

Regular Meeting of the City Council
Austin Texas Jan 21st 1884

Alderman Brush moved that as the Mayor and President of the City Council were absent from the City that the Council Come to order and proceed to business

Motion adopted

Alderman Brush moved that alderman Hancock be appointed to preside at this meeting, motion adopted
Hon L. Hancock Presiding

Roll call present Aldermen Schneider Pillow Hancock Wells Campbell Underhill Crocker Odell S. L. Robertson Platt Ervin Brush & Spencer 13.

Alderman Sutor ^{ch} Libber Maas Carrington and Heil came in and answered to their names 51

Absent Aldermen J. W. Robertson and Driskill

Minutes of January 7th 1884 read amended and approved.

Alderman Pillow offered a petition from Tappan residing on West Blanca and Hickory street asking the Council to appropriate \$700⁰⁰ for improvements on said street.

Referred to the Street Committee

Alderman Underhill presented a petition from Citizens of the fourth and fifth ward residing and doing business on Lavaca street calling the attention of the Council to the bad condition of said street and asking that the street committee be instructed or instructed to have the gutter opened and the street repaired Referred to the Street Committee

^{ed} Alderman Campbell present ^{ed} a petition from W. H. Finbaugh asking the Council to allow him to place his fence 60 inches over the line of his lot on ash street to protect a row of shade trees, referred to the Street Committee

The following report was received from the Street Committee on the petition of C. E. Anderson which was adopted

To the Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen
Your committee to whom was referred the within
petition asking that C. E. Anderson be permitted to
deviate from the requirements of the ordinance in
respect to the character and material to be used in
constructing pavement on East Pecan Street. Have
considered the same, and beg leave to report that
we can see no good or valid reason for granting
the petition and making an exception in this
case as ^{applied} prayed for

R. Platt, Chairman
W B Bruck

The following report was received from the Finance
Committee which on motion was adopted.

To the Hon. Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the
City of Austin
Gentlemen

Your committee to whom
was referred the petition of Fred Stiering assessor
and Collector asking the Council to relieve him from
the payment of the full amount of license granted
to Charles Dyer. Beg leave to report that they have carefully
considered the same and recommend that he only
be required to pay the full amount due on said license
during the time said license was used by the said
Char. Dyer

J. M. Ouel
Lewis Hancock
M. Adams
Finance Committee

The Police Committee submitted the following report
which was adopted and the report of J. P. Kirk ex City
marshal ordered filed

To the Hon Mayor of the City of Austin

Your Committee on police to whom was referred
the within report of J. P. Kirk City Marshal beg leave
to report that they have examined the same and find
that it is correct and in accordance with the City
Ordinance

Respectfully
J. P. Schneider
W J Brunner
R. J. Hill
Police Committee

The Police Committee submitted the following report which was received and ordered filed

To the Honorable Mayor of the City of Austin

Your Committee on police to whom was referred the within report of H. V. Lee City Marshal. by leave to report that they have examined the same and find that it is correct and in accordance with the City ordinances

Respectfully

J. P. Schneider

W. J. Brennan

R. J. Hill

Police Committee

Alderman Ervin report back the report of the City Sexton for Dec 1883. and moved that it be received and ordered filed motion adopted.

Alderman Crooker reported back the report of W. J. Burk and asked that the same be read as it contained matter that should be acted upon by the Council after reading the report it was referred back to the Hospital Committee

Alderman Crooker offered the report of J. Cumming City Physician for Nov 1883 and moved that it be received and filed motion adopted

The Committee on Gas and Water submitted the following report which was adopted

To the Hon Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Austin

Your committee on gas and water to whom was referred the petition of residents of Pecan street praying that the hydrant at the corner of Colorado and Pecan streets used by the street sprinkler be moved by leave to report that they have inspected said hydrant and consider it as now used a nuisance and recommend that the same be removed to some point on the north side of Pecan street west of San Antonio street and east of Nueces street

L. Hancock Chairman

R. Platt

Water and Gas Committee

The special committee to whom was referred the Petition of R. J. Carroll asked for further time as they were not ready to report further time granted

Alderman Meads called up an ordinance fixing the amount of money to be paid to the companies composing the Fire Department of the City of Austin

The ordinance provides that each of the following companies shall be allowed fifty dollars per month for expenses Austin Hook and Ladder Co No 1 Washington Engine Co. Colorado Fire Engine Co and Protection Hook and Ladder Co No 3.

The ordinance was read second time and then read third time under suspension of the rules and passed by the following vote yeas Aldermen Schneider Litor Piller Hancock Weiss Campbell Schubert Underhill Meads Crooker Odell Carrington S. L. Robertson Hill Erwin and Brush

Nays Aldermen Platt and Brennan

Alderman S. L. Robertson introduced the following resolution which was adopted

Resolved that the City Engineer be and is hereby authorized to expend the sum of three hundred dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary out of any money heretofore appropriated for the improvement of streets in the construction of a bridge and approaches thereat at the intersection of Mesquite street and East Avenue

Alderman Platt called up a Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Cemetery Committee to purchase land for cemetery purposes The resolution was read and then referred to the Cemetery committee with instructions to report on the same at the next meeting

Alderman Brennan introduced the following Resolution

Whereas 1st The police force is appointed especially for the purpose of preserving order and peace in the City and for arresting violations of this law and ordinances thereof

and whereas 7 The present police force of this City has failed to accomplish said purpose and whereas 8 it is the duty of this Council to ascertain whether said failure is not the result mainly of inefficiency and incompetency of the City Marshal and the Sargeant of Police and whereas 4 The office of Sargeant of Police is entirely useless and unnecessary

Therefore be it Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin That a special committee of three be appointed by the present of the Council whose duty it shall be to ascertain and report to the City Council at its next regular meeting in regard to the nonperformance of duty on the part of the City Marshal and the Sargeant of Police in connection with the recent disturbances of the peace and good order of the City

Alderman Plath moved to amend the resolution by striking out the word 6 and insert a committee of 5. Alderman Brush offered the following amendment which was accepted by Alderman Plath.

That the same be referred to a committee of five to be composed of the police committee composed of three members and two to be appointed by the Chair

Alderman S. L. Robertson offered the following amendment moved to amend as follows strike out the words That a special committee of 3 be appointed whose duty it shall be to and insert in lieu thereof the words That the Police committee.

Alderman Pillow offered the following amendment which was lost by the following vote. Yeas Alderman Burton Pillow Wells Brush and Brewster. Nays Aldermen Schneider Hancock Campbell Schuber Underhill Maas Crooker Coall Carrington Robertson, Hill Plath and Ervin 13

Whereas it has been currently reported that there have recently been certain violations of the law in this City and that our City Police have been accused by the public prints and by other parties of cowardice or negligence or both and whereas these reports are exceedingly damaging

the good name of our City Therefore
 Be it Resolved that a special Committee of 5
 be appointed to investigate the charges of inefficiency
 and negligence of the Police force and make a
 report on the same at its next meeting

Alderman Campbell offered the following
 Resolution as a substitute for the whole matter
 which was adopted by the following vote (yeas)
 Alderman Schneider Tutor Hancock Wells Campbell
 Schuber Underhill Maas Crooker Odell Carrington
 H. L. Robertson and Hillsbays aldermen Pillow
 Deats Ervin Brush and Brennan 5

Substitute for Resolution

Resolved that in view of the recent disturbance
 in the City the Police Committee be instructed
 to inquire into the matter and ascertain if there
 has been any dereliction of duty by the Chief of
 Police or any of his subordinates

Alderman Pillow introduced the following
 Ordinance

An ordinance adopting Rail Road
 Time as City Time

Be it ordained by the City Council
 of the City of Austin

Section 1 That the standard time as recently
 adopted by the rail road companies for this
 portion of the United States be and the same
 is hereby adopted as the official time of this
 City and that the various City officers be and
 are hereby required to conform thereto

Section 2 That this ordinance take effect from
 and after its passage.

The ordinance was read second and third
 time under suspension of the rules and passed
 by a unanimous vote.

Alderman Brush introduced an ordinance entitled
 an ordinance requiring the removal of obstructions
 from the streets sidewalks alleys and public high
 ways of the City of Austin the ordinance was
 read second time under suspension of the rules

Alderman Hill moved to amend section 4 by striking out after the words shall have the word five and insert instead the word ten. amendment was adopted.

The ordinance as amended was read third time under suspension of the rules and passed by a two thirds vote.

Alderman Hill introduced an ordinance entitled an ordinance regulating the proceeding in the Recorder's Court. The ordinance was read and then referred to the City attorney who reported verbally on the ordinance stating that he had examined the same and indorsed its provisions.

The motion to adjourn was lost.
Alderman Plath moved to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading.

The motion to adjourn was lost.
The motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading was lost.

Alderman Pellow introduced the following Resolution which was referred to the Cemetery Committee.

Whereas it is reported that several parties are in possession of lots or parts of lots in the City Cemetery by the burial of ^{their} friends on the same who have not paid for them.

Be it therefore Resolved That all lots or part of lots so held if not paid for by those claiming within sixty days shall be declared vacant and offered for sale and that the City assessor and Collector notify all persons who have their friends buried on such lots or part of lots of the action of the City Council.

On motion the Council adjourned.

Thomas L. Burnell
City Clerk