

COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
Ann Arbor, July 17, 1893. }

Regular session.

Called to order by President Watts.

Roll called. Quorum present.

Absent—Ald. Wagner. Herz, O'Mara, Taylor—4.

The journal of the last session was approved.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

*To the Common Council of the City of Ann Arbor:*

GENTLEMEN: I would respectfully ask leave of your Honorable Body to erect a barn on lot number 10, block 3 north, range 4 east. Said lot is on North Fourth avenue, between Catherine and Beakes streets.

M. J. MARTIN.

Dated July 10, 1893.

Referred to Fire Department Committee.

A petition signed by John Young and other residents and property holders of the city of Ann Arbor, asking that a sidewalk be ordered built on the east and west sides of Mary street, from Packard to Edwin streets.

Referred to Sidewalk Committee.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

*To the Common Council:*

Your Committee, to whom was referred your resolution directing an investigation of the water supply for the city as affecting domestic consumption, beg leave to report that on the 7th day of July your Committee visited the Water Company's pumping station and reservoir, and found that while the supply of water from the Company's wells seemed fairly ample and of good quality for domestic use, the pumping machinery was out of repair, and at the time not of sufficient strength to supply the city. We also found the Company to be practically out of a supply of fuel for pumping purposes. The wells, or supply seemed to your Committee to be on the decline and not as strong as one year ago, and your Committee were strongly impressed with the opinion that other wells or larger wells would have to be constructed in the near future, or a supply from some other sources be obtained, or the Company would have to

discontinue the supply of water for mechanical purposes.

Your Committee next directed their attention to the river at the point of the Company's connections, and found the water wholly unfit for domestic purposes. It is but fair to the Company to state, in this connection, that the Company make a strong denial of making use of the river for any purpose.

Your Committee also visited the reservoir and catch basins, and found a condition which we can only designate as a disgrace both to the Company and its managers. These catch basins and the reservoir can be said to be mud-holes only. No person having a decent regard for his health would think of staying near their stinking influences, much less drinking from these seeming impurities. What will remedy this unwholesome condition your Committee is at a loss in a measure to suggest.

Your Committee feel that the managers of the Water Company ought to be severely censured, in these particulars:

1st. For permitting the fuel supply to become exhausted.

2nd. For their negligence in prosecuting the repairs to the pumping machinery.

3rd. For selling water in large quantities, at this season of the year, for mechanical purposes (motors, fans, and elevators), to the injury of their private consumers and to the detriment of the fire protection of the city, endangering the property of all the people.

4th. For their repeated failure and refusal to draw off the water pipes and reservoir when ordered by the Common Council, thereby assuring cleanliness where now is filth, and constantly exposing and jeopardizing the health of all the people.

5th. For being almost criminally negligent in protecting the water and allowing it several times during the past year to become contaminated with petroleum, forming a nasty combination that our citizens were obliged to use for several days at a time.

Your Committee would recommend that the Water Company be required to draw off and entirely clean the reservoir, catch basins, and pipes; that the reservoir and catch basins be thoroughly and newly paved with cement, and made water tight; that such pave-

ment be extended over the bottom, as well as the sides; that a roof be constructed over the basins and reservoir, so that the water shall at all times be shaded from the sun's rays; and that the Company be required to proceed without delay to construct one or more large wells, say 30 feet in diameter, 60 to 70 feet deep, from which your Committee feel assured that an ample supply of pure water will be obtained.

Your Committee further recommend that a special committee of five members of this Council, with the President as chairman, be appointed, and instructed to confer and negotiate with the Water Company relative to these suggestions; and unless the suggestions herein made be accepted, or other suitable solution or problem undertaken by the Water Company forthwith, then such special committee do consider the advisability of the city's purchasing the Water Company's plant, if it can be had at a reasonable sum, and if not, then the propriety of the city's undertaking to build and construct a system of water works for fire protection and domestic use, on its own account, or of granting a franchise for that purpose to some other responsible company, or such other method as the said special committee shall deem most advisable for a more efficient supply for fire protection, and water possessed of greater purity for domestic purposes.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. P. FERGUSON,  
CHRISTIAN MARTIN,  
C. H. MANLY,  
Water Committee.

Ald. Prettyman moved that the report be and the same is hereby approved and confirmed.

Adopted by unanimous vote.

Ald. Ferguson asked for a report of the Sidewalk Committee on crosswalk referred to them at the junction of Fourth Ave., and Detroit street.

Ald. Martin moved that Sidewalk

Committee be allowed further time to report. Adopted.

#### MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS.

By Ald. Schairer.

Resolved, That the Board of Public Works be requested to submit to this Council an estimate of the cost of grading and filling in Mary street from Packard to Edwin streets, also to submit a proper grade for said street, at the next regular council meeting.

Adopted.

By Alderman Ferguson:

Whereas, The water pipes are believed to be in such condition as to render them not of the best of use for fire protection,

Therefore resolved, That the Ann Arbor Water Co. is hereby ordered to blow off and clean all the mains in the city, under the supervision of the Chief of the Fire Department, within ten days from this date.

Adopted.

Ald. Prettyman moved that a committee of four citizens be appointed by the chair to act in conjunction with a special committee of the Council on Ann Arbor's water supply.

Adopted.

President Watts appointed the following committee: Ald's Ferguson, Martin, Manly, Prettyman, Col. H. S. Dean, George W. Bullis, John Heizman and Robert Shannon,

Ald. Manly moved that a warrant of \$5.00 be ordered drawn in favor of Mrs. Ann Evans, as aid for the month of June.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald's Schairer, Martin, Snow, Ferguson, Manly, Prettyman, Kitson, President Watts—8,

Nays—None.

On motion the Council adjourned.

W. J. MILLER,  
City Clerk,