Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council

Austin, Tex., March 24, '57.

Hon. J.W. Robertson, Mayor, presiding.

Roll Called.


Call.

Absent: Aldermen DeGress, Metz, Schneider—3.

The Minutes of the last meeting of the Council were changed so as to show that Alderman Schuler voted no, on the passage of the ordinance appropriating $1011 for the purpose of widening East Cherry Street Bridge; they were also changed to show that the resolution regarding obstructions in Sabine Street between Fifth and Seventh streets, was adopted without a clause which related to leasing a portion of the street. (The City Clerk was absent when these errors occurred.) The minutes were then adopted as printed.

E. 14th St. Bridge

Alderman Odell presented a petition from the taxpayers and citizens of East Fourteenth Street, requesting the building of a bridge on that street over Waller Creek; also, a numerously signed petition from the citizens of the city at large requesting the same improvement. Both petitions were referred to the Committee on streets, alleys, bridges, etc.

E. Cherry St. Bridge

Alderman Schuler offered a numerously signed petition from citizens, requesting that the Cherry Street Bridge over Waller Creek be not widened, as it affords ample facilities for all present needs, and asking that the money set aside for this purpose be used to construct a bridge on North Avenue over Waller Creek.

Referred to Street Committee.

E. Cherry St. Bridge

Alderman Wellner introduced a petition signed by about 300 taxpayers and citizens of the Seventh Ward, requesting the widening of the bridge on East Cherry Street over Waller Creek as proposed. Referred to Street Committee.
Alderman Graham presented a petition from Mr. A. Van Patten, asking for permission to erect a small frame building on block 61 in the fire limits; also a petition from Mr. Lewis Hanover for permission to erect a frame house on lot 13, block 70. Both petitions were referred to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Rhoads Fisher Alderman Caldwell offered a communication from Capt. Rhoads Fisher, in regard to a complaint that has been made against him for permitting waste water from his premises to run into a gutter. Relief is asked for, there being no other means at his command of disposing of such water. Referred to Committee on Sanitation, Sewers.

Alf Schneider

A petition from persons owning property in block 44, in regard to a fence encroaching upon the alley in the block and a house on the block projecting into Cauaca street, and asking that they be removed back to the proper lines, was read and referred to the Street Committee.

Alderman Phillips introduced a memorial from Citizens of the Seventh and Eighth Wards asking that the Council give them one well graded street in the Eighth Ward, together with one bridge on Walker Creek. The memorial was read down to the signatures, and on motion of Alderman Odell, these were read, after which the memorial was referred to the Street Committee.

Alderman Cummings presented a report from the Sanitary Inspector. Two additional Leaking Carts are asked for by the Inspector. Referred to the Committee on Sanitation and Sewers.

Viola White

Mayer Robertson stated that he had remitted the fine and costs assessed by the recorder against Viola White, subject to
March 21, 1857.

Fire alarm. A memorial from the Union Fire Alarm Company of New York, proposing to furnish a system of electric fire alarm for the City for $2,995, was read and referred to the Committee on the fire department.

The city engineer submitted a report stating that he had finished reconstructing the gutters on Ocean Street, at the crossings of Brazos, San Jacinto, and Trinity streets, as per ordinance, and that there was some money not needed for this work, which he recommended be applied to repairing the gutters on the same street at the crossing of Mackay Street. On motion, the city engineer was directed to repair the gutter at Mackay Street, as suggested by him.

J. F. Pope, for the street committee, presented and recommended the adoption of a proposition or bid from Mr. J. F. Pope, which is, in effect, that he will make a complete topographical survey of the entire city together with all of the necessary maps, charts, and profiles, for the sum of $3,000. The payment of this sum is so arranged as to protect the city.

Alderman Fischer introduced the following: Be it resolved, that the mayor and street committee be instructed to enter into a contract with J. F. Pope for a topographical survey of the city of Austin, at such terms as they may agree upon; not to exceed $3,500.

Alderman Wellman moved to advertise for bids before making an award. The motion was not seconded, and the resolution offered by Alderman Fischer prevailed by the following vote: Yes, Aldermen Anderson, Brush, Caldwell, Campbell.
Cummings, Fisher, Graham, Jones, Ideel, Phillips, Schneider, Schuber, Tohsand, Walker, Warren, Mangan – 16
May - Alderman Platt & Wellner – 2
Alderman Schuber, for the Street Committee submitted a report on a petition from Mr. B. Melasky alleging that his property had been damaged by the streets being cut down around it. The report recommends that the petition be received and filed. The report was adopted.

Alderman Schuber, of the Street Committee, presented an adverse report on a petition from Jeremiah Sheehan asking to be reimbursed for money paid but for repairing water pipes that were broken by the City's Street Force. Alderman Phillips moved to recommit the petition. 
Past. Year 6: May, 11. The report was then adopted.

The Committee on finance and revenue reported adversely on the following ordinances, and the reports were adopted:

1. An ordinance directing the City Clerk to number all ordinances appropriating money and open an account with each appropriation, etc.
2. An ordinance requiring the City Treasurer to keep a separate account with each appropriation and withdraw amounts from the funds subject to appropriation, and report monthly to the Council unexpended balances not needed, etc.
3. The same Committee reported adversely on a resolution providing for return to the general fund all unexpended balances of appropriations that were made between Oct. 31, and Nov. 1, 1886. The report was adopted.
4. The same Committee also reported on an ordinance to amend article 7, on page 179, of the revised ordinances, and recommended that the same be referred to the Ordinance Committee. The report was adopted.
The Committee on Police reported that the Committee had examined the City Marshal's report for the month of January, and found the same correct. No action was had on the report.

The same Committee reported adversely on a petition of citizens of the Eighth Ward for a policeman to be placed on duty in that Ward from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Report adopted.

The special Committee appointed to consider improvements in the subject of public improvements, and the Ordinances on the subject, and to recommend where, public improvements should at once, be made, submitted their report, together with an Ordinance making appropriations to carry into effect the recommendations contained in the report. The Ordinance is entitled "An Ordinance making appropriations out of the general revenue of the current year for public improvements in the city of Austin." The report and Ordinance were read, after which a motion was made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading, which was adopted by the following vote:


The Ordinance was read a second time.

Alderman Phillips then moved to amend by striking out $800 for Culvert in First Ward and also $1,000" for opening San Marcos Street, and inserting in lieu thereof that "$1,000 be appropriated for a bridge over Walker Creek on East Hickory street, and for improvement of the streets in the Eighth Ward." The motion was defeated.

Alderman Caldwell moved to amend by adding
Alderman Caldwell moved to amend by adding $344 for a bridge over Little Shoal Creek, on West Eleventh Street. Carried.

Motions were then made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its third reading, and that it do now pass, both of which were adopted by the following vote:


Nay - Alderman Platt.

Alderman Cummings introduced an ordinance appropriating to the City Treasury $600, heretofore appropriated to construct a bridge on Willow Street.

On Motion, the rules were suspended by the following vote, and the ordinance passed:


Alderman Schneider introduced a resolution repealing the petition granting to Charles McNally the privilege to blast and quarry rock on Dolive Street, which was granted April 1, 1884. The resolution was then adopted.

Alderman Odell offered an ordinance appropriating $334.50 for the purpose of paying officers and regular employees of the City and City and County Hospital, each for the month of March, 1887. The ordinance was read first time, after which a motion was made to suspend the rules and place the ordinance on its second reading, which was adopted by the following vote:

Year - Aldermen Anderson, Brush, Caldwell, Campbell, Cummings, Fisher, Graham, Jones, Odell, Platt, Phillips, Schneider, Schueber, Townsend, Walker, Warren,
The Ordinance was then read a second time, after which Alderman Anderson moved to amend by adding the sum of $100 for the purpose of paying Washington & T. E. Co. No. 1 for house rent, for the months of December and February. Carried.

Alderman Walker moved to amend by incurring the sum of $175.67 for the purpose of paying the Statesman Publ. Co. and Greenwood Book Printing and Gas & Telephone Stationers. Adopted.

The amount in the caption was changed to $361.17, after which motions were made to suspend the rules and place the Ordinance on its third reading, and that it do now pass, both of which were adopted by the following vote:


Alderman Campbell was excused.

Alderman Platt introduced an ordinance appropriating the sum of $500 for the purpose of putting a dam in the Colorado River. The object of the ordinance is to force the main channel of the river along the north bank of the river, so that it may wash away the matter deposited there by the sewers emptying therein. The ordinance was referred to the Committee and Sewers.

Alderman Jones moved that a Committee be appointed to canvass the returns and assume the vote cast for officers of the fire department. Carried, and the Chair appointed Alderman Fisher, Pryse and Anderson as such Committee. After canvassing the returns, Alderman Fisher, for the Committee, rose and
Announced the vote as follows:

For Chief of Austin Fire Department:
- Monroe Miller: 79
- Ed. Von Rosenberg: 67
- Miller's Majority: 12

For Assistant Chief of Austin Fire Dept.:
- F. E. Jones: 72
- R.D. Cunningham: 71
- Jones' Majority: 1

For Recorder of Austin Fire Department:
- John Miller: 145

The Chair then declared Monroe Miller, F. E. Jones and John Miller, duly elected assistant chief and recorder respectively, of Austin Fire Department for the ensuing year.

On Motion, the Council then adjourned.

Milton Morris
City Clerk.