

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL.  

---

REGULAR SESSION.

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CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE }  
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS, }  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 21ST 1863, 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 Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S.  
A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson,  
Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15.

Absent—Councilmen Blake, Colley, and Wallace—3.

On motion of Mr. Brown, the reading of the minutes of the last  
regular and special sessions, was dispensed with, and approved.

By Mr. Brown—Petition:

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21, 186 .

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

*Gentlemen:* Your petitioner would respectfully ask your per-  
mission to place the names of the several streets, within the city  
limits, on the houses at the corners of said streets, with an order  
to do the same under your direction.

Your petitioner proposes to put up those signs, well painted  
on tin, in any size letter you may direct, not exceeding three  
inches, at fifty cents each, where there are houses on the corners,  
to nail them on; where there are no houses on the corners, he  
will furnish the signs to the city at forty cents each, believing  
that hereafter any one building on a corner would feel sufficient

interest in the welfare of the city, as well as his own convenience, to call and get the proper sign, and place it on his house.

If, however, in consideration of the matter, you should prefer to have posts planted where there are no houses on the corners, he will put up the same without any additional charge over cost, rendering bills for materials furnished, and labor in planting the posts.

Believing the above will meet a due consideration of your body, I respectfully submit it.

A. C. HOWARD.

Which, on motion of Dr. Jameson, was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

By Dr. Jameson—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

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

The undersigned would petition the honorable Common Council for the privilege of filling with gravel the sidewalk in front of his residence, on the corner of New York and East streets.

JACOB RUBUSH.

On motion of Dr. Jameson, the prayer of the petitioner was granted.

By Mr. S. A. Fletcher, Jr.—Petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

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

The Peru and Indianapolis Railroad Company asks permission of your honorable body to erect a frame engine house, adjoining or near the turn-table of said company, on out-lot No. 81, in said city; the proposed engine house will be on the south side of Pogue's Run, about 150 feet south of Washington street, and 100 feet west of Noble street. Your petitioner would further state, that there is no building within three hundred feet of said proposed engine house, and that the erection of the same cannot endanger the property of any person, the company being the owner of said lot No. 81, and lot No. 82, the same having been purchased for depot purposes. Your petitioner, therefore, asks permission of your honorable body to erect said frame building, for which your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

DAVID MACY,

*President Peru and Ind. R. R. Co.*

Which, on motion of Dr. Jameson, was laid over to be acted upon by resolution, in the regular order of business.

By Mr. Haughey, Chairman of the Finance Committee :

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

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

The Committee on Finance would report that they have negotiated and sold the city bonds, issued for the maintenance and support of the families of volunteers, to the amount of \$25,000, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, due in fifteen months, to the following persons :

Fletcher & Sharpe.....	\$15,000
W. H. Morrison, sen.....	1,000
John C. New.....	5,000
William Wallace.....	1,000
Murphy & Holliday.....	500
A. E. Vinton.....	500
John Bradshaw.....	500
Hardin Parrish.....	500
J. H. Vajen.....	1,000

\$25,000

THEO. P. HAUGHEY, }  
 H. COBURN, } *Committee.*  
 H. A. FLETCHER. }

Which, on motion, was accepted and approved.

Mr. S. A. Fletcher, Jr., Chairman Committee on Accounts, to whom was referred the claim of John Brennan, for damages sustained to his property in out-lot 78, by the digging down of earth on Benton street, at the time the said street was graded, reported verbally, that the committee was unable to determine the amount of damages to be paid claimant, and moved that the matter be referred to a special committee, consisting of Messrs. Emerson, Lefever and Allen.

Which was concurred in, and the case so referred, by consent.

His Honor, the Mayor, presented a transcript of the Council Proceedings, in relation to the payment of notes, held by the heirs of the estate of Judge Isaac Blackford, against the city of Indianapolis, on behalf of the Board of School Trustees, and asked that the Council pay the said notes and interest.

Which, on motion of Dr. Thompson, was referred to the Finance Committee, and the Mayor.

By Mr. Boaz, Chairman Board of Police :

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

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

GENTLEMEN: I herewith tender my resignation as policeman for the First Ward of this city, and respectfully ask its acceptance.

Truly, JOHN S. BRAY.

Which, on motion, was accepted.

By Mr. Boaz, Chairman Board of Police :

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

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

We recommend John S. Bray as day policeman, in the place of Charles E. Carter. And we recommend Orrin Lawton as policeman of the First Ward, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of John S. Bray.

J. CAVEN,  
WM. BOAZ, } Committee.  
H. COBURN.

On motion, the Council proceeded to ballot for day policeman, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Charles E. Carter.

His Honor, the Mayor, appointed Councilmen Allen and Cook as tellers.

John S. Bray received.....15 votes.

Mr. Bray having received all the votes cast, was declared duly elected Day Patrolman on the Police force of the city of Indianapolis.

On motisn of Dr. Jameson, the Police Board were instructed to appoint Orrin Lawton to fill the vacancy in the Police force in the First Ward, occasioned by the resignation of John S. Bray, until the regular election in February, 1864.

In compliance with a motion adopted, at the last meeting of Council, His Honor, the Mayor, reported verbally, that policemen are *not officers*, in the meaning of the City Charter; that their election or dismissal by the Council is *not essential*; and that the ordinance regulating the Police force *can* be legally changed so as to authorize the dismissal, for neglect of duty, of any policeman, at any time, by the Police Board.

By Dr. Jameson :

*Resolved*, That the Police Board be directed to confer with the military authorities, and arrange for a detail from the troops on duty at this post, to assist the police force of the city in maintaining order.

The question being, shall the resolution pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub and Thompson—15.

Noes, none.

So the resolution passed.

By Mr. Brown, Chairman Committee on Streets and Alleys:

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

*Mr. President*—The Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred sundry bids for street improvements, report that they have examined the same, and find that for paving with brick and curbing with stone the west sidewalk of Delaware street, between Washington street and the Union Railway track, Kruger & Co., are the best bidders. And for grading and bouldering the alley running north and south through square 63, between Washington street and the first alley south of Washington street, John Stumph is the best bidder.

And we recommend that contracts be awarded to said Kruger & Co., and said John Stumph.

AUSTIN H. BROWN,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
HENRY COBURN,		
WILLIAM COOK.		

Which, on motion, was concurred in, and the contracts awarded.

By Mr. Brown, Chairman Committee on Streets and Alleys:

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

*Mr. President*—The Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred the petition of Deloss Root, beg leave to report the following resolution and recommend its passage.

AUSTIN H. BROWN,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
HENRY COBURN,		
WILLIAM COOK.		

*Resolved*, That a final estimate be allowed Deloss Root, assignee of Patrick Moriarity, for grading and graveling East street and sidewalk, between South and Bicking streets, when finished to the satisfaction of the Civil Engineer.

The question being, shall the resolution pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, Staub, and Thompson—14.

Councilman McNabb not voting.

So the resolution passed.

By Mr. Brown—Sealed Proposals:

To grade and pave with boulder stone, the alley running north and south through square 65, between Pearl and Maryland streets;

John Stumph, at 87 cents per superficial yard; security, John B. Stumph. Also, for taking up the bouldering, regrading and paving with boulders, the alley running north and south through square 65, between Washington and Pearl streets; John Stumph, at 80 cents per superficial yard; security, John B. Stumph.

Which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

By Dr. Thompson :

*Resolved*, That D. Root & Co., be allowed a final estimate for furnishing and erecting lamp-posts, lamps and fixtures on Pennsylvania street, between Michigan street and the Donation line north, when finished to the satisfaction of the Civil Engineer.

The question being, shall the resolution pass? those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub, and Thompson—15.

Noes, none.

So the resolution passed.

From the City Clerk—Report :

INDIANAPOLIS, December 14, 1863.

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

*Gentlemen*—I would report that an affidavit has been filed with me by John G. Waters, assignee of S. R. Mann, the assignee of James R. Shea & Co., contractors for grading and graveling Tennessee street and sidewalks, between Maryland and the south side of Georgia streets, against Lazarus B. Wilson, for one hundred and sixty-four dollars and seventy-one cents. The Council will please order that a precept be issued for the collection of the amount.

Respectfully,

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk*.

Which, on motion, was accepted and approved, and the Clerk directed to issue the precept.

From the Chief Fire Engineer—Report :

INDIANAPOLIS, December 21st, 1863.

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

*Gentlemen*—I would most respectfully call your attention to the petition of the firemen, asking for an increase of pay. At your last meeting you increased the pay of the Engineers ten dollars per month. Allow me to state, that all the different men employed, have each their respective duties to perform, and to increase the pay of the one, and not the other, will create a bad feeling among the men in the different companies. I would also state, that we have already lost some excellent firemen on account

of the pay not being sufficient for the amount of duty they have to perform. Men of all trades have receive and addition of from fifty cents to one dollar, while the firemen have labored for the same as in former years.

Most respectfully,

CHARLES RICHMANN, *Chief Fire Engineer.*

Which, on motion, was received.

Mr. Allen obtained leave to offer the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the firemen, in the Fire Department be paid \$2 00 per day, from and after January 1st, 1864.

Dr. Jameson moved to amend by inserting \$1 85 per day, instead of \$2 per day.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment,

The ayes and noes were demanded.

Those who voted in the affirmative, were Councilmen Emerson, H. A. Fletcher, Haughey, Jameson, and Lefever—5.

Those who voted in the negative, were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., Glazier, McNabb, Staub, and Thompson—10.

So the amendment was not adopted.

The question being on the passage of the resolution, those who voted in the affirmative, were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, McNabb, Staub, and Thompson—12.

Those who voted in the negative, were Councilmen Emerson, Jameson, and Lefever—3.

So the resolution passed.

Fred. M. Herron, Winder of the Town Clock, presented a lengthy communication in relation to the condition of the town clock, and recommending that it be repaired, and asking authority to put the clock in proper order.

Which was read and received.

Mr. H. A. Fletcher moved that Mr. Herron be allowed fifty dollars per annum, in addition to his present salary, provided he keeps the town clock in good order, and that it keeps correct time.

Which motion was adopted.

By Mr. Brown—Motion :

That when this Council adjourn, it adjourn to meet on Monday evening next, the 28th inst., at 7½ o'clock.

Which motion was adopted.

By Mr. Emerson :

WHEREAS, the keeping open of saloons and gambling houses on Sunday, has become a great and growing evil, causing much annoyance to our peaceable citizens, and is the means of enticing our young men from the path of rectitude ; therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Mayor be requested to issue a proclamation notifying said keepers to close their saloons on Sunday, and warning them that the utmost penalties of the law will be enforced against them.

The question being, shall the resolution pass ? those who voted in the affirmative, were Councilmen Cook, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Glazier, Haughey, and McNabb—7.

Those who voted in the negative, were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Coburn, Jameson, Lefever, Staub, and Thompson—8.

So the resolution did not pass.

By Mr. Haughey :

WHEREAS, as the Peru & Indianapolis Railroad Company commenced building a frame engine house before the passage of the present ordinance, defining the boundaries where wooden buildings shall not be erected ; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Peru & Indianapolis Railroad Company, be allowed to erect said frame building on the lot owned by them on Noble street, near Washington street.

The question being, shall the resolution pass ? those who voted in the affirmative, were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Boaz, Cook, Coburn, Emerson, S. A. Fletcher, Jr., H. A. Fletcher, Haughey, Jameson, Lefever, McNabb, Staub, and Thompson—14.

Noes, none.

So the resolution passed.

By Mr. Lefever—Motion :

That Prof. Thomas J. Bryant be permitted to stand his hand-carriage on the sidewalk, in front of Temperance Hall.

Which motion was referred to the Committee on Revision of Ordinances.

On motion, the Council adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, *Mayor*.

Attest :

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk*.