

Council Chambers, Dec 15, 1902

Regular session.

Called to order by President Haarer.

Roll call. Present—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Koch, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Johnson, Roberts, Grose, Pres. Haarer—10.

Absent—Ald. Schumacher, Coon, Jenney, Burg, Fischer—5.

Minutes of previous meeting read, corrected and approved.

Enter Ald. Coon.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR.

Mayor's Office.

Ann Arbor, Mich., Dec. 15, 1902.

Mr. Jas. E. Harkins, City Clerk.

Dear Sir:—I return with my disapproval that portion of the proceedings of the Common Council relating to the payment of the Supervisors and Aldermen for services rendered as inspectors of election. It was intended by the Common Council to include in the lump sum allowed each inspector, the amounts due for time spent attending boards of review, public hearings, registration and performing other duties outside the daily routine of aldermanic life.

The action of the council has been misunderstood, because a much larger sum was voted than has ever been allowed before. The public, ever ready to criticise its officials, immediately pointed at the act as a "salary grab," and most vigorously protested against it.

Permit me to recommend that each official of the city render an account of time actually spent in performing their duties and that, in accordance with section 69 of the Charter, the Common Council allow proper compensation, "not exceeding two dollars per day for every day actually employed in the performance of the duties." This will make the action legal and better satisfy the taxpayer.

At best official life is a bed of thorns. In my opinion, every official is inadequately rewarded. The Mayor, for instance, with a salary of one dollar per year, demands such an

expenditure of time, energy and money as no citizen with a multitude of private interests can really afford to give. But when an office is once accepted, it is the moral and legal duty of the official to bend every effort toward conscientiously filling it. He must look for his reward, not in money, but in the thanks of the community for in all human probability he will not receive them, but in the consciousness of performing his whole duty as a public official.

In this particular matter the law makes clear the amount due each Alderman and Supervisor. When accounts have been rendered and warrants drawn in accordance with the Charter, I will cheerfully sign them.

R. S. COPELAND,
MAYOR.

Ald. Grose moved that the mayor's communication be placed on the table. Carried.

By Ald. Hamilton:

Resolved that rule 21 be suspended. Carried.

By Ald. Hamilton:

Resolved that the police, firemen, and the salaried employees of the city, be allowed their pay for this month in advance, and that the Clerk be authorized to make out warrants for the same.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Koch, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Johnson, Roberts, Grose, Coon, Pres. Haarer—11. Nays—None.

Ald. Coon moved that the Council appoint a fence viewer in each ward. Carried. Whereupon the nominations for the several wards were made:

- First ward—B. F. Watts.
- Second ward—Eugene Oesterline.
- Third ward—Morgan Williams.
- Fourth ward—William Boyle.
- Fifth ward—Newton Felch.
- Sixth ward—Comstock Hill.
- Seventh ward—A. J. Sawyer, Jr.

On motion were made the unanimous choice of the Council.

Enter Ald. Schumacher.

BONDS.

Ald. Douglas presented the liquor bond and sureties of Wm. N. Henan and moved same be approved.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Koch, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Schumacher, Johnson, Roberts, Grose, Fischer, Pres. Haarer—12. Nays—None.

By Ald. Douglas:

Whereas, Bridget Foley, a resident of the city of Ann Arbor, on or about the 1st day of September, 1902, presented to the Common Council of the city of Ann Arbor, then in session, a petition signed by Joan R. Miner and ten others, setting forth that so much of Twelfth street as originally platted lying between the north line of Huron street and the south line of Ann street in the city of Ann Arbor, has never been opened or used for travel, or in any way accepted by the said city of Ann Arbor, as a part of said Twelfth street; and that in consequence thereof by private enterprise buildings have been built in and upon portions of said street as originally platted; and respectfully soliciting this council to investigate the said subject, and to vacate so much of said street as originally platted lying between Huron and Ann street aforesaid, and

Whereas, this council has investigated the subject matter referred to in said petition, and have ascertained from such investigation that Twelfth street as originally platted lying between Huron street and Ann street has never been accepted by said city, nor in any way been used or occupied as a street, and that said lands have always been used as private property, and have become part of personal ownership, and improvements and buildings have been placed thereon by private enterprise, and

Whereas said portion of said street is not needed as a street or for street purposes,

Now Therefore, be it resolved that so

much of said Twelfth street as originally platted lying between the north line of Huron street and the south line of Ann street in the Fourth ward of the city of Ann Arbor be and the same is hereby vacated and set aside, and *vela for naught*.

Lost as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Schumacher, Grose, Pres. Haarer—5. Nays—Ald. Koch, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Johnson, Roberts, Coon—7.

Ald. Koch presented a verbal report on the Pest House and was on request given further time.

Enter Ald. Fischer.

By Ald. Coon:

Resolved that the Board of Public Works be requested to submit their annual report as soon as possible after Jan. 1st. Carried.

Ann Arbor, Mich., Dec. 15, 1902.
To the Common Council:

Gentlemen:—Your special committee on parks would make the following report. Lot 114 in block 3, R. S. Smith's third addition to the city of Ann Arbor, and owned by the estate of Sylvia E. Smith can be bought for four hundred and seventy five (\$475) dollars for park purposes. In the matter of the John and Sarah Mosely property the representatives of the persons named \$2,100 as the probable price for which the land may be obtained with good title.

Respectfully submitted.

HAMILTON,
GROSE,
COON.

Committee.

On motion the report was accepted.
By Ald. Fischer:

Resolved that a light be placed on Greenwood avenue between East University avenue and Packard street.

Referred to lighting committee.

By Ald. Koch:

Resolved that the communication of the mayor be taken from the table.
Carried.

By Ald. Schlenker:

Resolved that the action of the Council relative to the aldermen's pay be sustained the mayor's veto notwithstanding.

Lost as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Koch, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Schumacher, Johnson, Rob-

erts, Fischer, Pres. Haarer—9. Nays—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Grose, Coon—4.

On motion the Council adjourned.

JAS. E. HARKINS,

City Clerk.