

Regular meeting of the City Council: Austin, Texas Sept 7th 1916:

The Council was called to order by the Mayor: Roll called :

Present Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Absent none:

The minutes of the last regular.MMXXI and subsequent recessed meetings were read and adopted :

Reports of City Officers:

The Mayor laid before the Council the reports of the Assessor & Collector, the Sexton, the Book-keeper Street Dept, the Dog Catcher, the Public Weigher, the City Health Officer, which were read and prdered filed:

Councilman Powell offered the following resolution :

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas:

That the City Treasurer and the Book-keeper for the Street Dept be, and they are hereby authorized and directed to transfer from the General street dund to the Germanent street fund ,the sum of \$ 211.55, to correct a mistake in drawing warrant No 4520, out of the Permanent fund ,which should have been drawn out of the General street fund.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none:

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That the sum of \$ 13,30, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the General Contingenyt fund of the City of Austin, Texas, as a refund to C Wiggia of the cost and fine paid by him to the City Treasurer of the City of Austin, Texas, in cause 10830, which cost and fine for good and sufficient reasons the City Council have seen fit to remit to him.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Whereas, the parties hereinafter named have heretofore respectively been granted privileges to operate Jitneys in the City of Austin and licenses have been issued respectively to said parties by the City Assessor & Collector of taxes ,said licenses being numbered as hereinafter stated, and all of said paris have heretofore deposited with the City Clerk bonds in the amount and terms prescribe by ordinance; and

Whereas, the Western Indernity Company has served notice with the Mayor of its withdrawlas surety from the bonds of W B Calloway and R V Smith; and

Whereas, all other parties hereinafter named have voluntarily discontinued service in the operation of Jitneys under their respective licenses,

Reports Read.

Transfer of Funds.

Fine - C. Wiggia.

Deposit Bonds
Read

Therefore,

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin :

That the licenses respectively of the parties hereafter, ~~XXXXXXXX~~ named to operate Jitneys within the City of Austin, the number of said licenses being respectively set opposite the name of said licensee, be and the same are hereby cancelled and revoked, viz:

- R B Wright, License NO 10,
- R V Smith, License No 11,
- Bryant Davis, License NO 12,
- W Bruckmann, License NO 13,
- W B Calloway, License NO 15,
- W B Hart, License No 16,
- G M Wagoner, License No 17.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none:

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That the sum of \$ 18.27, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the General Contingent fund of the City of Austin, Texas, as a refund to R V Smith on his license as a jitney driver.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor:

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That the sum of \$ 18.00, be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the General Contingent fund of the City of Austin, Texas, as a refund to W B Calloway on his license as a jitney driver.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

By Mayor Wooldridge, An ordinance to amend Article 75B of Chapter 1 Title 33 of the Revised ordinances of the City of Austin, relating to the regulation of the movement of cars or locomotives, and the speed of same within the Corporate limits of the City of Austin, Texas:

The ordinance was read the 1st time and a motion made to suspend the rule and place it on its second reading which motion prevailed by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none:

The ordinance was read the 2nd time and a motion made to suspend the rule and place it on its 3rd reading and final passage, which motion prevailed by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none.

The ordinance was read the 3rd time and passed by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none . . .

Driver's License Refund R. V. Smith.

Driver's License Refund W. B. Calloway.

Speed of Cars Locomotives -

*611th St
Prop - San Jacinto*

Councilman Powell offered the following resolution :

A resolution finally accepting pavement and improvement of East 11th street from the East property line of Brazos street(north) to the East property line of San Jacinto street.

Whereas, the Supt of Streets and Public Improvements has filed his report with the City Council to the effect that the Texas Bitulithic Company has completed the work of paving and improving of East 11th street ,from the East property line of Brazos street (north) to the East property line of San Jacinto street ,under contract with the City, and that said work has been fully done in strict accordance with said contract and specifications adopted by the City ; Now Therefore,

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That the said work of improvement be finally accepted by the City and that the final estimate due by the City to the said Company be paid.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Councilman Powell offered the following resolution :

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That the City Treasurer and Book-keeper be instructed to transfer the sum of two hundred and forty two dollars and seventy five cents (\$ 242.75) from the General street Improvement fund to the Permanent Street Improvement fund to reimburse said fund for this amount which was erroneously ordered drawn ,and discovered in compiling the budget on warrants Nos 4219,4303, 4329,4346,4362, 4375, 4381,4400.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none:

The Mayor laid before the Council an application from Geo Baggett, for license as driver of service car, which was granted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none:

9th
Sept. 22nd 1916:

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas:

That permission be, and the same is hereby granted, to Mr Ed Rosengren to repair and maintain a catch basin or sandtrap on the sidewalk on the 5th street side of his building located at the northeast intersection of west 5th and Colorado streets ,said catch basin to be located immediately against the wall of the building with an adequate cast iron cover and to be of such dimensions as prescribed by the Inspector of Plumbing of this City and

Be it further resolved:

That this permit is granted with the understanding that said catch basin is to be at all times maintained and kept clean and in good working order as

Transfer of Funds.

*Drivers License
Geo. Baggett.*

*Ed Rosengren
36
Permit*

described in Section 14 of the ordinance regulating sanitary sewers and drains and
Be it further and finally resolved :

That this permit is granted and must be accepted as revocable at any time in the
pleasure of the City Council.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

Sept 12th 1916:

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That a permit is hereby granted to the Texas Company to install and maintain a gasoline
tank ,to be approved by the Supt of Police and public Safety, under the sidewalk in front
of NO 101 West 5th street in the City of Austin, Texas.

Resolved further:

That in connection with this gasoline tank hereby authorized to be installed, the said
Texas Company is likewise authorized to install and maintain a 5 gallon gasoline pump to
be located at the curb line in front of No 101 West 5th street in a position to be
designated by the Supt of Streets and Public Improvements ,said gasoline pump to be of
the most modern and approved construction and design and subject to the approval of the
Supt of Police and Public Safety.

Resolved further:

That the Texas Company shall install and maintain at the top of and upon the gasoline
pump hereby authorized , an electric light of not less than 40 watt power and placed in a
globe of not less than 10 inches in diameter which electric light must be kept illuminated
not less than 3 hours daily between the hours of 6 and 12 O'clock P M during the existence
of this permit.

Resolved Further :

That the hose through which, ~~gasoline~~ air, gasoline or other oil or volatile substance
is ~~conveyed~~ conveyed by pumping or otherwise, from the store house in front of No 101 West 5th
street or from the tank authorized to be placed in front of same must be kept, when not
in actual use, neatly coiled, and stored in a receptacle provided for such hose in the
pump authorized to be installed or suspended from a suitable bracket attached to the pump.

Resolved Further:

That the work under this resolution authorized to be installed and maintained must be
installed and maintained ,where not otherwise assigned ,under the immediate supervision of
the City Engineer of Austin, Texas, who is hereby authorized to prescribe necessary
specifications for the work herein authorized to be done:

Resolved further and finally:

That permit is granted only for the installation of a gasoline tank and pump and ~~does~~
does not include the installation or construction of a storage box for hose underneath
the sidewalk and this permit is granted and must be accepted as revocable at any time
in the pleasure of the City Council .

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

*The Texas Co.
Permit to
Install Tank
at 101 W. 5th St.*

*Bridges -
East 15th & 16th
Contract Awarded
Ben J. Knape.*

Councilman Powell offered the following resolution :

Whereas, on this day came on to be heard the bids to construct bridges at East 15th and East 16th streets in this City where they intersect Waller creek ,and it appearing that the bids of BenJ Knape for the construction of said bridges ,to-wit,for the East 15th street bridge across Waller Creek, for \$ 7,625.00, and for the East 16th street bridge across Waller creek,for \$ 3,450.00, are the lowest and best bids for said work,

Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That the contract to build bridges ,or more accurately speaking,to enlarge the bridges at East 15th & 16th streets in this City where they intersect Waller creek ,be and they are hereby awarded to Ben J Knape for the prices hereinabove stated.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

Sept 13th 1916:

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas:

That the sum of \$ 494.40, be and the same is hereby transferred from the General Contingent fund of the City of Austin, Texas, in which fund it stand as a special appropriation for terviating Parkway in Enfield Addition to the City of Austin, Texas, to the general street fund of the Street Dept of this City , in which fund it is hereby appropriated to the purposes of paying for the taviating of Parkway from Enfield Addition to entrance to Pease Park to the City of Austin, Texas, per statement hereto attached and made a part of this resolution.

Transfer of Funds.

The resolution was adopted by the following vote :

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

Sept 13th 1916:

Councilman Anthony offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas;

That for good and sufficient causes unto the City Council moving ,the balance of the fine and costs , amounting to \$ 8.30, in cause No 10948, State of Texas vs Richard Ludwig, for abusive language, be and the same id hereby remitted.

*Fine -
Richard Ludwig*

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

Property Values -
Resolution to
Install Unit System

Mayor Wooldridge offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas:

That the City Council of the City of Austin hereby resolves and decides to install the unit system of property values of this City if after further careful investigation it finds the system as satisfactory as the majority of the City Council now believes and the price of installation shall not exceed Six Thousand (\$ 6,000.00) dollars .

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony & Powell 3

Nays Councilmen ~~XXXXX~~ Bartholomew & Haynes 2,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor .

Councilman Bartholomew presents the following reasons for his vote:

I oppose the resolution to employ an expert to install the Sommers System of taxation for the City of Austin ,which provides for the payment of \$ 6,000.00,for that purpose.

From information furnished ,this sum will not pay much more than half the amount that will be required,and an additional appropriation will be asked for.

It is claimed that the Sommers system is necessary to equalize taxation. The real object is to increase assessments of property instead of equalization.

Our Assessor of taxes and his assistants have held their offices many years,and their appointments have been confirmed unanimously each time by the Council .

The different Boards of Equalization have also been confirmed unanimously by the Council .

No complaints have been made against the Assessor and Boards of Equalization for neglect of duty.

There have been less appeals from the Board of Equalization to the City Council late years than formerly. In fact very few appeals have been made.

I believe we have as competent people among us to manage our tax affairs as we can obtain from some other city.

We need no stanger to tell us how to assess property, or to pass on the value of property.The general revenue of this City does not warrant this unnecessary expenditure of its funds .

The Charter of this City provides that the City Assessor shall assess, and the Board of Equalization shall equalize property for taxation.

No other person or persons can legally take their places.This resolution provides for its being done directly ,or indirectly,otherwise.

Hence I vote against the resolution.

E C Bartholomew.

Councilman Haynes gave the following as his reasons for his vote :and asked that it be spread upon the minutes:

I vote No on the Mayors resolution to expend \$ 6,000.00, to install the "Sommers", ~~XXXXX~~ or unit syst eem of equalization ,for the reason that the amount named will not be the entire cost of the system and that under the provisions of our Charter I do not believe we have the legal or moral right to expend this money to revolutionize our tax system,without an expression of the people.

The Charter of the City specifically provides the manner of assessing and valuing property for taxation and we cannot change this system without a vote of the people,further I do not believe that the unit system of valuation is practicable for a City of Hills and valleys like Austin,and I am further of the opinion that a Board of our own people familiar

with the physical conditions can better judge the values of our property than an entire stranger or so-called tax expert.

I am sure that our present Board of Equalization, who have done their work faithfully under a solemn oath, will testify that the property values of Austin have been fairly and justly equalized, in testimony of which we have had for several years past very few protests and the greatest kick comes from our Honorable Mayor who has never taken the trouble to examine the tax rolls.

H L Haynes.

Councilman Bartholomew offered the following resolution :

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin, Texas :

That the sum of \$ 67.50 be and the same is hereby set apart and appropriated out of the general appropriation in the budget of the Water, Light and Power Dept of the City of Austin, Texas, to pay for overflowed lands above the dam, and made payable to R C Lambie, for the amount owing him, per contract and deed for certain lands belonging to him overflowed by the back water from the dam:

The resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas Mayor Wooldridge, Councilmen Anthony, Bartholomew, Haynes & Powell 5

Nays none,

Approved, A P Wooldridge, Mayor.

The Council then adjourned.

J. W. Johnson
City Clerk

*Damages -
R. C. Lambie.*