

Common Council Chamber
August 7 1854

The Council met at two O'clock P M. Present the President and all the Councilmen

The Treasurers monthly report was received and on motion was referred to the Mayor and City Clerk for examination

The following accounts were allowed

364 J M Kemper	For Lumber	\$ 19.50
365 R Weeks	" Labor	17.63
366 Henry Tibbe	" "	1.87
367 H Louis	" "	28.75
368 Michel Morris	" "	13.75
369 Michel O'Connell	" "	18.75
370 William Louney	" "	19.37
371 Maurice O'Connell	" "	5 62
372 John Keleher	" "	7.50
373 John Keleher	" "	3.75
374 John Shehey	" "	3.75
375 Edmund Coner	" "	3.75
376 Patrick Sullivan	" "	23.75
377 Jacob Sprow	" "	20.25
378 John Wright	" "	11.25
379 Michael Morris	" "	7.50 \$206.75

The following report was received

To the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis

The undersigned, Committee to whom was referred the selection of a School Lot east of the Court House, respectfully report that they have made diligent enquiry in regard to locality and price of Lots; and find insuperable difficulties in purchasing in consequence of the extraordinary value placed upon the Lots that are in Market, therefore they would recommend to the Council to suspend the further consideration of the resolution to some further period - and depend upon renting a house or by some other mode the Council may provide for the accommodation of the surplus scholars for the present year - and would ask to be discharged from the Committee

H Seibert
W H Karns
L Dunlap

On motion of Mr Nelson Said report was concurred in and the Committee discharged

The following report was received

To the Common Council of Indianapolis

Gentlemen the Committee to whom was referred the Profile for the grade of New York Street between West & Blake Streets ask leave to report that it is inexpedient to establish the grade as shown on the said profile at the present time

John L Avery)
W H Karns) Committee
C W Gowan)

Mr Pitts moved That said report be laid on the Table

Which motion prevailed

A petition was received signed by 175 citizens asking the Council to organize immediately; a sufficient Police force and Night watch for the City

On motion said resolution was laid on the table

Mr Graydon offered the following resolution

Resolved That the Marshall is hereby directed to organize immediately, under the direction of the Council a Special Police force or Night watch - Said watch to consist of 14 men, and to serve during such time as the Mayor may direct, or until an ordinance can be passed organizing a permanent watch

Adopted by the following vote

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs Boaz, Colley, Graydon, Gowan, Karns, Pitts & Truxsess 8

In the Negative Messrs Avery, Dunlap, Keeley & Nelson 4

Mr Karns moved That said petition be taken from the table and be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report an Ordinance defining the duties and organizing a police force

Which motion prevailed

Mr Pitts offered the following resolution

Resolved That the City Engineer is hereby authorized to make out plan and specification and an estimate for the erection of a bridge across the arm of the Central Canal on West Street, and report at the next meeting

Adopted by the following vote

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs Avery, Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Keeley, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, Seibert & Truxsess 13

In the Negative - Mr Graydon 1

Mr Dunlap offered the following resolution

Resolved That the Street Commissioner be directed to repair the bridge across Pogues Run on South Street with as little delay as possible

Adopted by the following vote

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs Avery, Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Graydon, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Keeley, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, Seibert & Truxsess. 14
In the Negative - None

Mr Seibert offered the following resolution

Resolved That five hundred dollars be appropriated for the purpose of building a Market House on South Street between Delaware and New Jersey Street and that the City Engineer draw a plan and make an estimate for the same

Adopted by the following Vote

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs Avery, Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Keeley, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, Seibert & Truxsess 13
In the Negative - None

Mr Nelson offered the following resolution

Resolved That the Council allow Charles Mayer the privilege of grading and gravelling his side walk on the South Side of North Street at his expense under the supervision of the City Engineer

Adopted by the following Vote.

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs Avery, Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Graydon, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, Seibert & Truxsess 13
In the Negative - None

Mr Boaz offered the following resolution

Resolved That the Street Commissioner be directed to fill the mud hole in South Street, west of the Madison Depot, by making a track through the centre sufficiently wide for wagons to cross

Adopted by the following Vote

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs Avery, Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Gowan, Jones, Keeley, Pitts, Seibert & Truxsess 10
In the Negative - Messrs Graydon, Karns, & Nelson 3

The following report was received

The undersigned respectfully report to the Council that the Cistern on South Street near the Madison & Indianapolis

Depot erected by William Wood, holds water good, and therefore recommend to the Council to order payment of the balance due to said Wood for building said Cistern
 Indianapolis August 7 1854

James Wood, Civil Engineer
 William Hughey, Street Commissioner.

Mr Maguire moved That a warrant be drawn on the Treasury for the amount due Mr Wood for building said Cistern

Which motion prevailed

The following communication received

City Council of Indianapolis

In consequence of a protracted illness, I have been, and shall likely be detained from my post for some time to come; and in view of the pressing necessity for prompt and active services, which I cannot at present perform - I therefore here tender my resignation, as one of the School Trustees

In taking leave of the Board, permit me to state, that no honor has ever been conferred that I more highly esteemed, and no service have I ever performed with more pleasure - and I feel truly gratified for the kind co-operation, and countenance of the Board. Premiums of \$17,50 were offered at the Feby examination of the primary department of the Several Schools, which I intended to have paid from my own funds, But as that amount was drawn from the Treasury - please let it be considered, if satisfactory to the board as a full compensation for my services as trustee

Very respy yrs

Proctorsvill Vt Aug 2nd 1854

Calvin Fletcher

Mr Maguire offered the following resolution

Resolved, That the resignation of Calvin Fletcher Esq. as a member of the Board of School Trustees, be accepted, and that the Members of the Common Council hereby tender to him their thanks for the ability, fidelity, and zeal with which he has discharged the duties of School Trustee during his continuance in office.

Resolved That a copy of this resolution be furnished to Mr Fletcher by the City Clerk

Adopted by the following vote

Those who voted in the Affirmative are Messrs Avery, Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Graydon, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Keeley, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, Seibert & Truxsess 14

In the Negative - None

The following report was received

To the Common Council of the City of Indianapolis
 The undersigned in answer to the inquiry of the City Assessor, "Am I authorized to take the assessments of

Persons coming into this City after the first day of January 1854" is of opinion that the City Assessor is authorized to assess a poll tax against every male inhabitant of the City, liable to such tax, residing in the City when the enlistment is made; and that every person residing in the City when the enlistment is made, is liable to the payment of taxes on all personal and real estate owned by him on the first day of January of the year in which the enlistment is made

Respectfully Submitted
N B Taylor
City Attorney

On motion of Mr. Pitts said report was concurred in

The following account was allowed
380 Weaver & Williams for Coffin, attendance
and digging grave for John Sturgeon \$14.00

Mr Colley offered the following resolution
Resolved That the Judiciary Committee be instructed to amend the Ordinance on the Subject of Salaries so as to allow Councilmen two dollars for each meeting of the Council they attend, to take effect from and after the 1st of May 1854

Adopted by the following Vote
Those who voted in the Affirmative are Messrs Avery,
Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Graydon, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Keeley,
& Maguire 10
In the Negative Messrs Nelson, Pitts & Truxsess 3

Mr Maguire moved That Caleb Scudder be recommended to the Board of Trustees as a suitable person to take the census of the children in this City

Which motion prevailed

Mr Karns moved That the Council proceed to the election of School Trustee

Which motion prevailed

William Sheets was elected School Trustee on the first ballot.

Mr Pitts moved That the Council proceed to the election of Sexton of the Public Grave Yard

Which motion prevailed

Henry Stumph was elected Sexton of the Public Grave Yard on the first ballot

On motion of Mr Graydon the ordinance in Relation to the

Salaries of City Officers, was taken from the table and the following ordinance entitled -

An Ordinance in relation to the Salaries of City Officers, and providing for the payment of the same

Sec 1 Be it ordained by the Common Council of Indianapolis; That there shall be allowed to the several officers of the City of Indianapolis hereinafter mentioned the following annual salaries, to be paid quarterly, on the first Monday of August, November, January, and May during their continuance in office, that is to say,

To the Mayor Six hundred dollars

To the Marshall five hundred dollars and four hundred dollars additional for his Deputy while he employs one

To the City Clerk Six hundred dollars

To the Civil Engineer five hundred dollars

To the Street Commissioner four hundred dollars

To the Clerk of each Market one hundred and fifty dollars

To the Sexton of the Public Grave Yard Seventy five dollars

Sec 2 No other fees or perquisites shall be paid to any of said officers out of the City Treasury, nor shall the City be liable to the Mayor or Marshall for any fees in Suits before the Mayor in which the City is a party, and the acceptance of the Salary hereby provided said Officers shall operate as a release to the City of any claim for fees in any such cases

Sec 3 If any Officer of this City shall vacate his Office before the expiration of the term for which he was elected his salary shall cease from the date of such vacancy, and his successor shall draw pay from the date of his induction into Office

Sec 4 This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the 1st day of May A D 1854, and all other ordinance relative to the salaries of the aforesaid officers shall stand repealed from the day last aforesaid was ordained by the following vote

Those who voted in the affirmative are Messrs Boaz, Colley, Graydon, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Keeley & Truxsess 8

In the Negative, - Messrs Avery, Dunlap, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts, & Seibert 6

Mr Nelson moved That Mr Shortridge be authorized to pay thirty dollars, for rent of this office for Six months

(381)

(392)

Which motion prevailed

Mr Keeley moved That the City Attorney be instructed to bring suit against the property holders on Market Street

between East & Noble Streets upon their refusal to pay the amount of the estimate for improving said Street, assessed against them

Which motion prevailed

The doors of the Council Chamber were closed and the Council went into the consideration of establishing a Night watch

Mr Colley moved That the vote on the resolution authorizing the Marshall under the direction of the Council to organize a police force be reconsidered

Which motion prevailed

Mr Graydon re offered said resolution with the following additions, "by inserting 7 in place of 14" and adding, "and to be paid at the rate of dollars per day each

On motion of Mr Dunlap Said Blank was filled with two, and the following resolution.

Resolved That the Marshall is hereby directed to organize immediately under the direction of the Council, a special police force or Night watch - said watch to consist of 7 men, and to serve during such time as the Mayor may direct, or until an ordinance can be passed organizing a permanent watch, and to be paid at the rate of two dollars per day each

Adopted by the following vote

Those who voted in the Affirmative are Messrs Avery, Boaz, Colley, Dunlap, Graydon, Gowan, Jones, Karns, Keeley, Maguire, Nelson, Pitts & Truxsess 13

In the Negative - Mr Seibert 1

Mr Colley moved That the Mayor have the power to appoint a sufficient number of watchmen not exceeding 7 men to serve until the Council meets again

Which motion prevailed

On motion of Mr Seibert the Council adjourned until tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock.

Attest Jas N Sweetser
City Clerk

James McCready Mayor