A Regular Meeting of the City Council

Austin, Tex., June 7, 1886.

Hon. J. W. Robertson, mayor, presiding.


Alderman Giesen moved that a call of the Council be made. Adopted.

Alderman Cummings came in.

Alderman Giesen moved that the call of the Council be suspended. Adopted.

Minutes of the meetings of the Council held May 17, 24, 27 and 31 were presented.

Alderman Giesen moved that the minutes of May 17th be so amended as to include this name on the affirmative side of the question to purchase the lot now occupied by Protection Hook and Ladder Company. No objection was made, and all of the above-mentioned minutes were adopted.

Alderman Holman came in.

A petition from citizens asking that obstructions on Squaw Street be removed, and stating that if they were removed petitioners would grade Squaw Street from Campasas Street east to the city limits, and bridge Wacker Road where said street crosses the same, at their expense.

On motion the petition was granted, and the city engineer instructed to remove obstructions.

Alderman Wether introduced a proposal from C. W. Shands, agent for the owners of the Stiles homestead, to sell to the city of Austin said homestead for a city cemetery.

The proposal was referred to the following special committee of Aldermen: Wether, Caldwell, Anderson, Warren, and Crooker.
A petition from A. M. Collins requesting the Council to pay a bill contracted by Pearson for the street gang, breaking water pipes, was on motion granted.

Alderman Mely Came in.

A petition from Austin Laskie and Coal Company, asking for permission to lay down a railroad track from the track of the I & E A. railroad, on Colorado street from R press street south and across Line Oak street to their sheds, was read and referred to the street committee.

Alderman Schneider Came in.

The Treasurer's report for the month of May was read and referred to the finance committee. It shows that a cash balance of $26,993.49 was on hand May 1, and that $44,660.70 were received during the month; also that there were $13,041.78 paid out, and that an unappropriated balance of $16,465.59 remains to the credit of the general fund.

The City Physician's report for the month of May was presented, read and referred to the hospital committee. It shows that there were eight patients in the hospital on May 1, and that during the month eight were discharged. Two died, fourteen admitted and that twelve remain in the hospital. Also that there were thirty cases of scarlet fever and two deaths from the disease.

The report of Warrants issued by the City Clerk during the month of May was read and referred to the finance committee. The report shows that warrants to the amount of $13,164.50 were issued.

The City Sexton's report for the month of May was read and referred to the committee on cemeteries. It shows that there were thirty-five deaths in the city during the month.

The City Marshal's report of fines assessed
in the Recorder's Court was read and referred to
the police Committee. It fixes the amount to assessed
at $828.70. Cash Collected, $303.70.
The City Marshall's report of Cash Collected by reason
of violations of the pound ordinances fixes the
amount at $106.25.
Mayor Robertson submitted the following appointments
of Aldermen and Citizens as the board of appraisement
and equalization of taxes for the year 1886, to wit:
Aldermen T. J. Campbell, W. B. Walker and
J. Johnson, and Messrs J. B. Barron and
R. C. Crow.
On motion they were confirmed
The street Committee reported favorably on
the following named ordinance:
An ordinance
appointing a special Committee to be known
as a public park committee. Action on
the report was deferred.
The same committee reported adversely
on the following named petitions:
On the petition
of Messrs. English & Co., requesting the privilege
of leasing a portion of Galiano street. Report
Adopted.
On the petition of Citizens to have streets
opened through block 29, division 0. A motion
To lay the report on the table was defeated
by a vote of 5 to 12, and a motion to adopt
was made and carried.
Alderman Anderson came in.
The committee on streets alleges et reported
adversely on the following named ordinance
and petitions:
An ordinance requiring railroads within the
Cit. of Austin to keep their tracks in good order
and fixing a penalty for violation thereof.
Alderman Walker withdrew the ordinance,
there being no objection.
On a protest of C. W. Worthington
It is, against opening of alley through block 47.
Report adopted.
The same committee presented a majority and minority report on an ordinance changing the names of some of the streets in the City of Austin.
The majority report was signed by Alderman Crooker and Helm, and the minority report by Alderman Schubel.
The majority report was favorable and was adopted.
The committee on police submitted the following:

Hon. J. W. Robertson, Mayor: Your Committee on police to whom was referred the within marshal's report for April, report find the same correct, and all cash turned over to assessor and collector.
Action on the report was deferred.
The street committee reported favorably on the petition of H. D. Shehan to drive River Street established twenty feet further south than it is at present.
The report authorizes the City Attorney to prepare the deeds and paper necessary to make the change according to the report of the City Engineer on this subject dated October 15, 1884.
The report was adopted.
The printing committee presented a report on the bids received to print the codified ordinances of the City. The report shows the following bids were received: Trip Ol & Wathan $1.50 per page, Eugene Van Rensselaer, $1.35 per page, Warner & Brougham $1.25. The report states that the printing was awarded to Warner & Brougham.
On motion the report was adopted.
The committee on ordinances reported generally on an amendment to July 28, and recommended that a committee on parts be added. No objection was made.
The amendment relates to Standing Committees. Alderman Croker moved to strike out the Committee on public works. No objection. The same Committee to whom was referred an amendment to Rule 6 (relating to the manner of acting upon ordinances) reported favorably. Action on the report was deferred. The same Committee to whom was referred an amendment to Rule 4 (fixing the order of business) reported favorably. No action was taken on the report.

The Ordinance Committee also reported favorably on a rule to have the names of the board of Aldermen called in alphabetical order. An Ordinance ordering an election by the tax-paying citizens of the City of Austin for the purpose of securing their consent to the extension of the bonded debt of the City of Austin beyond one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars was taken up on its second reading and read by sections. Alderman Warren moved to amend Section 1 by changing the time for holding the election from the first Monday in August to the first Monday in December. Adopted by a vote of 13 to 2. Alderman Pierce moved to reconsider the vote. Adopted by a vote of 11 to 5. The motion changing the time of holding the election from August to December was again voted on and rejected by a vote of 6 to 11. Alderman O'Dell moved to add the following proviso to Section 19: Provided the same may be used to purchase or connect with any power now existing. Adopted.

Alderman Arness moved to amend Section 11 by striking out "and prominent." Rejected by a vote of 7 to 11. A motion was made to suspend the rules and place the Ordinance on its third reading; which was adopted by the following vote:
June 7, 1876.


A motion was made that the ordinance do now pass, which was adopted by the following vote:


Alteman DeGrass moved a reconsideration of the vote by which C. C. Palmer was confined Sergeant of Police, and presented six petitions which were not read, but ordered filed. He then withdrew his motion.

Alteman Brush moved to amend title and chapter of the revised civil ordinances relating to annual salaries of officers and employees of the city by adding the following:

Resolved, That the words seven hundred and twenty dollars be struck out and the words two hundred and forty dollars, and that the engineer of the fire department shall fire up and test each engine once a month.

The resolution was adopted and the ordinance put on its final passage and passed.

Alteman Pillow was excused.

Alteman Odell introduced an ordinance appropriating $3,904.64 to pay approved accounts. The ordinance was read, and motions were made to suspend the rules and pass the ordinance on its second and third readings, and that the ordinance now pass, all of which were adopted by the following vote:

A motion was made and adopted requesting the mayor to allow insurance on the fire department building.

The amendments to rules 4, 6 and 20, and also the rule directing that the names of members of the board of Aldermen shall be called in alphabetical order were an motion adopted by a unanimous vote of the aldermen present - 18.

An Ordinance changing the names of some of the streets in the city of Austin was taken up. On its second reading:

Alderman Caldwell moved to amend the caption of the ordinance by striking out “changing” and “names of” and inserting “numbering” and “running east and west” Accepted.

Alderman Cummings moved to amend the ordinance by inserting that the names of the streets shall precede the numbering. Accepted.

A motion to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third reading was adopted by the following vote:


A motion was made that the ordinance do pass. Adopted.

Alderman Gress moved that the Council be called together two weeks hence to act on the Cemetery matter if the Special Committee appointed to consider the question be ready to report. Adopted.

Alderman Caldwell introduced a resolution directing the City Marshal to see the city prisoners in cleaning the potter's field and all other places in the city Cemetery as the Cemetery Committee shall direct.

Alderman Campbell moved to strike out that
portion of the resolution relating to the City Marshal and City prisoners, and insert "Cemetery Committee be empowered to employ laborers and have the work performed, and that the labor so performed shall be paid for out of the Cemetery fund." The amendment was carried and the resolution adopted.

On motion the Council adjourned.

Milton Morris
City Clerk