

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council
Christina Evans, December 16th 1895.

Hon. Lewis Hancock, Mayor, presiding.

Roll Call

Roll called.

Present: Aldermen Bealy, Fisher, Glascock, Stone, Scott, James, Horton, Sawass, Linn, Kischke, Platt, Powell, Cadd, Bordenau, Rosenzweig, Schneider, Shelby, Skunk, Taylor, Ebin, Townsend and Ziser. 22.

Absent: Stone.

Ald. Taylor moved to dispense with reading minutes that they be adopted as printed. Carried.
Mayor's Message ordered printed in full in Daily Statesman and Evening News

Alderman Taylor moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and that they be approved as printed, which motion prevailed.

The Mayor then delivered his message, which was, on motion of Alderman Taylor, ordered printed in full in The Statesman of December 17.

Alderman Fisher moved to amend that the message be printed in the Evening News, which motion was adopted.

The resolution as amended was then adopted.

The Message is as follows:

Mayor's Message

To the Honorable City Council:
As required by the Charter, I herewith submit to you such information and suggestions as would seem to demand your early attention.

I congratulate you that the City is free from floating indebtedness and that the substantial completeness of the City's great Water and Light Plant relieves you of the harassing duties of providing for and supervising its construction, thus permitting you to devote your whole time and attention to the orderly conduct of the City's affairs.

The condition of the general revenue need give no uneasiness, though its administration will require rigid economy.

An estimate by the City Assessor and Collector of the amount of this fund for the current fiscal year is as follows:

Ald Valorem Taxes, 1895	\$ 34,000.00
Ald Valorem Taxes, previous years	6,000.00
License Tax	10,000.00
Records Court	2,400.00
Bound fees and dues	600.00
Eravie County support, St. Hospital	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00
Dog Tax	400.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 60,400.00

Bal. in Treasurer's hands Dec. 1, 1895. \$ 14,168.10

Total \$ 74,568.10

This is some \$ 13,000.00 less than the estimate of my predecessor, but as it is the estimate of the Assessor and Collector it can not be considered discrepant.

The estimate submitted to you for the current year is based on the same basis as the estimate of my predecessor, and it is the estimate of the Assessor and Collector. It can not be considered discrepant. The estimate of the Assessor and Collector is based on the same basis as the estimate of my predecessor, and it is the estimate of the Assessor and Collector. It can not be considered discrepant.

time it is impossible to foresee what extraordinary demands may be made upon this fund.

The expectation that the general fund will be increased by the earnings of the Water and Light plant is a just one but too much reliance must not be placed upon it at this time, as the plant is not yet in full working order, the increase of consumers being therefore necessarily slow, and the required extensions may be a necessary demand upon the earnings fund.

Another possible demand upon this fund is that arising out of the litigation between the City and the old Water Company.

This litigation comprises several suits and it is quite complicated and can not be properly laid before you at this time. I will make it the subject of a future message to you as early as practicable.

On the whole the condition of the earnings fund of the Water and Light plant can not be regarded as a sufficient warranty for the present departure from your late policy of economy, and I trust you will bear this in mind in your consideration of the important matter of fixing salaries, which is likely to come before you at your present session.

The most important subject for your care is, and must continue to be, the City's great Water, Light and Power plant. It is now so near completion that the period of construction may be said to have passed and that of management to have begun. You are therefore to be congratulated that you are not likely to be called upon to face any extraordinary municipal problems.

The policy adopted by you of reaching practically all parts of the City with pipes of ample size is now being carried out.

There has been some unavoidable delay on the part of the contractor in delivering pipe for this purpose, but he has made arrangements satisfactory to the Water and Light Commission for the prompt delivery of pipe in the future and from now on the work of laying it will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

The only unsettled questions in connection with the construction of the plant are those as to the location, size, cost and sanitary protection of the reservoir. While I have decided opinions upon this subject and am convinced that the health and convenience of the City require the ultimate construction of a reservoir, I feel it my duty to postpone my specific suggestions to you on this subject until I have had an opportunity to acquaint myself with the extensive data collected by the Board of Public Works, and the Water and Light Commission.

The present practical importance of the question is largely decreased by the utilization of the spring flowing through the powerhouse, whereby consumers will be supplied during the winter with perfectly clean and pure water. So far, therefore, as concerns the business of supplying water, light and power, to our citizens, the plant may be said to have passed through the period of construction.

It would be a mistake to suppose that the City's water supply will be any less secure or its duties less exacting, or that the construction of the plant is a completed work and that the City is now in a position to meet the demands of its citizens with respect to water supply. It is a mistake to suppose that the City is now in a position to meet the demands of its citizens with respect to water supply.

the passing we seek, will require unremitting labor and energy, firmness, self-denial, watchfulness and economy. The magnitude and peculiar nature of the interests involved require, in my opinion, that they should ultimately be placed in the hands of a commission organized for that special work. But pending legislative amendment of our charter, these responsibilities devolve upon you as the representatives of the people.

I am most happy to say that I am convinced that each and all of you appreciate the important duties thus imposed upon you and will bring to their performance your best efforts.

The situation in brief is as follows:

The City has increased its indebtedness to the extent of one million and six hundred thousand dollars, thereby necessitating a great increase in taxation which imposes an enormous burden upon our property, our labor and our industries. The proceeds of this indebtedness have been invested in a great manufacturing plant, the conduct of which is solely in your hands.

In the revenue derived from this plant we can alone look for the money with which to pay this indebtedness and its annual cost, and thus lift the burden from our shoulders. On the one hand a great indebtedness imposing a heavy burden upon the energy of every citizen; on the other a great manufacturing plant intended to carry this burden and capable of doing so if properly managed.

In so far as it becomes self-sustaining, or better still, profit producing, just so far will it add to the population of our City, the employment and remuneration of labor, the value of property, the profits of business, and the energies of every citizen, rich or poor. In so far as it fails to be self-sustaining, it will remain a burden upon all the property, and all the labor, and all the energies of all our people.

The proper management of the plant therefore, becomes of the first importance. And as it is, in its nature, an ordinary manufacturing enterprise, though a large one, for the production and sale of certain commodities, therefore its conduct requires the application of the same business principles that are applied to the conduct of any other manufacturing enterprise. You do not require from me a discussion of what these business principles are, but I may say that for our purpose they would be largely carried out by the following general rules:

First, The exercise of the most watchful economy in all expenditures, and, second, the employment of the very best men to be had in the United States in all grades of your salaried employees.

The manufacture and sale of any commodity, requires the services of experts, and this is particularly so in our case, where one of our commodities, power, is but little known or used in this part of the world, and another, electricity, is but just coming into general use. It is a vast amount of costly and delicate machinery which must deteriorate without expert supervision and care, and we can and must produce a vast output of commodities which will go to waste without expert and energetic handling.

We cannot compel or dissuade our citizens to have our water and light and heat, nor power. We can only induce them to do so, showing them that it is in their interest, and to do this we must have expert supervision and management. I am convinced that the best way to do this is to have a commission of experts to manage the plant.

material, and save us much time and money by planning for us a scientific system of road making. But in the meantime the plan suggested above, of rigidly separating repairs from improvements, and strictly enforcing the distinction in each improvement undertaken, will, I am convinced, result in a great saving of money and a great increased efficiency in street work.

As soon as the condition of the general revenue will permit it, a great saving of labor can be effected and much done for the comfort of our citizens and the strangers who may visit us, by sprinkling the most traveled streets.

In the meantime, I recommend to the consideration of the Council the following plan: Wherever practical along the most dusty streets, let the City furnish water to residents free at the curb line, same to be used by such residents for the purpose of sprinkling the streets in front of them, and for no other purpose. This would enable and encourage our citizens, at the cost of only a small amount of labor, to keep down the dust on many streets where it is impossible to run watering carts.

It is done in other cities, and would, I believe, prove practical and beneficial in Austin.

As the best means of keeping the citizens in touch with their Water Sight and Power Plant, I recommend that the Water and Sight Commission be required to report monthly to the Council, the receipts and expenditures under proper headings, the increase in the number of boxes and such other facts as shall be of value in keeping the public informed as to the operation of the plant, and that such report shall form part of the published proceedings of the Council.

The balance in the sinking fund account should be as early as possible invested according to law.

I shall from time to time in the future, as occasion shall suggest address you upon the above subjects and upon others that may seem to demand your consideration.

In conclusion I have to say that my only desire is to cooperate with you in all measures for the good of the City. For all measures suggested by me I ask your deliberate and impartial consideration, promising to treat in the same way all those originating with you. In naming the Standing Committees of the Council, which will be submitted to you this evening, I have endeavored to be impartial, to make as few changes as possible and those only which seemed to me to facilitate the work of the Council.

My thorough acquaintance on the part of the Mayor with details of the affairs of the City will facilitate the dispatch of public business and redound to the public good. I therefore would be gratified to attend the different meetings of the committees, whenever practicable, and I solicit invitations to do so.

Lewis Hancock, Mayor.

Regular order of business suspended.

Alderman Sinn moved that the regular order of business be disbanded and that the Council now proceed to the consideration of new business, which motion prevailed.

Announcement of Standing Committees for the evening.

The Mayor announced the following as joint meetings of standing committees.

Streets, Aldermen: Linn, Townsend and Johnson.
Finance, Aldermen: Townsend, Johnson, and Cook.

Parks Aldermen, Glascock, Haynes and Stumpff.
 Fire Department Aldermen, Robertson, Bealy and Powell.
 Police Aldermen Powell, Kelley and Haynes.
 Ordinances Aldermen Linn, Taylor and Kelley.
 Claims and Accounts Aldermen Platt, Horton and Zilker.
 Public Printing Aldermen Haynes, Rosengren and Robertson.
 Markets Aldermen Reed, Stumpff and Horton.
 Cemetery Aldermen Horton, Stumpff and Rosengren.
 Sanitation and Sewerage Aldermen Glass, Powell and Bealy.
 Hospital Aldermen, Miller, Robertson and Glass.
 Charity Aldermen Smith, Mikschke and Glascock.
 Purchases Aldermen Linn, Platt and Reed.

Report of Special Committee
 on Fixing Salaries

Alderman Linn, for the special committee to fix salaries, presented the following report:

The Hon. Lewis Hancock, Mayor of the City of Austin:
 Sir: Your special committee, appointed to report an ordinance fixing salaries of the officers and employees of the City of Austin, beg leave to submit herewith an ordinance covering the subject, and we recommend that the same do pass.

We beg to state that we have provided in the ordinance herewith presented only three changes:

- First. We recommend an increase of the City Detective's salary to \$1080.
 - Second. An increase in the Assistant Clerk's salary to \$900.
 - Third. That the Street Commissioner receive an annual salary of \$1080.
- Your Committee makes the latter recommendation for the reason that it will not increase expenses, in that it will do away with the necessity of a foreman of the street force, who draws a salary of \$60 per month, and this amount, considered in connection with the salary heretofore paid the Street Commissioner, say \$30 per month, amounts in the aggregate to the sum heretofore expended for this service.

The salary of your City Detective has heretofore been \$67. We regard the increase to \$1080 as just and proper, because the Detective pays his own office rent and for his telephone.

In the case of the Assistant City Clerk, we think the character and importance of his many duties call for a salary of at least \$75 per month.

Respectfully submitted,
 Henry A. Linn,
 J. B. Smith,
 C. W. Horton.

Ord. fixing salaries of
 Officers & employees of the
 City of Austin, Texas, Nov. 30, 1895

By Alderman Linn. An Ordinance fixing salaries of Officers and employees of the City of Austin, Texas, for the term of two years, commencing the third Monday in December, 1895.

The ordinance was read the first time and on motion of Alderman Linn, the same was suspended and the ordinance is read the second reading to the following effect:

Sec. 1. That the salaries of the following officers and employees of the City of Austin, Texas, be and they are hereby fixed as follows: City Detective, \$1080 per annum; Assistant City Clerk, \$900 per annum; Street Commissioner, \$1080 per annum; Foreman of the street force, \$60 per month; City Clerk, \$75 per month; City Treasurer, \$60 per annum; City Engineer, \$60 per annum; City Assessor, \$60 per annum; City Auditor, \$60 per annum; City Collector, \$60 per annum; City Marshal, \$60 per annum; City Jailor, \$60 per annum; City Watchman, \$60 per annum; City Messenger, \$60 per annum; City Janitor, \$60 per annum; City Porter, \$60 per annum; City Watchman, \$60 per annum; City Messenger, \$60 per annum; City Janitor, \$60 per annum; City Porter, \$60 per annum.

Mayor Stone.

The ordinance was then read a second time.

Amendment by Ald. Sawless
to make salary of Street Com. \$600.
per annum. Lost.

Alderman Sawless moved to amend the ordinance by striking the salary of Street
Commissioner \$600 per annum instead of \$1080. The amendment was lost by the fol-
lowing vote:

Yeas Aldermen Sawless, Schneider, Stumpf, Taylor, Townsend and Zicker. 6
Nays Aldermen Beatty, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Simm, Sticks-
chew, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdeau, Rosengren, Shelley and Sobin. 16.

Ald. Taylor moved to amend
by inserting \$600 per annum

Alderman Taylor moved to amend by striking out \$1080 and inserting \$600 as
salary of Street Commissioner.

Ald. Beatty amended to \$900 per

Alderman Beatty moved to make the salary of Street Commissioner \$900.

The motion of Alderman Beatty was lost by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Fischer, Gorth, Powell, Schneider and Sobin. 6
Nays Aldermen Glascock, Glass, Haynes, Horton, Sawless, Simm, Stickschew,
Platt, Redd, Roberdeau, Rosengren, Stumpf, Taylor, Sobin, Townsend and Zicker. 16.

Ald. Stickschew moved to further
suspend the rules & place the
Ord. on its 3rd reading.

Alderman Stickschew moved to further suspend the rules and place the ordinance
on its third reading.

The vote on the amendment offered by Alderman Taylor to make the salary
of Street Commissioner \$600 instead of \$1080 was then taken and the amendment
lost by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Fischer, Schneider, Taylor and Townsend. 4.
Nays Aldermen Beatty, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Sawless, Simm,
Stickschew, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdeau, Rosengren, Shelley, Stumpf, Sobin & Zicker. 18.

Ald. Stickschew's motion to suspend
the rules adopted.

The motion of Alderman Stickschew to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on
its third reading was then adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Simm, Stickschew,
Platt, Powell, Redd, Rosengren, Shelley, Stumpf, Sobin and Zicker. 17.
Nays Aldermen Sawless, Roberdeau, Schneider, Taylor and Townsend. 5.

Final passage of Ord.

The ordinance was read a third time and passed by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Simm, Sticks-
chew, Platt, Powell, Redd, Rosengren, Shelley, Stumpf, Sobin and Zicker. 16.
Nays Aldermen Beatty, Sawless, Roberdeau, Schneider, Taylor and Town-
send. 6.

Proposition of Drs. Denton, Bennett,
McLaughlin & Hudson to lease the
City & County Hospital, referred
to a Special Com. of 4 Aldermen
and the Mayor.

By Alderman Shelley. A proposition from Drs. Denton, Bennett Mc
Laughlin and Hudson to lease the City and County Hospital.

On motion of Alderman Sawless the proposition was referred to a
special committee of four Aldermen and the Mayor.

The Mayor appointed Aldermen Sawless, Roberdeau, Townsend and
Taylor the special committee provided for in the motion of Alderman
Sawless.

Ord. for \$2640. to pay salaries
of Aldermen

By Alderman Simm. An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$2640.
to pay salaries of Aldermen for the year ending November 30, 1896.

The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote:
Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton,
Sawless, Simm, Stickschew, Platt, Powell, Redd, Roberdeau, Rosengren,
Stumpf, Shelley, Stickschew, Taylor, Sobin, Townsend and Zicker. 27.

Ord. for \$535.00 to pay salaries

By Alderman Simm. An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$535.00

Officers & Employees for Dec. 1895. To pay salaries of Officers and employees of the City for the month of December, 1895. The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote: Yeas Aldermen Bealy, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Lawless, Linn, Nitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Robertson, Rosengren, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend and Zilker. 22. Nays None.

Ord. No. 1575 To pay interest on Bonds issued prior to May 1, 1890. By Alderman Linn, An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$1575. to pay interest due January 1, 1896, on Bonds issued prior to May 1, 1890. The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote: Yeas Aldermen Bealy, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Lawless, Linn, Nitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Robertson, Rosengren, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend and Zilker. 22. Nays None.

Ord. No. 16687.50 To pay interest on Bonds due Jan. 1, 1896. By Alderman Linn. An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$16,687.50 to pay interest due January 1, 1896, on the \$1,335,000. Water Works and Electric Light Bonds of the City of Austin. The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote: Yeas Aldermen Bealy, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Lawless, Linn, Nitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Robertson, Rosengren, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend and Zilker. 22. Nays None.

Ord. No. 6000.00 To pay interest on Bonds due Jan. 1, 1896. By Alderman Linn. An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$6000. to pay interest due January 1, 1896, on the \$700,000. Water Works and Electric Light Bonds of the City of Austin. The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote: Yeas Aldermen Bealy, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, Gorth, Haynes, Horton, Lawless, Linn, Nitschke, Platt, Powell, Redd, Robertson, Rosengren, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend and Zilker. 22. Nays None.

Ald. Taylor moved to transfer temporarily from Earnings fund \$6000.00 to pay interest due on \$700,000.00 Bonds. Alderman Taylor moved that the sum of \$6000. be transferred temporarily from the Earnings fund, to the interest fund of the \$700,000. Water and Light Bonds, which motion prevailed.

Pres. instructing Com. on Printing to advertise for bids for job & Newspaper printing for 7 years. Alderman Haynes offered the following resolution, which was read and adopted. Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, That the Committee on Printing be authorized to advertise for bids for job printing for the City and for printing the minutes of the Council for the two years ending November 20, 1897.

Pres. by Ald. Glass that the Sanitary Officer be authorized to employ extra laborers. Alderman Glass offered the following resolution which was read and adopted. Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, That the Sanitary Officer be, and is hereby, authorized to employ two extra men to assist him until the City is put in a good sanitary condition.

Pres. by Ald. Glass that the Sanitary Officer have charge of all employees in San. Department. Alderman Glass offered the following resolution which was read and adopted. Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, That all employees in the sanitary department shall be under the immediate control of the Sanitary Officer, his heirs and assigns, and no other person shall have control over them.

Pres. by Ald. Glass that the City Council be authorized to appoint and confirm the City Engineer. The City Council confirmed the appointment of Mr. [Name] as City Engineer.

Amendment by Ald. Glascock to Ald. Taylor's Motion that the names receiving the highest no. of votes be declared elected. Motion lost.

select name of Ald.

Alderman Glascock moved as an amendment to the resolution of Alderman Taylor, that the 14 names receiving the highest number of votes on the first ballot be declared elected, which motion was lost by the following vote: Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Glascock, Glass, Haynes, Sawless, Simm, Platt, Bedd and Rosenberg. 9

Ald. Taylor's motion tabled

Yeas Aldermen Fischer, North, Horton, Kischke, Powell, Bobardran, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend and Zilker. 13.

The motion of Alderman Taylor was on motion of Alderman Simm, tabled by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Glascock, Glass, North, Haynes, Horton, Sawless, Simm, Platt, Bedd, Rosenberg, Shelley, Stumpf, Tobin and Townsend. 15.

Yeas Aldermen Fischer, Kischke, Powell, Bobardran, Schneider, Taylor and Zilker. 7.

Alderman Taylor moved to adjourn, which motion was lost by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Taylor and Zilker. 2.
Yeas Aldermen Beatty, Fischer, Glascock, Glass, North, Haynes, Horton, Sawless, Simm, Kischke, Platt, Powell, Bedd, Bobardran, Rosenberg, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Tobin and Townsend. 20.

Ald. Glascock moved that Council now proceed to elect our more Police men

Alderman Glascock moved that the Council now proceed to elect one more Policeman and that the person receiving the highest number of votes cast be declared elected provided he has received a majority of all the votes cast.

The tellers declared the result of the second ballot to be as follows: Bell 13, McKenna 1, Cooper 8.

The tellers declared the result of the third ballot to be as follows: Bell 13, McKenna 1, Cooper 8.

Mayor declared Bell elected

The Mayor declared B. Bell, duly elected.

Alderman Townsend, for the Finance Committee, submitted the following report: Austin, Texas, December 16, 1895.

Finance Com's report on Bonds of Officers submitted to them.

Hon. Lewis Hancock, Mayor, and Board of Aldermen: Gentlemen, Your Finance Committee, to whom was referred the Official Bonds of the several City Officers, have examined the same and find them in proper form and with sufficient securities.

A. W. Townsend.
W. D. Shelley.
J. L. North.

Ald. Taylor moved the Com's report lie over until next meeting adopted.

Alderman Taylor moved that the report of the committee lie over until the next meeting of the Council which motion prevailed.

Aldermen Platt, Sawless and Simm, were excused from further attendance at this meeting of the Council.

Communication from Chief of P. & M. referred to Crime & Det. Com.

The Mayor laid before the Council a communication from the Attorney at Law, J. G. White, in regard to his opinion upon the City. Alderman Taylor moved that the communication be referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts, which motion prevailed.

Communication from Alderman Taylor referred to the Com.

A communication from Alderman Taylor, in regard to the investigation of the City, was referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts, which motion prevailed.

On motion of Alderman Beatty the Council adjourned.

J. G. White
City Clerk