

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council.  
Austin, Texas, Aug., 11<sup>th</sup> 1896.

Hon. Lewis Hancock, Mayor, presiding.  
Roll called.

Present: Aldermen Glass, Hayes, Kitchner, Powell, Redd, Schneider, Shelley, Stunkis, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend and Zilber. 17.

Absent: Aldermen Bealy, Fischer, Glascock, Govt., Horton, Lawless, Linn, Platt, Roberdeau, and Rosengren 10

Alderman Redd moved to discuss with the reading of the minutes and that they be approved as printed. Carried  
Alderman Bealy entered the Council Chamber.

Det. of Jno. Crotty to refund him amt. paid out for water pipe laid.

By Alderman Redd, Petition of John Crotty, asking the Council to refund him amount paid out for water pipe, which was read, and on motion, referred to the Special Committee on Water and Light.

Aldermen Bealy, Roberdeau, Platt and Fischer entered the Council Chamber.

Det. of J. R. Davis asking damages for injuries received

The Mayor laid before the Council a petition from J. R. Davis, asking damages for injuries received, which was read and referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts.

Bond of Fred Stenzing as Assessor and Collector of School Taxes

Alderman Townsend for the Finance Committee, to whom was referred the bond of Fred Stenzing as Assessor and Collector of School Taxes, presented their report, stating that the bond was correct as to form and the sureties sufficient. On motion, the report of the Committee was adopted and the bond ordered filed.

Police Com. report on City Marshals reports for July.

Alderman Powell for the Police Committee, to whom was referred the reports of the City Marshal for the month of July, presented their report, stating that they had been examined and found correct. Report adopted.

Police Com. report on charges preferred against Officers Platt & S. Wilson

Alderman Powell for the Police Committee, presented the following report, which was read and adopted:  
August 15, 1896.

To the Hon. Mayor and City Council of the City of Austin: Gentlemen: We would respectfully report result of investigation made by your Police Committee, at request of Marshal Sney, in matter of arrest of our Jim Harvey, on July 27, 1896, by Officers James Platt and Scott Wilson, charges having been made as to apparent rough and brutal treatment of the prisoner by said officers.

Your Committee have thoroughly investigated the matter and examined several witnesses, and except on the part of one witness, fail to find the charges substantiated, and find the party arrested suffered no serious injury at the hands of the officers and made no charges of bad treatment. Investigation shows that the officers used somewhat rough treatment in order to identify the party arrested, and that the same being an admitted prisoner, the officers were justified in using such treatment.

Police Com's report on charge preferred against Officers Platt & S. Wilson

dundry occasions. We find the party was a resident of the First Ward and that he is now badly wanted for stealing. In view of the facts, your Committee do not feel that the officers, who were among the best of the force, deserve dismissal, though we have instructed the Marshal to detain Officer Wilson for his attempt to strike the prisoner with his pistol while the latter was attempting to run past him in his escape from Officer Platt. This public display of apparently unnecessary force in dealing with "a hard case" having naturally shocked the sensibilities of citizens not aware of the conditions; emphasizes the importance of the City procuring a police van at the earliest day practicable.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. W. Powell,  
H. S. Haynes,  
W. D. Shelley. Police Committee.

Ord. Com's report on Pet. of E. J. Alley's petition

Alderman Taylor, for the ordinance committee, to whom was referred the petition of E. J. Alley for rent of ground on which to bury dead animals, presented their report, submitting an ordinance appropriating the amount claimed. On motion, the report was laid over to come up with the ordinance under the head of new business.

Fire Commissioners report on Pet. of North Austin Fire Co. #6

Aldermen Lawless and Rosengren entered the Council Chamber. The Mayor laid before the Council the report of the Fire Commissioners, on the petition of North Austin Fire Company, No. 6, which was read, and on motion, the same was recommitted to the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Ord. amending certain sections of an ordinance providing for management & operation of W & S Plant on 2nd reading

The Mayor laid before the Council an ordinance amending certain sections of an ordinance entitled "An ordinance providing for the management and operation of the Waterworks, Electric Light and Power Plants of the City of Austin."

The ordinance was read second time, and a motion made to suspend the rules and bring the ordinance on its third reading was lost by the following vote:

Ayes Aldermen Fischer, Goeth, Lawless, Kitcher, Platt, Robertson, Shelley, Stump, Taylor, Tobin and Zilker. 11

Nays Aldermen Beatty, Glass, Haynes, Powell, Redd, Rosengren, Schneider and Townsend. 8.

Ord. appropriating sum of \$5,500 to pay operating expenses of W & S Plant

By Alderman Tobin, An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$5,500 out of the Savings Fund to pay operating expenses of the Water and Light Plant and expense of placing the Plant in operation.

The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote:

Ayes Aldermen Beatty, Fischer, Glass, Goeth, Haynes, Lawless, Kitcher, Platt, Powell, Redd, Robertson, Rosengren, Schneider, Shelley, Stump, Tobin, Townsend and Zilker. 18.

Ord. appropriating sum of \$150 to pay...

By Alderman... An ordinance appropriating the sum of \$150 to pay... The ordinance was passed under suspension of the rules by the following vote:

Yeas Aldermen Deary, Fischer, York Haynes, Lawless, Kitchner, Platt, Powell, Redd, Robertson, Rosengren, Schneider, Shelley, Stumpf, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend and Zilker 18

Nays Alderman Glass 1.

On motion Alderman Rosengren was excused from further attendance at this session of the Council.

By Alderman Townsend, Petition of Mrs. Stannie Z. Huddle, asking damages to land caused by the building of the dam.

Alderman Kitchner moved that the claim be paid. Alderman Schneider offered as a substitute that the claim be referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts, which motion prevailed.

Alderman Lawless, by request, asked permission to reintroduce the proposition of Mr. C. S. Hughes to compromise suit for damages caused by the dam.

Alderman Kitchner moved that the proposition be referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts, the City Attorney and a special committee of three. Adopted.

Alderman Kitchner moved that the Superintendent of Water and Light Plant be instructed to exchange the Fans now in Council Chamber for noiseless ceiling Fans. Adopted.

On motion of Alderman Fischer the Council adjourned.

Jno. G. Gordon  
City Clerk.

Act. of Mrs. Stannie Z. Huddle asking damages to land

Act. of C. S. Hughes asking damages to Stock + Land re-introduced by permission on motion referred to Com. on Claims + Accounts, City Attorney + Special Com of 3.

Supt. of Water Plant instructed to exchange Fans now in use for noiseless ceiling Fans