

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

COMMON COUNCIL.

---

REGULAR SESSION

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CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS,  
MONDAY, APRIL 13TH, 1868, 7½ O'CLOCK, P. M. }

The Common Council met in regular session.

Present—His Honor, Sims A. Colley, in the chair, and the following members:

Councilmen Brown, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton, and Woodburn—14.

Absent—Councilmen Burgess, Coburn, Cottrell and Schmidt—4.

The proceedings of the regular session held April 6th, 1868, were read and approved.

The special order for the session being the consideration of the subject of gas,

Mr. Stanton moved that as there was not a full representation of Council the order be suspended, and that the regular order of business be resumed.

Which was adopted.

Ordinances on second reading being in order,

Mr. Henschen called up special ordinance No. 13—1868,

Which was read the second time and ordered to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. Henschen, special ordinance No. 14—1868, was taken up, read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. MacArthur, special ordinance No. 11—1868, was taken up, read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

On motion by Mr. Kappes, special appropriation ordinance No. 21—1868, was taken up, read the second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Seidensticker called up general ordinance No. 132, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to prohibit the running at large, in the City of Indianapolis, of any swine, boar, sow or barrow, and to regulate the erection and keeping of pig styes and stables.

Which was read the second time.

Mr. Geisel offered the following amendment :

That section first be amended to read as follows, to-wit: "That the hogs shall be penned up from the first day of March till the first day of June in each year."

Mr. Davis moved to lay the amendment on the table.

Mr. Geisel called for the ayes and noes.

The question being to lay the amendment on the table, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Davis, Kappes, Loomis, Seidensticker and Woodburn—6.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Colley, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, MacArthur and Stanton—8.

.So the motion to lay the amendment on the table was lost.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment, the ayes and noes were called.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Colley, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Loomis, MacArthur and Stanton—8.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Brown, Davis, Foster, Kappes, Seidensticker and Woodburn—6.

So the amendment was adopted.

Mr. Davis moved that the further consideration of the ordinance be postponed for two weeks.

Mr. Loomis moved to lay the motion on the table.

Mr. Davis called for the ayes and noes.

The question being to lay Mr. Davis' motion to postpone on the table, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Colley, Geisel, Goddard, Loomis, MacArthur and Stanton—6.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Brown, Davis, Foster, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Seidensticker and Woodburn—8.

So the motion to lay on the table was lost.

The question then being on the adoption of Mr. Davis' motion to postpone for two weeks.

Mr. Stanton moved to amend Mr. Davis' motion by inserting one in lieu of two weeks.

Mr. Loomis called for the ayes and noes on the amendment.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Loomis, MacArthur and Stanton—6.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Jameson, Kappes, Seidensticker and Woodburn—8.

So the amendment was lost.

Mr. Davis' motion was then adopted.

#### ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING.

Dr. Jameson called up special ordinance No. 8—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for grading and graveling Jackson street and sidewalks, between St. Clair street and Corporation line.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Dr. Woodburn called up special appropriation ordinance No. 18—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims against the city of Indianapolis.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Dr. Jameson called up general ordinance No. 131, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the payment of the Bank Loan and interest due April 10, 1868.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Geisel called up special ordinance No. 6—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for grading and graveling Plum street and sidewalks, between Massachusetts Avenue and Cherry street.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Henschen called up special ordinance No. 13—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for grading and graveling Harrison street and sidewalks between Noble street and the west line of Coe's subdivision.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Henschen called up special ordinance No. 14—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for grading and graveling Harrison street and sidewalks between the west line of Coe's subdivision and Dillon street.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Kappes called up special appropriation ordinance No. 21—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating moneys for the payment of sundry claims on account of the City Hospital for the month of April, 1868.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Goddard called up special ordinance No. 10—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for grading and graveling Grant street and sidewalks from West street to the terminus of Grant street.

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

The question being, shall the ordinance pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel,

Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—13.

Councilman Loomis voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Mr. Seidensticker called up the motion offered by Mr. Loomis on the 30th of March, 1868, directing the Mayor and City Marshal to issue their proclamation preventing swine from running at large for thirty days from April 20th, 1868.

Which, on motion, was adopted.

REGULAR ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Mr. Brown presented the following communication :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—Two weeks ago this meeting night, the undersigned presented to your honorable board a petition for the exclusive right to use the public lamp-posts of your city for advertising purposes for the period of five years, with the privilege of seventeen years. Said petition was read in open Council, and, on motion, was referred to a special committee of three.

In the mean time the majority of said committee was conferred with personally by your petitioner, and the object and process of the advertising enterprise was particularly explained, and that, too, with every apparent satisfaction to said committee, inasmuch as they expressed a decided approbation of the enterprise, and seemed to manifest a perfect willingness to report in favor of granting the prayer of the petition. But, on last meeting night, when your committee rendered their report, they recommended that the privilege of using the city lamp-posts for advertising purposes be granted to the petitioner for the term of one year only, which is most assuredly a period of time too brief to test the utility and success of our enterprise, discourages all prospects to negotiations and places your petitioner in a very embarrassing position.

Now the design of this communication is to explain to your honorable board, in a plain, simple and definite manner, the nature and object of the enterprise under consideration.

Your petitioner has a patent on his novel system of lamp-post advertising, granted in October last by the Patent Office of the United States, and in order to derive any advantage to himself from his patent, or be able to render it of any benefit or of practical utility to others, it is necessary, in the first place, to obtain and secure the right and privilege from municipal authority to use for his purpose the lamp-posts in all places and cities where he desires to operate. That object being accomplished, he then designs to dispose of his interest in said patent in certain cities, for a satisfactory consideration, to such party or parties as may wish to negotiate for the same.

But, in order to give sufficient encouragement to parties to invest in our enterprise, it is absolutely necessary for us to have and hold entire control over the right to use the lamp-posts in all cities where we wish to introduce our business, and that, too, for a length of time approximating near to one-half at least, or for the whole lifetime of our patent; especially from this

fact, that in order to introduce and prosecute our business successfully in any city, however large or small, much time is necessary to prepare, and heavy expenditure of money is required to put our business in operation, of which every city we operate in receives a liberal share.

Therefore, while we most cheerfully express our grateful acknowledgments to your honorable board, and to your special committee of reference for their manifest approbation and a due consideration of our cause, we humbly pray that you will, this evening, reconsider the vote taken at last meeting on the report of your committee, recommending the granting of the right to use the lamp-posts of your city to J. Sonnedecker for advertising purposes for the period of one year only, and that you will extend the right and privilege for the length of time at least asked for in our petition—five years—which has been done by all other cities applied to with one single exception.

As the case now stands, the time already granted is entirely too short to justify an effort to put our enterprise into operation in this city, and too short to induce parties to invest in the same, and thereby deprives the city of a liberal revenue that would necessarily accrue therefrom.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

J. SONNEDECKER,  
By S. S. Cook, Att'y.

Which was laid on the table.

Mr. Brown introduced special ordinance No. 15—1868, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE to re-grade and pave with bowlders Maryland street between Meridian and Delaware streets.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Brown, also, introduced special ordinance No. 16—1868, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE to provide for paving with brick the east sidewalk of Meridian street between Maryland and Louisiana streets, except such portions as may be paved with flag stones.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Brown, also, introduced special ordinance No. 17—1868, entitled:

AN ORDINANCE to grade and pave with bowlders Meridian street, between Pogue's Run and the south side of South street.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Davis presented the following petition:

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—We, the undersigned, most respectfully petition your honorable body for permission to lay down an underground tile drain, for the purpose of carrying off the waste water from our place of business, (214 and 216 South Delaware street,) north to Pogue's Run.

LONG, SNYDER & CO.

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

Mr. Foster introduced special ordinance No. 18—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for grading and graveling Kentucky Avenue and sidewalks between Maryland and Missouri streets.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Foster offered the following motion :

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to notify the proper officers of the Terre Haute Railroad Company to extend their bridge, across the Canal at Kentucky Avenue, to the north line of said street at that point.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Foster, also, offered the following motion :

That the Street Commissioner be, and is hereby, directed to notify the proper officers of the Vincennes Railroad Company to extend their bridge, across the Canal at Kentucky Avenue, from the bridge of the Terre Haute Railroad to the south line of said street at that point.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Geisel offered the following motion :

That William Werther be granted permission to fill up the alley in the rear of his property, situated on the corner of Noble and New York streets.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Goddard offered the following motion :

That the City Clerk be directed to advertise for proposals to build a bridge across Pogue's Run on Tennessee street.

Which was referred to the City Attorney.

Mr. Henschen introduced special ordinance No. 19—1868, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE to provide for grading and graveling Noble street between Washington street and the Indiana Central Railroad track.

Which was read the first time.

Mr. Henschen offered the following motion :

That Charles Hespelt be allowed to put a platform over the ditch in front of his store room on the corner of Indiana Avenue and Vermont streets.

Which was adopted.

Dr. Jameson offered the following motion :

That Messrs. Smock & Bro. be permitted to transfer and assign to Davis & Wright the license issued to them to do a general auction business at No. 88 East Washington street.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Loomis offered the following motion :

That James Skillen be allowed to erect a set of scales in the alley west of his flouring mill, on West Washington street, the same to be so constructed as not to interfere with the free use of said alley as a passage way, and to be done under the direction of the Civil Engineer.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Mr. Loomis, also, offered the following motion :

That Algere Jobe be permitted to grade and gravel the sidewalk in front of his property on Virginia Avenue, between Daugherty and Coburn streets, at his own expense, the proper grade stakes to be first set by the City Civil Engineer.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Loomis, also, offered the following motion :

That the Street Commissioner be directed to re-pave the sidewalks at the intersection of Washington and East streets, and the property holders between East and New Jersey streets be permitted to re-pave their sidewalks in front of their property.

Which was adopted.

Mr. Loomis presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned would respectfully represent that he is the owner of the Square fronting on South street, between East and New Jersey streets, and that in the estimate allowed the Gas Company for the erection of lamp-posts on said Square it costs me for the two posts in front of my property ninety-nine dollars and sixty-five (\$99.65) cents; while the property holders on the opposite side of the street, for the same number of posts, pay only forty-six dollars and thirty-five (\$46.35) cents. I would respectfully ask to have the matter investigated.

(Signed.)

JOSEPH MARSEE.

Which was referred to the Finance Committee and City Clerk.

Mr. Seidensticker presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 8, 1868.

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

We, the undersigned, citizens residing on Broadway street, in the City of Indianapolis, respectfully request your honorable body, the Mayor and City Council, to grant the following petition, viz., to narrow Broadway street to 60 feet before that street should be graded and graveled.

Ezekiel B. Dill,

Milo Johnson,

David Crull,

J. C. McClellan,

L. Van Laningham,

C. A. Elliott,

Nathaniel Street.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Mr. Seidensticker presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 10, 1868.

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

We, the undersigned, citizens and property holders of Broadway street, from St. Clair street north to the Corporation line, would respectfully petition your honorable body to extend the grading and graveling of Broadway street north to the Corporation line, instead of stopping at the corner of Cherry street, it being the intention of the original petition. (The Corporation line is only 120 feet north of Cherry street.)

David Crull,  
J. C. McClellan,  
Milo Johnson,

E. B. Dill,  
L. VanLaningham,  
And 4 others.

Which was received.

Mr. Seidensticker moved that the vote by which the ordinance for the improvement of Broadway street from St. Clair street to Cherry street was passed, at the meeting of April 6th, 1868, be reconsidered.

The question being to reconsider, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the vote was reconsidered.

By unanimous consent Mr. Seidensticker offered the following amendment :

That the ordinance No. 5, for grading and graveling Broadway street, between St. Clair street and Cherry street, be amended so as to make it extend from St. Clair street to the Corporation line north.

Which was adopted.

The question being on the passage of the ordinance as amended, those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Seidensticker, Stanton and Woodburn—14.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Stanton presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

I, the undersigned, respectfully request your honorable body to grant me a permit to dig a well on the north-west corner of Mississippi and North streets.

Respectfully,

ROBERT DONAVAN.

Which was granted.

#### REPORTS FROM BOARDS.

Mr. Loomis, from the Board of Public Improvements, made the following report :

OFFICE BOARD OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, }  
Indianapolis, April 13, 1868. }

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Board of Public Improvements, to whom the bids were referred, would respectfully report to your honorable body that we find that Samuel Hanway is the lowest bidder for leveling and graveling Massachusetts Avenue between the east side of New Jersey street and the east side of Liberty street, his bid being 38 cents per lineal foot.

Also, that Feary & Dillon are the lowest bidders for grading and paving the west sidewalk on Illinois street, between North and First streets, their bid being 65 cents per lineal foot.

We respectfully recommend that contracts be awarded to said parties.

Respectfully submitted,

SAM'L GODDARD, }  
W. H. LOOMIS, } Board.

Which was concurred in, and the contracts awarded.

#### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. Kappes, from the Committee on Accounts and Claims, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the communications of the City Gas Inspector, bearing date March 16th and April 6th, would report that they have examined the same, and now recommend the deductions be made from the February and March bills of the Gas Light and Coke Company, and for the reasons below given.

The four-foot tested burners not having been attached to the Washington street lamps until late in the month of February, and we not knowing the exact date at which they were attached, we do not now take them into account, reserving the right hereafter, and before payment of bill for that month, to insist upon the four-feet per hour per foot consumption, if the number of hours were of sufficient important aggregate to make such a course expedient.

For that month, however, we do claim, that the Gas Company must show, beyond dispute, that the burner cock of the meter lamp on South Pennsyl-

vania street was not turned on the evening for which they claim the meter thereto attached would have recorded 30 feet. They must, also, as indisputably prove their claim of 50 feet for the West Washington street meter lamp by showing that it was not lighted on two nights. This bill was improperly certified to by the Gas Inspector.

We report against allowing more than four feet an hour per post, during the month of March, for the 102 lamps upon which four feet burners, tested by the Gas Company itself, at what its agent claimed was the average pressure (15-10ths).

The following statement will show the result of the recommended reductions:

FEBRUARY.			
No. Lamps.	Av. Consump'n.	Ag. Consump.	Cost at \$3.00 per 1,000.
Bill as rendered, 739	6.65	491,435	\$1,474 31
Bill as corrected, 739	6.50	480,350	1,441 05
Deduction,	15	11,085	33 26
Bill as rendered, 103	1,302½	134,157*	\$402 47
Bill as corrected, 103	1,277½	131,582	394 75
Deduction,	25	2,575	7 72

\*Gas Co.'s receipt, through error, states this amount at 132,157.

MARCH.			
No. Lamps.	Av. Consump'n.	Ag. Consump.	Cost at \$3.00 per 1,000.
Bill as rendered, 102	1,050	107,100	\$321 30
Bill as corrected, 102	716	73,032	219 10
Deduction,	334	34,068	102 20

Adding cubic feet deductions together, and we have 13,660 cubic feet in February, and 34,068 in March, for which the Government tax of 20 cents per 1,000 feet should, also, be deducted, making the further sum of \$2.73 and \$6.81.

Consequently, the sums to be deducted from the February bill are \$33.26, \$7.72, \$2.73; total, \$43.71.

From the March bill, we have shown it is proper to deduct the sums of \$102.20 and \$6.81; total, \$109.01.

The Gas Company's charter reserves to the City Council the control of the quantity of gas used by the city. This power includes within itself the control of the system of measurement. The present plan of measurement by meters is no just system—the gas consumed by the street lamps is not measured, it is only estimated; and, at present, by only one meter to upwards of two hundred lamps. We, therefore, agree with the Gas Inspector in his reasoning on this subject. And inasmuch as the City Council has the power to dictate how the gas used for the public benefit shall be measured out, we would recommend that the Council insist upon the only fair and true system—by burners adjusted to consume no more or less than four feet per hour at the average pressure, and payment of bills accordingly, doing away, entirely, with meters.

After due consideration, we also recommend the immediate purchase of the so-called "Young America" burners, fish-tail pattern, for all the street lamps, so that a thorough change can be made by the first of May at the farthest.

J. H. WOODBURN, }  
J. H. KAPPES, } Committee.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Seidensticker, from the Committee on Judiciary, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

*Hon. A. Seidensticker :*

I have examined the matters of Railroad Avenue, and find the following facts to exist:

1st. The Washington Hall Company caused to be made and recorded a plat designating thereon this strip of ground as Railroad Avenue.

2d. That such Avenue has for more than fifteen years been recognized as a public thoroughfare.

I am of opinion that these facts will justify the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis in treating the strip of ground as a street of said city.

Respectfully,

B. K. ELLIOTT, *City Attorney.*

We concur in the above opinion, and recommend the Council to act in accordance therewith.

S. A. COLLEY,  
AD. SEIDENSTICKER, } *Committee.*  
A. P. STANTON,

Which was concurred in.

Dr. Jameson, from the Finance Committee, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Finance beg leave to report in reference to the communication of Nicholas Russell, in regard to the removal of dead animals, that a contract exists for said object, consequently the Council cannot act in the premises.

Respectfully,

P. H. JAMESON, *Chair. Com. on Finance.*

Which was concurred in.

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

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Fire Department would recommend that the Fire Alarm Telegraph box located on Tennessee street, near Garden st., be removed to the corner of Washington and Delaware streets. A private box has been taken within one square of this point which will amply protect it; and as there is a large district of ground between the Police Office and the Hook and Ladder House, built up with the most costly buildings in the city, we think that the removal would be a good one.

HENRY COBURN, } *Committee.*  
J. W. DAVIS,

Which was concurred in.

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

RECAPITULATION OF THE WEEKLY REPORT OF CONTENTS OF REGISTER OF PATIENTS OF CITY HOSPITAL, ENDING APRIL 13, 1868.

Number of patients in Hospital at last report.....	28
Number of patients received in Hospital since last report.....	2
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report.....	0
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report.....	1
Number of patients died in Hospital since last report.....	0
Number of patients remaining in Hospital at present report.....	29

Which was received.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The City Clerk made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

The City Clerk respectfully reports to Council the contract and bond of Thomas Carr for grading and graveling Merrill street and sidewalks between the east side of Kentucky Avenue and the west side of West street.

Respectfully, D. M. RANSDELL, *City Clerk.*

Which was concurred in, and the contract and bond approved.

The City Clerk, also, made the following report :

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK, }  
Indianapolis, April 6, 1868. }

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

GENTLEMEN:—I would respectfully report that there are on file in my office the following affidavits for the collection of street assessment by precept, as follows:

Hiram Seibert vs. W. F. Wells, for \$19.10.

Hiram Seibert vs. Sarah Sample, for \$24.88.

And would recommend that you order the precepts to issue.

Respectfully, D. M. RANSDELL, *City Clerk.*

Which was concurred in, and the precepts ordered to issue.

The Civil Engineer made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

I hereby make the following report in regard to the length of the different Railroad tracks within the Corporation :

Length of Union track—main track,	- - - - -	9,556 feet.
Side tracks,	- - - - -	7,535 "
Total,	- - - - -	17,091 "
Terre Haute track—main track,	- - - - -	3,020 "
Side tracks,	- - - - -	11,571 "
Total,	- - - - -	14,591 "

Lafayette track—Main track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,294	feet.
Side tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,003	"
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,297	"
Jeffersonville track—Main track	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,470	"
Side tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,390	"
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,860	"
Bellefontaine track—Main track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,975	"
Side tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,408	"
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,383	"
Peru track—Main track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,598	"
Side tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,187	"
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,785	"
Indiana Central track—Main track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,536	"
Side tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,491	"
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,027	"
Cincinnati track—Main track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,151	"
Side tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,294	"
Total,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,445	"
Gas Company's track	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	411	"
Butsch's track	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	792	"
Rolling Mill track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,529	"
Agricultural Works,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	972	"
Vincennes track—Main track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,247	"
White River Iron Company's track,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,664	"

RECAPITULATION.

Total length of main tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	88-100 miles.
Total length of side tracks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	96-100 miles.

Total length of main and side tracks, - - - 20 84-100 miles.

The above estimate does not include the tracks within the Depots or Freight Houses.

Respectfully, R. M. PATTERSON, *Civil Engineer.*

Which was referred to the City Attorney, with instructions to report whether or not side tracks are subject to taxation.

The City Assessor made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, April 13, 1868.

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

GENTLEMEN:—I herewith submit the following report for the week ending April 13, 1868:

Weekly Report.	This Week's Report.				Last Week's Report.				Total Amount.			
	Lists.	Polls.	Dolls.	Cts.	Lists.	Polls.	Dolls.	Cts.	Lists.	Polls.	Dolls.	Cts.
April 13th, 1868.												
Asa M. Strong.....	156	127	68,766	00	1385	1055	376,466	00	1541	1182	445,232	00
Samuel Strong .....					854	727	227,708	00	854	727	227,708	00
William C. Phipps....	69	58	91,989	00	1005	956	662,829	00	1074	1014	754,818	00
Nelson Hoss.....	82	61	59,938	00	833	590	393,029	00	915	651	452,967	00
H. P. Randail .....	72	54	68,174	00	1690	1326	1,619,426	00	1762	1380	1,687,600	00
William Hadley.....	56	27	376,363	00	840	666	2,163,679	00	896	693	2,540,042	00
							Totals.....		7042	5647	6,108,367	00

Respectfully submitted,

WM. HADLEY, *City Assessor.*

Which was received.

On motion by Mr. Kappes, Mr. Victor Zeis, Deputy Gas Inspector of Ohio, was introduced and addressed the Council at some length in an able manner on the subject of gas. Numerous interrogatories were put to him on the subject, all of which he answered in a very satisfactory manner.

(For questions and answers see appendix.)

On motion by Dr. Woodburn, a vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Zeis for the valuable information imparted to the Council.

Mr Brown offered the following motion :

That the Committee on Revision of Ordinances be instructed to report, at the next meeting of the Council, an ordinance appropriating \$1,500 in aid of constructing a Mechanics' Hall on the State Fair Ground for the year 1868, payable to the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture.

Mr. Davis called for the ayes and noes on the adoption of the motion.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Brown, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis and Seidensticker—5.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Colley, Davis, Foster, Geisel, Goddard, Henschen, MacArthur and Woodburn—8.

So the motion was lost.

On motion, the Council adjourned.

DANIEL MACAULEY, *Mayor*

ATTEST :

D. M. RANDELL, *City Clerk.*