

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1836

[Page 82]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fred'g at the Council Chamber January 11<sup>th</sup> 1836

Present John H Wallace, Recorder

Fayette Johnston, George Cox, James Williams, Wm Allen, William Warren, Chs A Pearson & Beverly R Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Recorder stated that the Council were convened for the purpose of considering the report of the Committee on the subject of amendment of the Charter of the Corporation.

Present: Alex K Phillips, councilman

Mr F Johnston, one of the Committee submitted a report which being read by the clerk,

Mr Geo Cox moved that the report be laid on the table and printed, which motion was amended by Mr Johnston moving "That printed copies of the same be circulated among the voters of the Corporation with a view of ascertaining their opinion and that the subject may be taken up and acted on the 28<sup>th</sup> Inst by the Council, which was passed with the amendment.

On motion made and seconded the sum of ten dollars was allowed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain to John Whaley, for extra expenses incurred in carrying a maniac to the lunatic hospital in Williamsburg

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Recorder

attest, Arthur Goodwin, CC

The council met at the Council Chamber this evening the 15<sup>th</sup> January 1836 pursuant to a summons from the Recorder

Present, John H Wallace, Recorder

Geo Cox, Wm Allen, Wm Warren, Chas C Wellford, A K Phillips, Bev R Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Board were informed by the Recorder that he had convened them in consequence of the death of Thomas Goodwin Esq'r, Mayor of this Corporation with a view to afford them an opportunity to take such order upon the subjects as they might deem proper Whereupon

[Page 83]

On motion of Wm Warren the following Preamble and Resolution were read and unanimously adopted, viz.,

Whereas it has been announced that Thomas Goodwin Esq, Mayor of this Town hath departed this life and the Common Council wishing to testify as to his faithful services rendered in his official capacity and to manifest their respect for his memory.

Therefore, Resolved that we will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days

Resolved, that the members of the Common council will attend the funeral of the deceased in procession.

Resolved, that the Magistrates and other civil officers of the Corporation be requested to unite in the procession with the Common Council.

Resolved, that the Common Council sincerely sympathize with the family and friends of the deceased in their afflictive bereavement.

Resolved, that a copy of the foregoing resolutions be communicated to the family of the deceased and also be published in the papers of this town.

Ordered that the Council adjourn

(signed)

Jno H Wallace, Recorder

Jno S Caldwell, Clerk pro tem

At a Council held at the council chamber this 20<sup>th</sup> January 1836 convened in pursuance of a summons from the Recorder

Present John H Wallace, Recorder

Fayette Johnston, George Cox, Stephen J Blaydes, Beverley R Wellford, William D Green, William Warren, William Allen, James Williams, Charles C Wellford, Alexander K Phillips—Common Councilmen

The Recorder stated that he had convened the Council at the request of several members for the purpose of proceeding to the Election of a Mayo, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of the late Mayor. Whereupon, on motion of Doctor B R Wellford, before proceeding to an election, the salary was fixed at four hundred dollars, per annum.

The council then proceeded to ballot for a Mayor and upon examination of the same it was found that Doctor John H Wallace was unanimously elected to the office of Mayor of the Corporation

[Page 84]

Doctor Wallace having resigned the office of Treasurer took the oath of office as Mayor of the Corporation of Fredericksburg before Reuben T Thom, a Justice of the peace for the County of Spotsylvania, and took his seat as presiding officer of the Board of Common Councilmen.

The Council then proceeded to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of John H Wallace as Recorder, when upon an examination of the ballot, Mr Fayette Johnston was duly elected and took the oaths of office before Reuben T Thom, a justice of the Peace for the County of Spotsylvania

The vacancy of the Council occasioned by the appointment of Doctor John H Wallace as Mayor, was supplied by the election of Thomas H Botts who appeared and was qualified as a member of the Council by the Mayor.

An a/c of William M Blackford for printing the proposed amendment to the Charter, amounting to the sum of nine dollars was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

At the suggestion of the Mayor, ordered that the Mayor, George Cox and James Williams be appointed a Committee to examine the Mayors office for the purpose of separating the public from any private papers belonging to the late Mayor, and handing the private papers, if any, over to the person authorized to receive them.

On motion of Mr Cox duly seconded, Resolved that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to offer a reward of one hundred dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons who attempted on last night to set fire to the house belonging to Doctor Gregg.

On motion of Mr Allen, ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to provide a stove and lamp for the Council Chamber and that he draw on the Chamberlain for payment of the same.

A letter from “Many Stockholders in the Rappahannock Company” was presented to the Council by Mr J Metcalfe, which being read by the Clerk, it was, on motion of the Recorder, Ordered that the Mayor, Beverley R Wellford and Thomas H Botts be a Committee to attend a meeting of the stockholders of the Rappahannock Company on Monday next the 25<sup>th</sup> Instant, at Bowen & Ramsey’s with instructions to report the propositions and proceedings of said meeting on the subject of the [Page 85] concerns of the Company, to an adjourned meeting of this Council on the 25 Inst at 7 O’clock.

On motion of the Recorder, Resolved that the thanks of the Council be and they are hereby tendered to Doctor Wallace for the prompt and faithful performance of the duties of Mayor, during the protracted illness of the late Mayor.

Ordered that the Council adjourn till 7 o’clock on Monday evening next.

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Attest, Arthur Goodwin, CC

Monday Evening January the 25<sup>th</sup> 1836. The Council met at the Council Chamber pursuant to order of adjournment of the 20<sup>th</sup> Instant

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

William Warren, Charles A Pearson, George Co, Beverley R Wellford, Stephen J Blaydes, William Allen, Charles C Wellford, Thomas H Botts, James Williams, Alexandria K Philips—Common Councilmen

The committee who attended the meeting of the Rappahannock Company made a verbal report of the proceedings and propositions submitted at the meeting of said Company, Whereupon

On Motion of Thomas H Botts, Ordered that the Report of the Rappahannock Company Committee be spread on the Minute Book of the Council, which is as follows:

The Committee charged to inquire into the present state of the Rappahannock Company &c beg leave to report as follows. The works upon the River do not in their present condition compass the objects either of the Community or the company. The section already in operation do no lead to a sufficient distance into the interior to give facilities of navigation to the products that most require them. Certain sections that have been completed and are above those in present use are useless in consequence of the unfinished state of intervening section, thus breaking the line of continuous navigation and depriving the part below of the benefit of those completed above. There are certain other sections, one intervening between the finished sections & others above the highest point finished that are suspended for lack of funds to complete them. Thus from the limited extent of the works in operation from the lack of connection between parts finished at different points and from the unfinished state of those that should connect and extend the [Page 86] whole the entire work does not compass the object for which it was intended.

In regard to the condition of the funds of the Company, your committee have had access to an abstract from the books of the Secretary & Treasurer and find that the entire Capital Stock amounting to \$65,000 has been expended. The further sum of \$2146.25 received from tolls and rent of water power has likewise been expended and there remains due from the Company the sum of \$5511.25 from which deduct the sum of \$2000 (nominated the sum be less) due to the same and there will be found a balance positively due

from the Company \$3511.25 for which its tolls and other income are answerable. Independent of this, a larger sum is contingently due from the Company incident to the completion of the works to become positively due should certain works be finished and received. This is believed to be a summary and correct statement of the condition of the Company as to its works and funds; to sustain the latter part of which the committee beg leave to refer to the Books and Documents of the Secretary and Treasurer and to a written exhibit from that officer herewith submitted.

This being the condition of the intended improvement such the entire inadequacy of the work in its present state, and the incompetency of the means of the Company to extend it, the views of the Committee have been turned to the course that shall be most advisable as well in reference to the past as to the future, to derive a return from that which has been already expended and to obtain benefits that were originally expected. However untoward may be present appearances, they do not choose to believe that it is the intention of the stockholders to abandon the enterprise. The acknowledged advantages that must result from its completion, both to Town and Country, the dangers which threaten the former from improvements leading trade into different channels, point to a continuance of effort as sacredly due to our own interests. Your Committee therefore after the foregoing brief summary of the condition of the works and the funds of the Company, have turned their principal attention to the mode most likely to complete the original objects.

In the progress of it there have been three enquiries. Shall the work be completed? What will be its probable cost? What are to be the means?

As to the first, there was no second thought, the answer was affirmative, if there be within our reach any plausible means of consummating it. As to the second the time of your Committee has been too brief for minute inquiry, but they do not consider themselves justified in naming as competent to complete the work, to liberate the Company from its embarrassments, and give to it the undisturbed possession of its income any sum less than \$40,000.

The opinions of others may dissent from theirs. The income from the locks and canals, which each extension of labor renders more productive may aid in diminishing the amount called for as an advance, a delay in the completion of some of the upper sections may enable the company to [Page 87] perform that part of its work out of its accruing revenue. All these may give furtherance & facilities to the ultimate object, but to guard against disappointment the Committee hold it their duty to state that sum as the most likely to be required. That being established the next enquiry is, from what quarter is it to be derived? The answer is given in two propositions, each of which is to be submitted in its turn to the Stockholders. Of these the first is as follows; Will the Stockholders assent to an advance on each share of an amount that shall be equal in the aggregate to the sum required? It would be an assessment exceeding by a small fraction sixty one dollars per share on 650 shares. This voluntary contribution, for it can be considered in no other light, would insure with judicious management the completion of the work, and it rests with the Stockholders to determine whether such contribution be made. Should this assent be given, the most important preliminary will be past and the detail which is to give it final operation may be promptly arranged. It is therefore requested by the Committee that this proposition to wit: an advance of \$61.33 on each share to be applied to the completion of the work be submitted to the present meeting for the prompt avowal of their acceptance or dissent.

This proposition having been made the second, and the alteration of the other, in case of its rejection, is that the Company make a regular offer of its stock for sale at a price fixed by itself to any individual or individuals who will give adequate security that the work shall be completed. In the event of such a sale there will then rest upon the purchasers the necessity of making the advance in gross that was proposed in the first proposition to be made by the present holders on their individual shares. This advance and the pledge for the completion of the work point to the necessity of fixing the price of the stock at a rate far below its par value. It is for the Company to determine what the price shall be. To the purchaser there

must be offered the inducement of profit and it is the interest of the Company and the Community to make such offer. But that no present holder should be debarred from that profit, if any is to be made, or prevented from making his own use of his own stock. The Committee propose that the option be given to each one either to make the requisite advance on his own stock and thus become a party to the completion of the work, or to dispose of his stock (in whole or in part) to whoever may complete it. As there will be required, to give an efficacious result to this proposition some exactness in detail, it is proposed by the Committee, in the event of the acceptance of it, to submit to the Stockholders in a document prepared for the purpose a mode suitable to give it its final effect. All this is respectfully submitted in result three propositions to be regularly propounded to the meeting:

1<sup>st</sup> Will the Stockholders formally agree to make requisite advance.

2<sup>nd</sup> In case [Page 88] of the failure of the first, will the Stockholders agree to sell to whomever shall complete the work?

3<sup>rd</sup> What price shall be affixed to the stock thus offered for sale?

Doctor B R Wellford submitted the following Preamble and Resolution,

Whereas the following proposition, as set forth in the form of a contract hereto appended has been made to the Stockholders of the Rappahannock Canal Company and is now submitted to the Council as the representatives of the Stock held by the Corporation of Fredericksburg for acceptance or rejection, viz: "This indenture made &c [blank] of the first part and [blank] of the second part, Witnesseth, that whereas the parties of the first part who are proprietors of stock in the Rappahannock Company, upon an investigation of the present state of the Company's concerns have ascertained that while the funds of the Company are wholly exhausted, much remains to be done to complete the works commenced and to perfect the navigation of the River to the extent contemplated in the Charter; that many of the works on which large sums have been disbursed will become utterly valueless unless speedily perfected and that if the improvement is arrested at the present points, the loss, in so far as the Stock is involved, may be considered total. They are at the same time thoroughly satisfied that if the navigation of the River shall be opened to the extent contemplated by the Charter, the stock will be highly productive, and that the improvement will contribute in an eminent degree to the prosperity of the town of Fredericksburg and the district of Country bordering on the River above. The result of their investigation furthermore has inducted them to the conclusion that the navigation of the River may be perfected to the extent contemplated by the Charter for a sum which will in no event exceed the product of \$ [blank] on each share of the capital stock of the Company. Wherefore the said parties of the first part have determined to make that advance on or disposition of the stock held by them respectively which will insure the completion of said work. In other words, each for himself hath resolved, either to advance such additional sum, not exceeding \$75 per share, as may eventually be found requisite to accomplish the work, or to part with his stock to those disposed to purchase at the price of \$25 and to make such advance. But it is not contemplated that other guarantee shall be given to secure the payment of that portion of the \$75 not required to be presently advanced than that furnished by an actual pledge of the stock itself. And as the most efficient means of effecting the purpose above declared, the said parties of the first part propose to convey their stock to the said [blank] to be held by him on the trusts and disposed of in the manner following, that is to say; Each of the said parties of the first part may elect to have retained by the said trustee any number of shares not exceeding the number by such party hereby conveyed, providing such [Page 89] election be and \$25 on each share so to be retained for the use of such party be deposited with the trustee on or before the [blank] day of [blank]. That after that day the stock not retained under the foregoing provision together with the portion of stock so elected to be retained and upon which the sum of \$25 may not have been paid, shall by the trustee be sold, provided a sale of the whole thereof can be effected on or before the [blank] day of [blank] next, on the following terms. The purchaser to pay in hand

\$50 per share whereof \$25 shall be held for the present proprietor & the stock to be subject to future assessments by the Board of Directors, not exceeding in the aggregate \$50 per share. The stock whether that retained for the use of any present proprietor or that sold under the foregoing provision, to remain in the hands of the trustee in pledge to assure the prompt discharge of all and every assessment made by the Board of Directors, not exceeding in the aggregate \$50 per share, provided so much shall eventually be required for perfecting said navigation. The trustee to sell the stock of any proprietor who shall fail to pay the sum assessed upon his stock within [blank] months after his notification of such assessment and appropriate the net proceeds of such sale to satisfy the delinquency.

If the whole of the stock hereby conveyed shall be disposed of in the manner above provided on or before the [blank] day of [blank] next then the trustee shall re-convey to the parties of the first part respectively the stock by each severally conveyed and refund to each of said parties the money by such parties deposited. If on the other hand the whole of said stock shall be disposed of by the period above limited, then it shall be the duty of the trustee to pay out of the funds in his hands, to each of the parties of the first part whose stock shall have been sold the purchase money received by the trustee for such stock, say \$25 per share and pay over the residue of the said funds to the Treasurer of the Company. Finally it shall be the duty of the trustee when, and as the said, lien shall be lifted from stock held by him in pledge under the foregoing provision, to convey the same to the party entitled thereto.”

Therefore, Resolved, that the Mayor be and he is hereby instructed to execute the said or a similar paper on the part of this Corporation, subject to the future instruction of the Council for the alternative course suggested therein. The vote on motion of Thomas H Botts being taken by Ayes & Noes stood thus:

Ayes Alexander K Philips, William Allen, Thomas H Botts, Beverley R Wellford, Charles C Wellford, James Williams and Fayette Johnston 7

Noes William Warren, George Co, Stephen J Blaydes and Charles A Pearson 4

So the Preamble and Resolution was carried.

On motion, Resolved that the Committee heretofore appointed attend the meeting of the Rappahannock Company on tomorrow and apprise [Page 90] them of the proceedings of the Council.

Ordered that Peter Goolrick's a/c amounting to one dollar and twenty five cents be paid by the Chamberlain.

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Attest

A Goodwin CC

Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup> 1836. The Council met at the Council Chamber this evening pursuant to an order of the 11<sup>th</sup> Instant.

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

William Allen, Stephen J Blaydes, James Williams, George Cox, William Warren, Charles A Pearson, Charles C Wellford, Beverley R Wellford, Thomas H Botts—Common Councilmen

The Mayor having stated the object of the meeting of the Council to be the consideration of the proposed amendments to the Charter of the Corporation.

On Motion of the Recorder, the proposed amendments of the Charter of the Corporation were taken up.

Mr Cox having moved the indefinite postponement of the subject, and the Ayes and Noes being called, those who voted in the affirmative were

William Warren, Stephen J Blaydes, William and George Cox 4

In the negative

Fayette Johnston, Beverley R Wellford, Charles C Wellford, James Williams, Charles A Pearson, Thomas H Botts 6

The Council then spent some time in the discussion of the several amendments proposed.

The Mayor having retired from the Chair, from indisposition, called the Recorder to preside over the Board.

The following preamble and Resolution was offered by Thomas H Botts, and adopted;

Whereas an effort is now making to raise the means necessary for the completion of the Rappahannock Canal in which the Corporation of Fredericksburg is vitally interested and whereas it is proposed by a large portion of the stockholders that the means necessary to the completion of said improvement be raised either by a sale of the whole, or a portion of the stock at \$25 per share, or by an advancement upon the stock by the present holders thereof, not exceeding \$75 per share, to be paid in installments. And whereas according to the construction put upon the Act of Assembly passed on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 1832, entitled, "An Act to authorize the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg to subscribe for stock in [Page 91] the Rappahannock Canal Company" the Mayor and Common Council of said Town have no authority to assess, levy and collect, by taxing either the inhabitants of said town or the property therein, for the purpose of making such advancements.

Be it therefore Resolved: that the Mayor cause an application to be forthwith made to the Legislature of Virginia to authorize the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg to make such advancement and to assess, levy and collect, by taxing the inhabitants of, and the property in said town, not exceeding \$1000 per annum, for the purpose of paying the interest and for the redemption of the principal of any loan or loans which the Mayor and Common Council may negotiate in order to pay the installments as they may be called for: provided the expediency of making such advancements be submitted to the vote of those persons qualified to vote at the election of members of said Common Council and shall receive the assent of a majority of the votes actually polled, after five days public notice of opening the polls for that purpose.

Ordered that the Council till tomorrow evening at ½ past 6 O'clock

(signed)

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

Attest

Arthur Goodwin, CC

January 29<sup>th</sup> 1836, at an adjourned meeting of the Common Council at the Council Chamber

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

James Williams, George Cox, Stephen J Blaydes, Charles A Pearson, Thomas H Botts, William Warren, Beverley R Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Council resumed the consideration of the subject of the proposed amendments to the Charter of the Corporation, which were further discussed.

Ordered that Adolph Richard's account amounting to two dollars and twenty five cents be paid by the Chamberlain.

Ordered that the Council adjourn till Tuesday evening next at ½ past 6 O'clock

(Signed)

John H Wallace, Mayor

Attest

Arthur Goodwin, CC

[Page 92]

Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1836 at a meeting of the Common Council at the Council Chamber pursuant to an order of adjournment of the 29<sup>th</sup> Ultimo

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

George Cox, James Williams, Thomas H Botts, Charles C Wellford, Charles A Pearson, Beverley R Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Council proceeded to consider the proposed amendments to the Charter and on motion

Ordered that the ayes and noes be taken on the adoption or rejection of the Preamble and Sections of the amendments as reported, separately and singly and that a copy of the same be filed by the Clerk of the Council.

The vote for the adoption of the Preamble was unanimous.

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> section were likewise passed by a unanimous vote.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> section the Ayes were Thomas H Botts, Charles C Wellford, Charles A Pearson, Bev R Wellford, James Williams and Fayette Johnston 6

Noes George Cox 1

The 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> sections were adopted by a unanimous vote of the Board.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> section, the ayes were Thomas H Botts, Charles C Wellford, Charles A Pearson, Bev R Wellford, James Williams and Fayette Johnston 6

Noes George Cox 1

On the 16<sup>th</sup> section the ayes were Thomas H Botts, Charles C Wellford, Charles A Pearson, Bev R Wellford, James Williams and Fayette Johnston 6

Noes George Cox 1

On the 17<sup>th</sup> section the ayes were Thomas H Botts, Charles C Wellford, Charles A Pearson, Bev R Wellford, James Williams and Fayette Johnston 6

Noes George Cox 1

The 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> sections were passed by a unanimous vote.

The vote being then ordered on the adoption or rejection of the whole by ayes and noes, those who voted in the affirmative were Thomas H Botts, Charles C Wellford, Charles A Pearson, Bev R Wellford, James Williams and Fayette Johnston 6

Noes George Cox 1

Ordered that the absent members of the Common Council be requested and allowed to record their votes on the minute book on the adoption or rejection of the amendments to the Charter as adopted and passed by this Board.

[Page 93]



On motion ordered that Thomas H Botts be added to the Committee on the subject of the amendments to the Charter and that the said amendments be printed under the direction of the Committee

Ordered that the Mayor be required to convene the qualified voters of the town by public noted for the purpose of obtaining the expression of their opinions on the proposed amendments to the Charter.

Ordered that the Council adjourn

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Attest

Arthur Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Mayor's office this evening the 20<sup>th</sup> Feb'y 1836, pursuant to summons from the Mayor.

Present Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

William Allen, William Warren, Charles A Pearson, Charles C Wellford, George Cox, Beverley R Wellford, James Williams, Wm D Green and Thomas H Botts—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that he had convened the Council for the purpose of receiving their instruction in regard to the alternative course suggested in a resolution adopted the 25<sup>th</sup> January last relative to the Rappahannock Canal Stock owned by the Corporation, this being the day appointed by the meeting of the stockholders for the election by the stockholders either to retain or sell the stock owned by each shareholder in said Company.

Whereupon, on motion of F Johnston, Ordered that the Mayor be directed to have the stock owned by the Corporation in said company sold in accordance with the contract heretofore executed by the Mayor.

Mr Chas A Pearson moved that the Mayor be directed to convene the qualified voters of the Corporation at some early day between the hours of sunrise and sunset to take the sense of the voters on the subject of so much of the proposed amendments to the Charter as related to the overseers of the Poor, on which the Ayes and Noes being called, those in the affirmative were

Fay Johnston, J Williams, C A Pearson 3

In the negative

Wm D Green, Wm Warren, G Cox, Wm Allen, Thos H Botts, C C Wellford and Bev R Wellford 7

Motion lost.

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Thomas H Botts, one dollar, fee paid by him to the Clerk of the H Delegates for copy of an Act of Assembly [Page 94]

Wm M Blackford's a/c amounting to twelve dollars and fifty cents was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

The following ordinances were passed by the Council and ordered to be published in the Papers of the Town.

An ordinance to amend "An Ordinance respecting the Measuring of Coal, Salt, Oats, Corn and Potatoes" Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that hereafter if any person having any coal, salt, oats, corn or potatoes, brought to this town by water shall not have sole the same to be delivered at the wharf, he shall not be required to have them measured by, nor in the presence

of the measurer appointed by the Council nor to pay to him the fee specified for the performance of that duty; but that if he determines to employ the said measurer to attend to the measuring thereof, any dispute which may arise between the owner or consignee and captain of the Vessel in which the article was brought, respecting the quantity delivered from the vessel shall be determined by the evidence of the said measurer.

An ordinance to amend “An Ordinance concerning the Inspecting and measuring lumber”

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that hereafter if any person having any plank, scantling, staves, shingles or other lumber brought to this town by water shall not have sold the same to be delivered at the wharf, he shall not be required to have the same inspected and measured, or inspected and counted by nor in the presence of the Inspector and Measurer of Lumber appointed by the Council; but that if he determines to employ the said Inspector and Measurer of Lumber to attend to the inspecting and measuring or the inspecting and counting thereof any dispute which may arise between the owner or consignee and the Captain of the vessel in which the article was brought respecting the quantity delivered from the vessel, shall be determined by the evidence of the said Inspector and Measurer of Lumber.

An ordinance to amend “An Ordinance respecting Nuisances.”

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that it shall not be lawful for any person, bond or free, to throw or cause to be thrown into any of the public streets, or into the market space any dung or other filth which may be offensive to the sense or pernicious to the health of the Citizens. Any free person [Page 95] offending herein shall forfeit and pay to the Corporation for every such offence the sum of one dollar, and the further sum of one dollar for every hour the nuisance may continue in the street or market place, and having had notice to remove it, to be recovered with costs, before a justice of the peace of said Corporation by warrant, and any slave offending herein and being thereof convicted before a justice of the peace of said Corporation shall receive on his or her bare back any number of lashes not exceeding ten , unless his or her master or employer shall pay the sum of one dollar for every such offence and the further sum of one dollar for every hour the nuisance may continue in the street or market space after having notice to remove it

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

ateste

Arthur Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber March 18<sup>th</sup> 1836

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

Wm D Green, James Williams, Charles A Pearson, Stephen J Blaydes, Geo Cox, Wm Warren—Common Councilmen

The following accounts were passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz:

James D Harrow a/c amounting to	\$15.08
Bernard Cole’s a/c amounting to	4. 25
Jno S Caldwell’s a/c amounting to	\$41.32

Samuel Stone's a/c amounting to 1.00

Jno Metcalfe's a/c as coroner for five dollars was on motion laid on the table.

Thos H Lipscomb's a/c for \$5.25 was on motion laid on the table

Wm M Blackford's a/c amounting to \$5.67 and an a/c for wood furnished the Mayors office by the late Mayor amounting to seventy five cents were passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

Fayette Johnston, Charles A Pearson and James Williams were appointed a committee to settle and examine the a/cs of the Sergeant and Chamberlain of the Corporation and report thereon to to the Council on Monday next

The Recorder submitted the following resolution;

Resolved that the Mayor write to Mr Stafford H Parker, the [Page 96] Senator from the District, reiterating the sentiments of Mr Cox's letter that he procure the passage of the Bill containing one or more of the restrictions as contained in Mr Crutchfield's letter to Mr Johnston. The Ayes and Noes being called for, those voting in the affirmative were

Fay Johnston, Wm D Green, Chas A Pearson and James Williams 4

In the negative George Cox, Stephen J Blaydes and Wm Warren 3

So the resolution was passed.

The Recorder submitted the following resolution

"Resolved that the salary of the Mayor for the ensuing year shall be at the rate of \$200 pr Annum. Chas A Pearson and Stephen J Blaydes severally made motions to strike out the sum of \$200 and substitute the sums of \$250 and \$400 and on motion of George Cox the resolution was indefinitely postponed by the following vote;

Ayes George Cox, Stephen J Blaydes, Wm Warren and Wm D Green 4

Noes Fayette Johnston, Chas A Pearson and Jas Williams 3

Present Bev R Wellford, Councilman

Mr Johnston offered the following resolution

Resolved that the salary of the Mayor of \$400 per Annum heretofore paid is more than this Corporation in the impoverished state of its finances and the dilapidated state of its streets &c can prudently afford.

And on motion of Mr Cox, the resolution was indefinitely postponed by the following vote;

Ayes Geo Cox, Stephen J Blaydes, Wm Warren, Wm D Green, Bev R Wellford and James Williams 6

Noes Fayette Johnston and Chas A Pearson 2

On motion the Council adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Attest

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber  
March 21<sup>st</sup> 1836

Present Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Fayette Johnston, Recorder

Wm Warren, Chas A Pearson, Stephen J Blaydes, Wm D Green, George Cox, James Williams and Bev R Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Chamberlain and Sergeant of the Corporation made the following report.

The Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Chamberlain and Sergeant beg leave to report that they have [Page 97] performed the duty assigned them and find their accounts properly vouched and further that there appears to be a balance due from the Chamberlain of seven dollars and eighty three cents and there is due to the Sergeant, two hundred and ninety one dollars and nineteen cents; and there is now due the Bank of Virginia (for discounts) on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 1836, \$187.44 cts and to the Farmers Bank on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January 1836 \$106.13 cts for the discharge of which the Corporation have \$7.83 cts in the hands of the Chamberlain and deferred taxes \$217.02 shewing a deficit of \$510.92 cents”

March 21<sup>st</sup> 1836

Signed Fayette Johnston, Charles A Pearson, James Williams

Which report was on motion received and ordered to be recorded

Ordered that the poll be now opened for the election of twelve Common Council men, to serve for the ensuing year.

This being the day appointed by law for the election of twelve men to serve as Common Councilmen until the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March 1837, and till others shall be elected in their stead, a poll was opened for the purpose and the freeholders and housekeepers of the town having been duly notified of such election, met at the Council Chamber and deposited their ballots and upon counting the same the largest number of voters were found to be given for the following persons viz;

Jno H Wallace	179
Peter Spilman	177
George Cox	136
John Goolrick	129
Wm Warren	129
Wm Allen	129
George Rothrock	124
Wm Redd	123
Henry T Phillips	122
Geo W Eve	118
Jesse Curtis	113
Charles A Pearson	95

Who were declared duly elected Common Councilmen of the Corporation of Fredericksburg

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

[Page 98]

Fred’g Tuesday March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1836

Peter Spilman, William Allen, George Rothrock, George W Eve, Jesse Curtis, Charles A Pearson, William Warren, George Cox, John Goolrick, William Redd and Henry T Phillips met at the Council Chamber and took the oath of Common Council men before the Mayor.

Mr Chs A Pearson moved that the Salary of the Mayor be fixed at the sum of Two hundred dollars. Mr Warren moved the sum of \$300, which motion was amended by Mr Cox moving the sum of \$400 and the vote being taken by Ayes and Noes on fixing the salary at \$400

The Ayes were Henry T Phillips, Wm Redd, Peter Spilman, Geo Rothrock, Wm Allen, Geo Cox and Jno Goolrick 7

Noes Geo W Eve, Jesse Curtis, C A Pearson and William Warren 4

The Council then proceeded to the election of Mayor and upon counting the ballots it was found that Jno H Wallace was re-elected, who took the oaths of office before Reuben T Thom, a justice of the peace for the County of Spotsylvania.

The Council supplied the vacancy occasioned by the election of Jno H Wallace, Mayor, by electing Benjamin R Hillyard, who being notified thereof by the Messenger of the Council appeared, was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board.

George Cox was elected Recorder of the Corporation and took the several oaths of office before Reuben T Thom, a justice of the peace for the County of Spotsylvania

On motion the Council adjourned till 7 o'clock this evening

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Teste

A Goodwin, CC

Tuesday evening, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1836. The Council met at the Council Chamber pursuant to order of adjournment this morning.

Present Jno H Wallace, Mayor

George Cox, Recorder

John Goolrick, Henry T Phillips, William Allen, George Rothrock, Benjamin R Hillyard, William Warren, Peter Spilman, Charles A Pearson, George W Eve, Jesse Curtis and William Redd—Common Councilmen

[Page 99]

On motion the following salaries were fixed at the following rates pr annum viz;

That of the Clerk of the Council at fifty dollars

Of the chamberlain of the Corporation at one hundred dollars

Of the Commissioner of the Revenue at sixty dollars

On motion of Charles A Pearson the sum of the four hundred and fifty dollars was appropriated to be paid for the performance of the Police duties of the Corporation, the question being taken by Ayes and Noes those voting in the affirmative were

Chas A Pearson, Geo W Eve, Jesse Curtis, Wm Redd, Ben R Hillyard, H T Phillips, P Spilman, William Allen, George Rothrock and John Goolrick 10

In the negative William Warren and George Cox 2

On motion ordered that the salary of the Clerk of the Market be fixed at one hundred dollars per annum, that of the Bellman at fifty dollars.

On motion the sum of fifty dollars was appropriated for the Jailor of the Corporation, for extra official services, for the ensuing year, the question being taken by Ayes and Noes. Those voting in the affirmative were:

Chs A Pearson, J Curtis, Wm Redd, B R Hillyard, H T Phillips, Wm Allen, P Spilman, Geo Rothrock, Jno Goolrick and Geo Cox 10

In the negative: Geo W Eve and Wm Warren 2

The Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the current year, when Arthur Goodwin was elected Clerk of the Council and Chamberlain of the Corporation;  
And John Metcalfe, Commissioner of the Revenue

On Motion the salary of the Police officer was fixed at one hundred and fifty dollars pr annum; that of the constables (to act as assistant police officers) at one hundred and fifty dollars each, which sums are to be paid out of the appropriation for police.

John S Caldwell was unanimously elected Police Officer

On motion the usual commission of 10 pr cent on Taxes and 5 pr cent on Rents was allowed the Collector as compensation for Collections

John S Caldwell was unanimously elected Collector of Taxes and Rents  
[Page 100]

On Motion the election of the Clerk of the Market was postponed till the next meeting of the Council.

Jesse White was unanimously re-elected Bellman  
John Goolrick, Surveyor and Geographer of the Corporation  
William Baggott, Inspector and Measurer of Wood, Lumber &c at the Wharf  
Bernard Cole, Inspector and Measurer of Wood, Lumber at the Basin  
Robert Parrott, Guager and  
Linsey Pullen, Measurer of Salt, Grain, Coal &c &c

Arthur Goodwin, John S Caldwell, Bernard Cole, Thomas H Lipscomb and John Goolrick, severally took the oaths of their respective offices.

The following standing committees were appointed by the Mayor, viz;  
Committee on Public Property; William Allen, John Goolrick, Peter Spilman, Henry T Phillips  
On Streets; Charles A Pearson, William Redd, George W Eve, George Rothrock  
On Pumps; Geo Cox, William Warren, Jesse Curtis, Benjamin R Hillyard

On motion the sum of fifty dollars is allowed the jailor of the Corporation for extra services the last year to be paid by the Chamberlain. The question being taken by Ayes and Noes, those voting in the affirmative were

Chas A Pearson, Wm Allen, J Curtis, Wm Redd, B R Hillyard, P Spilman, Geo Rothrock, H T Phillips, Jno Goolrick, Geo Cox 10

In the negative William Warren and Geo W Eve 2

Charles A Pearson, George Cox and William Redd were appointed a Committee to examine the “Ordinance to regulate the Erection of Buildings &c” and report thereon to the next Council, and [Page 101] also to take into consideration and report on the subject of division paling, fencing &c.

The following resolutions offered by Mr Warren were adopted  
Resolved that it shall require a majority of any standing committee that may be appointed by the Common Council to concur in any act of theirs, before such act shall be binding on the Council.

Resolved that the Chamberlain is not authorized to pay any bill unless such bill be signed by three members of the Committee authorized to contract it.

William Warren, B R Hillyard and Jesse Curtis were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the abuses &c respecting the measuring of wood &c at the basin and report thereon.

On motion ordered that the proceedings of this Council be published in one of the Newspapers of the town, the question being taken by Ayes and Noes, the Ayes were B R Hillyard, J Curtis, Wm Redd, Wm Warren, Geo W Eve, George Cox, Chas A Pearson

7

Noes Wm Allen, George Rothrock, P Spilman, John Goolrick and H T Phillips 5

Charles A Pearson, Wm Warren and B R Hillyard were appointed a committee to contract for the publishing the proceedings of this Council and to enquire upon what terms the publication of the proceedings of the Council during the year can be made and report thereon to the next Council.

On motion Matthew Anderson was appointed Clerk of the Market pro tem, until a permanent election be made.

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Teste

A Goodwin, CC

[Page 102]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber May 7<sup>th</sup> 1836, convened by the notice from the Mayor

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

George Cox, Recorder

Wm Allen, Peter Spilman, George Rothrock, Jesse Curtis, John Goolrick, Charles A Pearson and Geo W Eve—Common Councilmen

The Chamberlains bond in the penalty of five thousand dollars with Reuben T Thom and John Coakley as securities was approved and ordered to be filed by the Mayor

Present Henry T Phillips, William Redd, Benjamin R Hillyard—Common Councilmen

An estimate of the receipts and expenditures of the Corporation for the year 1836 was submitted by the Chamberlain to the Board and

An Ordinance entitled “An ordinance imposing taxes for the year 1836” was passed in the following words to wit;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the town of Fredericksburg, that the taxes on persons and property in the Town aforesaid for the year 1836 shall be as follows, viz;

On all houses and lots at the rate of four dollars and twenty five cents for every hundred dollars yearly rent or annual value thereof

On every male white person above the age of sixteen years, one dollar and fifty cents

On every slave above the age of twelve years, one dollar and fifty cents,

On every free Negro and mulatto above the age of sixteen years one dollar and fifty cents,

On every riding and pleasure carriage of any description, Cariole, Gig, and Chair, of less value than one hundred dollars, two dollars;

And on all above the value of one hundred dollars, two per cent on the value thereof;

On every horse, mare and mule, one dollar and fifty cents;

On every cart and dray license, five dollars

And on every Waggon license, eight dollars

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the passage thereof.

Ordered that an a/c of John Goolrick, Surveyor of the Corporation, amounting to ten dollars and eighty seven cents, and a/c of George Baggott for moving sign post amounting to one dollar, be paid by the Chamberlain.

A letter signed by Reuben T Thom, Wm Allen, George Cox, Robert Dickey and John B Hall to the Hon’ble Stafford H Parker of the Senate on the subject of the late proposition to have a law passed authorising a subscription on the part of the Corporation to the Fred’g & Blue Ridge Rail Road Company was submitted by Mr Cox, read & ordered to be filed.

[Page 103]

Capt Matthew D Anderson was unanimously elected Clerk of the Market and qualified before the Mayor.

A petition signed by several ladies residing on Princess Ann Street relative to the cleaning said street was read by the Mayor, and on motion was referred to the Mayor for consideration and action thereon

Present: William Warren, Common Councilman

Doctor Sheppard, the agent of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Rail Road Company appeared before the Council and made application on behalf of said company for permission to run the locomotive engines of said Company across the Streets where contemplated line of said Rail Road intersects the streets of the Corporation, which application was on motion, referred to the following committee, to make enquiry and report on the expediency of granting permission viz; John Goolrick, Geo Cox, Charles A Pearson, Wm Redd and William Warren.

Mr Cox from the committee appointed to examine the “ordinance to regulate erection of Buildings &c &c” and for other purposes, reported the following ordinance which was passed in the following words, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that in every case in which the owner of an improved lot within the limits of the said town shall be desirous of having a new



fence erected betwixt his said lot and any improved lot adjoining thereto, and the owner of the said lot adjoining improved lot shall refuse to agree to pay his share of the expense of erecting the said fence, the Mayor shall, on the complaint of either of the said parties, appoint three discreet freeholders of the said town, to act as commissioners in the case; who being first duly sworn to decide impartially and to the best of their judgment as to the necessity of a new fence, to divided the lots of the said parties, shall survey the premises, and the opinion on the case, of a majority of the said commissioners shall be delivered to the Mayor, by them and shall be binding on the said parties. Should the said commissioners decide that a new fence is necessary and the said parties not then come to an amicable agreement on the case, the complaining party may proceed to have the said fence erected and on the completion thereof shall be entitled to recover, by a warrant with costs, before any justice of the peace for the Corporation aforesaid, from the other party in the case, one half of the cost of the said fence, provided the said one half shall not exceed the sum of twenty dollars, and provided also that the said one half shall be estimated on the cost of a fence to be formed of good [Page 104] posts and rails, with undressed paling not exceeding six feet in height.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the passage thereof.

Mr Cox from the same committee reported the following ordinance which was adopted;  
An ordinance further supplemental to the “Ordinance to regulate erection of buildings and the enclosing unimproved lots in the town of Fredericksburg.”

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that the more effectually to carry into execution the ordinances passed June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1829, respecting the erection of buildings &c in the said town the following additional supplement be made thereto.

That if any person or persons shall hereafter erect a new building, remove or extend and old one, or enclose any unimproved lot or square, within the limits of the said town, extending on any line, within twenty inches of the boundary line of any street, the said building or fence shall not be deemed to be with the interior of his, her or their lot, but he, she, or they shall be subject to the provisions of the said ordinance and of the ordinance supplemental thereto passed May 12<sup>th</sup> 1835, in the same manner as if the said building or fence extended to the line of the said street. This ordinance shall be in force from and after the passage thereof.

Mr Warren from the committee appointed to consider the abuses relative to the measuring wood &c &c at the basin, reported the following ordinance, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that any person or persons selling wood, plank, scantling, tan bark, staves, shingles, or hoop poles at the basin or that may have been landed there without having first had said articles inspected and measured or counted as the case may be, by the sworn inspector and measurer, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of five dollars, to be recovered by warrant with costs, before any justice of the peace of the Corporation of Fredericksburg, for the use of said Corporation.

Be it further ordained that it shall be the duty of the Measurer to measure all wood and bark when taken from the basin” which was adopted.

On motion the Council adjourned till 4 o’clock on Saturday evening next.

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Teste

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber this evening May 14<sup>th</sup> 1836, pursuant to order of adjournment at last meeting.

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

George Cox, Recorder

Peter Spilman, George Rothrock, Wm Redd, Chs A Pearson, George W Eve, John Goolrick, William Allen and Wm Warren—Common Councilmen

The official bond of the Collector of Taxes & Rents of the Corporation in the penalty of five thousand dollars, with Henry T Phillips and Samuel Phillips as securities was submitted to the Board, approved and ordered to be filed by the Mayor.

Present: Benj R Hillyard, Henry T Phillips—Common Councilmen

Mr Goolrick from the committee appointed to take into consideration the application of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Rail Road Company through their agent, Doctor Sheppard, made a report (accompanied by a map) which was read and adopted and thereupon the following resolutions were passed.

\*(see Resolution of Council 11<sup>th</sup> August 1836)

1. Resolved that the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Rail Road Company be allowed the privilege of using Steam power in propelling the cars of said Company on the contemplated line of the railroad with the limits of the Corporation, to any point west of Prince Charles Street and between Frederick and Charlotte Streets, which the said Company may select and no further.
2. Resolved that the said company be allowed the privilege of laying rails from the said point West of Prince Charles Street, (referred to in the previous resolution) which may hereafter be selected by the said Company, across the several streets intersecting the contemplated route of the said road, to the Rappahannock River, provided that in laying the rails across the said streets the said Company shall not be allowed to form any inconvenient obstruction to the passage of carriages along the streets, across the said railroad, nor to obstruct the passage of the water through the gutters of said streets.
3. Resolved that from the said point west of Prince Charles Street to the River, the said Company shall have the privilege of running their cars with horse power, provided the speed of the said cars does not exceed the rate of three miles per hour at most and that bells be attached to the horses whilst in motion to give timely notice of [Page 106] their approach and provided moreover that in passing through the town the cars shall not stop in any of the Streets to interrupt the free passage of the citizens, carriages, drays, carts or wagons, nor be permitted to run longitudinally on any of the streets of the Town.
4. Resolved, that the constituted authorities of the Corporation reserve to themselves the right of passing such laws and regulations as from time to time may be thought necessary for the safety and protection of the citizens and of their property at large.

The vote on the passage of the second of the proceeding resolutions being on motion of Mr Warren taken by Ayes and Noes, was as follows;

Ayes Wm Allen, G Rothrock, Geo Cox, Peter Spilman, Wm Redd, H T Phillips, Benj R Hillyard and John Goolrick 8

Noes Charles A Pearson, Wm Warren and Geo W Eve 3

On motion ordered that the proceedings of the Council this evening be published.

The minutes being read and confirmed, the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Teste

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the evening of 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 1836.

Present Jno H Wallace, Mayor

George Cox, Recorder

Henry T Phillips, Jno Goolrick, Peter Spilman, Geo Rothrock, George W Eve and Jesse Curtis—Common Councilmen

The Mayor informed the Council that in consequence of Thomas H Lipscomb not being re-elected a constable of this Corporation at the last Court, it was necessary that a Police Officer be elected in his stead.

Whereupon, the Council proceeded to ballot for a successor of the said Lipscomb and George Ayler was duly elected.

On motion it was ordered that the salary of the said Ayler as Police Officer be at the rate of \$150 per annum commencing the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1836.

On motion ordered that one quarter's salary be paid to Bernard as Police officer up to the 22 day of June 1836.

[Page 107]

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay Thomas H Lipscomb for his services as Police Officer up to the 9<sup>th</sup> of June, the day of his resignation as Constable.

Present: Wm Redd and Benjamin R Hillyard—Common Councilmen

On account of Bernard Cole for killing dogs amounting to seven dollars was passed.

An account of Bernard Cole for summoning an inquest over the body of J Shepherd, for \$3.15 was read and passed. Also an account of Thomas H Lipscomb for summoning an inquest over the body of Sally Pearce, for \$3.15 was ordered to be paid.

On motion ordered that the Council adjourn

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber this 30<sup>th</sup> day of July 1836.

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

George Cox, Recorder

William Redd, Charles A Pearson, William Allen, Benjamin R Hillyard, Peter Spilman, William Warren, George Rothrock, Jessie Curtis, George W Eve, John Goolrick and Henry T Phillips—Common Councilmen

The following preamble and resolutions were offered by Mr Warren and adopted, after Council had considered and rejected a substitute offered by Mr Cox which imposed certain conditions upon which the advancement on the part of the Corporation was to be made.

“Whereas by an Act of the Legislature of Virginia passed Feb’y 17<sup>th</sup> 1836 entitled “An Act to authorize the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg to make an advancement upon the stock of the Corporation in the Rappahannock Canal Company,” the Mayor and Common Council of the said town were authorized to make an advancement upon the stock now held by the Corporation of Fredericksburg in said Canal Company, not exceeding seventy five dollars per share, to be paid by installments provided the assent of a majority of the voters (qualified to vote for members of the [Page 108] Common Council) actually polled after reasonable notice of opening the polls for that purpose, be obtained. And whereas a poll was opened for the purpose aforesaid at the Mayor’s office in said town, notice thereof having been given by publishing the same in one of the newspapers of the town, and the qualified voters having appeared gave in their votes as following; for the advancement 92 votes; against it 20 votes, therefore Resolved that the Mayor and Recorder be and they are hereby authorized to borrow on behalf of the Corporation from either of the Banks of Fredericksburg, from time to time, as the same may be required, the sum of four thousand five hundred dollars, for the purpose of paying the said advancement on the stock of the Corporation in said Rappahannock Canal Company as the installments made be called for by the President and Directors of said Company.

Resolved, that the Mayor, or, in his absence, the Recorder, be a delegate to represent at the next annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Rappahannock Canal Company, the stock in said Company, of or belonging to the Corporation of Fredericksburg, and that he be requested to use his influence in said meeting to induce the President and Directors of said Company to employ an efficient and practical Civil Engineer, whose duty shall be to superintend the construction and progress of the Canal, to have the work placed in the hands of competent and responsible contractors and to see that the contracts are faithfully executed, he (the said Engineer) reporting the same to the President and Directors of said company as often as may be necessary or required.

Resolved that the said representative of the stock of the Corporation also use his influence with the President and Directors of said Company to have the work commenced at the basin adjoining the town, and progress from that point.

Resolved that the Mayor, or, in his absence, the Recorder, represent the stock of the Corporation in all meetings of the stockholders of said Company; and that in the absence of both the Mayor and Recorder, the Corporation be represented by some member of the Council nominated by them or either of them.

The vote on motion of Mr Cox being taken by Ayes and Noes stood

Ayes Wm Allen, B R Hillyard, P Spilman, Wm Redd, Jesse Curtis, H T Phillips, Geo W Eve, George Rothrock, Wm Warren, Charles A Pearson and John Goolrick 11

Noes George Cox 1

[Page 109]

The following ordinance was passed and ordered to be published

An ordinance to amend “an Ordinance to prevent the discharge of fire arms, crackers &c &c”

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that it shall not be lawful for any person or persons to raise or cause to ascend any balloon or balloons from any lot or street with the limits of the town aforesaid without the consent of the Mayor of said Town, in writing, first had and obtained. Every person offending herein shall forfeit and pay, for the use of the Corporation, to be recovered by warrant with costs, before any justice of the peace of the town aforesaid, the sum of five dollars, for every offense. If a minor commit the offense, the parent, guardian or master of such minor

shall forfeit and pay the sum of five dollars and every slave offending herein shall receive then lashes on his bare back, unless the aforesaid fine of five dollars and costs be paid by himself, his owner or employer. This ordinance shall be in force from and after the passage thereof.

An account of John Metcalfe, coroner, for holding inquests over the bodies of J Shepherd and Sally Pierce amounting to ten dollars was passed and ordered to be paid.

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Teste

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber, this evening the 11<sup>th</sup> August 1836

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

George Cox, Recorder

Peter Spilman, Wm Warren, William Redd, Jno Goolrick, Henry T Phillips, Jesse Curtis, George Rothrock and Benj R Hillyard—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that he had convened the Council for the purpose of laying before the Board the proceedings of a Town Meeting held at the Town Hall, the 9<sup>th</sup> August 1836, in pursuance of Notice by the Recorder, which being read and ordered to be filed it was therefore.

On motion, Resolved that so much of the first resolution [Page 110] passed by the Council on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 1836 as restricts the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Rail Road Company from using locomotive engines across the streets therein designated be and the same is hereby rescinded.

The following ordinance was read and passed

An ordinance concerning Stallions and Jacks

Whereas it has been represented to the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that the practice of the putting Stallions and Jacks to mares within the limits of the Corporation is highly offensive to the citizens, therefore

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that hereafter it shall not be lawful for any person or persons to continue the above offensive practice, and that any person so offending shall pay for every such offense the sum of ten dollars, to be recovered by warrant with costs, before any justice of the peace of the Corporation of Fredericksburg, for the use of the Corporation. Any slave offending herein shall receive not less than ten nor more than twenty lashes on his bare back unless the sum of ten dollars shall be paid by himself, his master or employer.

Ordered that the Committee on public property advertise to receive proposals for leasing the house and lot No. 6 on Commerce Street, between Mess'rs Hillyard's and Barnett's lots, for the term of the twenty one years and report to the Council any proposition of proposals for leasing the same.

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

Teste,  
A Goodwin, CC  
[Page 111]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber this evening the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1836

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

George Cox, Recorder

John Goolrick, Wm Redd, Benjamin R Hillyard, Henry T Phillips, Wm Warren, Jesse Curtis, Geo W Eve, Peter Spilman, George Rothrock and Wm Allen—Common Councilmen

A Communication from Wm F Gray, Esq'r submitting proposals to sell to the Corporation a file of the Virginia Herald from its first establishment was submitted to the Board, and on motion of Mr Warren, duly seconded, to purchase the same at the price offered by Colo Gray. The proposition was rejected.

A Petition from the draymen and Carmen of the Corporation praying an increase of the tariff of drayage was submitted, whereupon, the following ordinance was adopted.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that an additional sum of five cents per load on the present rates of drayage be and the same is hereby allowed the draymen and Carmen of the Corporation as a legal and proper charge and demand from this date.

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the police officers of the Corporation their quarterly salaries for the quarter ending this day.

An ordinance to amend "An ordinance considering dogs passed May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1832" was passed in the following words, viz

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that hereafter it shall be lawful for the police officer of the Corporation to catch in a net or otherwise all animals of the dog kind going at large contrary to the ordinance passed May the 3<sup>rd</sup> 1832. And all dogs so caught before the hour of 12 o'clock in the day shall be detained by the officer until that hour, and if caught after 12 o'clock in the day shall be detained until sunset of the same day for the purpose of allowing the owner or owners to redeem them which they may do by paying the officer a fine of one dollar, which shall enure to the use and benefit of the officer; If any dog or dogs so caught shall not be redeemed by the owner or owners before the hours above specified the officer shall kill or destroy them.

[Page 112]

On motion, ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to offer a reward of one hundred dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the individual or individuals who have at several different times, recently, clandestinely intruded themselves into the private apartments of several families of the town at the dead hour of night; or who shall hereafter be guilty of the like offense.

An ordinance to repeal that clause of the "ordinance regulating the Market &c &c passed June 23, 1829" relating to the selling Indian corn meal, was read and passed in the following words, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that so much of the said "ordinance regulating the Market &c passed June 23, 1829" as relates to the sale of Indian corn meal by weight or measurement be and the same is hereby repealed.

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno H Wallace, Mayor  
Attest  
Arthur Goodwin, CC

Fredericksburg, December 23<sup>rd</sup> 1836

Pursuant to notice from the Mayor the Council met at the Council Chamber this evening

Present John H Wallace, Mayor

Peter Spilman, William Allen, Geo W Eve, John Goolrick, Henry T Phillips, Benjamin R Hillyard and William Warren—Common Councilmen.

The Mayor presented a letter from Mr Charles A Pearson tendering his resignation of the office of Common Councilman, which was accepted, whereupon the Council proceeded to elected a member in his place and Mr Fayette Johnston was duly elected.

Ordered that the messenger of the Council notify Mr Johnston of his election and request his attendance.

The following accounts were passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz

James D Harrow's amounting to     \$23.49

[Page 113]

Jacob Gore's amounting to             \$2.50

George Ayler's amounting to         \$29.25

John S Caldwell's amounting to     \$20.09

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the Police Officers their quarters salary for the quarter ending the 22<sup>nd</sup> instant.

The Messenger of the Council stated to the Council that he had called on Mr Johnston and notified him of his election requesting his attendance, and that he declined serving as a member of the Council.

On motion the Council adjourned.

Jno H Wallace, Mayor

A Goodwin, Clerk of Council