

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL: Austin, Texas, Dec. 12, 1918.

The Council was called to order by the Mayor. Roll call showed the following present: Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes, and Powell, 5; absent none.

The minutes of Dec. 5 and 7 were read and approved by a vote of 5 yeas, no nays.

The October report of the Superintendent of the Water, Light and Power Department, and the November reports of the City Physician, Sanitary Inspector, Assistant City Clerk, Secretary of the United Charities, City Engineer, Fire Chief, and City Marshal, were read and ordered filed.

Councilman Anthony nominated J. J. Conn (watchman for the Baum Junk Company) to be a special policeman without pay. The nomination was confirmed by the following vote: Yeas, Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Bartholomew, Haynes, and Powell, 4; nays none; Councilman Anthony not voting.

The Mayor laid before the Council the following resolution:

Whereas, through an error of calculation, the City Assessor and Collector collected from Mrs. Lizzie F. Jones \$3.04 too much interest on her taxes, paid by her on Oct. 1, 1918; and

Whereas, upon the discovery of the error, the amount of \$3.04 was refunded to the said Mrs. Jones out of the funds in the Assessor and Collector's possession; therefore

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That the sum of \$3.04 be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the General Contingent fund of this city and made payable to Fred Sterzing, Assessor and Collector, for the purpose of finally rectifying the error in question.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 5 yeas, no nays.

APPROVED, Dec. 12, 1918: A. P. Wooldridge, Mayor.

A letter from C. L. Woodward, Fire Chief, was read, calling attention to the absence of an automatic fire alarm system in Austin and placing himself on record as having given due warning. In accordance with his request, the letter is here reproduced:

Austin, Texas, December 12, 1918.

The Honorable Mayor & Board of Commissioners,
City of Austin.

Gentlemen:

I hereby call your attention to the fact that this community is still without a proper Fire Alarm System and therefore constantly penalized by the Insurance Interests; that we are still depending entirely upon Telephone service for alarms; that many phones are not available after stores, shops and business houses close in the evening and also all day Sundays and Holidays from time of closing Saturday night until Monday morning. Also that Telephone alarms are unreliable and often misunderstood and misleading.

In case of Storms, Lightning or large fires, telephone cables are often disturbed for days, and hundreds of telephones are out of service, hence The National Board of Fire Underwriters, the various State Insurance Bureaus and all prominent Fire Chiefs highly recommend the installation

Reports

*J. J. Conn
Special to
Councilman*

*Mrs. Lizzie F.
Jones.
Error corrected
(Taxes)*

*C. L. Woodward
Letter on need
of fire alarm
system*

of Standard Fire Alarm Systems for Cities and Towns of our class and population.

For the foregoing reasons, I wish to go on record now and have my recommendation spread on the minutes of the next regular meeting, that a fire alarm system be installed in the near future for the proper protection of at least that property lying within and adjacent to the fire limits.

This necessary improvement would tend to keep our insurance rates from going still higher, if not reduce them somewhat. The past penalties would have purchased several fire alarm systems, and I respectfully suggest that your honorable Body seriously consider this subject at an early date.

Very respectfully submitted,

(Signed) C. L. Woodward,

Chief of Fire Department.

Councilman Anthony offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That one-half, or \$7.40, of the fine assessed against C. R. Collins for fast driving of an automobile, in Cause No. 13148, Corporation Court of the City of Austin, be and the same is hereby remitted. This action is taken by reason of the exceptional hardship which the fine entails in this case, and for the further reason that the said Collins has not heretofore been an offender against the city ordinances.

The resolution was passed by a vote of 5 yeas, no nays.

APPROVED, Dec. 12, 1918: A. P. Wooldridge, Mayor.

The Council discussed a request of citizens that they be permitted to move a small wooden building from Penn Field and place it against the curb just north of the I. & G. N. tracks on the west side of Congress avenue, for a period of months, for use as a canteen from which to distribute sandwiches and coffee to soldiers coming and going on the railroads. It was agreed by the Council that the desired permission would be granted, provided that it should prove that not enough vacant space was available inside the property line at that point.

The Mayor laid before the Council the following resolution:
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS:

That the sum of One Thousand Ninety-eight Dollars and Fifty-nine Cents (\$1,098.59) be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any fund in the General Street Fund that is not otherwise appropriated for the purpose of paying the Texas Bitulithic Company for the paving of the Colorado street and Sixteenth street intersection and for the paving of the alley intersection on Sixteenth street between Colorado street and Congress avenue, and for the paving of an area of 12.7 square yards (as extra paving on Sixteenth street between Colorado and Lavaca streets on account of extra width of street).

The detailed estimates for the said above described paving being properly approved and on file in the office of the City Clerk.

*C. R. Collins
Fine*

*Can be
Permission to
locate on Congress
avenue near Depot*

*Approp. to by
Texas Bitulithic Co.
for paving in
A. P. Wooldridge*

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 5 yeas, no nays.

APPROVED, Dec. 12, 1918: A. P. Wooldridge, Mayor.

The Mayor laid before the Council the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS:

That the sum of One Thousand Six Hundred and Fifteen and 52/100 Dollars (\$1,615.52) be and the same is hereby appropriated out of any fund in the General Street Fund that is not otherwise appropriated for the purpose of paying the Texas Bitulithic Company for the paving of the Fifth street and Lavaca street intersection and for the paving of the alley intersection on Lavaca street between Fifth and Sixth streets, the detailed estimates for the said street and alley intersections being properly approved and on file in the office of the City Clerk.

The resolution was passed by a vote of 5 yeas, no nays.

APPROVED, Dec. 12, 1918: A. P. Wooldridge, Mayor.

The Council then adjourned.

V. M. ...

City Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL: Austin, Texas, Dec. 14, 1918.

The Council met with all members present.

Councilman Anthony offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That one-half, or \$7.40, of the fine and costs in the case of H. H. Finch (Cause No. 13168, Corporation Court of this city), for fast driving of an automobile, be and the same is hereby remitted; this being a first offense and the circumstances not being aggravated.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 5 yeas, no nays.

APPROVED, Dec. 14, 1918: A. P. Wooldridge, Mayor.

December 16, 1918.

Councilman Anthony offered the following resolution:

RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That one-half, or \$7.40, of the fine and costs assessed against W. C. Storey, for fast driving of an automobile, in Cause No. 13154, Corporation Court of the City of Austin, be and the same is hereby remitted. This action is taken in consideration of the following facts: Although the fine in this case was entered against the said W. C. Storey, by his agreement, he having been an occupant of the automobile at the time of the offense complained of, the person actually driving the automobile was a visitor in Austin and consequently was not informed with respect to traffic regulations here.

The resolution was passed by a vote of 5 yeas, no nays.

APPROVED, Dec. 16, 1918: A. P. Wooldridge, Mayor.

*Appl. to pay
Texas Bitulithic
Co. for paving
intersections*

*H. H. Finch
Fine*

*W. C. Storey
Fine*