

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL.  
REGULAR SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }  
*Monday, January 1st, 1877—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 Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Diffley, Laughlin, Morse, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Steinhauer, Thomas, Webster and Wright, Arthur L.—18.

Absent—Councilmen Izor, Kenzel, McGill, Pouder, Schmidt, Stratford, Thalman and Wright, William G.—8.

The proceedings of the regular sessions, held December 25th, 1876, were read and approved.

On motion, by Mr. Darnell, Mr. Izor was excused.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—I herewith report the following estimates for work done :

A first and partial estimate allowed Henry C. Roney for grading and bowldering the south gutter and curbing the outside edges of the south sidewalk on Clifford avenue, between the west line of the U. S. Arsenal grounds and Woodruff Place—

1,196.7 lineal feet bowldering and curbing at 93 cents.....	\$1,112 93
11 lineal feet bowldering at 50 cents. ....	5 50
Total. ....	\$1,118 43

Also, a first and partial estimate allowed James Garner & Co. for building a fire cistern at the corner of Arsenal avenue and Washington street—

986.58 barrels at 40 cents .....	\$394 63
Less 30 per cent. kept back.....	118 63
Present payment.....	\$276 00

Also, a first and partial estimate allowed John Schier for curbing the outside edges of the sidewalks on Broadway street, between Lincoln avenue and the first alley north—

585 lineal feet at 41 cents.....	\$239 85
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Respectfully submitted,  
 BERNHARD H. DIETZ,  
 City Civil Engineer.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following estimate resolution :

*Resolved*, That the foregoing first and partial estimate allowed Henry C. Roney for grading and bowldering the south gutter and curbing the outside edge of the south sidewalks on Clifford avenue, between the west line of the U. S. Arsenal grounds and Woodruff Place, be, and the same is, hereby adopted

as the estimate of this Council, and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Diffley, Laughlin, Morse, McGinty, Ransdell, Steinhauer, Thomas, Webster, and Wright, Arthur L.—15.

Negative—None.

Also, the following estimate resolution :

*Resolved*, That the foregoing first and partial estimate allowed John Schier for curbing the outside edges of the sidewalks on Broadway street, between Lincoln avenue and the first alley north, be, and the same is, hereby adopted as the estimate of this Council, and that the property owners are hereby required to pay the sums set opposite their respective names.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Diffley, Laughlin, Morse, McGinty, Ransdell, Steinhauer, Thomas, Webster, and Wright, Arthur L.—15.

Negative—None.

Also, the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen.*—I herewith report the following contracts and bonds :

Contract and bond of John Flaherty for grading and graveling the first alley north of Second street, from Pennsylvania street to the first alley east. Bond \$75. Bondsman, Michael Flaherty.

Contract and bond of Richard Carr for grading and graveling the first alley north of Prospect street, from Dillon to Linden streets. Bond \$400. Bondsman, Geo. Wm. Seibert.

Contract and bond of John Flaherty for grading and graveling the first alley west of Missouri street, between Walnut and St. Clair streets. Bond \$125. Bondsman, Michael Flaherty.

Respectfully submitted,

BERNHARD H. DIETZ,

City Civil Engineer.

Which was received.

The contracts were then concurred in and the bonds approved.

The City Treasurer submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—I hereby report that the Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) in City Warrants, issued as per general ordinance No. 57, passed by the Common Council December 11, 1876, to provide for interest due January 1, 1877, were sold to C. Knefler, Esq., at the rate of 7 per cent. discount, realizing to the city the sum of \$38,987.39, which amount has been duly registered and placed to the credit of the city, to be accounted for by me as Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY W. TUTEWILER,

City Treasurer.

Which was approved.

The City Attorney submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—We herewith report the amount of taxes due from the Citizens Street Railway Company, with the penalty and interest for the years 1873, 1874, and 1875. We would also report that the company have paid the said taxes, with the understanding that the taxes for 1873 should be refunded to them. And in view of the fact that the company, under the ordinance of 1870, have not been taxed for any year but 1873, and the contract was entered into in good faith, and fully carried out, except for the year 1873, we would recommend that the taxes for 1873 be refunded, and the Committee on Ac-

counts and Claims be instructed to include said amount in their appropriation ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRR W. TUTEWILER,  
City Treasurer.

WM. HADLEY,  
City Assessor.

R. O. HAWKINS,  
City Attorney.

*Indianapolis*, December 29, 1876.

The following is a statement of the amount of city taxes due from the Citizens Street Railway Company for the years 1873, 1874, and 1875, with penalty and interest to date:

For the year 1873.....	\$968 90
For the year 1874.....	797 65
For the year 1875.....	1,031 91
Total.....	<u>\$2,798 46</u>

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY W. TUTEWILER,  
City Treasurer.

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following report :

*Indianapolis*, January 1, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—In the matter of the petition of M. A. Toohy, asking to have the amount paid by him for a piece of property purchased at tax sale, which sale was illegal and void, and the party paid the taxes, we find that the facts stated in the petition are true, and that the sum paid by the petitioner should be refunded; and we therefore recommend that the sum be refunded, to-wit, \$146.68, and interest at 6 per cent. from February 14, 1876, and that the Committee on Accounts and Claims be instructed to include that amount in their next appropriation ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,

R. O. HAWKINS,  
City Attorney.

WILLIAM HADLEY,  
City Assessor.

Which was concurred in.

The Street Commissioner submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—I have the honor to submit the following report of work done in my department for the month ending January 1, 1877 :

Cleaned and repaired the sewers and catch-basins.

Placed 30 new foot bridges and 2 new culverts on different street crossings.

Repaired and reset 44 bridges and culverts.

Placed in good repair the tree boxes around the Circle, and also the Circle fence.

Pay-rolls for the month ending January 1, 1877.....	\$1,847 90
Clemens Vonnegut, hardware.....	49 15
Carry McFarland, bowlders.....	24 50
G. H. Shover, blacksmithing.....	7 40
Coburn & Jones, lumber.....	56 20
King & Knight, blacksmithing.....	11 14
C. H. Jarvis, sand.....	10 75
Fred. Brademeyer, sand.....	27 75
F. A. W. Davis, cinders... ..	50 00
James N. Hudson, bowlders.....	22 75
Geo. W. Breuning, notary fees.....	25 00
Granville Wright, " ".....	3 50
G. L. Kelley, sand.....	8 00
Total.....	<u>\$2,144 04</u>

Respectfully submitted,

LEANDER A. FULMER,

Street Commissioner.

Which was approved.

The Superintendent of the City Hospital submitted the following annual report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—In behalf of the Hospital Board, and according to their instructions, I have complied, as far as I am able, with the ordinance requiring

them to make or cause to be made, on the 31st of December each year, an annual report of expenditures, together with the average expense per capita per diem of patients.

There are no records in the office of the Hospital that enable me to make a report according to the requirements of the ordinance for that part of 1876 prior to July first. All the report I am able to make for that part of the year is, that during the months of January, February, March, April, May and June, there was expended ten thousand eight hundred and seventy-five dollars and sixty-one cents (\$10,875.61), and four hundred and sixty-seven patients admitted to Hospital, of which there were ninety-one (91) remaining July 1, 1876.

Having no record of the number of patients in Hospital January 1, 1876, nor of the aggregate number of days of patients in Hospital, I can not give the average expense per capita per diem for the first six months of the year.

I therefore respectfully submit the following report of expenditures (according to the requirements of the ordinance) for the six months ending December 31, 1876:

Employees.....	\$2,081 74
Groceries.....	1,793 58
Meat.....	622 21
Bread.....	390 27
Milk.....	297 29
Flour, feed, straw, etc.....	135 55
Drugs.....	413 04
Coal.....	577 49
Ice.....	135 25
Lights.....	99 96
Surgical appliances.....	22 50
Bath tubs.....	76 00
Dry goods.....	44 15
Repairs.....	57 99
Undertaking and conveying patients.....	203 00
Queensware and tinware.....	77 95
Tables.....	26 00
One hog (sow).....	20 00
Lumber.....	331 54
Carpenter work.....	93 99
Hardware.....	68 02
Pumps.....	15 25
Stoves, and permanent improvement in kitchen and laundry.....	860 62

Stone, brick, sand, lime, and mason work.....	153 75
Postage and postal card .....	21 60
Total expenditures....	\$8,629 24
Collected from pay patients and other sources.....	215 81
Net expenditures....	\$8,413 43
Of which there has been expended for permanent improvements and fixtures .....	1,645 36
Net running expenses .....	\$6,867 80

The following tabulated report of patients in Hospital, with the aggregate number of days, is also submitted:

	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Adults.	Infants.	Total.
No. Patients at last report—adults.....	80	57	51	50	50	54	80		
No. Patients at last report—infants.....	11	4	7	2	2	4		11	91
Received new Patients—adults.....	66	73	81	75	66	52	413		
Births, or received—infants .....	6	12	3	2	7	3		33	446
Discharged—adults .....	86	76	77	69	59	56	423		
Discharged—infants.....	9	7	7	2	3	5		33	456
Died—adults .....	3	3	5	6	3	3	23		
Died—infants .....	4	2	1		2	1		10	33
No. Patients remaining—adults.....	57	51	50	50	54	47	47		
No. Patients remaining—infants.....	4	7	2	2	4	1		1	48
No. Patients in Branch—adults.....	1								
No. Patients in Branch—infants.....									
Aggregate No. Patients in Hosp'l—adults	2167	1906	1567	1740	1567	1554	10,501		
Aggregate No. Patients in Hosp'l—inf'ts	236	238	125	67	92	46		804	11,305

#### RECAPITULATION.

Total number of patients in Hospital during the six months ending Decem- ber 31, 1876.....	753
Aggregate number of days of patients in Hospital.....	11,305
Total net expenditures....	\$8,413 43
Net running expense including repairs .....	6,767 80
Average expense per capita per diem.....	59.8 cts.

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. VAN VORHIS,  
Superintendent.

Which was approved.



Also, the following report :

*Indianapolis, December 30, 1876.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—I would respectfully report that I have collected and paid to the City Treasurer, as shown by accompanying duplicate receipt, the sum of one hundred and seven dollars (\$107), from the following sources, to-wit :

Hendricks county, Indiana.....	\$30 50
Ottoman Cahvey Co., Chicago, Illinois.....	1 50
Medical Students.....	65 00
German Catholic Society.....	5 00
Pay Patient.....	5 00
Total.....	<u>\$107 00</u>

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. VAN VORHIS, M. D.,  
Supt. City Hospital.

Which was approved.

Also, the following report :

*Indianapolis, December 31, 1876.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—I herewith submit the following monthly report of expenditures of the City Hospital and Branch, ending December 31, 1876 :

F. J. Van Vohris, Superintendent.....	\$83 34
E. A. Brown and wife, Steward and Matron.....	37 50
John Butterworth, nurse in male ward.....	30 00
Belle Howard, nurse in female ward.....	18 00
Emma Shrigley, nurse in ab'ts ward.....	15 00
Perry Evans, janitor.....	15 00
Bettie Lytle, laundress.....	11 70
Jennie Ford, laundress.....	11 70
Jennie Armstrong, laundress ..	12 00
Jennie Smith, laundress.....	12 00
Lucy Blaggrave, ironer.....	12 00
Sallie Buckingham, cook.....	12 00
Mary Guthrie, cook.....	12 00
Henry Anderson, cook.....	12 00
Mary Coble, chambermaid.....	12 00
James Robinson, cook.....	10 00

C. Butsch, ice.....	15 00
John R. Marot, tables.....	7 00
Swing & Woollen, flour and feed.....	20 50
Parrott, Nickum & Co., crackers.....	3 44
D. H. Fatout, milk.....	42 84
J. C. Thomas, brick work.....	4 00
W. A. & I. W. Patterson, drugs.....	17 90
De Puy & Jenks, coal.....	107 34
Browning & Sloan, drugs.....	13 85
Cobb & Branham, coal.....	157 84
G. F. Adams & Co., wash boiler, etc.....	147 20
Vincent & Goodrich, lumber.....	41 00
Peter Bryce, bread.....	45 37
J. S. Wood, groceries.....	199 42
Charles Kuhn, meat.....	94 25
James E. Watts, groceries.....	117 50
James A. Ross, hardware.....	3 65
E. Hedges, undertaking and conveying.....	21 20
	<hr/>
	\$1,375 64
Collected and paid to City Treasurer.....	107 00
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Total expenditures.....	\$1,268 64

## RECAPITULATION.

Total expenditures for the month.....	\$1,268 64
Aggregate number of days for which substance, etc., was furnished.....	
Average expense per capita per diem.....	

Respectfully submitted,

F. J. VAN VOHRIS,  
Superintendent,

Which was received.

The Superintendent of the City Dispensary submitted the following report:

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen*:—I herewith submit report of City Dispensary for the year ending December 31, 1876:

Total number of visits made in the city (including the Station House and the County Jail), and to Center Township outside the city.....	5,310
Number of patients treated at the Dispensary.....	7,164

Number of surgical cases treated.....	95
Number of eye and ear cases treated.....	395
Number of births.....	35
Number of deaths.....	49
Number of post mortem examinations for Coroner.....	6
Medical and surgical attention given 12,869 times.	
Prescriptions filled and medicines furnished, 11,047.	

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. SIMONSON,  
Clerk.

W. B. FLETCHER,  
Supt. Dispensary.

Which was received.

The Board of Health submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

Report of deaths in the city of Indianapolis from 6 o'clock P. M., on the 9th day of December, to 6 o'clock P. M., on the 16th day of December, 1876 :

Under 1 year .....	11
1 to 2 years.....	0
2 to 3 " .....	2
3 to 4 " .....	3
4 to 5 " .....	3
5 to 10 " .....	2
10 to 20 " .....	1
20 to 30 " .....	3
30 to 40 " .....	0
40 to 50 " .....	1
50 to 60 " .....	1
60 to 70 " .....	1
70 to 80 " .....	1
80 to 90 " .....	1
90 to 100 " .....	0
Above 100 " .....	0
Unknown .....	2
Total.....	33

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. MARSEE,  
Secretary Board of Health, pro tem.

F. M. HOOK, M. D.,  
President Board of Health.

Which was received.

Also, the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

Report of deaths in the city of Indianapolis from 6 o'clock P. M. on the 16th day of December, to 6 o'clock P. M., on the 23d day of December, 1876.

Under 1 year .....	10
1 to 2 years.....	6
2 to 3 " .....	1
3 to 4 " .....	2
4 to 5 " .....	0
5 to 10 " .....	0
10 to 20 " .....	0
20 to 30 " .....	1
30 to 40 " .....	4
40 to 50 " .....	2
50 to 60 " .....	2
60 to 70 " .....	0
70 to 80 years.....	0
80 to 90 " .....	1
90 to 100 " .....	1
Above 100 " .....	0
Unknown.....	8
Total.....	<u>31</u>

Respectfully submitted,

F. M. HOOK, M. D.,

President Board of Health.

J. W. MARSEE,

Secretary Board of Health, pro tem.

Which was received.

Also, the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

Report of deaths in the city of Indianapolis from 6 o'clock P. M. on the 23d day of December, to 6 o'clock P. M. on the 30th day of December, 1876:

Under 1 year.....	9
1 to 2 years.....	2
2 to 3 " .....	0

3 to 4	"	-----	3
4 to 5	"	-----	1
5 to 10	"	-----	2
10 to 20	"	-----	0
20 to 30	"	-----	5
30 to 40	"	-----	1
40 to 50	"	-----	1
50 to 60	"	-----	8
60 to 70	"	-----	3
70 to 80	"	-----	2
80 to 90	"	-----	0
90 " 100	"	-----	0
Above 100	"	-----	1
Unknown		-----	0
Total			-----
			89

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. MARSEE,  
Secretary Board of Health, pro tem.

F. M. HOOK, M. D.,  
President Board of Health.

Which was received.

The City Work House Commissioners submitted the following report.

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

To the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis :

*Gentlemen* :—The Board of Workhouse Commissioners, to whom was referred the communication of O. W. Kelly withdrawing his bid for building the Workhouse, would report that this Council order that said work be not commenced until an agreement has been made with the I., M. & J. Railroad; that this board used all diligence to endeavor to procure such agreement, and have not yet succeeded: that owing to such delay we regard Mr. Kelly as justifiable in withdrawing his bid, and that this Council should assent thereto.

We would further add, that in view of the proposed addition to the Station House, we do not regard the erection of the Workhouse, at this time, as a pressing necessity.

Respectfully submitted,

J. CAVEN, Pres't,  
JNO. W. MURPHY.

I concur in the above so far as it refers to the Kelly contract.

B. C. SHAW,  
THOS. H. SHARPE.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Craft introduced general ordinance No. 1, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance to protect the fire hydrants of the city of Indianapolis.

Which was read the first time.

#### APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES.

Mr. Morse introduced appropriation ordinance No. 1, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money for the repairs of bridges in the city of Indianapolis.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Bugbee introduced appropriation ordinance No. 2, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating eighty-three hundred and ninety-nine dollars for the payment of damages awarded the property owners in the opening of Rohampton street.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Reasener introduced appropriation ordinance No. 3, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of the Street Repair Department of the city of Indianapolis.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Byram introduced appropriation ordinance No. 4, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of Station Houses for the month of December, 1876.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Ransdell introduced appropriation ordinance No. 5, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of City Hospital and Branch for the month of December, 1876.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Craft introduced appropriation ordinance No. 6, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of the Fire Department.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Reed introduced appropriation ordinance No. 7, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of printing, etc., for the month of December, 1876.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Webster introduced appropriation ordinance No. 8, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money to pay sundry claims against the city of Indianapolis for the month of December, 1876.

Which was read the first time.

By consent, Mr. Adams, from the Fire Department, submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—Your Committee, to whom was referred the question of the measurement of a cistern built at the intersection of Michigan and Patterson streets, would beg leave to make the following report :

The facts in the case are as follows: The cistern was built by Anderson & Co., and upon completion it was found that the bottom was so near the water

it would not stand, and continually broke through. Upon motion of Mr. Thalman, the contractors were directed to put in a new bottom, which they did, thereby reducing the capacity of said cistern over one hundred (100) barrels. The contractors claim the original estimate of measurement, as they were directed by the Council to put in a new bottom, and the custom and precedent has been to allow the original measurement. Your committee would recommend the Council to allow them the original estimate and measurement, and the City Engineer be, and is, hereby directed to present an estimate for the same, to be inserted in the appropriation ordinance; but that in all cases hereafter the City Civil Engineer is directed to allow no estimate for fire cisterns but the actual measurement thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. ADAMS,  
W. H. CRAFT,  
J. L. CASE,  
Fire Board.

Which was approved.

Also, the following report :

*Indianapolis*, January 1, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—In compliance with orders of the Council, I herewith report a second and final estimate allowed Anderson & Devenish for building a fire cistern at the corner of Michigan and Patterson streets—

939 barrels at 55 cents....	\$516 45
Less former payment.....	362 00
Final payment.....	\$154 45

Respectfully submitted,

BERNHARD H. DIETZ,  
City Civil Engineer.

Which was approved.

Appropriation ordinance No. 1, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 2, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.



Appropriation ordinance No. 3, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 4, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 5, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 6, 1877,

Was read the second time, and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 7, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 8, 1877,

Was read the second time.

Mr. Adams moved that the claim of Wiggins & Donnan for furnishing fire screens be stricken from the ordinance and referred to the Committee on Public Buildings, for examination as to the price charged.

Which motion was adopted.

The ordinance was then ordered engrossed.

Appropriation ordinances No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, 1877, were read the third time and passed by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Diffley, Laughlin, Morse, McGinty, Ransdell, Reas-

ener, Reed, Steinhauer, Thomas, Webster, and Wright, Arthur L.  
—18.

Negative—None.

ROLL CALL.

Mr. Craft offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the City Attorney be, and is, hereby instructed to prepare and report an ordinance to prevent persons, digging vaults under sidewalks, from exposing or endangering the water connection with the public hydrants of the city.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Darnell offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the City Civil Engineer be, and is, hereby ordered to move the two lamp-posts at the Washington street bridge across the river, one at the east end and one at the west end, and place the same in the center of the two arches between the two roadways.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following motion :

*Moved*, That the Chair appoint a special committee of three who, together with the City Attorney, are hereby instructed to confer with the County Commissioners in reference to moving the City Offices to the new Court House.

Which was adopted.

The Chair appointed as such committee Councilmen Darnell, Bugbee and Diffley.

Also, the following motion :

*Moved*, That the Fire Board, Police Board, Board of City Hospital, and City Civil Engineer take an inventory of all the property in their depart-

ments belonging to the City of Indianapolis, and file the same with the City Clerk; and these reports to be made annually.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Morse offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the City Attorney be, and is, hereby directed to attend to the renewal of all policies of insurance upon the bridges within the city, which policies have or may soon expire.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Morse presented the following remonstrance :

*Indianapolis*, December 26, 1876.

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

*Gentlemen* :—The undersigned, owners of the real estate fronting on West street, between Maryland street and Kentucky avenue, respectfully remonstrate against the passage of an ordinance providing for the improvement of West street, from Maryland street to Kentucky avenue, with broken stone, as the ordinance now on file contemplates, for the following reasons: That the cost of the same would be too great, and would cause our property to be precepted and sold for the improvement; also, we have once paid for improving said street.

And your remonstrants will ever pray, etc.,

Peter Dietz, 100 feet; John F. Armbuester, 32½ feet; James Splan, 32½ feet; Botenfur Rouser, 30 feet; Timothy Splan, 32½ feet; Timothy Greenrod, 30 feet; John R. Iney, 30 feet; Thos. Kinney, 84 feet; Samuel Parrot, 36 feet; Thos. D. Kingan, by I. Moore, his attorney, 70 feet; Scott & Nicholson, west side of square No. 92; J. S. Carey, 210 feet; Richard Moore, 32½ feet; F. Keenan, agent, 30 feet; William Carson, 32½ feet.

Which was received.

Mr. Diffley offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That ordinance No. 137, relative to the improvement of West street, between Kentucky avenue and Maryland street, and the remonstrance against said improvement, be, and are, hereby referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Which was adopted.

Mr. McGinty offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the Street Commissioner be, and is, hereby directed to prepare the south sidewalk of Merrill street, between Missouri and Mississippi streets. There is a few deep cuts in the sidewalk dangerous to travel. In case of accident it may cause the city some trouble.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following motion :

*Moved*, That the Street Commissioner be, and is, hereby directed to put in the cribbing in the rear of the people's property that was washed away by the overflow of Pogues Run in 1875, between Catharine and Merrill streets, according to the decision of the Judiciary Committee.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Reasener presented the following petition :

*Indianapolis*, January 1, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—We, the undersigned, do certify that the whole estate, real and personal, of Mrs. John Shay, a widow, is worth \$925, and that she is entitled to the exemption allowed by the present assessment laws; and also ask that her tax be refunded for 1875.

JOHN SULLIVAN,  
THOMAS HOLERAN,  
THOMAS SAWERS.

Which was referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims and City Assessor.

Also, the following petition :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—We, the undersigned, do certify that the whole estate, real and personal, of Mrs. Mike Casey, a widow, is worth eight hundred dollars, and that she is entitled to the exemption allowed by the present assessment laws, and ask that her tax be refunded for 1875.

PAT. CASEY,  
T. F. PERIN,  
DANIEL WALSH.

Which was referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims, and City Assessor.

Also, the following petition :

*Indianapolis, January 1, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—We, the undersigned, do certify, that the whole estate, real and personal, of Mrs. Daniel Shay, a widow, is worth eight hundred dollars, and that she is entitled to the exemption allowed by the present assessment laws, and ask that her tax be refunded for 1875.

JOHN SHAY,  
PATRICK DONOHUE,  
CHARLES McCARTY,  
WM. F. REASENER.

Which was referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims, and City Assessor.

Mr. A. L. Wright offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That a committee of five be appointed, of which his honor the Mayor, shall be chairman, to investigate and report to this Council at an early day what legislation they deem necessary for the good of the city.

Which was adopted.

The Chair appointed as such committee Councilmen A. L. Wright, Adams, Buehrig and Darnell.

On motion, the City Attorney was added to such committee.

By consent, Mr. Craft, from the Fire Board, offered the following report :

*Indianapolis*, January 1, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—Your Committee on Fire Department, together with the Chief Fire Engineer, in compliance with the provisions of a motion passed the Council December 11th, "directing the above committee, together with the Chief Fire Engineer, to inspect the theaters and public halls of the city, with reference to their facilities for egress," would present the following report :

After a thorough examination of the theaters and public halls of the city of Indianapolis, your committee are of the opinion that, with a few exceptions, they are better arranged for a speedy emptying thereof, as well as precautionary measures for the prevention and extinguishing of fires, than most of the cities of this country.

The Grand Opera House was the first place visited by your committee. The lower floor, comprising the parquette, dress circle, and stage, are well provided with means of egress, consisting of large double-doors opening outward, and leading by a direct and commodious passage to Pennsylvania street; three doors on each side of the dress circle opening on Wabash street on the north; and an open space on the south side of the building, for which openings steps were being provided at the time your committee's visit, as well as very large double-doors on the east end of stage. In the family circle and upper gallery the conveniences for getting out quickly and safely are not so numerous or well arranged, as the only means afforded is by two pair of stairs, which would necessarily compel those coming down from above to pass out through the Pennsylvania street entrance. Your committee would recommend that the managers or owners of the Grand Opera House be directed to put in water-pipes with proper connections, and sufficient hose, on each side of the stage, about midway between the drop-curtain and the rear wall of the stage; that they be kept always in order, and the hose placed in such position as to be made quickly available; also, that they be directed to cut an opening of not less than six feet in width in the west wall of the Opera House, convenient to the doors of the family circle, and leading into the hall of the main building fronting on Pennsylvania street, and put therein large iron doors opening out. We would also recommend that all the doors in said Opera House be so changed as to open outward.

The next place we visited was the Academy of Music. This theatre is a large structure, with three doors opening out from the east side of the dress circle, thence by two pair of stairs to a landing, from which there are two

stairways leading to Ohio street, and a broad stairway leading to a twenty foot hall way to the Illinois street entrance. This theater is provided with water-pipes and hose on each side of the stage, and all the doors open outward. Your Committee would recommend that a strong wire or metal screen be placed on the outside of the platform or landing, opposite the doors leading from the dress circle, and extending full length of same, so as to, in the event of a rush or stampede, prevent the crowd from surging over the platform on to the landing below. If a stairway can be put in at the northwest corner of the above theater it would greatly facilitate the emptying of the house, especially the family circle and the upper gallery.

The Metropolitan Theater, at the corner of Washington and Tennessee streets, require immediate changes and alterations to render it a safe hall. One of the stairways leading to Washington street has been taken out, leaving one very steep and inconvenient stairway ; which, in case of a stampede, would be totally inadequate to empty the house quickly and safely. Your committee examined the building thoroughly, and recommend that the owner or owners thereof be directed to make an opening at least six feet in width near the southwest corner of the Dress Circle, leading to a six foot stairway on Tennessee street, of easy. Also to have water pipes put in on the east side of the stage, with at least 200 feet of hose, and all necessary attachments. Also to protect the woodwork on the east and west ends of the building opposite the flies with metal from the gas jets now in use at these points.

Masonic and Washington Halls are small halls, having fair conveniences in the way of halls, stairways, etc., for speedily emptying them in case of an emergency.

St. John's Hall, in the third story of the brick building on the north side of Georgia street, between Illinois and Tennessee streets, demands the attention of the authorities at once, as the accommodations for a speedy exit from the same, in the event of a rush and stampede, are very limited. One stairway, of about four feet in width, having four angles in it, is all the facilities afforded for egress from the above hall. Your committee would recommend the Council to take such action as would provide for an additional pair of stairs in the north end of said building, with a large door in the northwest corner of the vestibule of the above hall.

Mozart Hall, on South Delaware street, is not used for theatrical purposes and the main stairway, leading to Delaware street, is sufficient for speedily emptying the above hall of the meetings and gatherings (we are informed by the proprietor) that generally assemble there. We are also informed that there is a small stairway leading below from the east end of the hall.

Your committee would recommend the Council to direct the City Attorney to revise the ordinance introduced December 11th, or prepare a new one embodying the different and substantial points of the old one, and giving the Council the power to revoke the license of any public hall or theater who fails to comply with the requirements of the Common Council.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. CRAFT,

J. C. ADAMS,

J. L. CASE,

Fire Board.

Which was concurred in.

On motion, the Council adjourned.

*J. H. Owen* \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor.

Attest:

*Benj. C. Wright* \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk.