayes and nays being demanded, the motion was adopted, and the resolution was laid on the table, by the following vote:

AYES, 5—viz: Aldermen Connett, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, and Tousey.

NAYS, 4—viz: Aldermen Clark, Rail, Reinecke, and President Wright.

Alderman Tousey offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, We believe it to be for the interest of the city to obtain natural gas at the earliest possible moment; and

Whereas, We believe that the hope of finally obtaining changes in the present ordinance is deterring natural gas companies from entering the city promptly, and believing that the question of changes in the present ordinance once being definitely settled would expedite the matter; therefore

Resolved. That the Board of Aldermen of this city will oppose now, or at any future time, any change in the present ordinance, unless petitioned for by each and every company doing business under said ordinance.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be presented to the Common Council of Indianapolis.

President Wright offered the following resolution as a substitute for the resolution offered by Alderman Tousey:

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Board of Aldermen that it is inexpedient to amend the ordinance providing for the introduction of natural gas into the city, until after practical experience has demonstrated what amendments, if any, would be necessary.

Which resolution failed of adoption, by the following vote :

AYES, 4—viz: Aldermen Clark, Rail, Reinecke, and President Wright.

NAYS, 5—viz: Aldermen Connett, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, and Tousey.

Alderman Reinecke moved to refer the resolution to the Committee on Public Light.

Alderman Connett moved to lay the motion to refer, on the table.

The ayes and nays being demanded, said motion failed of adoption, by the following vote :

AYES, 4—viz: Aldermen Connett, Smith, Taylor, and Tousey.

NAYS, 5—viz: Aldermen Clark, Rail, Reinecke, Reynolds, and President Wright.

The question then being on the adoption of the motion of Alderman Reinecke to refer, the ayes and nays being demanded, the motion failed of adoption, by the following vote :

AYES, 4—viz: Aldermen Clark, Rail, Reinecke, and President Wright.

NAYS, 5—viz: Aldermen Connett, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, and Tousey.

The resolution offered by Alderman Tousey, was then adopted, by the following vote :

AYES, 6—viz: Aldermen Connett, Rail, Reynolds, Smith, Taylor, and Tousey.

NAYS, 3—viz: Aldermen Clark, Reinecke, and President Wright.

Alderman Rail then gave notice that at the next meeting of the Board of Aldermen, he would move to reconsider the vote by which the above resolution was adopted.

On motion, the Board of Aldermen then adjourned.

E. S. Wright, President.

Attest: *W. W. Tousey*, Clerk.