Called Meeting of City Council
January 18, 1878

Council called to order at 4:30 P.M.
Mayor De Bries in the chair

Roll called and the following members answered:

Alderman Hovey, Kelly, Hall, and Shufan.
Abstain: Alderman Brooker, Miller, Nellis, Kentley, Platt and String.
No Quorum.

Alderman Hovey moved a call of the Council read pursuant to the Marshal's direction to bring in the absentees.

Alderman Platt, String, and Nellis came in answer and took their seats. Quorum present.

On motion of Alderman Hovey the call of the Council was renewed.

On motion of Alderman Nellis the reading of the Journal of last meeting was dispensed with.

No motion the City fathers to Council that he had called them together at the request of the Committee appointed January 7th to examine the Resolutions of the Bay Water Company as said Committee would submit their report, and to receive reports from standing committees, and to lay before them for their action Petitions from A. J. McCreary & Co. and Coffee Dock and Ladder Company. Also to present to the City Message Vetoing a resolution passed January 7th in relation to the Closing of Certain Outlets on the Houston and Texas Central Railway between East Avenue and their Round House.

Petition of Coffee Dock and Ladder Company stating that there was not sufficient room in their Round House to properly handle their apparatus and asking that the house be lengthened fifteen feet, as ordered by the Chief of Fire Department.

On motion of Alderman Hovey the petition was received and referred to Committee on Fire Department.

Petition of A. J. McCreary to asking permission to change the location of a certain planter attached to their building situated on Congress Avenue.

On motion of Alderman Platt the petition...
was received and referred to the Stock and Fire Committee.

On the 16th the Mayor presented the following Message.

Mayor's Office, Austin, Texas

January 16th, 1878

To the

Low Board of Aldermen

City of Austin

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to return herewith a Resolution appointing the Stock Committee a special committee with authority to fill up certain
Culverts on the Central R.R., now near the freight depot, leased by your Honorable Body on the 16th, with my objections thereto.

I do not believe the City has the power to interfere in any way with the property of citizens or corporations. This Resolution confers this power on the Stock Committee; if the Central R.R. refuse to comply with the directions of said Committee,

In my opinion, the City would be liable for damages if interfering with any of the Culverts if said R.R.

Article 4146 and 4148 of the City Ordinances

If the ordinance to do away with this evil which the

Resolution is designed to cover.

Very Respectfully,

J. C. De Goes

Mayo

The motion of Alderman Hall the message

from the Mayor was received and referred to the

Ordinance Committee.

The Special Committee appointed to the

amend the Reservoir of the City Water Company

submitted the following report.

Austin, January 16th, 1878

Mayor, Board of Aldermen

City of Austin

The object of your resolution passed

on the 16th authorizing us a Committee to

examine the Reservoir of the Austin City Water

Company, and report whether the said Company
has fulfilled with its contract with the City of Austin in having completed a Reservoir of Certain described Capacity and in working order on the first day of January A.D. 1878. Have the honor to report that we have visited the Reservoir and found it filled with about eight feet of water, which prevented us from seeing the bottom of the bottom and sides that had been excavated, but the President of the Company, Capt. M. T. Meador, who was present at the time, told us how the work had been completed, and when we were satisfied his statement as to its completion were true, we went and requested the cause the Company trouble or expense of having the water drained off, which would also have caused your Committee several days delay in making their report, but without their statement as true, we found the ground has been excavated to the depth of about eight feet from the surface and the dirt placed around the excavation forming an embankment of about twenty-five feet at the base and twelve feet at the top and about nine feet thick, making seventeen feet from the bottom of the excavation to the top of the embankment. Its capacity we discard from this report, as we had no way of measuring it, but from information we got from the City Engineer, we have the doubt if its capacity is sufficient, and the contract in that particular has been complied with, but in the fact that we find no reason of any kind need for lining the reservoir, or any provision made to prevent the contents filling in from the water at the embankment, which would in a very short time greatly lessen its capacity, or else it would constantly require cleaning out, at which time it would be a great inconvenience to the Water Consumers. Therefore we decline being parties in deciding upon such work. We can not come to any other conclusion than that the Reservoir is incomplete and that the Austin City Water Company has failed to comply with its contract with the City of Austin in having completed a Reservoir and in working it in obedience by the first day of January A.D. 1878.

Respectfully submitted.
Tall, Know, Strong, State

Alderman Tall moved that the report be reserved and adopted and the Committee be discharged.

Report of Street Committee

Austin Tate

January 15, 1848

To the Hon. Mayor and City Council

Your Committee to whom was referred the Ordinance for appropriating five hundred and fifty dollars for repairing the approaches to South Street off Bridge, have the honor to report, that they have carefully examined and investigated the same, and respectfully recommend that it do not pass. And sundry herewith an Ordinance as a substitute for the same, and respectfully recommend its passage.

Joseph Tall

To the Strong

Street Committee

By Street Committee, An Ordinance Appropriating Funds for the repair of South Street Bridge and approaches. Signed this Day and Sent on for Action. This Committee 8 January

Official Copy of Draft

John W. Holcomb

City Clerk