

Regular Meeting of the City Council

Austin Texas August 18th 1884

Leon J. W. Robertson. Mayor. Presiding

Roll call present Aldermen Schneider Pillow Campbell Underhill Maas Warren Quikill Carrington Clark and Brush.

Absent Aldermen Mayor Hancock Wells Schubert Crooker Odell Robertson Hill Ervin and Brennan

A Call of the Council was ordered and the Marshal sent after the absentees

Alderman Schubert came in and answered to his name

Call of the Council suspended

Minutes of July 7. and August 4 1884. read and approved.

Peter Fig.

Alderman Platt presented a petition from Peter Fig. asking that a fine assessed against him in the Recorders Court be remitted

Alderman Platt moved that the fine be remitted except ten dollars. Motion lost by the following vote Yeas. Aldermen Schubert Maas Carrington and Platt Nays Aldermen Schneider Pillow Campbell Underhill Warren Quikill 7

F. W. Foltz motion
Culvert on
W. Pecan St

Alderman Pillow presented a petition from a J. Jernigan F. W. Foltz and other property owners on West Pecan street asking that a culvert on Pecan street between J. H. & J. B. Raymonds property be enlarged so that it will carry off the water without overflowing the street

Referred to the street committee

Alderman Ervin tendered his resignation as Chairman of the Cemetery Committee and asked that the same be immediately accepted

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Alderman Sutor... came in and answered to his name.

The Street Committee submitted the following report on the petition of C. E. Anderson which was referred to the City Engineer for estimate of cost of work.

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

Your committee to whom was referred the within petition of C. E. Anderson, requesting the City to have the gutter in front of his residence would most respectfully beg leave to report that the petition be granted and that the City Engineer is hereby instructed to have the work done

R. Clark

St to pur-
chase iron
foot bridges
for Com. Ave.

The Street Committee submitted the following report on a resolution to purchase iron foot bridges for Congress Avenue

To the Hon Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Austin
Your committee to whom was referred the within resolution would beg leave to report that we have duly considered the same and would recommend that it do pass and that the City Engineer be instructed to contract for the same

Clark

Brush

Quistell

St on San-
itary mat-
ters alleys
Became St.

The following report was received from the Street Com
To the Hon Mayor and Council of the City of Austin
Gentlemen:- Your street committee would respectfully suggest that the proper officers give more attention to the sanitary condition of the City than has been done in the past. This country now threatened by epidemics render it necessary that more attention of the Council and City officers be given to the reports of the City Physician, as our alleys are in a most deplorable condition as a sample of the many.

We would call the attention of the officer who sees and steps over the nuisance three or four times a day, to the condition of the alley east of the Avenue and between Hickory and Pecan street muddy and odorous water is and has been running down the alley to and down Pecan street for the last year or two. While this is bad. it is as sweet as the perfumes of new mown hay compared with other alleys in the City

It is very apparent that some strong measure should be taken in the enforcement of the ordinances and that at once

We will not say who is responsible for this continued evil but do say that the responsibility rests with some one and we think the Mayor should see that all officers attend the duties for which they have been appointed or elected.

We refer to these matters with much hesitation. as we do not know of any recommendations from this committee upon petitions or other matters. after having been endorsed by the Council to have received any attention. or if it has no official report of action or non action can be found upon the minutes of this board

We would further say that our streets are in a miserable condition and for want of funds our committee are powerless to better them. We would recommend that the amount for which the bonds were sold be turned over to the City Treasurer and that the amount to be awarded under the ordinance authorizing the issuance and sale of bonds. be placed to the credit of the street fund so that steps can be taken at once to at least make our streets as good as the ordinary country roads

Respectfully

Platt

Brush

Triskie

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The Fire Committee submitted the following report on the Petition of M. A. Taylor which was recommended

Hon J W Robertson Mayor and Members of the City Council
your committee to whom was referred the above petition would recommend that the above petitioner be allowed to finish the construction commenced
Respectfully

W B Brush
W J. Rutor
Fire Committee

The Fire Committee submitted the following report on a resolution locating fire hydrants on West Pecan Street

On motion of Alderman Plath the resolution and the report was recommended with instructions to the Committee to investigate and report at what points in the City fire hydrants are needed

J. W. Robertson Mayor of Austin
your committee on Fire Department would report that they appreciate the necessity of an extension of the water mains in the City but owing to the present financial condition of the City we do not think we can recommend the location of five hydrants as asked for in the resolution. but would recommend that the Mayor contract with the water Company for the location of three hydrants on West Pecan Street and one on the Corner of Walnut and Congress Avenue

W J. Rutor
W B Brush
Chairman Fire Committee

Application

Sundry

Spc. Police

The application of Halman Rindery for the position of mounted Policeman was read and Laid over

Specimen
Obstructions
on the St.
August 18th 1884

The Special committee to whom was referred the matter of obstructions on the streets submitted the following report.

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To Mr. Hon Mayor and City Council

Your committee to whom was referred the above memorials relating to the obstructions on the streets have the honor to report that we have considered the same and believe that some relief should be granted the petitioners.

We find that many improvements of a permanent character but encroaching upon the streets have been made in good faith and that the immediate removal of such would entail no small loss upon the owners.

We further find, that these encroachments are a great nuisance and should not be permitted to remain any longer than is absolutely necessary.

We do not think the ordinance in question should be suspended but that its enforcement should be so regulated as not to cause hardship and loss.

We recommend

1st That no encroachments upon the streets alleys or public ways shall hereafter be allowed under any circumstances.

2nd That no repairs shall be permitted on any such obstructions that now exist.

3rd That no such obstructions shall be rebuilt.

4th That a time be fixed in which all such obstructions, whether permanent or otherwise shall be removed.

5th We further recommend that in cases where such permanent obstructions exist to the injury of the street or alley, or to the detriment of adjoining property owners. such cases be brought directly before the City Council for such action as may protect all parties.

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6th When property rights are claimed by long occupancy of the streets or alleys, we do not believe that the recorder's court is a proper tribunal for the trial of the rights of parties. With these modifications we recommend that the ordinance be enforced.

Respectfully Submitted.

R B Underhill

So ordered Alderman Plath moved that all the report of the Committee except the last clause be struck out. Motion lost by the following vote
Yeas Aldermen Schneider Dutton Carrington Plath and Brush's
Nays Aldermen Pillow Campbell Schubert Underhill Maas Warren and Griswold's 7

The report of the Committee was then adopted

The following report was received from the Board of Equalization and Appraisers which was ordered spread upon the minutes

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Hon J. W. Robertson

Mayor of the City of Austin

Rept of
Board of
Equalization
1884

The undersigned who were appointed by your honor as a Board of Appraisers to appraise and equalize the assessment of property in the City of Austin. have the honor to report that after a full investigation of the assessment rolls and in many instances a personal examination of the property assessed we have equalized said assessments and find that the aggregate value of property in the City will be increased two hundred and ninety two ^{thousand} five hundred and thirty dollars \$792,530.00 for the year 1884 which will increase the taxes two thousand nine hundred and twenty five ³⁰/₁₀₀ dollars \$7,925³⁰ for said year.

They further report that believing it to be their duty under the law creating said Board of Equalization to place upon

the assessment rolls all property made taxable by law for State and county purposes, in accordance with the Charter of the City and not rendered or assessed by owners. They have placed upon the rolls the property of the following corporations, which they find unrendered for Taxes to wit

City Water Company	\$187,650.00
Capital Compress Company	37,800.00
Austin Gaslight and Coal Company	43,700.00
making an additional increase in value of \$249,150.00	

A complete list of the Charges in the assessments made by me is on file with the City assessor & Collector of Taxes

Very Respectfully

Wm. Ervin

T. J. Campbell

H. E. Shelly

D. W. Doorn.

Alderman Campbell introduced the following resolution

Resolved on
market
limits.

Be it Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin That the ordinance Committee be instructed to prepare an Ordinance on market house and market limits and report the same to the next regular meeting of the Council

Alderman Platt moved to refer the resolution to the market house committee motion lost. The resolution was adopted

Resolved on
and to
Oct 375.

The Ordinance Committee submitted the following report on an ordinance amending Article 375. The report of the Committee was adopted

To Hon. J. W. Robertson. Mayor
Your committee on ordinances to whom was referred the within ordinance

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Have considered the same and believe that the business of the City requires the number of meeting of Council now required by ordinance and recommend that this ordinance do not pass.

R. J. Hill

R. B. Plunkett

Ordinance Committee

On Motion the Council adjourned

J. L. Purnell
City Clerk