

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COMMON COUNCIL.

REGULAR SESSION.

CHAMBER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS,
MONDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 1866, 7 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, Coburn, Emerson, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur, Staub and Thompson—12.

Absent—Councilmen Colley, Fletcher, Kemker, McNabb, Schmidt and Seidensticker—6.

The proceedings of the regular session held December 3d, 1866, were read and approved.

Mr. Emerson, presented the following petition:

INDIANANOLIS, Nov. 30, 1866.

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

GENTLEMEN:—We, the undersigned, petition your honorable body to grant us the privilege to set wooden curbing in front of our property on West New York street, to prevent sidewalk from caving into gutter of street, recently cut down and graded.

Also, that the Street Commissioner be directed to fill up hole in sidewalk in front of lot on the north-east corner of New York and Blackford streets

to the original grade; said hole was caused by break in the Canal about one year ago, and which is a great nuisance to pedestrians generally.

C. E. GEISENDORFF,
I. THALMAN.

Which was granted.

Mr. Kappes, presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The undersigned respectfully petition for the grading and graveling of the alley running through out-lot 175, from east and west, between Delaware and Alabama streets.

Jacob Voegtle, Jacob J. Traub,
J. F. Mayer, H. Riechenmeier,
L. Muller,

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

Mr. Loomis presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The undersigned, desiring to erect a large building and Hall on lots Nos. 424 and 425, in Fletcher's and others sub-division of out lot 97, respectfully petitions that he be allowed to arch over the alley between said lots for the purpose of joining said building in the first story. Said arch is to be 14 feet high, and will cause no obstruction to public passage or travel. If allowed to do this, he will bowlder the alley under said arch.

WILHELM RICHTER.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys and City Attorney.

Mr. MacArthur offered the following motion :

That the Street Commissioner be instructed to raise the crossing of Indiana Avenue at the intersection of West street on the north side, and repair the foot bridges of same.

Which was referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

Mr. Staub presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

Your petitioners respectfully state to your honorable body that they are engaged in the Grocery and Feed Business in said city, having their place of business on the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and Noble street, and have been doing business there for about two years last past; that for about the period of two months last past, they have not been able to do any business of consequence owing to the fact that during that time the water has accumulated and remained in the ditches, and on the street and sidewalks in front and around their place of business to such an extent as to prevent almost entirely all access to their grocery and feed store; that the water accumulated and remained there because of the work on said Avenue, in grad

ing and filling up the same, and thereby damming up the water and preventing its running off as it used to do, and still might have done if proper precautions had been used, and drainage provided by the City Engineer and workmen engaged in said work; that by reason of the accumulation of said water, and its remaining in said ditches and upon said street and sidewalks as aforesaid, and the stoppage of their business as aforesaid, they have suffered damage in the sum of three hundred dollars up to this date; and they respectfully ask your honorable body to allow and pay to them the said sum of three hundred dollars, their damage sustained as aforesaid, and to direct the proper city officials to immediately, or as soon as it is possible, provide some sufficient means of draining off said water, so that these petitioners may be relieved from the continued damage and nuisance occasioned by the same remaining at the point and in the places aforesaid.

GEISEL & ENNERS.

Which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Dr. Thompson presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 5, 1866.

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

The undersigned respectfully represents that for the purposes of the city tax for 1866, the improvements on his lot on Meridian street, being 30 feet on north side of lot 10, out-lot 35, are valued at \$3,000; that upon the 1st day of January, 1866, the time for assessing said tax, the improvements on said lot had not cost, and were not worth, at highest cash value, over \$1,500. The improvements consisted of a house not then half finished, and which was not completed till April 25, 1866.

The undersigned apprehends that the said improvements were actually valued in May or June; when the assessor probably thought they were there in January previous, and that hence the same were overvalued by mistake.

Wherefore he respectfully petitions your honorable body to correct said assessment and to abate the proper sum from his tax, or otherwise reimburse him for the excess erroneously assessed. And as in duty bound, &c.

EBEN W. KIMBALL.

Which was referred to the City Auditor.

On motion by Dr. Thompson :

R H. Patterson was allowed fifteen days' time to complete his contract on Michigan street, provided consent of securities be filed with City Auditor.

SEALED PROPOSALS.

The sealed proposals were opened and read by the City Clerk and referred to the Board of Public Improvements.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

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

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Committee on Finance have had the communication of the Attorney in reference to city taxes on the Masonic Hall property under consideration, and would respectfully report that, in their opinion, a fair ad-

justment of the taxes against said property would be made by throwing off one-third of said claim of the city thereon. Your committee would therefore recommend that the City Auditor be directed to make a deduction of one-third of said taxes, and correct the duplicate accordingly.

Very respectfully,

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

Which was concurred in.

Also, the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

Your Committee would respectfully report back the report of the City Treasurer to the Common Council, with the information that there is no money in the Treasury wherewith to make the necessary tender of damages ; therefore the Committee on Finance deem it inexpedient to make said tender.

Respectfully,

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

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Brown, from the Committee on Streets and Alleys, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The Committee on Streets and Alleys, to whom was referred that portion of the report of the City Engineer submitted to the Council November 19th, 1866, relating to the grade and width of East street, report that the committee has no information as to how far the grading of the street the full width, according to a correct survey, may affect houses already constructed. Your committee would, however, recommend that the street be graded the regular width, according to the survey of the City Engineer, provided that in case any building is already constructed so as to leave a part thereof in the street, the same shall not be interfered with, but that all fences be set back when necessary to place the same outside of the street.

AUSTIN H. BROWN,
Chairman Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Which was concurred in.

Mr. Kappes, from Committee on Benevolence and Hospitals, presented the weekly report of the Superintendent of the City Hospital, of which the following is the recapitulation :

Number of patients in the Hospital at last report.....	13
Number of patients received in the Hospital since last report.....	4
Number of patients born in Hospital since last report.....	0
Number of patients discharged from Hospital since last report.....	3
Number of patients died in the Hospital since last report.....	1
Number of patients remaining in the Hospital at present.....	13

Which was received.

His Honor, the Mayor, from the Select Committee on Fire Alarm Telegraph, made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The committee, to whom was referred the consideration of the expediency of adopting the Fire Alarm and Police Telegraph, would respectfully report that, in our opinion, the protection of the city from fire is of the greatest importance, and that it is the part of wisdom to adopt the best and most efficient system known.

Hitherto we have escaped heavy losses, but the history of the great conflagrations some years ago in Pittsburgh and San Francisco, and more recently in Portland, Nashville and Quebec, admonish us not to be lulled through mere hopefulness into a false security, and that our city may at any time, in a few hours, be laid in ashes, its people homeless, and the labor and accumulated wealth of years destroyed.

It is a mistaken economy to hazard burning the city, or even valuable property, by omission to provide a system of protection, the best that can be devised or procured for money, for even if insured insurance costs money, and then does not make good the damage. Insurance does not restore losses by fire, as there is always a margin left uninsured, and at the risk of the owner, and also a suspension of business, and is, too, in fact, so much of value annihilated and lost to the general wealth. Insurance is not a protection from fires, or losses by fire, but merely a distribution of its consequences, while a system of protection operates as an actual preservation.

One cause of protection has been our wide streets and the moderate height of the greater portion of our buildings.

Our firemen have been prompt and reliable, and cannot be too much commended for their faithfulness and efficiency.

We employ two watchmen, one of whom is continually on duty in the Tower on Glenn's Block.

We have three Steam Fire Engines, one of which is in good order and reliable.

We have 3,300 feet of hose, of which 1,000 feet is new and good.

For water supply Pogue's Run and the Canal for portions of the year supplying abundance in their vicinity.

We have 44 cisterns each containing 500 barrels,	- - - - -	22,000
We have 4 cisterns each containing 1,000 barrels,	- - - - -	4,000
We have 1 cistern containing 1,800 barrels	- - - - -	1,800

Total,	- - - - -	27,800
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One source of danger is in the fact that a large number of our buildings are wood.

Of the deficiencies in our system the first is in the Alarm.

With the utmost vigilance on the part of our watchmen, we cannot always rely upon them for an early alarm. Their view is seriously obstructed by high buildings and fogs, and often they cannot distinguish between a fire and the smoke of manufactories and burning chimneys, and at night they cannot discover a fire until it has advanced far enough to burst out of the building and create an unusual light, by which time a building may be thoroughly on fire, have become difficult to master, and great damage done.

Persons near a fire have no means of conveying information of the fact to the watchmen or Engine Houses, except by going a long distance, in person, or by an alarm of cries, which, in the night, with but few or none abroad, may not be caught up, or be long in reaching its destination, and valuable time be lost. An early alarm is of great consequence, and the consequences of a few moments delay in the alarm may result in the difference between a trifling fire and the burning of a city. A small quantity of water timely ap-

plied would extinguish a fire which in a few moments later might be beyond human control.

Of our Steam Engines one is not reliable, and another will soon require a new boiler, leaving but one reliable.

Of 3,300 feet of hose 800 feet is old and bad, 1,500 feet more is not reliable, leaving but 1,000 feet to be depended upon.

We have 49 cisterns scattered over about 4 square miles of territory, not quite equal to one cistern to each 52 acres of territory. Their total capacity is 27,800 barrels. The greater portion of the city is laid out with regularity, and embracing 100 square to the square mile, or equal to 400 squares in the city; thus giving a water supply from cisterns of $69\frac{1}{2}$ barrels to the square, or $17\frac{1}{2}$ barrels to each acre of ground of building property, or $\frac{1}{2}$ square.

During the burning of Pike's Opera House, in Cincinnati, the amount of water thrown exceeded our entire cistern supply, while our supply of hose, and the location of the cisterns, would enable us to use the water in but a few of our cisterns at any one fire, probably not more than five at one point, and of that number in but a few localities; and averaging the cisterns at 570 barrels each, we could only in a few of the most favored localities out of reach of the Canal and Pogue's Run, both of which are frequently dry, depend upon about 2,850 barrels of water at one fire, or about one-tenth the quantity thrown upon one large building in Cincinnati, and then succeeding only in protecting adjoining property, the Opera House proving an almost total destruction.

The value for taxation, which of course is greatly an underestimate of the improvements on lots for the year 1866, is \$6,372,444, of personal property, \$8,348,804—total of \$14,721,249—showing a water supply from cisterns of $7\frac{1}{2}$ gallons to each \$100.00 of perishable property subject to taxation, and exclusive of valuable papers, records, &c., the loss of which is beyond estimate, and many, if destroyed, cannot be supplied. As the cisterns cannot be kept full, or pumped to the bottom, even the above estimate, for practical purposes, should be reduced one-fifth.

The Telegraph proposes to save the expense of maintaining the watchmen and watch tower. This expense last year was \$2,888.85, \$1,800 of which was the pay of two watchmen \$900 00 having been paid to each.

The Telegraph proposes to cost \$10,000, and the annual cost of maintaining say \$500—total saving of \$1,788.85, or sufficient to pay nearly 18 per cent. interest on the necessary loan; and if money could be borrowed at 10 per cent. interest would effect an annual saving of \$788.85; or if we could only dispense with one watchman, as hereafter explained, and save his salary of \$900 00, then the expense of the Alarm, less its saving, would fall short \$111.15.

An Alarm Bell can be sounded by Telegraph, but the Committee were informed by Mr. Elliott that this might be dispensed with, and hence the Committee failed to procure from him a proposition of the additional cost.

The Committee, however, upon reflection, are of the opinion that an alarm bell should be sounded, as our pipe men do not remain at the Engine Houses but are engaged in other employments during the day and scattered to their homes at night, depending upon being awakened and notified of the existence and location of a fire by an alarm. This also applies to the Chief Fire Engineer. No system could be devised to notify them at all times and under all circumstances by Telegraph, and it would be a greatly increased and unnecessary expense to employ pipe men for their entire time, and require them to remain at the Engine Houses. We now employ twelve and pay them \$100 00 each per year, or \$1,200.00 in total, while to employ their entire time would probably cost \$900 each, or \$10,800 per year. Citizens, too, when at their residences at night, should have some means of knowing whether a fire was near their places of business, or if at their place of business whether it was near their residences, thus enabling those probably endangered to act upon the information, and quieting the useless apprehensions of all others.

It is not probable that the cost of a Telegraph Alarm would be so great as maintaining our present watchmen, but if found to be so, the present Tower

and Bell might be removed and located near some one of the Engine Houses and the number of the Ward might be sounded by some one whose duties required him to remain at the Engine House, or at most an additional man would be sufficient, for as it would not require a look-out, but only to sound an alarm when first given by telegraph, one man could remain on duty all day and night, as do the present firemen, and could sleep as they do, and depend on being wakened by the Telegraph.

The Telegraph has already been adopted in many large cities, and its usefulness established, and if it was clear to us that by its adoption we could dispense with the look-out and watchman, would not hesitate to recommend its adoption. It is true that in large cities it does accomplish this, but we are not entirely convinced that because of causes and reasons peculiar to us it might not be different here.

The triggers to the alarm are placed in signal boxes placed at the most accessible and necessary places, usually at the corners of streets and near gas lamps. The box is locked and a sign at each tells where in the immediate vicinity the key may be found. Fire keys are furnished for each box. Each officer of the Fire Department and each Policeman has one, and the others are deposited with persons in the vicinity, usually at Drug Stores, Hotels, or some place of business most likely to be kept open throughout the night.

The main dependence for discovering a fire during the night and procuring a key, it will be seen, is upon the policeman, and in cities where they have a large number and with short beats, so that a policeman is passing any and every given point every few minutes, and one must always be so near as to be quickly found; should a key be wanted the Telegraph would seem to be almost everything that could be desired.

In much the largest portion of our city there are no places kept open all night where keys could be deposited, and the small number of our policemen (and the great length of their beats,) being only two to each Ward, is such that they might be on duty a mile from a fire breaking out, thus reducing it to an accident whether a key could usually be readily obtained, and if this failed there would be nothing to supply the defect. No one on the look-out, and hence its adoption in lieu of the look-out would not be an absolute dependence for an alarm, and might, therefore, as a security, all things considered, perhaps be not much if any superior to our present system of watchmen.

The Telegraph has connected with it an arrangement by which it can be certainly known whether the policemen were on duty during the night, and also by which they can communicate a call for assistance in an emergency to Police Head Quarters, or with each other.

We present herewith a proposition, submitted to us by J. T. Elliott, Agent of the American Fire Alarm and Police Telegraph Company. The proposition embraces no terms of credit, as the Agent was not authorized to propose any terms of extended credit on time of payment, but informed us that by communicating with his principal, John N. Gamemell, No. 104, Center street, New York, this, as he believed, could be arranged to our satisfaction. We also present herewith a pamphlet explaining the principles and advantages of the Telegraph.

As we have granted the right to a Company to build Water Works, it might not be inappropriate to consider somewhat the cost and saving of a supply of water for fire purposes without entering further upon the subject. Under our contract we are to pay not more than \$25.00 per annum per plug, when the number erected amounts to 350 or more.

With one plug upon each square, say 400 in total, (each one being superior to cistern, as being inexhaustible,) the cost would be \$10,000 per annum, Four hundred plugs, costing each \$50.00, or \$20,000 in total, and receiving interest at 10 per cent., or \$2,000, as the annual cost, making a total annual cost of \$12,000.

Some years ago the difference of rates of insurance in Boston and Charles-

town, adjacent cities, the first having Water Works and the latter none, was one-quarter of one per cent.

The Croton Water Board, shortly after the introduction of the Croton Water into New York, stated that the reduction in the rates of insurance was greater than this. We are informed by several well informed insurance agents transacting business in this city, that at least \$100,000 is paid annually in this city for insurance. A reduction of a $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1 per cent. on the rates at present charged would then save \$25,000 annually.

If this saving of \$25,000 annually in insurance resulted from the adoption of water supplied from Water Works at a cost of \$12,000, the actual saving to citizens and tax payers would be \$13,000 per annum, a sum sufficient to purchase the new engine the first year, and pay the cost of maintaining them with full companies for their management forever thereafter.

The Committee take this occasion to recommend the purchase of an additional Steam Fire Engine. We are aware that the Council has for some time been impressed with the importance of this purchase, but have been restrained from action for two reasons. First, financial, and second a difference of opinion what build of engine should be selected. In view of its prime importance the Committee believe that the present and immediate prospective state of our finances would justify the purchase. We have in use both a Latta and Seneca Falls Engine, and both have given entire satisfaction, and as a decision must be made we recommend that a test vote be taken which shall be purchased; and as both the above named are valuable and reliable the Council in electing to purchase either cannot greatly err. The purchase would not involve the erection, at least at present, of an additional Engine House, or maintaining an additional Fire Company, but the new engine could be placed in one of our present houses, ready for use in the event of an accident to an old one, or while out of service undergoing repairs.

The Committee have attempted to lay before you an explanation of the present condition of our Fire Department, its securities and deficiencies. Also, the benefits and advantages, the probable expense and saving direct and indirect, of Water Works and Fire Alarm Telegraph, hoping that this information may be found useful in enabling you to legislate for the improvement and efficiency of our Fire Department.

JOHN CAVEN,	} Committee.
CHARLES RICHMANN,	
WILLIAM ALLEN,	
HENRY COBURN,	
J. A. GROSVENOR,	

Dr. Jameson moved to lay the report on the table for the present and that the same be printed.

Mr. MacArthur moved to amend by adding "and it be made the special order of business for Monday, December 17th, 1866, 7 o'clock P. M.

Mr. Loomis offered the following as a substitute :

That the Committee on Fire Department be and are hereby instructed to purchase a new Steam Fire engine, and to use their discretion in regard to the selection of such engine.

Mr. Coburn moved to amend Mr. Loomis's motion by striking out all after the word "motion" and insert in lieu thereof the following :

That the Committee on Fire Department be instructed to purchase the Seneca Falls Engine, provided it can be purchased on the terms not to exceed those lately offered by Mr. Bickford the agent.

The question being on the adoption of Mr. Coburn's amendment, Mr. Brown called for the ayes and noes.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Councilmen Allen, Brown, Coburn, Glazier, Jameson and Loomis—6.

Those who voted in the negative were Councilmen Emerson, Grosvenor, Kappes, MacArthur, Staub and Thompson—6.

There being a tie vote, His Honor, the Mayor, voted in the negative; being, in the affirmative 6, and in the negative, 7.

So the amendment offered by Mr. Coburn was not adopted.

On motion by Mr. Brown, the report was laid over for one week, and ordered to be printed in the minutes.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS.

The Civil Engineer made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

I would respectfully report the following :

James Mahoney has nearly completed his work of grading and graveling Massachusetts Avenue, between Chatham street and Corporation line. They cannot do any more to the street till the water is drained off, which may take months. They wish the amount of work reported which I cannot do before the work is entirely finished, please direct me in this matter, the contractor will give good security to finish up the work in a proper manner whenever the water is drained from the street.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSHUA STAPLES, JR., *Civil Engineer.*

In relation to which Mr. Coburn offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Civil Engineer be instructed to make a report for a partial estimate in favor of the contractor for the improvement of Massachusetts Avenue not to exceed 90 00 of the entire contract.

Which was adopted.

The Civil Engineer made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The Civil Engineer would respectfully report the following :

I find that the property owners on the east side of East street, between Bicking street and the Corporation line, have encroached upon the street from two to three feet, but the west side remains very near right.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSHUA STAPLES, JR., *Civil Engineer.*

Which was received and laid upon the table, the matter having been disposed of in a report from the Committee on Streets and Alleys.

The City Civil Engineer made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The Civil Engineer would respectfully report the following :

I find that Thomas Wren has completed his work on Tennessee street, between garden and McCarty streets, with the exception of about 320 feet, the space occupied by Pogues Run, and leveling and spreading the gravel in several places on sidewalks. Also the filling in the gravel in the space occupied by the Rolling Mill Co's. Track.

The actual measurement of work yet to be done cannot be ascertained till something definite is decided on in regard to the crossing of Pogues Run.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSHUA STAPLES, JR., Civil Engineer.

In relation to which Mr. Brown offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Engineer be instructed to make a report for a partial estimate in favor of Thomas Wren for grading and graveling Tennessee street, between Garden and McCarty streets, not exceeding three-fourths of the whole amount of the contract.

Which was adopted.

The City Civil Engineer made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The Civil Engineer would respectfully report the following amount of work finished according to contract :

James and John Huffer for grading and graveling Blackford street and sidewalks, between New York street and the south side of Market street.

East side----- 870 feet.
West side----- 960 "

Total number of feet-----1,830
At 96 cents per lineal foot each side----- 96

Total-----\$1,756 80

Respectfully submitted,

JOSHUA STAPLES, JR., Civil Engineer.

Which was approved and the City Auditor directed to prepare and report estimate.

The City Clerk made the following report :

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK, }
Indianapolis, Dec. 10, 1866. }

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

The City Clerk would respectfully report that affidavits have been filed for the collection of street assessment by precept as follows, to-wit :

Herman Timmermann v. Hammond S. Dunbar for - - - - \$44.76
Joseph Bernaur v. William Charters for - - - - 20.37

And respectfully request, in behalf of the contractors, that you order precepts to issue as by last directed.

Respectfully,

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, City Clerk.

Which was concurred in and the City Clerk directed to issue the precepts.

The City Auditor made the following report :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The City Auditor respectfully reports to Council :

1st. The contract and bond of Hiram Seibert and George W. Buchanan for placing five hundred yards of gravel on Virginia Avenue.

2d. Also, the contract and bond of Hiram Seibert and George Buchanan for placing three hundred yards of gravel on New Jersey street.

3d. Also, the contract and bond of Hiram Seibert and George W. Buchanan for placing two hundred and fifty yards of gravel on Bluff Road.

4th. Also, the contract and bond of Thomas R. Shea for grading the first alley east of Delaware street, between Pratt and St. Joseph streets, through out lot one hundred and seventy three.

5th. Also, the contract and bond of Samuel Hanway and William Cowan for placing three hundred yards of gravel on Illinois street.

6th. Also, the contract and bond of Deloss Root for erecting lamp posts and lamps on Market street, between Illinois and Tennessee streets.

7th. Also, the contract and bond of D. Root for erecting lamp posts, lamps and fixtures on Market street, between Alabama and New Jersey street.

Respectfully,

JOHN G. WATERS, *City Auditor.*

Which was accepted and approved.

On motion by Mr. Brown the Board of Public Improvements were directed to superintend the placing of the gravel on Virginia Avenue, New Jersey street, Bluff Road, and Illinois street, as to number of loads and quantity of gravel.

The City Attorney submitted the following opinion :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 1, 1866.

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

GENTLEMEN:—I have examined the petition of Messrs W. Cook and others, and also the endorsement of the Committee on Streets and Alleys. I concur in the report of the committee, the most effectual remedy is an injunction and this can be obtained by the petitioners.

If you deem the matter of public importance, and one to which I should give attention, I respectfully suggest that you instruct me to act as attorney for any aggrieved person who may desire to abate the nuisance by injunction. If so directed I shall consider it part of my official duty to prosecute the suit for them.

Respectfully,

B. K. ELLIOTT, *City Attorney.*

Which was approved and the City Attorney directed to prosecute the suit for the complainants in the nuisance case complained of.

ORDINANCES ON THIRD READING.

Mr. Kappes called up special ordinance No. 144, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money for the payment of sundry claims on account of the City Hospital for the month of November, 1866,

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 Allen, Brown, Coburn, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur and Staub—10.

No Councilman voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

Mr. Loomis called up special ordinance No. 143, entitled :

AN ORDINANCE appropriating \$500.00 for the improvement and maintainance of "University Square," and appointing a superintendent to take charge of said square, to whom shall be paid the within appropriation upon proper vouchers.

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 Allen, Brown, Coburn, Glazier, Grosvenor, Jameson, Kappes, Loomis, MacArthur and Staub—10.

No. Councilmen voting in the negative.

So the ordinance passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

On motion by Mr. Glazier,

The contractors on South East street, Messrs. Cogill, Smock & Cogill were allowed thirty days more time to finish their contract, by consent of surety being filed with City Auditor.

On motion by Mr. Staub,

The Street Commissioner was directed to dig a ditch to the Bellefontaine gravel pit, for the purpose of draining temporarily the water at the corner of Noble street and Massachusetts Avenue, until the ditch to Pogue's Run is completed.

Mr. Brown presented the following petition :

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 10, 1866.

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

The undersigned petition your honorable body for a permission to hold an auction sale for the next three months on South Illinois street.

Yours truly,

E. HAAS.

Which was granted.

Mr. Brown presented the following communication :

JEFFERSONVILLE, Dec. 6, 1866.

To J. W. Brown, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—Your letter of 30th is at hand. I handed it to Mrs. Munsell, and she informs me that she cannot find the map made by B. F. Morris among the papers of Dr. Munsell, nor does she remember to have ever seen it. The Doctor left a map which he made himself, she says, when he was City Engineer, and prior to his map to which you allude. It is in his hand writing, and marked "Profile of the Grade of the Streets of Indianapolis, adopted by the Common Council April 8th, 1842." The streets are all shown on this, and lengths, widths, the grades, &c., are all given in detail, and were obtained by actual measurement and survey. If this would be of any value to you you can obtain it from Mrs. Munsell, I presume, without trouble.

Respectfully, yours,

R. WELLS.

Which was referred to the Committee on Streets and Alleys :

Mr. Brown presented an account of H. Timmermann for \$95,10 for hauling 317 loads of dirt to fill gravel pit near old Bellefontaine Car Shops; done by order of Committee on Streets and Alleys.

Which was referred to the Committee on Accounts and Claims.

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

OFFICE BOARD OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, }
Indianapolis, Dec. 6, 1866. }

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Board of Public Improvements, would respectfully report to your honorable body that the Civil Engineer reports that culverts are needed at the following points where street improvements are being made: Culvert at St. Clair st. and Massachusetts Avenue, Chestnut and Railroad streets. Also, one at North, Michigan, Vermont, New York and Davidson streets, over the ditch now being dug down Railroad street. Also, a culvert at New York and California streets, and recommend the same be done.

HENRY COBURN, }
J. A. GROSVENOR, } Board.
JNO. B. MACARTHUR, }

Which was concurred in, and the Street Commissioner directed to do the work.

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

OFFICE BOARD OF PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS, }
Indianapolis, Dec. 6, 1866. }

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

GENTLEMEN:—The Board of Public Improvements, to whom the matter was referred, would respectfully report to your honorable body that we find the following the lowest bidders, and recommend that the contract be awarded them.

Feary & Dillon to pave the east sidewalk of Tennessee street between Washington and Market street for \$1.15 per lineal foot front.

HENRY COBURN,
J. A. GROSVENOR, } Board.
JOHN B. MacARTHUR, }

Which was concurred in and the contracts awarded.

On motion by Mr. Kappes, the Council adjourned.

JOHN CAVEN, *Mayor.*

ATTEST:

C. S. BUTTERFIELD, *City Clerk.*