

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1841

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday Evening the 22nd January 1841

Present, Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

Jesse Curtis, George W Rothrock, Wm A Jackson, P Spilman, Thomas F Knox, A K Phillips, A G Lucas, S J Blaydes—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened for the purpose of hearing an application from a committee on the part of the Fredericksburg Lodge No 63, to ascertain whether said Lodge could rent the upper room of the Town Hall to be used as a Lodge Room by said Lodge, to which application some objections being stated, the Committee begged leave to withdraw their application.

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

Bernard Cole's for wood &c	\$2.75
Thomas Curtis per refreshments to Town guards	\$5.00
Benjamin Clark's for sundries	\$9.92
John Metcalfe's for expenses of burying Mrs Brimmer, a pauper	\$4.50
Thos F Knox's for lime furnished the Clerk of the Market	\$1.75
E D Baptist for repairing Streets & Jail &c	\$20.00

The Committee of the Streets present to the Council an estimate of the expense of constructing a secret drain from the Orphan Asylum to the Corner of Patton's Ice House directed by an order of the Council of the 20th October last, stating that the great cost of the works has prevented them from having the same executed agreeably to said order of the 20th October, the estimates greatly exceeding the amount the Committee had supposed at the time the order was made, the work could be done for; Whereupon it was on motion ordered, that the report of estimates of the Committee be laid on the table and that said Committee be directed not to have said drain constructed until the further order of the Council.

On motion it was ordered that the Tax for the present year on Slave Jerry, the property of Mrs A M Goodwin be remitted and that said slave, being represented to be [Page 179] a charge on his owner, from his age and infirmity be not hereafter listed by the Commissioner of the Revenue of the Corporation, on his list of taxable property.

On motion the Council adjourned

Benj Clark, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber, March 10th 1841 pursuant to notice by the Mayor in the newspapers of the Town.

Present, Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

A G Lucas, T F Knox, John Buck, Jesse Curtis, S J Blaydes, Wm A Jackson—Common Councilmen

The following claims against the Corporation were passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

An account of James D Harrow for printing	\$14.75
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An account of John Buck for sundries	\$1.25
An account of Jesse Curtis for sundries	\$8.23
An account of Robert Ellis for plank &c &c	\$10.50
An account of Jacob Gore for repairing pumps	\$14.75
An account of Joseph Sanford for mending streets	\$8.00
An account of Albert G Lucas for sundries	\$14.74
An account of John S Caldwell for sundries	\$35.33

An account of Doctor Browne for attendance on John Baggott, amounting to seven dollars and fifty cents was presented to the board and was rejected

An application of James Williams for the refunding of a fine paid by him for the violation of the ordinance concerning nuisances by a servant of his was presented and rejected

An application of Mr Lemuel Thompson for the remission of the tax on his person, on the ground of his being absent from the Town for a large portion of the year was made and rejected.

A memorial of sundry citizens living in Liberty Town and the suburbs of the Town, praying for the right to vote for the election of Common Councilmen &c &c was laid [Page 180] before the Board, which having been read, the Council consider they have no authority to act upon the subject matter of the petition, it being in their opinion a proper subject for action by the Legislature of the State.

Ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation pay the Police Officers their salaries for the quarter ending Monday next.

H H Wallace, J Curtis and A G Lucas are appointed a committee to examine and settle the accounts of the Sergeant and Chamberlain of the Corporation and report thereon on Monday morning next.

On motion the Council adjourned till Monday morning next at 9 o'clock.

Benj Clark, Mayor
A Goodwin, CC

Monday morning March 15th 1841. The Common Council met at the Mayor's office pursuant to adjournment of the 10th Instant.

Present, Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

J Curtis, A G Lucas, S J Blaydes, G W Rothrock, John Buck, R J Walker—Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Chamberlain and Sergeant of the Corporation made the following reports, which were approved and the accounts ordered to be filed by the Clerk.

On the Chamberlain's a/c "In pursuance of an order of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg of the 10th Inst the undersigned a committee appointed to examine the account of the Chamberlain report that they have performed that duty and find the account of the Chamberlain properly stated and the debits therein supported by proper vouchers and further report that the same stands properly and correct balanced.

Given under our hands this 15th March 1841

Signed, H H Wallace, Jesse Curtis, Albert G Lucas

On the Sergeants account "The undersigned, a committee appointed for the purpose have examined the [Page 181] above account and find the same correct and that the same stands properly balanced.
Signed, H H Wallace, Jesse Curtis, Albert G Lucas

The Sergeant of the Corporation returned the following lists of insolvents viz;
Of whites amounting to one hundred and twelve dollars and seventy five cents;
Of Blacks, one hundred and ten dollars & ninety cents;
Of Deferred taxes, three hundred and seventeen dollars and eighty five cents;
Of Deferred rents, three hundred and forty four dollars and seventy nine cents;
All of which were ordered to be filed by the Clerk of the Council.

This being the day appointed by law for the Election of Twelve men to serve as Common Councilmen until the third Monday in March 1842, and until others are elected in their stead, a poll was opened for that 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 votes were found to be given for the following persons, viz;

H H Wallace	184
A G Lucas	172
C C Wellford	167
John Buck	166
John J Berrey	164
Thomas F Knox	158
A K Phillips	108
S J Blaydes	104
Wm A Jackson	103
Jesse Curtis	99
James McGuire	96
William Allen	95
Wm H White	91

The first named twelve of whom were declared duly elected Common Councilmen to serve until the 3rd Monday in March 1842, and until others are elected in their stead.

And then the Council adjourned
Benj Clark, Mayor
Arthur Goodwin, CC
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Tuesday Evening March 16th 1841. C C Wellford, John Buck, H H Wallace, Thos F Knox, Jesse Curtis, A G Lucas, Wm Allen, John J Berrey, A K Phillips, S J Blaydes, and James McGuire, members-elect of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, met at the Council Chamber and severally took the oaths of office before the Mayor.

On motion the salary of the Mayor was fixed at the sum of four hundred dollars for the present year by the following vote, viz;
Ayes, Blaydes, Phillips, Allen, Curtis, Berrey, Wellford, Buck, McGuire, Wallace 9
Noes, Lucas and Wallace 2

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Mayor when Benjamin Clark was unanimously elected Mayor for the present year, and took the several oaths of office before John Hart Esq'r a Justice of the Peace of the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

The Council then balloted for a Recorder when H H Wallace was re-elected and took the several oaths of office before the Mayor.

On motion the salaries of the following officers were fixed at the following rates per annum, viz;

Clerk of Council	fifty dollars
Chamberlain of the Corporation	one hundred and fifty dollars
Commissioner of the Revenue at	sixty dollars
Clerk of the Market at	one hundred dollars
Bellman at	fifty dollars
Jailor at	fifty dollars

The offices of Police officer & assistant Police officers were abolished by the Council by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, Allen, Wallace, Wellford, Lucas, Knox and Buck	6
Noes Blaydes, Phillips, Curtis, Berrey and McGuire	5

The usual Commission of 10 pr cent on Taxes and 5 pr ct on Rents was fixed upon as compensation to the Collector of Taxes and Rents for the Collection

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 [Page 183]

John S Caldwell, Collector of Rents and Taxes; John Metcalfe, Commissioner of the Revenue; Matthew D Anderson, Clerk of the Market; Jesse White, Bellman; John Minor, Surveyor and Geographer of the Corporation; Wm M Baggott, Inspector and Measurer of Wood, Lumber &c &c at the wharves and at the Basin; John B Alexander, inspector and Measurer of Wood, Lumber &c &c at the Depot; and M D Anderson, Measurer of Coal, Grain &c &c &c. The appointment to the office of Guager was postponed for the present.

Arthur Goodwin, John Minor and Matthew D Anderson severally qualified to their offices before the Mayor.

On motion it was ordered that the tax on Cart and Dray licenses issued between the 1st day of April and the first of November next shall be five dollars each for the year ending the 1st April 1842; on all issued after the 1st day of November next and before the 1st day of April 1842, shall be three dollars & fifty cents each and on Waggons shall be as follows, viz; on all issued between the two first named periods as above eight dollars each and on all issued between the two last named periods as above, viz, between the 1st November next and the 1st of April 1842, five dollars each.

The following standing committees were appointed by the Mayor, viz;

On Public Property; H H Wallace, Wm Allen, John Buck, Charles C Wellford
On Streets; S J Blaydes, Jesse Curtis, Wm A Jackson, James McGuire
On Pumps; Albert G Lucas, A K Phillips, Thomas F Knox, John J Berrey

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On motion the following persons were named a committee to enquire into the propriety of having sign boards put up at the corner of the different streets of the Town, viz; C C Wellford, James McGuire and A G Lucas, and it is further ordered that said Committee be authorized to contract for the putting upon sign boards at the corners of the streets provided the expense thereof does not exceed the sum of thirty dollars.

Mr Charles C Wellford gave notice that he should at the next meeting of the Council propose a plan for a new organization of the Police of the Town.

On motion, C C Wellford, John Buck and John J Berrey are appointed a committee to enquire into the cost of putting up an enclosure round the Court House lot and report thereon to the next Council. Laying before the Board, estimates of expense of the various plans of enclosure they may suggest.

On motion the Council adjourned till Tuesday evening next at 7 o'clock PM
Benj Clark, Mayor
Arthur Goodwin, CC

Tuesday evening March 23rd 1841. The Council met at the Council Chamber pursuant to order of adjournment of the 16th Inst

Present, Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

John J Berrey, A G Lucas, Wm Allen, C C Wellford, John Buck, James McGuire, Jesse Curtis, Thos F Knox, S J Blaydes & A K Phillips—Common Councilmen

Wm A Jackson member elect of the Common Council appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

An account of John Minor, Surveyor & Geographer of the Corporation for resetting a corner stone at the northern extremity of Prince Edward Street amounting to five dollars was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain

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The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council on the subject of the enclosure of the Court House lot, laid before the Council an estimate of the costs, amounting to \$169.25, Whereupon on motion, it was ordered that said Committee be and they are hereby authorized to contract for the enclosure of the Court House lot, (the work to be done in the manner prescribed in said bill of costs, with the addition of capping to the plank fences) and to draw on the Chamberlain for the amount of the cost Thereof.

Mr Wm M Mitchell appeared before the Council in behalf of the Young Men's Society praying that the rent of the north wing of the Market house now occupied by said society may be reduced, Whereupon it was on motion ordered that the rent of said Room be reduced to the sum of twenty five dollars per annum.

Mr Charles C Wellford submitted, in pursuance of notice at the last meeting of the Council the following Resolutions in relation to the Police, viz;

1. Resolved that hereafter there shall be appointed annually at the first meeting of the Council after the election in March a Police officer, whose duty it shall be rigidly to enforce all ordinances which have been or may hereafter passed for the regulation of the Police of the Town.

2. Resolved that the constables of the Corporation as hereby declared and deemed to be, by virtue of their offices, assistant to the said Police Officer, and it shall be their duty, not only to aid and assist the said officer, but also to attend to the rigid enforcement of the ordinances for the regulation of the Police and more particularly those for the detection and removal of all nuisances.

3. Resolved that the annual compensation of the Police officer and his assistants shall be fixed by the Council and be payable quarterly out of the funds of the Corporation under the following restrictions and provisions however, viz;

That the Mayor of the Corporation shall at the termination of each quarter make a report to the Council of the manner in which the duties of the officers have been discharged, and if upon such report the Council shall decide that the duties have been faithfully performed then the salaries for the quarter shall be paid, but if the Council decide [Page 186] that the duties have not been properly performed then the salaries for that quarter shall be entirely forfeited.

4. Resolved that in order the more effectually to carry into operation the preceding resolution it is hereby declared to be the duty of the Mayor (in addition to those prescribed by the ordinance of the 20th October 1827) to make to the council at the termination of each and every quarter of the year, for which such officer shall be elected and before the Council shall decide upon the question of allowing their salaries or not, a report in writing of the manner in which the duties have been performed”

which being read were on motion ordered to lie on the table by the following vote viz;

Ayes, Phillips, Allen, Blaydes, Curtis Lucas, McGuire 6

Noes, Jackson, Buck, Wallace, Wellford, Knox & Berry 6

There being a tie the mayor gave the casting vote in the affirmative.

On Motion of Albert G Lucas the vote laying the above resolutions on the table was reconsidered and the Resolutions were adopted

The salaries of the Police Officers were then fixed at one hundred dollars per annum, each, the vote for fixing the same at \$150 being lost by ayes and noes as follows viz;

Ayes, Jackson, Phillips, Allen, Blaydes, Wellford, and Berrey 6

Noes, Buck Curtis, Wallace, Lucas, Knox & McGuire 6

There being a tie the Mayor voted in the negative and on fixing the same at \$125 per annum

Ayes Jackson, Phillips, Buck, Wellford, Knox, and Berrey 6

Noes, Allen Blaydes, Curtis Wallace, Lucas, and McGuire 6 the Mayor voting in the negative, there being a tie. The ayes and noes on fixing the salaries at one hundred dollars per annum each was as follows, viz

Ayes Jackson, Curtis, Wallace, Wellford, Lucas and McGuire 6

Noes Phillips, Buck, Allen, Blaydes, Knox and Berrey 6

the Mayor deciding the question, there being a tie by voting in the affirmative.

The Council then proceeded to the election of a police officer, when John S Caldwell was unanimously re-elected.

On motion the Council adjourned

Benj Clark, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber April 26th 1841 in pursuance of notice from the Mayor
Present, Benjamin Clark, Mayor
H H Wallace, Recorder
Wm Allen, A G Lucas, James McGuire, John Buck, S J Blaydes, Thomas F Knox, C C Wellford—
Common Councilmen.

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened at the instance of Mr Wm D Green for the purpose of having the bonds heretofore given by him & his securities, to the Mayor and Commonalty conditioned for the payment of all prizes drawn in the Lottery therein redeemed &c, given up to him for cancellation in order that he may have the lien given to said securities on his property relieved. Whereupon it was on motion,
Ordered (the Council being perfectly satisfied from the evidence exhibited to them, that the conditions of said bonds have been fully complied with) that said bonds be given up to said Green by the Clerk of the Council.

Ordered that the Committee on Public Property be and that they are hereby authorized to have such repairs put upon the roof &c of the Court House as in their opinion may be deemed fit and proper, and to draw on the Chamberlain for the cost thereof.

Ordered that the sum of Two dollars be paid to Edmund Young for the re-internment of the body of Negro Moses.

The following ordinance was read and passed

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg that from and after the 10th day of May next it shall not be lawful for any animal of the dog kind to go at large in the streets of the town and that it shall be the duty of the constables of the Corporation to shoot or otherwise destroy all dogs found going at large in the streets from and after that date.

Be it further ordained &c that all other ordinances relating to dogs be and the same are hereby repealed.

Ordered that hereafter the compensation to be allowed the Constables for destroying and removing the same without the limits of the Town and also burying them, be fixed at seventy five cents for each dog, so shot or destroyed.

On motion the Council adjourned.

Benj Clark, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 10th June 1841
Present, Benj Clark, Mayor
Wm Allen, J J Berrey, S J Blaydes, Jesse Curtis, John Buck, C C Wellford, James McGuire—Common Councilmen

The official bonds of A Goodwin, Chamberlain with R T Thom & John Coakley as securities, and of J S Caldwell, Sergeant, with Samuel Phillips and A K Phillips, securities in the penalties of five thousand

dollars each were submitted to the Board for approval, read, approved and ordered to be filed by the Mayor.

The commissioner of the Revenue having returned a list of taxable property and the Chamberlain his estimate of the receipts and expenditures of the Corporation for the current year, which being laid before the Board it was on motion,

Ordered that the taxes on persons and property for the present years be as follows, viz;

On Real Property 4 per cent of the annual value thereof

On each white male above the age of 16 years \$1.50

On each slave above 12 years of age \$1.50

On each free male Negro or Mulatto above the age of 16 \$1.50

On each free female Negro or Mulatto above the age of 16 \$1.00

On each horse \$1.50

On every carriage, cariote, Gig, Phaeton or pleasure carriage of any description of the value of \$100 or under , the sum of \$2.00

And for each over that value 2 pr cent on the value thereof

An account of Bernard Cole for killing dogs amounting to thirteen dollars and fifty cents was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain

Present, Wm A Jackson—Common Councilman

The Mayor having submitted a report in writing of the manner in which the duties of the Police Officers have been discharged for the present quarter, which being read it was on motion ordered that their salaries for the present quarter ending the 15th Instant, be paid by the Chamberlain.

Present, Thomas F Knox—Common Councilman

On motion, it was ordered that the Street Committee be and they are hereby directed to have a secret drain constructed from the lower corner of Mr P Goolrick's on Main Street down Hanover Street by Mr Beckham's to the [Page 189] the corner of Johnston's Ice House, and to draw on the Chamberlain for the expense thereof

Present A K Phillips—Common Councilman

On motion, ordered that the Street Committee be directed to have the terminations of Prussia, Hanover & George Streets so graduated and repaired that the river may be made accessible to the Fire Companies for a supply of water in cases of Fire.

A motion was made by Mr Allen that the net proceeds of the annual Rents of the Corporation be applied each year to the payment of the Corporation debt, on which the vote being taken by Ayes & Noes were as follows, viz;

Ayes, Wm Allen and Thomas F Knox 2

Noes, J Curtis, J J Berrey, S J Blaydes, A K Phillips, Wm A Jackson, James McGuire, C C Wellford, John Buck 8

So the motion was rejected

On motion the Council adjourned
Benj Clark, Mayor
A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 27th June 1841, convened by order of the Mayor

Present, Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

Wm Allen, S J Blaydes, James McGuire, John J Berrey, A G Lucas, Jesse Curtis, John Buck—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of taking the necessary steps to get possession of lot No. 8 of the Market house lots, which it is believed has long since reverted to the Corporation by the death of the persons for whose lives it was leased by the Corporation and also stated that he had, after consultation with some members of the Council taken the legal opinion of T B Barton, Esq on several questions involved in the case, which being read, it was, on consideration; ordered that the Sergeant of the Corporation be directed to demand possession of said Lot from the parties now holding possession of the same and that if it be refused that he proceed forthwith to take the necessary legal steps to get possession of [Page 190] the same, the Council being satisfied that the lives for which said lot was leased by the Corporation have long since expired.

On motion the Council adjourned
Benj Clark, Mayor
A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Mayor's office on Tuesday evening the 3rd August 1841

Present Benjamin Clark, Mayor

S J Blaydes, Jesse Curtis, A G Lucas, John J Berrey, Wm Allen, John Buck, James McGuire—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened for the purpose of considering a proposition of Mr Richard Williams in relation to leasing the lot, No. 8, now held by him; whereupon the Council being informed that Mr Williams reserves the right on contesting the claim of the Corporation to the possession of said lot, should his proposition be not acceded to, it was, on motion, ordered that no proposition from Mr Williams will be considered until the claim of the Corporation to said lot be admitted.

On motion the Council adjourned
Benj Clark, Mayor
A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, at the Council Chamber 15th September 1841

Present Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

J Curtis, A G Lucas, Wm Allen, J J Berrey, John Buck, S J Blaydes, Jas McGuire, Thos F Knox—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened for the purpose of passing upon the salaries of the Police Officers for the quarter ending this day, whereupon (the Mayors report in writing as to the manner in which the duties have been discharged having been read) it was, on motion, ordered that their salaries for the present quarter be paid by the Chamberlain.

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On motion the following accounts were passed & ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz;

John Buck's amounting to	\$10.00
W H Bradshaw's amounting to	\$4.04
Reuben T Thom's for powder &c	\$14.00

Ordered that the Powder & shot purchased by the Corporation for the use of the patrol on the 4th July last be sold by the Sergeant of the Corporation & the proceeds be placed in the hands of the Chamberlain for the use of the Corporation.

An account of B Cole for killing dogs was passed and also one of Linsey Pullen's the first for six dollars and seventy five cents, the last for nine dollars and seventy five cents

A Petition signed by several citizens of the Town for paving the Alley leading from the Main Street to the Market House was read and on motion, it was ordered that the Street Committee be and they are hereby requested to enquire into the expense of paving said Alley and the make report thereon to the next Council.

A Petition signed by many owners of drays praying an increase of the rates of drayage to an from wharves being presented, it was, on motion, ordered that the rates of drayage from and after the 1st October next, be twenty five cents per load to and from any or either of the wharves.

On motion the Council adjourned

Benj Clark, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening 17th November 1841 called by H H Wallace & J J Berrey two members of the Council

Present Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

John J Berrey, John Buck, S J Blaydes, A G Lucas, Jesse Curtis, C C Wellford, James McGuire, Wm Allen [Page 192] and Thomas F Knox—Councilmen

The Recorder being request by the Mayor to preside at the Board he accordingly took the Chair and stated that the Council had been called by himself & Mr J J Berrey at the instance of John S Caldwell, the Collector for reasons stated in a letter to them from him which being read and after some remarks & explanation by the Mayor in relation to the charges referred to in Mr Caldwell's letter and some remarks of Mr Caldwell asking for a committee to examine his accounts heretofore settled, it was on motion of Mr Curtis, ordered that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to examine the accounts of the Collector from the time of his first appointment to that office, or as far back as they may think proper.

The Recorder appointed the following members, a committee to examine the accounts of the Collector, viz;

John J Berrey, Thomas F Knox & Albert G Lucas and report at their earliest convenience.

On motion the Council adjourned

Benj Clark, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 15th December 1841

Present H H Wallace, Recorder

Wm Allen, S J Blaydes, J Curtis, Jas McGuire, A G Lucas & Thos F Knox—Common Councilmen

A communication from the Mayor in relation to the payment of the quarters salaries of the Police Officers being read by the Recorder, it was on motion, ordered that the Chamberlain pay the Police Officers their salaries for the quarter ending this day.

On motion the following accounts were read, passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz;

John Minor's for surveying the Potters field \$4.67

Robert Ellis' for repairs to Court house, Market house, street &c \$65.85

Bernard Cole's for killing dogs &c &c \$11.12½

Linsey Pullen's for killing dogs and summoning inquest on the body of [blank] Taylor, a free colored boy \$13.65

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On motion the Council adjourned

Benj Clark, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 21st December 1841

Present, Benjamin Clark, Mayor

H H Wallace, Recorder

S J Blaydes, Wm Allen, Thomas F Knox, Jas McGuire, W A Jackson, A G Lucas, John Buck, and Jesse Curtis—Common Councilmen

On motion it was ordered that an account of D Pittman for guarding Chatham Bridge six Sundays to prevent Negroes from coming into Town, amounting to four dollars and fifty cents be paid by the Chamberlain subject however to the retention of one dollar and fifty cents on account of Tax due by said Pittman to the Corporation to be paid to the Sergeant

An account of B Clark, Coroner, for holding an inquest on the body of [blank] Taylor, a free colored boy, found drowned, amounting to five dollars was ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

Present J J Berrey—Common Councilman

The Mayor stating that other business would come before the Council which might render it improper for him to preside, called the Recorder to the Chair

John J Berrey presented the report of the Committee appointed on the 17th November 1841, to examine the settled accounts of the Sergeant of the Corporation which being read was approved and ordered to be entered on the minutes of the Council; the Report is in the following words and figures to wit;
In conformity with an order of the Common Council passed the 17th November 1841, the undersigned, a Committee appointed to examine the settled accounts of John S Caldwell, Sergeant of the Corporation, respectfully report that they have carefully examined the same and found them correct and as far as they know or believe there is not cause of complaint against the official conduct [Page 194] of the Sergeant
(signed) Jno J Berrey, Thomas F Knox, A G Lucas
Freds'burg Dec 20th 1841

Upon the reading the foregoing report the Mayor stated it gave him pleasure that the report of the Committee was such as it was, and that although in the investigation of the accounts of the Sergeant before the Committee his mind was not led in all respects to the same conclusions that the Committee entertained yet he cheerfully submits to the judgment of the Committee

On motion the Council adjourned
Benj Clark, Mayor
A Goodwin, CC