

Called meeting of the City Council

Austin Tex December 8<sup>th</sup>, 1883.)

Honorable A. R. Walker Judge of the 16<sup>th</sup> judicial district of Texas administered the oath of office to W. H. Taylor.

Soon after Taylor as Mayor then administered the oath of office to the newly elected Board of Aldermen, and then notified them that they were called together for the purpose of electing officers of the City of Austin.

Those in present aldermen Schneider, Sutor, Pillow, Hancock, Wiles, Campbell, Schubert, Underhill, Maas, Robertson, J. W., Driskill, Crooker, Clegg, Carrington, Robertson, ~~Hill~~<sup>J. G.</sup>, Hill, Plath, Erwin, Brush and Brennan.

The following message was received from His Honor the Mayor alderman Plath moved that the message be printed and that each member of the Council be furnished with a copy motion adopted.

Mayors office

Austin Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 1883

To the Honorable City Council of the City of Austin

Gentlemen. I congratulate you upon your election to the legislative body representing the Capitol City of Texas and of Austin. Upon selecting a body representative men such as I believe you to be, in discharging upon the <sup>official</sup> discharge of your duties I feel that each of you with myself are impressed with the importance of the task before us. The many questions that must arise affecting the City's interest will demand a carefulness and mature judgment that our people justly expect and hope from us.

The healthy condition of our City finances place us in a more favorable condition

than our predecessors I trust we may be able to take advantage of this opportunity to use every available dollar for the improvement of our streets and bridges and other necessary improvement.

The sanitary condition of our City requires and I feel assured will receive at your hands full consideration In this connection I desire to commend to your earnest attention the subject of sewerage I believe it actually necessary that we should keep pace with our sister cities upon this subject and I respectfully request that you authorize the appointment of an additional committee to be known as the sewerage committee with instructions to fully investigate the subject and report the result to the Council I also recommend a committee on water and gas to whom all matter pertaining to these subjects can be referred and fully investigated as their importance demand.

The question of additional cemetery accommodations is one of much importance and will require your early attention The encroachment of the present cemetery upon the eastern portion of the City has become a matter of much and just complaint from citizens in that locality and like other cities similarly situated, the City will soon be called upon to remove at least a portion of its dead or have them surrounded by dwellings and other improvements which are now gradually growing in that direction.

The new City and County Hospital now under contract to be completed before the end of next year suitable regulations for its government and insuring its successful management must be adopted and a hospital committee should be selected whose duty would be to look after it and from time to time recommend to your honorable body such matter pertaining to it as their judgment might deem necessary. I sincerely trust a spirit of harmony may prevail among your body and that our official relations may always remain pleasant.

Very Respectfully

W A Taylor Mayor

The mayor notified the Council that the first business would be to ~~decide~~ the long and short term of aldermen.

The following named aldermen drew the two year term Aldermen J. Schneiden L. Hancock  
B. C. Meeks J. Schreiber J. W. Robertson J. W. Driskill  
A. Carrington A. J. Gile R. Platt and W<sup>m</sup> B. Brush

The following named aldermen drew the one year term W. J. Cuton B. S. Pillow P. J. Campbell  
M. Maas R. B. Underhill L. M. Crooker J. M. Odell  
G. L. Robertson W<sup>m</sup> Erwin and W<sup>m</sup> Brennan

Alderman A. J. Robertson moved to adjourn until next Monday night motion took

Alderman Platt moved that the Chair appoint 3 aldermen as tellers for the evening and that the Council proceed to elect a recorder motion adopted

Aldermen Maas and Heil were appointed as teller

The following names were placed in nomination for the position of Recorder

W<sup>m</sup> Von Rosengerg Jr. C. D. Johns W<sup>m</sup> Bacon  
and R. Krause

On the first ballot C. D. Johns received 11 votes W<sup>m</sup> Von Rosengerg Jr. 8 votes W<sup>m</sup> Bacon & R. Krause v. C. D. Johns having received a majority of all votes cast was declared by the mayor to be duly elected recorder of the City of Austin for the ensuing two years.

The motion to proceed to elect a City attorney was adopted and the following names were placed in nomination George P. Pendleton and W. S. Walton On the first ballot H. P. Pendleton received thirteen votes W. S. Walton seven votes H. P. Pendleton having received a majority vote of the Council was declared by the mayor to be duly elected City attorney for the ensuing two years.

The motion to proceed to elect a City Clerk was adopted, and the following names were placed in nomination T. S. Russell Mat Johnson F. R. Shipman

On the first ballot T. L. Burnell received twelve  
Votes Mat Johnson seven votes shipman one vote  
T. L. Burnell having received a majority vote  
of the Council was declared by the mayor to be  
duly elected City Clerk for the ensuing two years.

The motion to adjourn until next Monday night  
was lost.

The motion to proceed to elect a City Marshal  
was adopted and the following names were  
placed in nomination J. W. Moore J. W. Lov  
A. Platt Ben Thompson E. Rousseau Ed. Crary &  
Wesells H. A. Barrow John P. Kirk Grooms Lee  
and O. Cloud. The motion was adopted <sup>vote was adopted</sup> removing the lowest  
On the first ballot.

		first ballot	second ballot	third ballot	4th ballot	5th ballot	6th ballot
J. W. Moore	received 1	one					
J. W. Lov	2	one	two				
Grooms Lee	6.	eight	six	seven	nine	eight	
Ed Rousseau	2	three	four	two	three	three	
Ed Crary	" 1	one	one	two			
E. Wesells	none						
Ben Thompson	3	two	two	two	two	two	
A. Platt	3	three	three	three	four	four	
H. A. Barrow	none						
J. P. Kirk	2	one	two	four	two	two	
O. Cloud	none						

Barred off on the seventh ballot Grooms Lee & Ed  
Rousseau & A. Platt & J. P. Kirk 3 one alderman not  
voting.

Eighth ballot Grooms Lee & Ed Rousseau & R. Platt 6.  
one alderman not voting

Ninth ballot Grooms Lee 10 votes R. Platt 9 votes one  
alderman not voting

The motion to proceed to elect a city Treasurer  
was adopted and the following names were placed  
in nomination H. Gunther J. W. Coward J. Smyrick  
and J. O. Ellingsworth. On the first ballot H. Gunther  
received 3 votes J. W. Coward 14. J. Smyrick 2  
J. O. Ellingsworth 1 vote J. W. Coward having  
received a majority vote of the Council the  
mayor declared him duly elected City Treasurer  
for the ensuing two years.

The motion to proceed to elect a city Physician was adopted and the following names were placed in nomination J. Cummings & F. Burt On the first ballot J. Cummings received 8 votes and F. Burt 15 votes F. Burt having received a majority vote of the Council was declared by the Mayor to be duly elected City Physician for the ensuing two years.

The council then proceeded to elect a City Engineer and the following names were placed in nomination J. K. P. Mc. Gull, A. C. Weeks, Cooper, C. Campbell and Rubin Ford

On the first ballot J. K. P. Mc. Gull received 16 votes A. C. Weeks none C. Campbell one Rubin Ford 3 J. K. P. Mc. Gull having received a majority vote was declared by the mayor to be duly elected City Engineer for the ensuing two years.

The motion to proceed to elect an assessor and Collector was adopted and the name of Fred Stenzing was placed in nomination

On motion the City Clerk was authorized to cast the vote of the Council for Fred Stenzing Fred Stenzing having received the unanimous vote of the council was declared duly elected City assessor and Collector for the ensuing two years

The mayor placed in nomination the name of C. L. Kirschke as City Sexton

The clerk was authorized to cast the vote of the Council for C. L. Kirschke

C. L. Kirschke having received the unanimous vote of the Council was declared by the mayor to be duly elected City Sexton for two years ensuing

Alderman J. W. Robertson moved that the mayor appoint a committee of three to fix the salaries and bonds of City officers motion adopted His Honor appointed as the Committee J. W. Robertson, Adell and Brush Alderman Hill moved that the mayor appoint a committee of three on will motion adopted the mayor appointed as the Committee Aldermen Hill, Mas and Crooker no motion the Council adjourned until Monday Dec 10 1883

P. L. Purcell City Clerk

Adjourned Meeting of the City Council  
 Austin Texas December 10<sup>th</sup> 1883  
 Hon W.A. Taylor Mayor Presiding

Roll call present aldermen Schneider Anton Heit  
 Hancock pillow Wells Campbell Schuler and Marshall  
 Mass Robertson J.W. Dickill Crooker Odell Robertson G.L.  
 Hill Platt Erwin Bush Brunner  
 Absent Alderman Carrington

Alderman Platt moved that the mayor declare the  
 election of Groome for City Marshal motion adopted

Groome for having received a majority vote of the  
 Council was declared by the mayor to be duly elected  
 City Marshal for two years ensuing

The mayor presented the official bond of H.G. Lee  
 City Marshal signed by H.G. Lee as principal  
 and George L. Robertson Joseph Lee Will C. Kreisle M.  
 W. Hornsay J. A. Bornefield and A.P. Woolridge as sureties  
 the Council accepted the bond and authorized the  
 mayor to approve the same

The special committee to whom was referred the  
 matter of fixing the bonds and salaries of City officers  
 submitted the following report which adopted.

Austin Dec 10 1883

Hon W.A. Taylor mayor of the City of Austin

Sir Your committee appointed at the meeting  
 of the City Council December 8<sup>th</sup> 1883 to consider  
 the matter of fixing the compensation of the  
 officers and employees of the City for the present  
 term and to enquire what officers should give bonds  
 and the amount of such bonds beg leave to report  
 that they have carefully considered said matter  
 and return herewith an ordinance fixing the com-  
 pensation of the officers and employees of the City  
 for the present term which embodies the views of  
 your committee we believe that just fair and  
 just compensation should be paid to every officer  
 and employee of the City and that faithful service  
 should be exacted in return We have had this end  
 in view in fixing the amounts in the accompanying  
 Ordinance and recommend that the same do pass

your committee find <sup>that</sup> ample provision is made by ordinance for the bonds of the Treasurer assessor and Collector Marshal Clerk Engineer and sexton and see no occasion for any change in either the amounts or conditions of said bonds as now provided by ordinances.

Respectfully submitted

J. W. Robertson

J. M. Odell

W. B. Brush

Committee

The Special committee submitted an ordinance entitled an ordinance fixing the compensation of officers and employees of the City of Austin for the present term. The ordinance provides that the officers of the City shall receive the maximum salaries provided by the City Charter. The sexton two hundred and fifty dollars per annum. The sergeant of Police \$100. Mounted Police \$87 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Regular Police \$710. Engineers of the fire department \$710. Drivers and hostlers of the fire department \$410. City Porter \$460. Cart driver and street sweep \$480. The ordinance was read second time under suspension of the rules.

Alderman Hancock offered the following amendment which was lost.

That the engineer shall receive an annual salary of \$900. That the City Treasurer shall receive an annual salary of \$400. That the City sexton shall receive an annual salary of \$150 and such fees as the Council shall hereafter fix. That the City Clerk shall receive an annual salary of \$900. That the assessor and collector shall receive an annual salary of \$1200.

Hon. L. M. Crooker in the Chair

On motion the Council went into a committee of the whole.

The Committee of the whole reported the amendments to section 10 providing that the City sexton shall receive such fees as the City Council may hereafter fix. ~~section 15~~  
Changing the salary of Drivers and hostlers of the fire department from \$410 to \$480 per annum. Section 16 changes the salary of the City porter from \$380 to \$480 per annum. The report of the

committee was adopted the ordinance  
as amended was read and then read  
third time under suspension of the rules  
and passed by the following vote yeas  
Aldermen Schneider Sutor Pitlow Hodcock  
Wells Campbell Schubert Underhill Hause  
J. W. Robertson Driekieet Crooker Clegg G. S.  
Robertson Hill Blatt Erwin Brushy Brennen

The special committee on rules submitted  
the following report which was adopted

To the Hon W A Taylor Mayor  
Your select committee to whom was referred the  
subject of rules of order of the City Council and the  
recommendations in the message of the mayor con-  
cerning new subjects requiring the services of additional  
standing committees have considered the same and  
do agree to report the following recommendation

That the rules of order as published with the  
Charter and revised ordinances of the City of Austin  
and entitled "Rules of order of the City Council  
of the City of Austin, except rule XX. Twenty be adopted  
for the government of the order of business and  
proceeding of the Council

That the following additional rule be adopted  
Rule twenty One following standing committees  
each consist of three members shall be appointed  
by the mayor at the first meeting after each  
biennial election and the first named on each  
shall be the Chairman

- 1 Streets alleys etc
- 2 Fire Department
- 3 Finance and Revenue
- 4 Markets
- 5 Police
- 6 Printing
- 7 Cemetery
- 8 Charity
- 9 Ordinances
- 10 Hospital
- 11 Water and Gas
- 12 Sewerage

when a Vacancy occurs on any standing committee the same shall be filled by appointment of the Mayor at the earliest practicable meeting of the City Council thereafter

Select committee unless otherwise ordered shall consist of three members

Reports of committees shall be in writing and signed by all members concurring therein

R. J. Hill Chairman

L. M. Crooker

M. Maas

Hon W. A. Taylor, Mayor Presiding

Alderman Hill moved that the Council adopt rule XX twenty as amended motion carried

The special committee on rules reported the following report which was adopted

To the Hon W A Taylor mayor of the City of Austin

Your select committee on rules of procedure and order of business to whom was referred the question as to the power of the Council to elect a president of the Board of Aldermen as required by article 98 of the revised ordinance of the City of Austin in view of the provisions of the amendments of the Charter, have considered the same and by leave to report that they find that article 7 of the Charter of 1873 appears to be the only express Charter authority for the office in question but the Committee is of the opinion that the repeal of said article by the recent amendments of the Charter does not repeal said article 98 of said ordinance because the same is not in the opinion of your committee repugnant to the provisions of the Charter as now amended.

R. J. Hill chairman

L. M. Crooker

M. Maas

Alderman Sutor offered the following resolution which was adopted

Be it resolved by the City Council

of the City of Austin

That a leave of absence of thirty days is hereby granted to Hon W A Baylor mayor which shall commence at a time to be designated by him

The motion that the Council proceed to elect a president of the Board of aldermen was adopted and the names of aldermen Platt and J. W. Robertson were placed in nomination alderman J W Robertson having received a majority vote of the Council was elected President of the Board of aldermen.

The mayor placed in nomination the name of John Chinnecville as sergeant of Police on motion the nomination was confirmed by acclamation

An ordinance fixing the number of Police men to be employed in the City was read first time and then referred to the Police committee

Alderman Brush introduced a resolution authorizing the mayor to contract for lamps electric or gas lights to be used on the streets during the extra session of the legislature Read and referred to the Committee on Gas and Water

Alderman Maas introduced an ordinance authorizing the mayor to contract with the Austin Gaslight and Coal company for lighting of the streets for a term of three months The ordinance was read first time and then referred to the Committee on Gas and water

Honor the mayor appointed the following standing committees

1. Streets R Platt J. W. Driskill and W B Brush  
2. Fire Department W B Brush L M Crooker W F Luton  
Finance J. W. Odell Max Maas Louis Hancock

Market House J. W. Driskill P. J. Campbell and  
B. S. Pillow  
2 Police J. P. Schneider Wm. Brumley R. J. Kile  
6 Printing May Maas J. W. Robertson R. C. Wells  
7 Cemetery W<sup>m</sup> Erwin R. B. Underhill and J. M. Odell  
8 Ordinances J. W. Robertson R. J. Kile R. B. Underhill  
On Motion the Council adjourned

J. L. Penman  
City Clerk