

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council.

Austin Tex, February 20, 1885.

Hon. Joseph Valle, Mayor, presiding.

Roll Roll Call. Present:

Aldermen Allsman, Fisher, Phillips, Boland, Graham, Pillow, Brush, Haigler, Platt, Caldwell, Jones, Townsend, Campbell, Linn, Wilson, DeGress, Odell, Northam - 18.

Call. Absent: Metz and Schneider - 2.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Council were adopted as printed.

C. F. Neumann Alderman Platt presented a petition from citizens asking that Canal Street be opened from Magnolia Avenue to College Avenue. Referred to Street Committee. A petition from C. F. Neumann was offered, requesting that taxes on property which was erroneously rendered by him for taxation be remitted. Referred to Finance Committee.

Ald. Schneider Alderman Schneider entered and answered to his name.

Gamewell Fire alarm Alderman Linn, by request, presented a Communication from the Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph Company, stating that that Company owns all the original patents for non-interference fire alarm signal boxes, and subsequent improvements thereon, etc, and will prosecute to the utmost extent of the law any and all parties infringing their rights.

Alderman Metz entered and answered to his name. The mayor and Alderman Brush each submitted a telegram from Chas. Hann, agent Union Fire Alarm Company, defying the Gamewell Fire Alarm Company to in anyway interfere with their patents or business. On motion of Alderman Linn, the whole matter was laid on the table.

Bridges + St. A.R. A report from the City engineer was submitted. The report again calls attention of the Council to the condition of the bridges on West Pecan, Mesquite, East Sixteenth and East Pecan Streets. It also states that the attention of Dr. W. H. Tobin

has been directed to the Condition of the track of the City railway at certain points. Referred to the Street Committee.

St. Comtee report
on Bridges.

Alderman Platt, from the street Committee, presented a report on the reports of the City Engineer regarding the Condition of bridges, Etc, which were referred to that Committee at the last meeting of the Council. The report states "that we find these bridges and streets in bad Condition, and many other street improvements needed, but with a depleted City treasury we deem it unnecessary to recommend any appropriation of money for such purposes until there is some to appropriate".

The report was ordered filed.

A. J. Jernigan

Alderman Platt, from the street Committee, also presented a report on a petition from A. J. Jernigan, asking the City to replace the stone in the gutter opposite his residence on West Pecan Street and to remove the surplus rubbish therefrom, as the same was made necessary by the work done on the street by the City. The report recommends that the petition be granted. Adopted.

City Marshals
report (Jan'y)

Alderman Graham, from the Committee on police, presented a report on the Marshals report for the month of January, stating the report had been examined and found correct. No action was taken on the report.

Cemetery ground

Alderman Caldwell, from the Cemetery Committee, reported verbally that there is $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land, north of the present Potter's field of the City Cemetery, that can be purchased for \$1,500, and also that five acres or less of the Patterson tract can be had for \$140 per acre.

Mayor's
Veto

The Mayor submitted the following Veto which was read:

Mayor's Office, Austin, Texas, February 18 1888.
To the Hon. Board of Aldermen, City of Austin:

Gentlemen - I herewith return to your honorable body without my approval "An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Committee on gas and water to contract with the Austin Water, Light & Power Company for fifty arc lights, for the period of five years". My reasons for withholding my approval to the Ordinance are that the revenues of the City are not in a Condition to justify the increased expenditures for street lighting that

the adoption of this Ordinance will entail. At present, the City is under Contract for 162 gas and oil lamps, at a cost of \$4,860 per annum.

The Ordinance under Consideration would increase this amount to \$7,500 annually, while the service rendered would be sufficient to accommodate the entire City, as fifty are lamps could not be distributed so as to light but a small portion of the resident part of the City, and we would be at once called upon by the people for additional lights. In my judgment, it would require at least 100 incandescent lights to meet the additional demand, thus swelling the aggregate expense for street lighting to nearly, if not quite, \$10,000 per annum.

I need not tell you, that, - this sum is far in excess of what the City is able to pay from her present revenues, and I can not therefore lend it my approval.

I would, however, favor the proposition originally submitted by the Austin Water, Light and Power Company to furnish the City twenty five arc lights of 2,000 Candle power each, at \$150 each per annum, and 100 incandescent lights of 25 Candle power each, at \$25 each per annum. This would increase the present expenditures from \$4,860, to \$6,250, but in view of the fact that we would receive additional light of nearly 50,000 Candle power for the increased expenditure of only \$1,200 annually, I would feel justified in lending the measure my sanction and approval. Under the present Contract to light the streets, it is stipulated that the City is to be furnished with 162 lamps of 16 Candle power each, making an aggregate of 2,592 Candle power, for which we pay \$4,860 per year. Under the original proposition of the Austin Water, Light & Power Company, they agree to furnish twenty five arc lights of 2,000 Candle power each, and 100 incandescent lights of 25 Candle power each, making an aggregate Candle power of 52,500 for \$6,250 per year, or an increase of 49,908 Candle power over present service, at an additional cost of only \$1,290 per year, or an increase of over twenty times the service

at a fraction over one-fourth the cost in increase of price. I am clearly of the opinion that under a contract covering twenty five arc and 100 incandescent lights, satisfactory service would be obtained. Twenty five arc lights erected in the business portions of the city, and 100 incandescent lights of 25 candle power each, judiciously distributed through the resident portions of the city, will afford ample and sufficient street light for all present purposes, and most probably for years to come.

I respectfully recommend, that you reconsider the ordinance.
Very Respectfully,

Joseph Nalle, Mayor.

Veto.

Alderman Pillow moved to reconsider the vote by which the ordinance was passed. Carried.

A motion was then made "shall the ordinance pass notwithstanding the veto of the mayor?" The motion was decided in the negative by the following vote. Yays:

Assmann, Boland, Brush, Caldwell, Campbell, DeGress, Fisher, Graham, Haigler, Jones, Linn, Metz, Odell, Phillips, Pillow, Platt, Schneider, Townsend, Wilson, Wortham - 20.

City Secy.

An Ordinance Creating the office of City Secretary and fixing the salary of the same was taken up on the third reading and read.

Alderman Fisher then moved to reconsider the vote by which the ordinance was passed to its third reading.

Alderman DeGress moved to lay the motion on the table. Carried.

Alderman Jones then moved that the ordinance do now pass. Debate followed; after which Alderman DeGress moved the previous question, which was duly seconded, and the Chair announced that the pending question is, shall the ordinance now pass?" and ordered the roll called, which was done and resulted as follows. Yays: Assmann, Boland, Brush, Caldwell, DeGress, Haigler, Jones, Metz, Odell, Platt, Wilson - 11.

Nays: Campbell, Fisher, Graham, Linn, Phillips, Pillow, Schneider, Townsend, Wortham - 9.

City Secy The Ordinance was then approved, and the Mayor announced that nominations for City Secretary were in order, and placed the name of Moses C. Harris in nomination. Alderman Jones moved that he be elected by acclamation, but objection being made, the Chair announced that the election must be made by ballot. Alderman Campbell then nominated Tom. S. Purnell. There being no other nominations, the Mayor directed ballots prepared, and appointed Aldermen Graham, Jones and Townsend as tellers. The ballot was then duly cast and canvassed and the result announced by the tellers as follows: Harris, 11; Purnell, 9. The Mayor then announced Moses C. Harris duly elected City Secretary.

Bridges. Alderman Pillow introduced a resolution requiring the City engineer to make an estimate of the cost of repairing the bridge on West Bear Street, over Shoal Creek, and to report the same to the Council at its next meeting. The resolution was amended so as to include estimates of cost of repairing the other bridges in the City, reported by the City engineer to be in need of repair, and was then adopted.

Alderman Asmann introduced an Ordinance appropriating \$500 to repair the stone bridge over Waller Creek on Sixteenth Street. It was read first time, after which it was, on motion, passed to its second and third reading by a vote of two-thirds of a full board, and on motion, passed.

J. & S. N. A. The Mayor presented an Ordinance granting to the International and Great Northern Railroad Company the privilege of occupying and using a portion of the alley in block No. 19, for the purpose of erecting a passenger depot for the use of said railroad Company in this City. It was read the first time, after which it was passed to its second and third reading by a vote of two-thirds of a full board, and on motion passed.

St. R. R.
(Helm)

Alderman Wilson introduced an Ordinance granting right-of-way to Thomas Helm and associates

to build a horse railroad on certain streets in the City of Austin. Referred to the Street Committee.
 Lights. Alderman DeGress introduced an Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Committee on Water & Gas to contract with the Austin Water, Light and Power Company for 25 arc and 100 incandescent lights for the period of five years.

The Ordinance was read, after which it was, on motion, passed to its second reading, by a vote of two thirds of a full board, after which Alderman Campbell moved to strike out five and insert three years as the length of time the contract should exist.

Alderman Brush moved to lay the amendment on the table. Carried. Yeas: Assmann, Boland, Brush, Caldwell, DeGress, Graham, Haigler, Jones, Metz, Odell, Phillips, Platt, Wilson, Wartham - 14

Nays: Campbell, Fisher, Linn, Pillow, Schneider, Townsend - 6.

Alderman Caldwell then moved to amend the Ordinance by striking out "twenty-five" and inserting in lieu thereof "ten" arc lights. On motion the amendment was tabled by the following vote:

Yeas: Assmann, Boland, Brush, Campbell, DeGress, Graham, Haigler, Jones, Metz, Odell, Phillips, Pillow, Platt, Townsend, Wartham - 15.

Nays: Caldwell, Fisher, Linn, Schneider, Wilson - 5.

The Ordinance was then passed to its third reading by the following vote. Yeas: Assmann, Boland, Brush, Campbell, DeGress, Fisher, Graham, Haigler, Jones, Metz, Odell, Phillips, Pillow, Platt, Townsend, Wilson, Wartham - 17.

Nays: Caldwell, Linn, Schneider.

On motion the Ordinance then passed.

Alderman DeGress introduced the following Resolved: That the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to

appoint a special Committee of ten Aldermen, one from each Ward, to locate twenty-five arc and one hundred incandescent lights." Adopted.

The Mayor then announced the Committee as follows:

First Ward -	Alderman	Schneider.
Second Ward -	"	Pillow.
Third Ward -	"	Brush.
Fourth Ward -	"	Wilson.
Fifth Ward -	"	Townsend.
Sixth Ward -	"	Wortham.
Seventh "	"	Assmann.
Eighth "	"	Phillips.
Ninth "	"	Boland.
Tenth "	"	Jones.

approved
acts. +

Feb. salaries

Alderman DeGress presented an Ordinance appropriating \$5,303.02 for the purpose of paying officers and regular employees of the City and County Hospital, each for the month of February, 1888, and also approved accounts.

Alderman Phillips moved to amend the Ordinance by inserting \$30.80 to pay The City Printing Company for job printing, &c. Adopted.

The Caption and Section One of the Ordinance were then changed to read \$5,333.82. The Ordinance was then placed on its second & third readings by a vote of two-thirds of a full board, and on motion passed by the following board. Yeas: Assmann, Boland, Brush, Caldwell, Campbell, DeGress, Fisher, Graham, Haigler, Jones, Linn, Metz, Odell, Phillips, Pillow, Platt, Townsend, Wilson, Wortham - 19.

On motion, the Council then adjourned.

Milton Morris
City Clerk.

