Called Meeting of City Council
November 17th 1877

Council called to order at 8.10 P.M.
Mayor DeGress in the Chair
Roll called and the following Members answered
Aldermen Miller, Millett, Markley, Nalle, Platt
Sheehan, and Strong
Absent Aldermen Brown, Brooker and Metty
Sickness present

On Motion of Alderman Millett the City Attorney was excused from attendance on the Meeting for the Evening

Alderman Brooker and Metty came in and answered

The Journal of last Meeting was read and approved

His Honor the Mayor submitted the following report

Mayors Office
Austin Tex Nov 17th 1877

To the
Honorable Board of Aldermen
Austin Texas

Gentlemen

We are about entering upon a new administration of the City's affairs. The public expects us to either reduce our taxation our bonded indebtedness, let our action be directed to this purpose. We can accomplish this if we work in harmony and with an Eye single to Austins prosperity

Let us forget the asperities engendered during the last election and work hand in hand for the good of the City

I have no policy of my own to advance regarding our finances, but believe with the assistance of the Finance Committee and the Co-operation of the Council we can improve our financial condition and appreciate the value of the City's papers

The Contracts between the City of Austin and John T Clark for Printing. Dr's Tobin for furnishing Medicines and John Gordon for lighting our Oil Lamps have Expired

I would therefore recommend that the Mayor be authorized to advertise for bids, and that and that the Mayor and the respective Committees meet at the time set forth in the advertisement for bids and award the

the contracts

I desire to call your attention to the necessity of codifying our city Ordinances. a large number of them have been repealed and others conflict with the charter. I therefore recommend that One or More Attorneys be employed to codify the Ordinances of the City

Very Respectfully

J. to De Gress

Mayor

On Motion of Alderman Miller the report of the Mayor was received and referred to the appropriate Committees

On Motion of Alderman Walle the Mayor was authorized to advertise for proposals for the supplies &c as set forth in the report of the Mayor and that the Contracts for furnishing the same continue until the new Contracts are awarded

The Mayor stated that it was necessary for the accomodation of the Members of the Council that sufficient furniture be purchased for their accomodation

Alderman Walle moved that the City Marshal be directed to purchase to purchase Ten (10) Chairs and Ten (10) Desks for the use and benefit of the City Council Carried

Alderman Platt moved to reconsider the vote for the purchase of Desks and Chairs for Council Chamber

The Yeas and Nays ordered and the Motion to reconsider lost by the following vote

Yeas Aldermen Brooker. Miller. Markly and Platt

Nays Aldermen Millett. Metz. Walle Sheahan and Strong

The Bonds of J. H. Howard as City Treasurer and Fred Sterzing as City Assessor and Collector was presented received and ordered approved

The Chairman of the Fire Committee (C. F. Millett) Presented an Ordinance to amend Articles N° 44 & 9 of the Ordinances of the City of Austin

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The Ordinance was read and passed to second reading.

Alderman Markly moved to suspend the rules and put the Ordinance on its second reading

The Yeas and Nays ordered and the Motion to suspend the rules lost by the following vote

Yeas Aldermen Millett. Markly Metz. Walle Platt and Strong

Mayo Cranston Miller and Sheehan

The Mayor Nominated D. D. Withers as City Clerk and asked his Confirmation

Aldermen Millett and Platt were appointed as Tellers

Alderman Platt moved to postpone action on the Nomination Lost

The vote on the Confirmation of the Nomination for City Clerk was taken by ballot. The tellers after receiving and counting the votes announced the following result.

For Confirmation Three (3) Against Confirmation Six (6).

The Council refused to Confirm the Nomination

By Alderman Walle. Whereas there is great damage being done to the property of Citizens in that part of the City lying south of the Central Railroad and East of East Avenue, by the drainage of water that flows from the south side of Robinsons hills through the Culverts of the Houston and Texas Central Railroad.

Therefore be it Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin. That the Mayor is hereby instructed to open Correspondence with the proper Officers of said Company and request that they open the drainage down by their road bed along Pine Street on the North side of said road to Waller Creek, or in such other way as may be desired, most practicable to prevent the further damage to said property. And that he cause the City Attorney to examine and decide what legal rights the City may have if any, against said Company in case they refuse to comply with the request made by this resolution and report results to this board at its next meeting

On Motion of Alderman Miller the resolution was adopted

By Alderman Markley. Resolved That a special Committee of three be appointed Consisting of Alderman Brown, Cranston and Miller with power to Employ a competent Accountant to assist in Examining the Books Vouchers Etc of the Office and report to this Council at their earliest convenience

Alderman Moved that the resolution be adopted

The Mayor announced the resolution and instructed Clerk that they could not employ an accountant without

Making an appropriation by ordinance

By Alderman Crooker Be it Resolved that his Honor the Mayor be requested to notify the City Railroad Company that they must remove the abandoned track in front of the Residences of Drs Hooten. McGowen and Gabin and fill up the hole left by the removal of their Turn Table and otherwise leave the Street in as good condition as when they Commenced laying their track

On Motion of Alderman Nalle the resolution was adopted

On Motion of Alderman Nalle the Mayor was added to the Committee to consider the propriety of receiving visitors to this city from the various cities as per communication from Board of Trade

On Motion of Alderman Millett the City Marshal was directed to see that the Sprinkling Carts sprinkle the Streets in a proper manner

On Motion of Alderman Miller the City Attorney was instructed to the City Council his opinion on the legality of the Ordinance for Superintending Block

Alderman Nalle moved that the City Engineer be requested to read and explain the Contract for guttering East Pecan Street.

The City Engineer came within the bar of Council and read the Contract together with the Specifications for doing said work

Alderman Millett moved that a Committee of two be appointed to examine the work of guttering East Pecan Street said Committee to act in connection with the Street Committee

Alderman Millett withdrew his motion

Alderman Miller moved that a special Committee of of five including the Street Committee be appointed to examine the work now being done on East Pecan Street and ascertain if the work is being done in compliance with the Contract

Alderman Nalle moved to amend by giving the Committee power to make such changes in the work as they deem proper with the consent of the Contractors and report to the City Council their action

Alderman Millett offered the following substitute that a Committee of five be appointed

to examine the work on East Pecan Street and make such changes in the work as will be to the best interest of the City. Substitute lost

Alderman Miller accepted the amendment of Alderman Walle.

On Motion of Alderman Markley the resolution as amended was adopted

On Motion the Council adjourned

John T. Hubbard
City Clerk

Called Meeting of City Council
November 22nd 1875

Council called to order at 7.45 P.M.
Mayor De Cress in the Chair

Roll called and the following Members answered.

Aldermen Crow. Crockett. Miller Mallett Markley. Metz. Nall. Platt Sheehan and Strong
Absent Stone Quorum present

The Journal of last Meeting was read and approved

The City Attorney submitted the following report

Austin Texas
Nov 19th 1875

To the

Hon Mayor and Board of Aldermen

At the last meeting of your honorable body my attention was called to the ordinances and amendments thereto existing - relating to the running at large in the City limits of horses cattle and other animals enumerated and set out in said ordinances. Under the general powers conferred on the Mayor and Council Sec 41 the authority in the Charter is plainly given. The only question