

Regular Meeting of the City Council

Austin, Texas, June 2nd 1874

Mayor Welness presiding, Roll called, present Alderman Crow, Raven Sheehan, Strong, and Vaughn. Alderman Vaughn moved a call of the Council, the call being sustained by three members, the Marshal was dispatched for the absentees, Aldermen Crooker, Miller, Metz Hall, and Platt appeared and answered to their names, and on motion the call was suspended.

The following business was transacted. The Minutes of May 5th, 7th and 19th were read and approved.

Petitions of Wm D. Little and S. J. Stern for license to retail liquor, granted, Reports of City Marshal, City Sexton and City Physician for the month of May were received and ordered filed, Petition of J. Sammons for pay for extra work done by him in excess of his contract, for work on the approaches to the bridge on West Bowie and Street, read and referred to the Street Committee.

Reports of G. Crow and W. M. Strong, Members of the Street Committee, on the petition of citizens of the eighth ward for a bridge in said ward together with an ordinance appropriating \$700.00 for the purpose of building said bridge, as follows.

Street Committee having under consideration the petitions referred to us, for the building of a bridge across Waller Creek on Mesquite Street or College Avenue. Most respectfully submit the following report: We find that on examination, ^{on College Avenue west of Waller Creek} considerable grading and one or two culverts would be necessary; and on Mesquite Street east of Waller Creek heavier grading and several culverts or bridges necessary, if a continued road is opened up to give access from the City, the cost of which would be considerable. Since a subscription list appears for aid in bridging and opening up the Mesquite Street way, which does not appear to be signed individually, but if responsible parties will guarantee the money and labor as promised, and become responsible to contractors for their amounts, would recommend that the bridge be located on Mesquite Street. If that is not done, Mesquite Street being graded from Waller Creek to the top of the hill near the Land Office, and College Avenue being graded from Waller Creek east giving a good outlet, a bridge and filling in could be done cheaper on the avenue than Mesquite. Also find the Streets good and well graded from one street to another on each side of the creek, all of which is most respectfully submitted
G. Crow.

Austin Texas June 2nd 1874

To the Honorable Mayor and board of Aldermen of the City of Austin,

Gentlemen - The undersigned Member of your Committee on Streets to which Committee was referred the papers pertaining to the bridging and grading of College Avenue and Mezquit Street, would respectfully submit the following: upon an examination of the papers and estimates for about the same distance to be graded on each Street as estimated, I find that for College Avenue the amount is \$20000.⁰⁰ and for Mezquit Street \$1850.⁰⁰ leaving a difference in favor of Mezquit Street of \$150.⁰⁰ Recognizing the fact that there exists a necessity for an outlet from East Avenue to Congress Avenue, I introduced a resolution requesting the City Engineer to furnish this Council an estimate for grading the distance referred to on College Avenue. The City Engineer was also requested to make a survey of Mezquit Street, which he did with the above result. I was under the impression, from a casual glance at the two Streets that College Avenue could be graded and bridged cheaper than Mezquit Street. No one doubts the pressing necessity for a good sewer leading West to Congress Avenue, and as the estimates show that Mezquit Street can be graded and bridged for less money than College Avenue it should have the preference. It will be remembered that the Citizens residing east of East Avenue petitioned the Legislature to set them outside the Corporation, claiming as one of the reasons therefor that they had secured compensation no benefit from the City taxes paid by them. They failed in their endeavor. Still remain in the City and continue to pay taxes, and it is but right that they should receive their proportion of taxes expended in improvements. Further grading will have to be done east of East Avenue, but in petition presented to this Council about \$125. in money and one hundred and seventy days work were subscribed, which the undersigned believes will be paid, which will do the grading necessary to be done.

Therefore the undersigned recommends that a sufficient amount be appropriated to grade and bridge Mezquit Street if the financial condition of the City will permit. - Respectfully,

A. M. Strong of this Committee.

Reports received and on Motion the ordinance passed by the following vote.

Yeas. Alderman Coow, Crocker Miller, Hall, Thuman Strong and Vaughan. Nays - Alderman Paven. Absent Not voting. Aldermen Metz and Platt.

Alderman Paven asked permission to explain his vote and

* More people would be benefited thereby as regards numbers etc. which is another reason for the preference.

have his reasons spread upon the Minutes. Which were as follows:

I Vote No for the following reasons:

1. It is not a suitable place for a bridge, there is no outlet on the east side of the Creek for a public road
 2. The ground on the east side is too high and too low on the west side of the Creek, and therefore the property in the vicinity will be in danger of being overflowed, and will involve the City in lasting law suits for damages
 3. The appropriation of \$750⁰⁰ is insufficient to construct a bridge and a continual appropriation will be called for
- Alderman Miller moved that the work on said bridge be not commenced until a sufficient amount of money is in the treasury from the tax of 1879 to pay for the same.

Motion carried unanimously

Report of Street Committee.

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council

In reference to the matter referred to us in regard to the improvement of the stone bridge on West Pecan Street, and after examining the bridge, have come to the conclusion that it cannot be well repaired and that it is better to have a new one built, and believe it should be some eight feet wider and two feet higher than the present one and that the foundation should rest on solid rocks, and the sides and arches should be made of solid masonry. - G. Crow.

Report received

Resolution appropriating \$600, to erect a bridge over a branch of Shore Creek on West Pecan Street, read first time and on motion the rules were suspended and the resolution placed on its second reading by the following vote

Yeas. Alderman Crow, Millet, Metz, Hall, ^{Platt} Raven, Sheehan Strong and Vaughn. Nays. Alderman Cropper.

Resolution read second time, and on motion the rules were further suspended and the resolution placed on its third reading by the following vote.

Yeas. Alderman Crow Metz, Hall, Platt, Raven, Sheehan and Vaughn. Nays. - Alderman Cropper, Millet, & Strong

Resolution read third time and on motion passed by the following vote, Yeas. - Alderman Crow Metz, Hall Sheehan and Vaughn

Nays - Alderman Cropper Millet, Platt, Raven and Strong, - There being a tie vote his Honor the Mayor cast his vote in the affirmative

The following report was presented by the Committee of Citizens on roads to be done on Board of Public Works, said of

East Avenue.

Austin, Texas, June 21st 1879

To the Honorable Mayor of Austin

Dear Sir - We the undersigned parties were appointed to serve on a Committee with Mr Lowday, to devise the best Method of using an appropriation of \$25000 to be expended on improving Bond & Arc Street from East Avenue outwards. We dissent from the views set forth by Mr Lowday, believing that the appropriation should be used where it would be the greatest benefit to the greatest number of Tax payers. We would suggest that the whole amount be spent on repairing Bond & Arc Street from East Avenue as far as the appropriation will go. The first hill on Bond & Arc Street from East Avenue is now in an almost impassible condition. To expend the whole amount in repairing this hill, would be the most judicious course to follow, and no room would be left for parties to infer that the work was done in the interest of any mans property, very respectfully,

A. B. Robinson, W. J. Matthews

On Motion action was postponed on the report until the next regular meeting.

Communication from the boards of fire Commissioners, asking an appropriation of \$15000 each per month of the Hook & Ladder Companies of the City for feeding stabling and shoeing of their Horses. - read and adopted

A Resolution appropriating \$45000 per month, for feeding, taking care of and shoeing of the Horses of the three Hook & Ladder Companies of this City, was read the first time and on Motion the rules were suspended and the resolution read the second time.

Alderman Miller Moved to amend by striking out \$15000 and inserting \$10000 for each fire company in the City

On Motion of Alderman Vaughn, the amendment was laid on the table, there being a tie vote the Mayor voted in the affirmative

Alderman Platt Moved to amend by striking out \$15000 inserting \$19000

On Motion of Alderman Vaughn the Motion was laid on the table, the Mayor voting in the affirmative. *

On Motion the rules were suspended and the resolution read third time and passed.

By Alderman Platt, an ordinance to abolish the office of Master Master and Health Inspector, read first time and on Motion referred to the Ordinance Committee

An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor and Committee on fire departments to contract with the City Water Company

* Alderman Hall Moved to amend by striking out \$15000 and inserting \$8000 on Motion of Alderman Vaughn, the Motion was laid on the table, there being a tie vote the Mayor voted in the affirmative

for ten Hydrants, Alderman Crow moved to amend:

"At least one Hydrant in each ward. Lost.
Alderman Halle moved to amend by substituting fountains
fountains instead of Hydrants, where ever the City Council may desire.
Carried.

Ordinance read third time under a suspension of the rules
and passed as amended.

An Ordinance to authorize the Mayor of the City of Austin
to enter into an agreement and make a lease with Jervis^{4th}
Gless for the City Mill property, read second time

Alderman Halle moved to amend by adding "Provided that
said Jervis and Gless shall place not less than \$10,000⁰⁰ worth
of machinery on said property within six months from the
passage of this ordinance

On Motion of Alderman Metz, the amendment was laid on the table.

Alderman Crow moved to amend by fixing the rent of said
property at \$100.00 per annum. Carried.

A Motion was made to reconsider the vote by which Alderman
Crow's amendment was adopted, Lost.

Alderman Platt, Moved to lay the whole Matter on the table. Lost.

A Motion to suspend the rules to place the ordinance on its third
reading was lost two thirds not voting in the affirmative
Resolution appropriating \$200.00 to repair and extend the
wings to Chesnut street bridge.

Read first time, and on motion to suspend the rules lost two
thirds not voting in the affirmative

Petitions of Citizens of the eighth ward for the erection of
a street lamp at the corner of Mulberry and San Jacinto
Streets, granted.

An Ordinance regulating Hackes, Carriages Omnibuses &c.
read first, second, and third times and passed under a
suspension of the rules.

An Ordinance for the relief of persons whose property has
been sold for taxes and bid in by the City,

Read first, second, and third times and passed under a suspension
of the rules

An Ordinance authorizing the appointment of special policeman
Read first time, and motion to suspend the rules lost, two thirds
not voting in the affirmative

Application of C. Anderson for leave of absence - Granted.

On Motion of Alderman Vaughn, the Mayor was authorized
to appoint a committee of Citizens, to convene and act in
conjunction with a committee of Aldermen with a view to
establish a system of sewerage in the City.

The Mayor appointed as such Committee of Citizens, the following gentlemen: Messrs Walter Tipton, Eugene Bronson, W. Bruegginkhoff, Monroe Miller, J. V. Sweeney, J. H. Robinson, B. Radzey, J. N. Raymond and A. W. Ferris. Aldermen Vaughn, Platt, Metz, Shuman and Millet were appointed on the part of the board of Aldermen, and on Motion his honor the Mayor was added to the Committee.

By Aldermen Vaughn, a Resolution to appoint two additional Policemen, read and referred to the Police Committee.

There being no further business, on Motion the Council adjourned.

Approved

Approved July 7 1879

L. M. Bradley,
City Clerk