

Council Chamber, July 21, 1902.

Regular session.

Called to order by Pres. Haarer.

Roll call: Present—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Schumacher, Johnson, Roberts, Grose, Jenney, Pres. Haarer—11. Absent—Ald. Koch, Coon, Burg, Fischer—4.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS.

A communication from the mayor.

Mayor's Office, July 18, 1902.

To the Honorable, the Common Council:

Gentlemen:—On Tuesday morning, the 8th of July, your honorable body in company with the other city officials, made a tour of the flooded district, viewed the ruined possessions of the city, discussed the problem with many citizens more or less capable of advising in such matters, took counsel with our municipal experts, and then did exactly as would any other body of men selected from our citizenship, you appealed to the voters for an amount of money which seemed to you necessary to permanently care for the waters of Allen Creek.

On Wednesday morning, the 16th of July, the excitement and first enthusiasm had subsided. Our citizens had had time to consider the whole matter. Differences of opinion had arisen as to the amount of damage and the thoroughness with which it should be repaired. The taxpayers had put pencil to paper and estimated the amount of the individual assessments. Then they went and did exactly as we would have done had we been in their places. They voted down the proposition by an overwhelming majority.

We must be sensible and good natured about it. Each inhabitant of Ann Arbor, whether in official or private life, is in exactly the same position as is every other citizen. Under the same circumstances and amid the same surroundings mental processes are about the same for all men. In this matter, first or last, every citizen

has erred, I suppose, but must accept the sober second thought of the majority as the final decision.

It was the expressed view, on the election day, that the city officials should proceed at once to repair the damage. Our most conservative citizens said in unmistakable language to do the work, present the bill to the people and at a later election the money will be cheerfully given. We have nothing left to do. Let us proceed with all diligence as the law demands.

When the legislature convenes we can have the charter amended or have an enabling act passed permitting bonding for this special purpose. Then, and very properly, it seems to me, the next generation will help pay for an improvement which will benefit them as much as it does us. In the meantime we can go as far as our means permit and when the money at hand is exhausted we can appeal to the people. Under this arrangement we may confidently expect the co-operation and support of the hundreds of excellent citizens who opposed the special assessment.

For my part, then, I advise the construction of substantial, square culverts; culverts more in the nature of bridges than the old ones. Deepen and straighten the creek as much as needed for safety. Do all the work necessary in a permanent, economical and sightly manner. This plan, I believe, will appeal to our constituents and satisfy the demands of the public. The overdraft may be temporarily increased, but the safety of our people is of greater importance than the technicalities of the law.

Naturally, the stress of circumstances forces us to great economy in every direction. However, we must not forget the general needs of the city in caring for the Allen Creek valley. Much labor and expenditure of money is required to place our streets in proper condition. To make every dollar count will require the vigilance of the members of your honorable body and of the board of public works.

The splendid service rendered after

the late disaster by the aldermen and members of the board of public works, of fire commisioners, and especially of the board of health, deserves the plaudits of the community. The suffering and inconvenience would have been much greater except for the activity of these unselfish officials and their able lieutenants.

With this message of suggestion I leave you to work out the many details of the problem. I know you will do your part faithfully and well.

Respectfully,

R. S. COPELAND, Mayor.

Read and placed on file.

A petition for grading and graveling Broadway, a communication from Chas. Wagner, a communication from Huron Valley Building Association were received and referred to their proper committees.

Ann Arbor, Mich., July 21, 1902.

Common Council, City:

Gentlemen—I herewith submit estimate of the cost of grading and graveling Edwin street from State street to Division street:

950 cubic yards excavation at 20c,.....	\$190 00
1,000 lineal feet graveling, at 15c	150 00
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	\$340 00

E. W. GROVES,
City Engineer.

Ann Arbor, Mich., July 21, 1902. X

Common Council, City:

Gentlemen—I herewith submit map showing parts of lots necessary to acquire for the opening of 14th street from Volland street to Geddes avenue.

Yours truly,
E. W. GROVES,
City Engineer.

Placed on file.

Ann Arbor, Mich., July 9, 1902.

Board of Public Works, City:

Gentlemen—I herewith submit estimate for paving alley in blocks 1 south, R. 4 E., and 2 south, Range 4 east:

Block 2 south, Range 4 east:—

487 sq. yds. paving at \$1.25..	\$608 75
487 sq. yds. filler at 17c.....	82 79
162 cu. yds. excavation at 40c	64 80
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	\$756 34

Block 1 south, Range 4 east:—

408 sq. yds. paving at \$1.25..	\$510 00
408 sq. yds. filler at 17c.....	69 36
136 cu. yds excavation at 40c..	54 40
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	\$633 76

E. W. GROVES,
City Engineer.

By Ald. Clancy:

Resolved, that the bid of the Ann Arbor Argus for printing be accepted. Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Schumacher, Johnson, Roberts, Grose, Jenney, Pres. Haarer—11. Nays—0.

By Ald. Clancy:

Resolved, that the city engineer, the board of public works and the street commissioner be and they are hereby instructed to make a careful and conservative estimate of the cost of straightening the course of Allen's creek and rebuilding proper bridges at street crossings over said creek and over all other culverts injured or destroyed by the recent flood, and report the same back to this council with all convenient speed. Carried.

By Ald. Kearns:

Resolved, that the estimate of Schneider & Clarkens for paving Ann street be accepted and the B. O. W. be instructed to enter into contract for same.

Ald. Hamilton moved to defer until next meeting until city attorney hears from all the supervisors. Lost.

Original motion was then carried by the following vote:

Yeas—Ald. Hamilton, Douglas, Schlenker, Clancy, Kearns, Schumacher, Johnson, Roberts, Grose, Pres. Haarer—10. Nays—Ald. Jenney—1.

The report of the city marshal for the month of June was received and placed on file.

By Ald. Johnson:

Resolved, that the board of public works be instructed to advertise for bids for the construction of storm sewer on the east side of Division street from Lawrence street north to Detroit street. Carried.

By Ald. Grose:

Resolved, that the present grade of Traver street from the A. A. R. R. south to Moore street be lowered as much as city engineer and street committee may deem necessary, to the end that the city may obtain free gravel for street improvements. Carried.

By Ald. Grose:

Whereas, the sidewalk plank in and along the property of the A. A. R. R. Co. on the east side of Pontiac street has been taken up and the walk is now in a bad condition for pedestrians, and

Where as, the said A. A. R. R. Co. by an ordinance have been granted permission to lower the present grade of their track from Wright street to Traver street, therefore be it

Resolved, that the city attorney be requested to correspond with the proper railroad officials to have their track lowered to new grade as soon as pos-

sible to the end that a new walk may be ordered built. Carried.

Hon. Christian Schlenker, City:

My Dear Sir—I wish to call the attention of the councilmen from your ward to two bad sink-holes. One is at the corner of Ashley and W. Jefferson streets, the other across Ashley street next to No. 511 Ashley. It seems that the last of these, at least, could be drained under the A. A. R. R. tracks into the brook. Complaint was made about these places last year and complaints are coming in now.

If you can suggest any remedy to the board of health or if the council can fill in or drain these places it will be a credit to the city.

Very truly yours,
W. B. HINSDALE,
Health Officer.

On motion of Ald. Hamilton was referred to the board of public works.

By Ald. Hamilton:

Resolved, that the matter of caring for the water back of the Hiscock property be referred to the city engineer. Carried.

On motion the council adjourned.

JAS. E. HARKINS,
City Clerk.