

Regular Meeting of the City Council

Austin Texas August 3^d 1885

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor, Presiding,

Present-- Aldermen Metz, Schneider, Yellow
 Concock, Wells, Schuber, Underhill, Maas, Warren, Crocker
 Odell, Harrington, Cill, Hark, Brush, Brunen-- 16
 Absent Aldermen Campbell, Quisfel, Edmunds, Erving

Correction
 of minutes
 of July 20, 1885

Minutes of July 20, 1885, corrected by changing the
 vote of Alderman Harrington from aye to yea on
 an amendment to insert the name of T. H. Whiles,
 in lieu of County Palm, in an ordinance providing
 for the purchase of land for cemetery purposes
 Minutes then adopted,

Approving
 contract
 between
 City & County
 on hospital

The mayor submitted an agreement between the
 City of Austin & the County of Travis, signed by J. W. Robertson
 Mayor, and J. P. Fulmore, County Judge. By which the
 City assumes control of the city and County hospital
 for one year from May 1st 1885. All indigent county
 patients to be admitted into the Hospital, County to
 pay to the City \$2000⁰⁰ its share of the expenses

On motion of Alderman Hancock the contract was
 approved,

Petition against
 purchase of
 Palm tract.

Alderman Odell presented a petition signed
 by S. Scott, B. Palmer, W. Dunson, and others protesting
 against the extension of the cemetery by the purchase
 of the Palm tract; that the extension of the cemetery
 by the purchase of said tract will injure them and
 their property, that they will, if not able to avoid
 hold the city responsible for damages, by instituting
 suit or suits, received and laid over.

Invitation
 to attend
 state fire
 tournament
 at Lampasas

The mayor read an invitation from the Mayor
 and City Council of Lampasas to the Mayor and
 City Council of Austin, requesting that they be present
 at the Texas State Fire Tournament which takes
 place at Lampasas Aug 17th to 20.

On motion the invitation was accepted.

Oct. 20. A. Petition was received from M. D. Mathen, Mathen Jan. President of the city water company asking that an ^{and underwritten} assessment of \$2500. made against the city water company for the year 1884, be cancelled. Referred to the Finance committee.

Oct 20. The Petition of B. Sheldon Joseph Picher & Earnest Meyer, in regard to opening the alley through block 4 Division 8, to school creek, was referred to the street committee.

Leave of absence to J. W. Johnson. J. W. Johnson was granted leave of absence for 10 days from Aug 4, with pay.

Proposition Ordinance of S. H. Wheeler. Alderman Odell submitted a proposition from S. H. Wheeler, to sell to the City his place for a cemetery for \$3600, \$1000 cash, balance to be paid out of the sale of lots. Said over to be taken up in connection in connection with an ordinance providing for the purchase of a cemetery.

Resignation of Wm. Howe. The resignation of Policeman Wm. Howe was accepted by the following voters: Aldermen - Schneider, Hancock, Schuber, Underhill, Mads, Warren, Crooker, Hill, Mays, Aldermen Metz, Pillow, Wells, Odell, Barrington, Brunen, Platt, Brush & King a tied vote the mayor voted yea.

Oct of Herman Benjamin. The Petition of Herman Benjamin complaining of treatment received from Sergeant Chenneville's was referred to a special committee consisting of Aldermen Platt, Wells, & Pillow.

E. Barrington petitioned for permission to erect a shed on the corner of the alley on lots 6 Block Co. Red River St. Petition granted, subject to the approval of the Fire committee.

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Assessor Collector Report of the assessor & Collector for the Quarter

ending ending July 31st 1885

July 31 st 1885	Income from ad valorem taxes for 1885	\$ 205.60
"	" " " " " " 1884	24,008.14
"	" " " " " " 1883	11,100
"	" " " " " " 1882	10,000
"	" " " " " " 1881	9,450
"	" " " " " " 1880	8,100
"	" " " " " " 1879	3,100
"	" " " " " " 1878	1,750
"	" " " " " " 1877	2,000
	From back	17.10
	License	2313.30
	Market house	31.50
	cemetery	146.00
	Fines in recorder's court	15,34.90
	ground rents	30.00
	Miscellaneous	107.50

Credited by Treasurer's receipts Nos 1023 10104 inclusive \$78487.95

Respectfully

Fred Steyer
Ass. & Col.

Referred to the Finance Committee

Dea for Public schools.

Report of taxes collected for the public schools for the Quarter ending July 31st 1885 \$8004.28

Treasurer for July 1885

Report of the City Treasurer for the month ending July 31st 1885

Balance on hand June 30 th 1885	\$35,641.71
received from the assessor & collector	2,827.70
	\$38,469.46

- Credits paid warrants & interest \$7,332.92
- cash balances July 31 136,936.54
- interest fund in New York 5,200.00
- Unappropriated \$19,619.49.

Clerk for Quarter The report of the city clerk for the Qtr ending July 31st 1885 shows warrants were issued to the amount of \$19,841.64.

City Marshal
July 1885

The report of the City Marshal for July 1885 shows
Amount of fines assessed in the recorder's court \$1329.65

Cash from fines	\$337.45	
+ worked out	337.41	
+ appealed	186.85	
+ due by escapes	41.75	
Amount brought forward	387.51	\$1329.65
Cash from back fines	\$24.75	
Back fines worked out	77.30	

Total arrests 141. Referred to the Police Committee

Deputy for July
1885

Report of the City Sexton for July shows Deaths 35
white 20 colored 13 Mexican 2. Referred to the cemetery
Committee

City Physician
monthly report July 1885

The report of the city Physician for the month of
July 1885 in Hospital July 1st 8 were admitted during
and in Hospital the month 6 were dismissed and 3 died, leaving in
for the year. Hospital Aug 1st 14.

I take pleasure in presenting a synopsis of the
work performed in the Hospital since its organization
one year ago.

There has been received and treated during
the year 138 patients of this number 124 were males
and 14 females.

According to nationality, they are distributed
as follows:

Americans 57. German 45. Swedish 9 Irish 7
African 6. English 4. Italian 4. Mexican 3.
Scotch 3. Total, 138.

The following table give the number suffering
from the several diseases when admitted and the
number of deaths from the disease:

Disease	Cases	Deaths
Consumption	22	10
Typhoid fever	10	2
Dysentery	16	3
Gastritis	4	1
Cancer of stomach	1	1
Pneumonia	3	1

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Dying when received	Cases.	Deaths -
Malaria fever	11	...
Rheumatism	7	...
Insanity	5	...
Confinement	6	...
Incised wounds	5	...
Ulcers	4	...
Chronic trachoma	3	...
Tumors	3	...
Hemorrhoids	3	...
Abscesses of Liver	3	...
Hepatitis	5	...
Necrosis	2	...
Injuries	4	...
Delirium tremens	2	...
Miscellaneous	16	...
	Total 138.	22

138 cases and 22 deaths give a high mortality being about 16 per cent. But when we deduct 4 cases that were dying when received and one cancer of the stomach which was incurable it brings the mortality down to 13 or about 12 1/2 per cent. There is also another consideration that is an important factor, both in the number of cases and deaths.

The large percent of consumptions, being 23 in 138 cases. Most of these consumptive cases go to the hospital to die, having tried everything and exhausted their means, and when they get so weak they cannot go around, they then either apply themselves or by some friend to go to the hospital to die.

These ten deaths were just such cases and were entirely incurable at the time they entered the hospital.

Now to give the correct per cent of mortality would be to throw out these ten cases, both in number of cases and deaths, also the 4 dying when received, and the one with cancer of the stomach leaving 123 cases treated and seven deaths, or a

mortality of about 6 per cent.

In a small hospital we find great difficulty in preventing the hospital from being filled with old chronic and incurable cases, we have some of these now, and we know of no way to get them out of hospital. They have no homes or friends to care for them. we cannot put them on the street, the poor farm is full, so we quit as the best we can under the circumstances.

I feel proud of our hospital, and without out boasting I venture to say there is not a cleaner or neater hospital in the state.

Respectfully submitted

W. J. Rust M.D.,
City Physician.

Street Com. on
locating hydrants
in 10 ward

Report of the street committee on an ordinance locating hydrants in the 10 ward
To Hon. Mayor and city council of the city of Austin:

Your committee to whom was referred the within ordinance, have had the same under due consideration, and find the section asking for fire hydrants on Live Oak street, and would therefore recommend that the ordinance do not pass.

Huber
Chairman

Report adopted.

Finance com-
on bill of
Mr. Kipon

The Finance committee submitted the following report on the bill of Mr Kipon
To the Hon. Mayor and City Council of the city of Austin:

Your committee on finance to whom was referred the bill of Mr Kipon, for plans & specification for remodeling the city hall, respectfully report that they have had the same under consideration, and recommend that the same be not paid for the following reasons, viz:

That the resolution under which said work was done does not authorize such plans.

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and specifications, but only an estimate of the cost;

2nd ma. That the architect has in other respects departed from the resolution.

Respectfully

J. M. Odell,

W. Maas,

Lewis Hancock,

Finance Committee.

recommet
tionable

The motion to recommet the bill of Mr Nixon was carried

Police Comr Report of the Police committee on the marshalls
on marshalls post for may 1855.

report for May 1855

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.

Your committee on Police to whom was referred the within report of the city Marshal for May 1855; by leave to report that we have examined the same and find the same correct except that \$95.70 of cash collected shows no receipt of the assessor and Collector that they have ever been turned over to him

Respectfully

J. Schneider,

A. J. Hill,

W. J. Brunner,

Special
com. invos-
tigating
marshalls book

Report of the special committee appointed to investigate the books of the city marshal

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.

Sir - your committee to whom was referred the investigation of the books of the city marshal, H. B. Lee by leave to report that we have investigated the same, and find the following deficiencies commencing Sept. 19, 1854 and ending March 18th 1855.

Since collected but not accounted for	\$52.50
" " in cash but marked worked out	\$31.15
" " " but marked escaped	8.00
we also find a deficiency of \$95.70	
in the marshalls account for the month of May,	
Total \$90.65	

said deficiency being money taken from May to cover the same deficiency in April, thus showing a total deficiency of \$186.55

Respectfully

J. P. Schneiders

W. J. Hill,

W. J. Brennen,

W. Maas,

George H. Pendexter.

Report adopted.

Police committee
on report of
Marshal for June 1885

Report of the Police committee on the report of the City Marshal for June, 1885.

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.

Sir - your committee on Police to whom was referred the within, beg leave to report that we find the same correct.

Respectfully

J. P. Schneiders,

W. J. Hill,

W. J. Brennen.

Report adopted

Police com.
on Pet of
Mr. Cashen

Report of the Police committee on the petition of Neil Mc. Cashen

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.

Your committee on Police to whom was referred the within petition, beg leave to report the same back with the recommendation that the same be laid on the table, as we find that the officer did no more than his duty.

Respectfully

J. P. Schneiders,

W. J. Hill,

W. J. Brennen.

Report adopted

Police com.
on Pet of
Officer Buchanan

Report of the Police committee on the petition of Officer Buchanan asking pay for seven days lost time by sickness.

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor

Your committee have examined the same and recommend that the same be paid.

Respectfully

J. P. Schneiders

W. J. Hill

W. J. Brennen.

Report adopted.

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Police com. Report of the Police committee on the Petition of
 or Pet of Officer Morris asking pay for 2 days time lost
 by sickness

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.

Your committee would respectfully recommend
 that the same be paid

Respectfully

J. P. Schneider,
 W. J. Hill,
 W. J. Breuners.

Report adopted.

Cemetery

Com. order to sell to the city land for cemetery purposes.

Quit on land

for cemetery

Report of the cemetery committee on propositions

To the Mayor and City Councils

Your committee on cemetery to whom was

referred the several propositions of Messrs Stiles,
 et. H. Wheeler, and Swamy Palm, for sale of
 land to the city for cemetery purposes, have con-
 sidered said proposals and report as follows:
 We believe the Stiles tract is too distant and inaccess-
 ible from the city, and besides a large part of
 the land is in our opinion, unsuited to the purpose
 intended,

The tract offered by Mr. T. H. Wheeler is more
 than a mile beyond the present cemetery, and
 is not of sufficient size to warrant the City
 in establishing a cemetery so far from the center
 of population. It would cost a great deal of
 money to make a road to this ground and
 supply it with water, it is also inaccessible
 to the public owing to its great distance.

The proposition of Mr. S. Palm seems to us to
 be altogether the most feasible. The tract he
 offers contains about eight acres, by estimate
 and its addition would make the cemetery
 a square. The ground we think well suited for
 the purpose intended and when drained as proposed
 in the pending ordinance, it will as we believe,
 be entirely satisfactory to everybody.

The terms upon which it is offered are believed

fair and can be easily met by the city, we believe that a very great majority of the people favor this purchase, and we recommend that the pending ordinance be passed. It will afford temporary relief, and will give the city time to negotiate for more extensive and suitable grounds.

Respectfully

N. B. Underhill.

To the Mayor of City Council of the City of Austin.
Gentlemen:— The undersigned, a member of the cemetery committee to whom was referred the several propositions, of Mrs Stiles, Swartie Palm, and Thos. H. Wheeler, offering land for cemetery purposes, would respectfully state that he has examined into the desirability of the purchase of the above mentioned tracts of land, and has come to the conclusion that the purchase of the Palm tract would not only be unwise, but it would be unjust to the residents of the eastern portion of the city. I believe either the Stiles or Wheeler tracts suitable, and either would cost per acre only about one sixth as much as the Palm tract. I think a few years will bring about the condemnation and removal of the present cemetery, then why pay \$500. per acre for land, when it is possible to get land more suitable a little further out for \$80. per acre.

I would respectfully recommend that the Swartie Palm tract be not purchased.

Very Respectfully

J. M. Odell.

Report laid over.

To the Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.
Your committee on ordinances to whom was referred the accompanying communication from the city recorder, recommending a codification and republication of city ordinances, have considered the same and beg leave to report while they believe there is need of such revision and republication, still in view of the present condition of the city finances

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we do not believe the necessity so great as to render the necessary expenditures expedient, and we therefore recommend that such work be postponed.

Respectfully

W. J. Hill

L. M. Crocker

Ord. Com: Report of the ordinance committee, on an ordinance
transfer allowing the transfer of occupation license
licenses
To the Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.

Your committee on ordinance to whom was referred an ordinance authorizing the transfer of occupation licenses, by leave do report that they have considered the same, and it is reported back with the recommendation that it do pass.

Respectfully

W. J. Hill

L. M. Crocker

Report adopted.

Ord. Com Report of the ordinance committee on the petition
on Pet. of of Nancy Robertson.
Nancy Robertson
Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor.

Your committee on ordinance to whom was referred the petition of Nancy Robertson, for remission of taxes, would respectfully report that they have had the same under consideration, and for the considerations stated in the letter of the City Assessor & Collector, your committee recommend that the petition be not granted as to a release of taxes, but that the city assessor be instructed to release the lien of the city for taxes upon the payment of the taxes due without charge for cost or interest.

Respectfully

W. J. Hill

L. M. Crocker

Ord. Com: Report adopted.
on Pet. of Report of the ordinance committee on the petition
Julia A. Breed of Julia, A. Breed:

Your committee on ordinance to whom was referred the petition of Julia, A. Breed, for a reduction

of sales on lot H, (Block 40, Division 9, have had the same under consideration, and would be glad to report the same back with the recommendation that the petition be not granted, for the reason that the inequality complained of does not appear to be great, nor does it appear that the valuation made by the assessor, and board of equalization errs in excess of the true value.

Respectfully

W. J. Hill

L. W. Crooker

Report adopted.

\$8,788.65

The Finance committee introduced an ordinance appropriating the sum of \$8,788.65 for the payroll for August, 1880 and sundry approved accounts.

The ordinance was read then read second and third times under suspension of the rules and passed by the following vote. Yeas Aldermen Schneider, Metz, Gillow, Hancock, Wells, Schuber, Underhill, Madge, Warren, Crooker, Ocell, Barrington, Hill, Platt, Brush, & Brennan 16.

Resolution
on death of
Grant.

Alderman Madge introduced the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved that the Citizens of Austin, in common with the entire union, express their deepest sorrow and regret at the death of Ex-President W. S. Grant, and that they tender their sympathies to the family of the departed hero.

Resolution
lamp & sundry
Raw Jacinto
Mesquite st.

Alderman Hill offered the following resolution which was adopted.

Resolved by the city council of the city of Austin, that the Austin Gaslight & coal company be requested to erect a street lamp at the corner of Raw Jacinto & East Mesquite streets on the corner of sidewalk at the Jewish synagogue, and supply the same with gas and carbon on the same terms at which other street lamps are supplied by said company.

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Resolution Alderman Odell introduced the following resolution
 5. Gas lamps Resolved that the Austin Gaslight and coal company
 7. Ward be and are hereby authorized to furnish five street
 lamps for the seventh ward, to be located under
 the direction of the street committee and the aldermen
 from the seventh ward

The following amendments were offered:

amendment By Alderman Wells - one lamp to be located in the
 third ward.

By Alderman Brush - One lamp to be erected at the
 corner of Live Oak & Red River streets.

By Alderman Schneider - One lamp to be erected at the
 corner of Live Oak & Rio Grande streets.

By Alderman Hancock - Provided that the street
 committee find that the lamps are needed.

The resolution as amended was adopted.

Ord. for An Ordinance providing for the purchase of
 purchase of the swartie Palm tract as an addition to the city
 Palm tract cemetery, was called up.

6. Cemetery The motion to lay the ordinance on the table
 to table was lost by the following vote:

Aye - Aldermen Metz, Pillow, Wade, Crooker,
 Odell, Carrington & Platt - 7

Nays - Aldermen Schneider, Hancock, Wells,
 Schuber, Underhill, Warren, Hill, Brush & Brunner - 9

On motion the council adjourned.

S. L. Curwell

City Clerk.

Minutes adopted Aug 17th 1885