

Common Council Chamber)
August 15th 1853)

Council met. Present: Messrs. Bradshaw, Dunlap, Durham, Edwards, Karns, McGuire, McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb Pitts, & Strickland, Councilmen, & Mr Scudder Mayor.

The minutes of preceeding meeting read and approved.

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|------|----------|------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 1222 | Allowed, | Wm C. Lupton, Jr. | Mayor's Sign, | 9.00 |
| 3 | " | Good Intent Engine Co. | R L. McQuads Bid | 2.85 |
| 4 | " | Ephraim Weightman | Filling Cistern | 6.52 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 5 | " | Ephraim Weightman | Labor on St. (C.E.) | 3.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 6 | " | Ephraim Weightman | Labor at E M House | <u>1.87$\frac{1}{2}$</u> 12.52 |
| 7 | | William Vail | Horses & carts July 13 & 14th. | 6.93 |
| 8 | | Michael Born | Shoveling gravel Public well | .93 |
| 9 | | Edmund Brown | Shoveling gravel Public well | .93 |
| 30 | | Jno. Welch | Labor | 2.50 |
| 1 | | Jno. Harmon | Labor | 2.50 |
| 2 | | John Conway | Labor Hauling | 5.00 |
| 3 | | Daniel Bichlen | filling cistern | 3.50 |
| 4 | | Hiram Lewis | hauling Sand to E.M. House | 10.00 |
| 5 | | Hiram Lewis | hauling Sand W.M House | 10.00 |
| 6 | | Abner Smith | filling cistern | 5.00 |
| 7 | | Do | Labor | 1.25 |
| 8 | | Do | Market House | 8.75 |
| 9 | | O.W. Johnson. | Brick for Market House | 94.00 |
| 40 | | George Durham | Laying Market House pavement. | 41.40 |
| 1 | | Stephen Wood. | Laying Market House pavement. | 10.00 |
| 2 | | G W Alvord | Lumber M. | 1.16 |
| 3 | | Michael QBrien | Labor M House | 3.75 |
| 4 | | M. O Brien | Do | 3.12 |
| 5 | | Richard Berry | Do. | 10.00 |
| 6 | | Garrett Davis & Co. | Invincible Fire Co. | <u>4.50</u> |
| | | | | 249.59 |

George Lowe's account amounting to \$25 being the balance of Hook & Ladder wagon, & Jeremiah Shea's account for improving Pennsylvania street in 1851, were referred to committee on accounts.

Mr. Edwards moved that a committee of three be appointed to confer with Mr John Moffitt the builder of the Town clock relative to the payment for it.

Which motion prevailed.

Messrs. Edwards, Dunlap & Nelson, were appointed said committee.

Mr Newcomb from the committee on the judiciary reported "an ordinance defining the duties of the officers of the city" which was read a first and second time.

Mr. Bradshaw chairman of the committee on accounts made the following report:

The committee on accounts have examined the account of Davis & Parrish for castings furnished for cisterns amounting to 216.85 & recommended the payment of the same.

(1248)

Wm A. Bradshaw,)
Henry H Nelson)
N. Edwards)

Mr. Karns moved that the account of Comegys & McCord for building or repairing a bridge Spanning Pogues Run on Delaware Street be taken from the table. amounting \$268.00

Which motion prevailed.

The question being "shall the account be allowed?"

It was decided in the affirmative, by the following vote: Ayes: Messrs Bradshaw, Dunlap, Durham, Edwards, Karns, & Maguire. - 6

Noes: Messrs McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb, Pitts & Strickland - 5.

Mr. Maguire from a select committee on that subject presented the following report:

"The committee to whom was referred the assessment roll of the property of the City of Indianapolis, with instructions to confer with the assessor and report to the Council whether in their opinion it was in a condition suitable to be accepted, now report that they immediately after their appointment examined the said assessment roll, and found it unsuitable for acceptance. The property belonging to the same individuals is found sometimes scattered in several parts of the books, some of the extensions were erroneous, and quite a considerable amount of property was omitted altogether. There were various erasures and interlineations which made it difficult sometimes to determine with certainty the amounts intended to be charged, and the figures were so placed as to render the footings of the pages a difficult matter. The committee, therefore, deemed it proper to order the whole book to be copied in a neat and workman like manner under the direction

and inspection of the Clerk and the assessor with instructions to place the property of each tax payer together so that its value can be carried out in one gross sum, to supply omissions whenever ascertained, to make the figures plain and set them in proper order under each other so that the addition of the columns may be made with facility and accuracy, and in all respects to make it such a document as should have been be received by the Council. It is but an act of justice to Mr Little the Assessor to say that he evinced an entire willingness and disposition to do whatever he could to facilitate the object had in view by the committee. On enquiry we learn that the work of copying is not yet completed, & it may be proper to extend the time further.

D. Maguire, on the part
of committee

On Motion by Mr. Nelson
The report was concurred in.

On Motion
Oneweeks further Time was granted the assessor to make return of assessment roll.

Mr. Newcomb from a select committee on that subject made the following report:

The committee appointed to confer with the City Engineer & report as to the practicability of changing the grade of Meridian Street North of North street so as to obviate the objections of the property holders thereon to the present grade, respectfully report, that owing to the sickness of the Engineer he has not been able to attend your committee in their examination of said street, your committee waited upon the engineer and examined a plat of said portion of Meridian street, by which it appears that the present grade on Meridian street at the crossing of St. Clair street is two feet and forty hundredths above the grade for Illinois Street immediately west. Your committee, therefore, believe that the grade of Meridian Street can be lowered one foot & three inches at St Clair Street which would lower the grade thence, North to the same extent. The undersigned, therefore, recommend that the grade be so changed and that the grade descend from Walnut Street to St Clair Street and from Walnut Street South to North Street, and that no change be made in the grade at North Street. All upon the condition that a bond to the acceptance of the City Clerk be filed in his office by the parties interested or some of them within five days, conditioned that the obligors of said bond pay to the contractors for the grading of Meridian Street, the additional expense of making the change in said grade if any. And the committee report the following resolution:

H. C. Newcomb, Chmn.

Resolved, That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to report an ordinance changing the grade of Meridian Street in the manner indicated in the above report, upon the condition therein set forth, and on the further condition that the grade of Illinois street will admit of such drain through St Clair street.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Dunlap, Durham, Edwards, Karns, Maguire, McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb & Strickland - 9
No. - Mr. Pitts.

The remonstrance of Rebecca M. Sweetzer, & A. F Morrison relative to the ordinance levying a tax for lighting Pennsylvania street between Market & Ohio street was read,

Whereupon Mr Maguire offered for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That the ordinance passed at the last session relative to lighting the West side of Pennsylvania street between Ohio and Market street, be suspended until the first of September

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle, Dunlap, Durham, Karns, Maguire, McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb, - 9
Noes: Messrs Pitts, & Strickland - 3

The following petition was presented and read,

"Your petitioners would respectfully request that an ordinance be passed requiring sinks to be placed to all pumps on Washington Street, as the gutters in the immediate vicinity of these pumps are continually filled up by the drainage from said pumps, and remains there to stagnate and remain a nuisance and injurious to health to those living in the neighborhood.

S A Fletcher, M Dernham, Thomas McCullough, W. H. Talbott, Samuel Wilmot, A.D. McCormack, Chas. Rommel, G.F. McGinnis Hugh Thomson, Clemens Vonegut, Jas C. Yohn, A Grayden & Sons B.S. Goode, A Knodle, Charles Garner, Alf. Harrison, John S. Dunlap.

On Motion

Referred to the committee on Streets and alleys.

Mr. Newcomb offered for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That with a view to preserve the shade trees on the sidewalk on the West side of Meridian Street between New York & Michigan Streets; that if the owners of the lots bordering on the West side of said street, between the points aforesaid will file their bond or bonds in the office of the city clerk within eight days, conditioned that they will, at any time after two years, on the order of the Common Council, grade said sidewalks and regrade the same, and set out other shade trees on the line of street. Said sidewalks shall not

now be graded but shall be gravelled only.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Bradshaw, Dunlap, Durham, Edwards, Karns
Maguire, McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb, & Strickland - 10

Noes: Messrs. Carlisle & Pitts. 2

On Motion by Mr Carlisle

The account of Wm Vaile for 150 loads of gravel on
Washington street, east of Canal, was taken from the table
The question being "Shall the account be allowed?"
Was decided in the negative.

Mr. Carlisle offered for adoption the following:

"Resolved, That the time of meeting of the City Council
be changed to 7 o'clock, P.M. until the 1st of October, A.D.
1853, and from the 1st of October, 1853, to 1st of April,
1854, time of meeting shall be 6 o'clock, P.M."

Which was not adopted by the following vote:

Ayes 6. Noes. 7.

Mr. McCarty presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the City Clerk address John L. Ketchum,
and ask him to submit in writing his proposition for settle-
ment in the matter of Lots Nos. 10, 11, 12, in Square No. 48.
That it may be submitted to the Council at their meeting on
Monday evening next."

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Messrs. Bradshaw, Carlisle Dunlap, Delzell,
Durham, Edwards, Karns, Maguire, McCarty, Nelson, Newcomb,
Pitts & Strickland - 13.

The repairing of bridge spanning Pogues Run, was awarded
to Owen Cullings at \$93.50. He being the best bidder.

The filling of the ends of bridge spanning Pogues Run
on Alabama street was awarded Wm Vaile, at 14¢ per yard.

A communication was read from Carey H Boatright & Lucinda
Boatright notifying the council of the "fraudulent & secret
taking of a Title bond made to Lucinda Ward by the Council
to Lot. 5 Out Block No 159.

On motion by Douglas Maguire, The vote allowing Comegys &
McCord's account was rescinded.

On Motion by Mr Newcomb it was

Ordered, That the Civil Engineer give estimate for work
done on Meridian street.

Adjourned to meet Monday evening next at 7½ oclock P.M.

Caleb Scudder Mayor

Daniel B Culley. City Clerk.