

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }  
*Monday, April 2d, 1877—7½ 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, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Pouder, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—24.

Absent—Councilman Diffley—1.

The proceedings of the regular session, held March 26th, 1877, were read and approved.

Sealed proposals for grading and graveling Potomac, or West Court street and sidewalks, between West and California streets; also for building a 1000 barrel fire cistern at the corner of William and Mississippi streets, were received, opened, read and referred to the Committee on Contracts.

Mr. Bugbee, from the Committee on Contracts, submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis*, April 2, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—The Committee on Contracts, to whom was referred the proposals presented to Council Monday evening, March 26th, 1877, for grading and graveling the first alley east of East street, running north and south from McCarty street to the first alley north of Buchanan street, have examined the same, and find them to be as follows, to-wit :

Samuel Lefever, 20 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 24 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

J. B. Fletcher, 17 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 22 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

R. Carr, 15 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 20 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

J. Hennesse, 15 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 20 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

John Flaherty, 14 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 18 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

J. J. McKnight, 13 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 17 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

John Welsh, 12 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 16 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

John Greene, 12½ cents per foot on each side where the alley is 15 feet wide, and 15 cents per foot on each side where the alley is 20 feet wide.

John Greene being the lowest and best bidder, your committee recommend that he be awarded the contract.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. BUGBEE,  
ROBT C. MCGILL,  
D. M. RANSDALL,  
Committee on Contracts.

Which was concurred in, and contract awarded.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The City Civil Engineer submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, April 2, 1877.*

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

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

A second and final 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—

1206.7 lineal feet of curbing and bowldering at 93 cents.....	\$1,122 23
11 lineal feet bowldering at 50 cents.....	5 50
9.6 lineal feet curbing at 43 cents.....	4 12
Total.....	<u>\$1,131 85</u>
Less former payment.....	1,118 43
Present payment....	13 42

Also, a first and final estimate allowed Samuel J. Smock for grading and graveling the first alley east of Bellefontaine street, between Home avenue and the first alley north of Christian avenue—

1440 lineal feet at 28 cents .....	...\$403 20
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Respectfully submitted,

BERNHARD H. DIETZ,

City Civil Engineer.

Which was approved.

Also, the following estimate resolution :

*Resolved,* That the foregoing second and final 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, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—22.

Negative—None.

Also, the following estimate resolution :

*Resolved*, That the foregoing first and final estimate allowed Samuel J. Smock for grading and graveling the first alley east of Bellefontaine street, between Home avenue and the first alley north of Christian avenue, 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, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—22.

Negative—None.

The City Assessor submitted the following communication :

*Indianapolis*, April 2, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—I hereby nominate, and ask your honorable body to appoint the following Deputy City Assessors to assess the personal property for the year 1877 :

Robert D. Townsend, L. D. McClain, J. J. Davis, James G. Small, D. B. Clafin, Thomas Greany, Nicholas Simpson, P. R. Perine, O. Williams, W. H. Stapp, R. Q. Cornelius, Edwin Carpenter, B. W. Hartley, S. Heath, John Trucksess, W. M. Lowry, O. S. Dale, W. S. Collier, I. J. Taylor, Ed. Vance ; and for principal Clerk Horace M. Hadley, and Chas. S. Wright for assistant Clerk.

I also ask you to confirm the appointments of D. W. Brouse and his deputies, in order to legalize their assessments for the city, but to receive no pay from the city, they being paid by the county, viz:

O. Fahnstock, R. Ferguson, N. Hoss, T. H. Sullivan, J. S. Bray, R. F. Ramsey, A. Brouse, Z. W. Coffin, E. Holmes, J. A. Wilken, J. G. Brown, J. H. Chamberlain, T. D. Thorpe, W. J. Brown, S. L. Phipps, A. D. Moore, Frank White, R. D. Bacon, and J. G. Kendall.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM HADLEY,  
City Assessor.

Which was concurred in, and the appointments confirmed.

The City Attorney submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, April 2, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—At the last meeting of the Council I was instructed to prepare and present an ordinance amending the present ordinance upon the subject of licensing peddlers, in such a manner as to relieve those who are too poor to pay for the same, if the same could be done without conflicting with the charter. I would report that the passage of an ordinance relieving one class of persons from a liability to pay a license fee would prevent the city from collecting a license fee from any one engaged in peddling; because the ordinances of the city are required by the constitution and laws of this state to be general, and one class of the community can not be subjected to the burdens of a license while another class in the same business are relieved from any such burden; and the effect would be to relieve all. The only way that one class of peddlers can be relieved from paying license is to relieve all, and that can be done by repealing the ordinance now in force.

Respectfully submitted,

R. O. HAWKINS,  
City Attorney.

Which was approved.

The Street Commissioner submitted the following report :

*Indianapolis, April 2, 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 of March :

Graded and bowldered the intersection of Noble and Washington streets.

Bowldered the first alley crossing on Cady street, south of Washington street.

Placed stone crossing on Noble street crossing Washington street; one at crossing Tinker at intersection of Illinois street, and one crossing Indiana avenue west of Canal.

Reset stone walk on Market street crossing East street.

Repaired the brick sidewalks on South Noble street, and on Virginia avenue.

Cleaned one hundred and twenty-four squares of street.

Repaired and reset one hundred and twenty-seven bridges and culverts.

Repaired the following streets with gravel: South street from Meridian to Illinois street; Michigan from Tennessee to West streets; Merrill from New Jersey to East streets.

Pay roll for March.....	\$3,292 42
R. M. Riner, sand.....	4 20
Donough & Co., sewer pipe.....	17 44
H. C. & W. F. Kettenbach, hardware.....	70 25
Aaron Grube, oak lumber.....	112 60
H. C. Roney, laying stone crossings.....	119 00
Carnine & Gardner, oak lumber.....	83 70
W. W. Low, stone.....	49 50
R. H. Adams, brick.....	24 00
Carey McFarland, bowlders.....	22 75
J. F. McCollum, lumber.....	77 22
Indianapolis Rolling Mill, cinders.....	25 00
E. J. Hardesty, storage and rent.....	66 00
W. H. Hildebrand & Co., lumber.....	19 70
C. H. Jarvis, sand.....	68 00
H. C. Roney, laying stone crossing.....	60 50
Total.....	<u>\$4,109 28</u>

Respectfully submitted,

LEANDER A. FULMER,

Street Commissioner.

Which was approved.

The Superintendent of the City Hospital submitted the following report:

Indianapolis, April 2, 1877.

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

Gentlemen:—I would respectfully report that I have collected from paying patients during the month of March, and paid to the City Treasurer, as shown by the accompanying duplicate receipt, the sum of forty-one dollars (\$41).

Respectfully submitted,

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

Which was approved.

The Board of Health submitted the following report:

Report of deaths in the city of Indianapolis from 6 o'clock P. M. on the 17th day of March, to 6 o'clock P. M. on the 24th day of March, 1877:

Under 1 year .....	7
1 to 2 years.....	2
2 to 3 " .....	4
3 to 4 " .....	2
4 to 5 " .....	0
5 to 10 " .....	1
10 to 20 " .....	6
20 to 30 " .....	2
30 to 40 " .....	3
40 to 50 " .....	1
50 to 60 " .....	1
60 to 70 " .....	0
70 to 80 " .....	0
80 to 90 " .....	0
90 to 100 " .....	0
Above 100 " .....	0
Unknown.....	2
Total.....	<hr/> 28

Respectfully submitted,

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

J. W. MARSEE,  
Secretary Board of Health.

Which was received.

Also, the following report :

Report of deaths in the city of Indianapolis from 6 o'clock P. M., on the 24th day of March, 1877, to 6 o'clock P. M., on the 31st day of March, 1877:

Under 1 year .....	4
1 to 2 years.....	1
2 to 3 " .....	0
3 to 4 " .....	1
4 to 5 " .....	0
5 to 10 " .....	1
10 to 20 " .....	1
20 to 30 " .....	2
30 to 40 " .....	2
40 to 50 " .....	1
50 to 60 " .....	2
60 to 70 " .....	0
70 to 80 " .....	0
80 to 90 " .....	0
90 to 100 " .....	0
Above 100 years.....	0
Unknown .....	1
Total.....	<u>17</u>

Respectfully submitted,

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

J. W. MARSEE,  
Secretary Board of Health.

Which was received.

#### APPROPRIATION ORDINANCES.

Mr. Ransdell introduced appropriation ordinance No. 21, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of City Hospital and Branch for the month of March, 1877.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Byram introduced appropriation ordinance No. 22, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of Station Houses for the month of March, 1877.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Reed introduced appropriation ordinance No. 23, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of printing, etc., for the month of March, 1877.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Craft introduced appropriation ordinance No. 24, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of Fire Department for the month of March, 1877.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Webster introduced appropriation ordinance No. 25, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the city of Indianapolis for the month of March, 1877.

Which was read the first time.

Appropriation ordinance No. 21, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 22, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 23, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 24, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 25, 1877,

Was read the second time and engrossed.

Appropriation ordinance No. 21, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of City Hospital and Branch for the month of March, 1877,

Was read the third time and passed by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—None.

Appropriation ordinance No. 22, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of Station House for month of March, 1877,

Was read the third time and passed by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—None.

Appropriation ordinance No. 23, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims on account of printing, etc., for the month of March, 1877,

Was read the third time and passed by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—None.

Appropriation ordinance No. 24, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money on account of the Fire Department for the month of March, 1877,

Was read the third time and passed by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—None.

Appropriation ordinance No. 25, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the city of Indianapolis for the month of March, 1877,

Was read the third time and passed by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—None.

## ROLL CALL.

Mr. Byram presented the following communication :

*Indianapolis, April 2, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—I respectfully ask your attention to the action of the Water Works Company, in that I am required to pay in advance water rents on an unoccupied tenement, or be deprived of the use of their water.

I occupy the south half of the double tenement, 719 and 721 North Illinois street; No. 721 is now unoccupied. There is but one water service pipe supplying both houses, and the water is supplied to No. 719 through No. 721. Through the past winter the pipes were frozen, and about the first of February I ordered the water turned off, and paid all dues for both houses. To-day I asked that the water be turned on, and tendered payment, but the Secretary refused to turn on the water unless I would pay water rates for the unoccupied tenement. This I declined to do, but offered to leave the amount of money demanded for No. 721 on deposit as a guaranty that the water rents for No. 721 should be paid whenever occupied. My proposition was not accepted, and I appealed to the President of the Company, who decided with the Secretary. Thus I am left without water unless I pay water rents for the unoccupied house.

I find no rule or order of Council requiring such payment. Rule 6 of the water rates, adopted in 1872, which are found in the Council proceedings of that year, page 723, provides that in case two or more parties or families are supplied with water from the same service pipe, if either of the parties fail to pay the water rent when due, the company may turn off the water from such pipe.

In my case there is but one party or family to be supplied, the other house being unoccupied, and as I offered a guaranty that the water rents should be paid for No. 721 whenever occupied, I deem the action of the Water Works Company as oppressive, and therefore submit the case for your consideration.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

B. F. WITT.

Which was referred to the Committee on Water Works.

Mr. Case offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the Civil Engineer be, and is, hereby directed to examine the first alley east of Summit street, near the P. C. & St. L. R. R. track, and report what is the best method or plan for the city to adopt to drain the pond of water located in the line of said alley.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Craft offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the City Treasurer be, and is, hereby instructed to tender the amount of damages awarded property owners in the matter of opening Court street, approved by this Council June 12, 1876.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—None.

Mr. Darnell offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the Street Commissioner be, and is, hereby ordered to put in an 18 inch sewer pipe from Fayette street, on First street, to the east side of Tennessee street; the sewer pipe to be laid in the north gutter on First street, so as to connect with the sewer pipe leading to the Illinois street sewer.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Mr. Izor offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the City Marshal be instructed to notify the C. C. C. & I. R. R. to plank the sidewalks crossing their tracks on East Ohio street.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following motion :

*Moved*, That C. Smith be granted permission to move a one and a half story frame house from 141 South East street to Merrill street, and thence one-half square west.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Ransdell presented the following petition :

*Indianapolis*, April 2, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen*.:—Your petitioner, the Citizens Gas Light and Coke Company of Indianapolis, respectfully petitioning your honorable body, prays for a modification of that portion of the first section of the ordinance and charter granted by your honorable body to said company, which reads as follows:

“ That the said company shall cause to be executed bonds to the city of Indianapolis, with good and sufficient freehold security, to the satisfaction of the Common Council of said city, binding itself and sureties in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars.”

The modification that the company asks is, that the bond of the company duly executed to the city in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, secured by mortgage on the property of the company, shall be accepted by the city, as such modification may provide for, without requiring any additional freehold or personal security, and the purpose of which shall be to secure to the city the performance in good faith on the part of the company, the provisions of the ordinance, and the obligations therein imposed upon the company.

The value of the assets of the company, its lands, buildings, mains, machinery, and appurtenances, justifies the belief that the bond of the company would fully and amply secure to the city the performance by the company of all the obligations of the ordinance.

The company respectfully represents that in view of the great reduction in price to be made to consumers of gas in this city, such reduction amounting to thousands of dollars every year, as compared with the cost of gas during previous years, entitles it to your generous consideration.

In view of the liberality of your honorable body extended to other enterprises, the request seems both modest and reasonable, when the company asks at your hands that it may be permitted to do a legitimate manufactur-

ing business in your city without going outside of the company to procure personal freehold security, in addition to the full and abundant security in its own property, which the company can, and willingly offers.

And your petitioner will ever pray, etc.

CITIZENS GAS LIGHT & COKE CO.,

Per C. E. MERRIFIELD.

Mr. Ransdell moved to refer the petition to the Committee on Gas Light and City Attorney, with instructions to report next Monday night.

Mr. Thomas moved to amend the motion by instructing the committee to report in two weeks from to-night.

Which amendment was accepted by Mr. Ransdell.

Mr. A. L. Wright moved to substitute the "Committee on Judiciary" for "Committee on Gas Light."

Which motion was laid on the table.

Mr. Ransdell's motion was then adopted.

Mr. Ransdell offered the following motion:

*Moved*, That the Street Commissioner be instructed to carry out the recommendations of the City Civil Engineer, made to Council March 19, 1877, in regard to draining the intersection of the Lafayette Railroad and Walnut street.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following motion :

*Moved*, That the City Marshal be instructed to cause all obstructions to be removed in New York street from White River to the corporation line west.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Steinhauer offered the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the continuation of East street south of Morris street be named East street, instead of Japan street, and that the Civil Engineer and City Assessor be instructed to make the change on their plats.

Which was adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Pouder, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—24.

Negative—None.

Mr. Thomas presented the following petition :

*Indianapolis*, April 2, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—The undersigned, owners of the real estate fronting on Illinois street between Louisiana and Georgia streets, respectfully petition for the passage of an ordinance providing for the erecting of an outside stairway, starting on the sidewalk against lot No. 7, square 87, and passing up to the second story of the building owned by John D. Morris, and connecting with Adam Bretz's building fronting on Louisiana street.

The object of having this stairway is to make the egress and ingress better for the occupants of both buildings in case of fire more especially. Our proposition is to make the stairway four (4) feet wide from outside to outside.

And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

J. D. MORRIS,  
ADAM BRETZ.

Which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings.

Mr. Webster presented the following remonstrance :

*Indianapolis*, March 29, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—The undersigned, owners of the real estate fronting on Ala-

bama street, between North and St. Clair streets, respectfully remonstrate against the passage of an ordinance providing for the grading and graveling and bowldering the gutters and curbing the sidewalks on said street, for the reasons that there is no pressing necessity for such improvement, and that the financial condition of the property holders in these hard times renders such improvements a hardship; and there is no general desire for such improvement by said property holders.

And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

S. A. Fletcher 97 feet 6 inches; S. A. Fletcher 130 feet; George M. Trayer 33 feet; George Brown's estate, by Wm. Hadley, executor, 319 feet; Geo. W. and Juliett McCurdy 30 feet; Sarah Stevens 33½ feet; B.V. Enos 32 feet; J. K. Sharpe 37 feet; W. H. Smith 37 feet; James M. Hume 33 feet; I. H. Devereux, by G. M. Beach, agent, 33 feet; Jos. R. Evans 40 feet; Morris G. Morris 33½ feet; Elizabeth Brown 40 feet; I. D. Brown 40 feet; Jeremiah Brown 32 feet; H. L. Tetaz 30 feet; N. B. Taylor 32½ feet; Isabel Bryant 40 feet; N. B. Taylor, for Ann E. Taylor's heirs, 32½ feet; I. C. Hays 30 feet; E. S. Commons 32½ feet; Mrs. Wolfram 31 feet; Mrs. Minerva B. Powell 33 feet; Trustees of Trinity M. E. Church, by Jas. Moore, Pres't, 85 feet; Robert F. H. Keller 37 feet.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

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

*Moved*, That Thos. A. Hendricks be granted permission to pave with brick the sidewalk in front of lots 15 to 20, inclusive, Coburn's Sub. O. L. 182; the same to be done at his own expense and within 90 days—the City Civil Engineer to give the proper grade stakes.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Adams offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the Civil Engineer be, and is, hereby directed to set the grade stakes in front of the property of David V. Burns, on Central avenue, as well as in the alleys adjacent to said property, in order that Mr. Burns may

make his improvements conform to the grade of said avenue when the same shall have been improved.

Which was adopted.

Also, the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the owners of the following described real estate, to-wit: Lots Nos. 67, 65, 66 and 64 in Frederick Yeiser (guardian's), subdivision of a part of the east half of the northwest quarter of section 13, township 15, range 3, of the city of Indianapolis, be, and they are hereby, required to fill or drain the same, as, in the opinion of this Council, there is a hole or excavation thereon, in which water has or may become so stagnant or noxious as to be a nuisance and injurious to the health and comfort of said city and the inhabitants thereof, and that the Street Commissioner be, and he is hereby required to notify the owners thereof, as provided by an ordinance passed April 28, 1866, entitled "An ordinance providing for the drainage and filling up of ponds, excavations and holes, and prescribing penalties for failure to fill up or drain the same," and that in case of the failure of the owners thereof to fill or drain the same, the Street Commissioner proceed to fill or drain the said hole or excavation as provided in said ordinance; *Provided*, that the cost thereof shall not exceed ten per cent. of the value of the aforesaid real estate, as assessed upon the tax duplicate for city purposes.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Pouders, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Schmidt, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—None.

#### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. Morse, from the Committee on Bridges, submitted the following report:

Indianapolis, April 2, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen* :—Your Committee on Bridges, to whom was referred the motion that the bridge over Pogues Run on Delaware street be replanked, respectfully report that we have examined the bridge and find some places badly in need of repair. We recommend that the Street Commissioner be directed to put the same in good and safe repair.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. MORSE,  
I. W. STRATFORD,  
ISAAC THALMAN,  
Committee on Bridges.

Which was concurred in.

By consent, Mr. Schmidt offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That the contractor for improving the East Market square be instructed to bowlder the city's portion of the same, instead of grading it, under the instruction and supervision of the Civil Engineer; provided that said contractor releases the city from his contract to gravel the same, and that said bowldering be done at the rate of 60 cents per yard.

Mr. Darnell moved to refer to the Committee on Streets and Alleys and City Civil Engineer, with instructions to report next Monday night.

On motion, the previous question was ordered.

Mr. Darnell's motion was then adopted by the following vote :

Affirmative—Councilmen Adams, Buehrig, Bugbee, Byram, Case, Craft, Darnell, Izor, Kenzel, Morse, McGill, McGinty, Poulder, Ransdell, Reasener, Reed, Steinhauer, Stratford, Thalman, Thomas, Webster, Wright, Arthur L., and Wright, William G.—23.

Negative—Councilman Schmidt—1.

By consent, Mr. Thalman offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That J. K. Milliken have permission to move a frame house from near the corner of Meridian and New York streets to Sixth street, between Lafayette Railroad and Howard street.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Buehrig moved that the Council now adjourn.

Which motion was not adopted.

#### REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

Mr. Byram, from Special Committee, submitted the following report:

*Indianapolis*, April 2, 1877.

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

*Gentlemen*:—Your Committee, to whom was referred the matter of redistricting the city of Indianapolis, in compliance with the law recently enacted by the late Legislature, respectfully report that we have given the matter careful attention, and herewith submit a map and an ordinance laying out the city into twenty-five wards and five aldermanic districts. A less number of wards would have covered the requirements of the law, but as the additional expense of creating a few more wards amounts to a small sum, and believing that our city has not ceased growing, we thought best to report on the above number, so the redistricting of the city would not have to be again made within a year or two by the wards filling up to over the maximum vote designated by the law.

We have made what we consider a fair division as possible, and have shaped the wards as well as we could considering the great blunder made by property owners who have added new additions from time to time without conforming with the original plat of the streets of the city. You will notice in every case where it was possible to do so, we have given prominent and well known streets as boundaries.

We respectfully submit the matter for your consideration.

N. S. BYRAM,  
ISAAC THALMAN,  
MICHAEL STEINHAUER,  
Special Committee.

Mr. Byram introduced general ordinance No. 9, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance dividing the city of Indianapolis into Wards and Aldermanic Districts, and establishing the boundaries of the same, under and by virtue of an act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

Which was read the first time.

Dr. Stratford, from same committee, submitted the following minority report :

*Indianapolis, April 2, 1877.*

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

*Gentlemen* :—We, the undersigned, a minority of the committee appointed to redistrict the city for council and aldermanic purposes, desire to make the following report :

We can not agree with the majority of the committee in their report, for the following reasons :

First. They make Washington street the grand dividing line between the north and south, which always has, and always will, give rise to a sectional feeling, and keep alive the old jealousy between the two sections of the city, which every person must know does much to lessen the efficiency of the Council.

Second. For the reason that in making a grand dividing line between the north and south, and making Washington street that line, it makes an unequal division, thereby placing the southern portion of the city so hopelessly in the minority that they can not expect to secure their equitable portion of improvements.

Third. Because of the lines being made with a view to advancing the interests of a political party and not in the interest of the people.

Fourth. Because we should feel that we were not true to the people we represent if we allow the majority to re-establish the old section line without recording our most solemn protest against it.

We herewith report an ordinance and recommend its passage, which ordinance entirely does away with north and south sections from any particular line. It makes wards of more regular form; it provides for better known boundaries; the voting population are as uniform as can be made with the facilities we have for arriving at it; they have been made with a special view to a unity of interest, and a total disregard to political significance.

In making this report we have the assurance that the masses of the people if not the majority of the Council, will sustain us.

We recommend that the majority report be not concurred in.

Respectfully submitted,

I. W. STRATFORD,

Minority of Special Committee.

Dr. Stratford introduced general ordinance No. 10, 1877, entitled :

An ordinance dividing the city of Indianapolis into Wards and Aldermanic Districts, and establishing the boundaries thereof, under and by virtue of an act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Thalman offered the following motion :

*Moved*, That when the Council adjourn it adjourn to meet on Friday evening next, and that the redistricting ordinance be made the special order of business.

Mr. Darnell moved to amend the motion by substituting the word "Wednesday" in lieu of "Friday."

Mr. Buehrig moved as a substitute to make it the special order for two weeks from to-night.

Which substitute was laid on the table.

Mr. Reed moved to make it the special order for next Monday night.

On motion by Mr. Darnell, Mr. Reed's motion was laid on the table.

Mr. Reed moved to lay Mr. Darnell's amendment on the table.

Which motion to lay on the table failed to pass by the following vote :

