## Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1844

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber January 19<sup>th</sup> 1844, called by the Mayor

Present, B Clark, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

Wm Allen, Geo B Waite, A G Lucas, C C Wellford, J Curtis, P Goolrick, James McGuire and Robert C Bruce—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated he had convened the Council principally for the purpose of considering a petition of many of the citizens of the town praying the Council to enact some law to prevent baker boys and others from peddling bread, cakes and other articles about the Streets of the Town.

Present, B S Herndon—Common Councilman

The foregoing petition having been read, it was on motion, ordered that a Committee of five be appointed by the Mayor to take said petition into consideration and report to the next Council such measures as may be deemed expedient to meet the prayer of the petitioners. Wm A Jackson, C C Wellford, Wm Allen, A G Lucas, and Peter Goolrick were appointed a Committee under the foregoing order. [Page 224]

Ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation pay to the following named persons the sum of one dollar each for their services as a patrol of the town, the past Christmas holy days, viz; R Briggs, Thos Pollard, Caleb Gossett, John L Whaley, George Cudlip

On motion the Council adjourned till Wednesday evening next at ½ past 6 o'clock Benj Clark, Mayor A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council, at the Council Chamber, Wednesday evening 24<sup>th</sup> January 1844

Present Benj Clark, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

Wm Allen, J Curtis, P Goolrick, J McGuire, A G Lucas—Common Councilmen

Mr Jackson, chairman of the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council stated that the Committee were not prepared at this time to report on the subject referred to them and begged that further time be allowed said Committee to report, which was granted.

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 the  $6^{th}$  March 1844 called by the Mayor.

Present Benj Clark, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

A G Lucas, G B Waite, Peter Goolrick, J Curtis, B S Herndon J McGuire, S J Blaydes—Common Councilmen [Page 225]

An account of L Pullen for summoning an inquest on the body of a child found dead on the premises of B Leavell amounting to three dollars and fifteen cents was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

Present, Thomas F Knox—Councilman

Mr John Minor presented a petition on behalf of a Committee of the Union Fire Company in relation to the erection of an engine house for the use of the said Company accompanying the presentation of the same with some explanatory remarks. Whereupon on motion of A G Lucas, it was ordered that said petition be laid on the table for the present, with the view to the future action of the Council thereon.

## Present, C C Wellford—Councilman

Wm A Jackson, Chairman of the Committee appointed to take into consideration the petition of sundry citizens in relation to the hawking or peddling of cakes, fruits &c &c in the streets made a verbal report, accompanied with an ordinance on the subject, which was presented to the consideration of the Council; whereupon on motion the following ordinance was passed in the following words and figures to wit; Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that any person who shall sell or expose for sale within the streets, lanes, alleys or public square of this town, any cakes, fruits, fries, candies or other eatables, small beer, tobacco manufactured, Segars, or any such articles, without a license first obtained from the Mayor, for which he or she shall pay the Chamberlain of the Corporation twenty dollars per annum shall forfeit for the benefit of the Corporation the article or articles so offered for sale, if the same be not actually sold and in case of sale, shall pay a fine of thrice the amount given or agreed to be given for such article or articles in case by that sale such fine shall not exceed six dollars and sixty six cents, then that sum only shall be imposed; Provided however, that nothing herein contained shall prevent Country people at all times (except Sundays) from offering for sale or selling in [Page 226] any of the Streets, lanes, alleys, or public Square, and fruits or raw provisions or from selling from their carts or otherwise any vegetables or garden produce, nor is it intended by this ordinance to prevent bakers from sending around to their customers any bread rolls, or cakes, nor to prevent the sale of any vegetables or garden produced raised in Town.

This ordinance shall commence and be in force from and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 1844. The Ayes and Noes being taken in the passage of the foregoing ordinance were as follows, viz; Ayes, Blaydes, Lucas, Jackson, Waite, McGuire, Knox and Wellford 7 Noes, Herndon, Goolrick and Curtis 3

On motion it was ordered that the Clerk publish the vote on the passage of the foregoing ordinance at the same time the said ordinance is published.

And then 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 Friday evening the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1844, pursuant to notice by the Mayor

Present, Benj Clark, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

R C Bruce, J McGuire, S J Blaydes, B S Herndon, T F Knox, J Curtis, P Goolrick, A G Lucas—Common Councilmen

The Mayor made a report in writing as to the manner in which the Police officers have discharged their duty for the present quarter; whereupon it was ordered that the Chamberlain do pay said officers their quarters salary.

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

C B White's amounting to	\$3.87
J Coakley's amounting to	\$3.50
T F Knox's amounting to	\$1.50
R C Bruce's amounting to	\$4.00
J J Chews pr bills	\$2.75
D Bradford's a/c	\$2.56
J J Rollow's a/c	\$14.25
A G Lucas' a/c	\$3.00
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J D Harrow's acct for	\$19.83
J Ashby's acct for	\$3.00
Wm Bradshaw's acct for	\$2.00
J R Jenkins acct for	\$1.50
J S Caldwell's acct for	\$49.90
J M Campbell's for	\$3.00
Wm Warren's for	\$15.06
J J Young's for	\$4.58
J Minor, Surveyor for	\$4.00
Wm Brannin's for	\$ .75

James McGuires for excess of tax on Real Estate amounting to one dollar and twenty cents

An account of Doctor Wm Marye Smith for a post-mortem examination of the body of Mary Mahoney's child amounting to five dollars was passed, but on a motion to reconsider the vote, the motion prevailed and it was ordered that the account be laid on the table.

On motion ordered that Benjamin Clark be refunded by the Chamberlain the amount of tax paid on a slave with which he was improperly charged in 1840 or 1841, the said slave not being taxable by reason of her being under the age of taxable slaves.

The Mayor returned an account of the tax on the Corporation Seal for the past year, showing a balance due by the Mayor of one dollar and eighty two cents, which account was received and the balance as above, ordered to be paid over to the Chamberlain & by him passed to the credit of the Corporation.

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Benjamin Clark, the sum of four Dollars, the same being for taxes paid by him for five years past, or a piece of ground the property of his wife, which although private property has been used altogether as a public pass way to the Gunnery Spring.

Jesse Curtis, P Goolrick, W A Jackson and R C Bruce were appointed by the Mayor a Committee to examine and settle the accounts of the Sergeant and Chamberlain of the Corporation for the present year and to report thereon to the Council on Monday Morning next at 9 O'clock.

On motion the Council adjourned to Monday next at 9 O'clock AM Benj Clark, Mayor Teste,
A Goodwin, CC
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Monday morning  $18^{th}$  March 1844, the Council met at the Council Chamber pursuant to order of adjournment of the  $15^{th}$  Inst

Present, B Clark, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

J Curtis, R C Bruce, P Goolrick, Thomas F Knox, A G Lucas, J McGuire, B S Herndon, C C Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to examine and settle the accounts of the Sergeant and Chamberlain of the Corporation made the following reports, which were read, approved and ordered to be recorded, viz;

On the Chamberlain's account "the undersigned appointed a committee to examine and settle the account of A Goodwin, Chamberlain for the fiscal year ending this day respectfully report that they have performed that duty and state that the said account is correctly stated, the debits therein being supported by proper vouchers and that there is a balance in the hands of the Chamberlain of seventeen dollars and eighteen cents.

Given under our hands this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1844.

Signed, J Curtis, W A Jackson, P Goolrick, R C Bruce—Committee"

## On the Sergeant's account

"the undersigned a committee of the Common Council of Fredericksburg, appointed to examine the account of the Sergeant of the Corporation for the fiscal year of 1843, report that they have performed that duty and they find the account of the Sergeant is correctly stated, the items supported by proper vouchers and that the account is justly balanced.

Given under our hands this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1844.

Signed, J Curtis, W A Jackson, P Goolrick, R C Bruce—Committee" [Page 229]

The Sergeant of the Corporation returned the following lists of insolvents for the year, viz; Of whites amounting to one hundred and forty one dollars and sixty four cents Of blacks amounting to one hundred and thirty one dollars and twenty cents

The Sergeant of the Corporation also returned the following lists of deferred taxes and rents, viz; Of taxes, one hundred and thirty eight dollars and twenty cents

Of rents one hundred and ten dollars and eighty three cents.

Ordered that the sum of five dollars be paid by the Chamberlain to Edwin Lucas as a further allowance for grading and paving the street from J Hart's to D G Road's corner, the said Lucas having been allowed by the Sergeant a previous sum of five dollars.

Ordered that the balance due by Lucy Duncan for rent of house on Court House lot amounting to thirty dollars be remitted by the Sergeant of the Corporation, the said Lucy having been represented to the Council as being very poor and sickly and being further represented as having been for a great number of years a very punctual tenant of the Corporation.

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 1845, 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 to wit;

James McGuire	228
Peter Goolrick	219
George B Waite	211
Robert C Bruce	209
Charles C Wellford	207
William Allen	189
Stephen J Blaydes	176
Jesse Curtis	161
Thomas F Knox	154
Albert G Lucas	153
William A Jackson	144
Eustace Conway	96
Brodie S Herndon	95

The first twelve of whom are declared duly elected to serve as Common Councilmen until the 3td Monday in March 1845, and until others are elected in their stead.

On motion the Council adjourned Benj Clark, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 230]

Tuesday evening March 19<sup>th</sup> 1844, Wm Allen, W A Jackson, E Conway, C C Wellford, J Curtis, P Goolrick, G B Waite, J McGuire, Thos F Knox, R C Bruce, A G Lucas, members elect of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg met at the Council Chamber and severally took the oath of office before the Mayor

On motion the salary of the Mayor for the present year was fixed at the sum of four hundred dollars

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Mayor when Robert B Semple was elected by a unanimous vote.

The Messenger of the Council being directed to apprise Mr Semple of his election and request his attendance did so, when Mr Semple appeared and took the several oaths of office before Beverley R Wellford a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Recorder when Wm A Jackson was duly elected and took the several oaths of office before the Mayor.

The Messenger of the Council being directed to notify S J Blaydes, a member elect that the Council requested his attendance at the Board, returned with a message from Mr Blaydes excusing himself for his non attendance on the ground of indisposition

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

Clerk of the Council	\$50
Chamberlain of the Corporation	\$100
Commissioner of the Revenue	\$60
Clerk of the Market	\$100
Police officer	\$100
Assistant police officers (each)	\$100
Jailor	\$50

And on motion the usual commission of 10 per cent on Taxes and 5 pr ct on Rents was fixed as compensation to the Collector of Taxes and Rents

On motion it was ordered that the Bellman of the Corporation be allowed to occupy the house on the Court House lot, rent free in lieu of any salary or compensation for his services as Bellman. [Page 231]

The Council then proceeded to the Election of officers for the present year, when Arthur Goodwin reelected Clerk of the Council and Chamberlain of the Corporation

John Metcalfe, Commissioner of the Revenue

Matthew D Anderson, Clerk of the Market

John S Caldwell, Police Officer

Daniel Bradford and Linsey Pullen assistant police officers

Jesse White Bellman

John S Caldwell, Collector of taxes and rents

John Minor, Surveyor and Geographer of the Corporation

Matthew D Anderson, Measurer of Coal, Grain, Potatoes, Salt &c &c

William M Baggott, Inspector and Measurer of Lumber and Plank &

Robert W Adams Measurer of wood for the Corporation.

Arthur Goodwin, John S Caldwell, M D Anderson, D Bradford, L Pullen, and Wm M Baggott were severally qualified before the Mayor.

The following standing Committees were drawn for by ballot, with the following result, viz;

On Public Property, Wm A Jackson, A G Lucas, Wm Allen, E Conway

On Streets, R C Bruce, J McGuire, P Goolrick, S J Blaydes

On Pumps, Thomas F Knox, J Curtis, C C Wellford, George B Waite

On motion, ordered that the tax on Dray, Cart and Wagon licenses be fixed at the same sums as they were the last year.

On motion ordered that the Clerk of the Council be hand he is hereby authorized to contract for printing for the Corporation for the present year, with any printer of the Towns who will do the same of the best terms.

On motion the Council adjourned, R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 132]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 29<sup>th</sup> March 1844

Present R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

Geo B Waite, E Conway, J Curtis, C C Wellford, Thomas F Knox, James McGuire—Common Councilmen

S J Blaydes a member-elect appeared, was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board.

The Official Bond of A Goodwin, Chamberlain in the sum of five thousand dollars, with Reuben T Thom and John Coakley as securities was submitted to the Board, approved, and ordered to be filed by the Mayor.

The official bond of John S Caldwell, Collector of Taxes and Rents in the sum of five thousand dollars with Samuel Phillips and A K Phillips as securities was submitted to the Board, approved, and ordered to be filed by the Mayor.

The Mayor stated he had convened the Council to take into consideration a petition in relation to the modification or repeal in part of the ordinance passed March 6<sup>th</sup> 1844, on the subject of selling sundry articles by hawking or peddling the same in the Streets; The petition being read and submitted to the Board, a motion was made and seconded to repeal the said ordinance entirely which being put to the vote failed and then on motion made and seconded the petition was laid on the table.

On motion it was

Resolved that the Mayor in issuing licenses under the ordinance passed on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1844 be directed to restrict the party taking out the same to the sale of the articles therein named by the party himself or one agent unless he or she shall take out more than one license, it being hereby intended to restrict all licenses to sell under said ordinance to the sale of the articles therein named by only one individual under each license, or in other words that one license will entitled the person taking out the same to have one carrier, seller, and that licenses [Page 233] under said ordinance may be taken out for any period not less than three months.

A motion was made that the tax imposed by the ordinance of the  $6^{th}$  March 1844 be reduced to the sum of ten dollars, which upon being put to the vote failed.

A Proposition from Colo Benj Clark in behalf of his wife in relation to the exchange of a strip of land, now used by the public as a pathway to the Gunnery Spring for a strip of land adjoining the Academy lot owned by the Corporation was submitted to the Board and on motion it was ordered that the subject be referred to the Committee on Public Property to be reported on at the next meeting of the Council.

Resolved that the Committee on Pumps examine into the propriety of converting into a public pump a private well not on the lot of Robert B Semple and report thereon to the next council.

Resolved that the Committee on Streets are hereby instructed to examine into the feasibility of draining Hawk Street adjacent to the Steam Woolens factory, so as to prevent the accumulation of water on said Factory lot, and report thereon to the next meeting of the Council.

Mr Richard Bozel, who presented the petition on behalf of the signers thereto in relation to the modification or repeal of the ordinance of the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1844 requested to withdraw the same which request was refused by the Council but it was ordered that Mr Bozel be furnished with a copy of said Petition, by the Clerk of the Council if he desires one.

On motion the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 234]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg on the 6<sup>th</sup> April 1844, called by the Mayor.

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

Eustace Conway, Jesse Curtis, Peter Goolrick, George B Waite, Robert C Bruce, A G Lucas, William Allen, Thomas F Knox—Common Councilmen

William A Jackson on behalf of the Committee on Public Property who were directed at the last meeting of the Council to take into consideration the expediency of exchanging a way at the lower end of the town leading to the Gunnery Spring belonging to Mrs E J Clark, made a verbal report that it would be highly expedient to make the exchange, the Corporation, however, only conveying the lot owned by it, by deed with special warranty, which proposition (Colo Clark being present) was declined by him, on the part of his wife, and a proposition to sell the passway to said Spring now used by the public to the Corporation for the sum of fifty dollars being made by Colo Clark on behalf of his wife was acceded to; and it was on motion ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation pay to Mrs E J Clark the sum of fifty dollars upon a good and sufficient deed being executed to the Corporation for said way, by John McPherson, Trustee of said Eliza J Clark, said Benjamin Clark and Elizabeth his wife, said deed to be prepared by Mr E Conway, and the same to convey a way thirty feet wide.

On motion ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to offer a reward of two hundred dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons who shall have set fire to either of the houses last night.

The Pump Committee reported favorably on the subject referred to them at the last meeting of the Council, whereupon on motion, it was ordered that the Pump on the lot of Robert B Semple be converted into a pump for the use of the public, the said Semple hereby agreeing thereto.

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A verbal petition on behalf of [blank] Knight to be exempt from the tax for a license to sell fruit &c &c in the Streets under the ordinance of the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1844 was on motion laid on the table.

On motion the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 1844

Present Robert B Semple, Mayor

Thomas F Knox, Jesse Curtis, S J Blaydes, Peter Goolrick, George B Waite, A G Lucas, James McGuire—Common Councilmen

The Sergeant of the Corporation having informed the Council that he had contracted to sell to Joseph Wiglesworth for seventy five dollars the strip of land, thirty feet wide lying between the back line of the Town of Fredericksburg and the old Academy lot and extending from the upper or north side of the road or way leading to the Gunnery Spring up to Dunmore Street, whereupon it is ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to execute a deed to the said Joseph Wiglesworth conveying all the estate, right, title, and interest of the Mayor and Commonalty of Fredericksburg in the strip of land aforesaid and affix the seal of the Corporation of Fredericksburg to the same.

And then the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 236]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 7<sup>th</sup> May 1844

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

S J Blaydes, Wm Allen, J McGuire, Jesse Curtis, E Conway, P Goolrick, T F Knox, Geo B Waite, A G Lucas, C C Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened to take into consideration the subject of dogs running at large in the Streets. Whereupon on motion, E Conway, Wm Allen, C C Wellford were appointed a Committee to prepare an ordinance on the subject and report the same to the next meeting of the Common Council.

The Chamberlain of the Corporation exhibited to the Board, Corporation notes, amounting to one dollar and ninety five cents, redeemed by him, which were burnt in the presence of the Council.

An account of L Pullen for summoning an inquest on the body of James Cavanagh, amounting to three dollars and fifteen cents, was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

Whereas complaints having been made by many citizens of the Town of great disorder and noise attending any alarm or cry of fire, by the boys of the Town, it was on motion, ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to appoint a Committee of 15 citizens of the town who are to be called a "Peace Committee" & who are requested upon any alarm or cry of fire to repair to the scene of such fire to preserve order, and that said committee be and they are hereby vested with all the powers of the Police officers of the Corporation and it is further ordered that the Mayor notify the citizens of the appointment and powers of such committee by publication by hand bills, through the town.

On motion the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 237]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, held at the Mayor's office on Wednesday evening the 15<sup>th</sup> May 1844.

Present R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

W Allen, R C Bruce, J McGuire, T F Knox, G B Waite, A G Lucas, E Conway, C C Wellford, J Curtis, Peter Goolrick, S J Blaydes—Common Councilmen

The Mayor mentioned that some ordinance should be passed amendatory of the ordinance passed the  $6^{th}$  March 1844 in relation to the sale of cakes &c &c in the Streets of the Town; Whereupon, upon motion, it was Resolved that the attorney for the Commonwealth be requested to prepare an ordinance amendatory to the ordinance above referred to, more effectually to secure the object intended by the passage of the same.

A memorial of the Hope and Union Fire Companies praying an appropriation of one hundred dollars each from the funds of the Corporation for the use of said Companies was presented and read & Whereupon it was Resolved that the sum of one hundred dollars to each of the Fire Companies be appropriated out of the funds of the Corporation to be paid by the Chamberlain to the commanders of said Companies. The vote on the passage of said resolution being taken by Ayes & Noes was as follows; Ayes, Blaydes, Wellford, Conway, Lucas, Waite, Knox, Jackson, Bruce, Allen 10 Noes, Goolrick, Curtis 2

A proposition submitted to the Board by the Mayor to appoint an additional Police Officers was, on motion, ordered to be laid on the table.

An account of Wm A Jackson, Recorder for holding a coroner's inquest (in the absence of the Mayor) on the body of James Cavanagh, amounting to five dollars was ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

And then the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 238] At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 24<sup>th</sup> May 1844

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

Wm Allen, Peter Goolrick, Jesse Curtis, S J Blaydes, Thos F Knox, James McGuire, Eustace Conway—Common Councilmen

The Commissioner of the Revenue having returned a list of taxable property and persons, and the Chamberlain having submitted to the Board estimates of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Corporation for the current year it was on motion, ordered that the taxes on Persons & Property for the present year be as follows, viz;

On Real Estate 4 per cent on the annual value thereof

On each White Male above the age of 16 years	\$1.50
On each Slave above the age of 12 years	\$1.50
On each free male Negro or Mulatto above the age of 16 years	\$1.50
On each free female Negro or Mulatto above the age of 16 years	\$1.00
On each horse	\$1.50

on every Carriage, Cariole, Gig, Phaeton, or pleasure carriage of any description of the value of \$100 or under \$2.00

and for each above the value of \$100, two per cent on the value thereof

An account of John Minor, surveyor, against the Corporation for running a line on the Western border of the Town by order of the Mayor, amounting to Two Dollars was presented, passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

The Committee appointed to report on the subject of dogs going at large in the Streets, reported an ordinance which was passed in the following words, viz;

An ordinance to prevent dogs running at large in the Corporation of Fredericksburg

- 1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg that it shall not be lawful for any dogs or bitches to go or run at large in any street, lane, alley or unenclosed lot or place within the Corporation of Fredericksburg.
- 2. And be it further ordained that any Dog or Bitch which shall be found going or running at large in [Page 239] any street, lane, alley or unenclosed place or lot within this Corporation shall be caught by the Police officers or any other persons employed by them for that purpose, in nets provided for the purpose or otherwise without injuring them, and such dog or bitch so caught shall be held liable to the following conditions and restrictions, viz; all dogs or bitches caught at any period before 12 M shall be secured in some safe place provided for the purpose; whereupon immediate notice shall be given to the owner (if any be known) who may redeem their dog or bitch by the payment of one dollar. And all dogs or bitches caught after 12 M and before sunset and being secured in like manner may be redeemed by their owners at or before sunset by the payment of one dollar. And should no owner appear in the time specified and redeem his or her dog or bitch, it shall be the duty of the Police Officer to put to death all such dogs or bitches in his custody and the same bury without the limits of the Corporation. And in consideration of the faithful execution of the requisitions of this ordinance, the Police Officer shall receive the one dollar forfeited, if any dog or bitch be redeemed by the owner thereof or, if not redeemed and the said dog or bitch is killed then he shall receive seventy five cents to be paid by the owner of said dog, or bitch (if able to pay) to be recovered by warrant, if not paid without, or, if the owner is not able to pay, then to be paid by the Corporation

- 3. And be it further ordained that the Mayor be hereby authorized to draw on the Chamberlain for all such sums as shall be necessary for the execution of this ordinance.
- 4. All ordinances or part of ordinances coming within the purview of this ordinance shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1844.

A motion was submitted authorizing the Mayor to appoint additional Police Officers to act without any [Page 240] other pay or emolument than the fees and prerogatives of office, which was negatived upon being put to the vote.

The Committee on Pumps were directed to examine into the propriety of having the pumps on the hill, so constructed as to enable the fire companies to use the water from said pumps on all occasions of fire.

Ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to affix the seal of the Corporation to a deed from the Corporation to John L Shultice for a lot at the lower end of the Town, adjoining Sarah G Buck's and another lot of said Shultice, the said Shultice having purchased the same from the Corporation at the price of one hundred dollars.

An ordinance concerning hogs going at large in the streets was passed in the following words, viz; Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that is shall not be lawful for any hog to run at large within the limits of the Town. And it shall be the duty of the Police officers of the Corporation to take up all hogs found running at large in the Town, and sell the same, at any public corner to the highest bidder for ready money, one moiety whereof shall go to the Police Officer, and the other to the owner of said hog.

Be it further ordained that all other ordinances and parts of ordinances concerning hogs going at large in the Streets be and the same are hereby repealed.

This Ordinance shall be in force from and after the 1st day of June 1844

On motion the Council adjourned. R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 241]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber June 5<sup>th</sup> 1844

Present R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

Wm Allen, Thomas F Knox, J McGuire, P Goolrick, J Curtis, George B Waite, A G Lucas—Common Councilmen

The following ordinance was presented and passed, viz;

An ordinance to amend the ordinance concerning the sales of manufactured articles in the streets of the Town of Fredericksburg, passed the 6<sup>th</sup> March 1844

1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that any white person who shall sell or expose to sale or shall employ any slave, free Negro or Mulatto to sell or expose to sale within the streets, lanes, alleys or public squares or lots belonging to this Corporation any cakes, fruits, pies, candies, or other edibles, small or strong beer, manufactured tobacco, segars, or articles of like

kind, without having first obtained a license in due form from the Mayor of said Corporation shall forfeit and pay for every such offense the sum of not less than one, nor more than five dollars and also forfeit the articles offered for sale, and the costs of prosecution to be recovered before any Justice of the Peace in the mode prescribed by law for enforcing fines and penalties for minor offenses. And it is hereby declared that proof that a slave, free Negro, or Mulatto was at the time of selling or offering to sell the articles above enumerated in violation of this ordinance, in the employment of any person engaged in the manufacture & sale of such articles it shall be deemed and taken as presumptive authority of the employer.

- 2. Be it further ordained that any slave, free Negro or Mulatto who shall be convicted before a Justice of the Peace of either of the offenses enumerated in the first section of this ordinance shall be punished with stripes at the public whipping post, at the discretion of the [Page 242] justice trying the offender, not exceeding thirty nine lashes.
- 3. Be if further ordained that the Mayor of this Corporation be and he hereby is authorized and empowered to grant a license to any free persons over the age of twenty one years to sell the articles enumerated in the first section of this ordinance for three, six, nine or twelve months from the date of such license, upon the payment by the applicant to the Chamberlain of this Corporation of the sum of twenty dollars for one year or a proportionable sum for a shorted period, the receipt therefore to be exhibited to the Mayor, before such license is granted, but no license shall be granted for a period less than three months.
- 4. Be it further ordained that all ordinances or parts of ordinances that come within the purview of this ordinance shall be and are hereby repealed.
- 5. Be it further ordained that this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1844

An account of Doctor Wm S Scott for a post mortem examination of the body of James Cavanagh at the instance of the Coroner's inquest amounting to twenty dollars was presented to the Board and, on motion it was laid on the table.

And then the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber June 17<sup>th</sup> 1844

Present R B Semple, Mayor

William Allen, Robert C Bruce, Charles C Wellford, Stephen J Blaydes, Peter Goolrick, Jesse Curtis, Eustace Conway, James McGuire, Thomas F Knox—Common Councilmen

The following ordinance entitled "An ordinance to amend an ordinance to prevent dogs from running [Page 243] at large in the Corporation of Fredericksburg" was passed in the following words and figures to wit;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that the Mayor shall procure such leather collars as he may deem suitable with the Stamp of the Corporation impressed upon them which collars shall be kept in the Mayor's office and dispensed of to such owners of dogs as may choose to purchase them, at the following rates, viz; one dollar and fifty cents for a collar for a dog and three dollars for a collars for a bitch and the dog or bitch of such person as shall have paid the said sum for a collar, when found running at large in the Corporation with said collar on shall be exempt from the

penalties of the ordinance passed the 24<sup>th</sup> May 1844 to prevent dogs running at large in the Corporation of Fredericksburg, for one year from the date of said payment.

Be it further ordained that the Mayor shall keep a list of such persons as shall purchase a collar and whenever it shall be satisfactorily shewn to him that a collar so obtained by any owner of a dog or bitch has been accidentally lost he shall be authorized to renew the same without other expense or charge than the cost of the collar.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 1844.

On motion, resolved that the Committee on Public Property enquire into the expediency of erecting or permitting the Clerk of the Hustings Court to erect at some proper and convenient place on the Court house lot, a privy for the use of the Court &c &c

The Mayor having made a verbal report of the manner in which the duties have been discharged by the Police officers for the quarter ending on the 17<sup>th</sup> Inst it was, on motion, ordered that their salaries for the present quarter be paid by the Chamberlain

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On motion the Council adjourned
R B Semple, Mayor
A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber July 12<sup>th</sup> 1844

Present, Robert B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

Wm Allen, R C Bruce, A G Lucas, George B Waite, Jesse Curtis, P Goolrick, James McGuire, S J Blaydes, E Conway—Common Councilmen

The consideration of the claim of Doctor Wm S Scott, for a post mortem examination of the body of James Cavanagh amounting to twenty dollars & which was laid on the table June 5, 1844, being brought to the notice of the Council by the Mayor, Doctor Scott having warranted the Corporation for the amount, a motion was made to pay the same which having failed it was on motion.

Ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to defend the said warrant in such manner as may seem fit in his discretion.

The Mayor having stated that the Corporation Court had appointed an additional Constable at it session today and at the same time unanimously recommended that the Council should appoint an additional police officer, it was on motion, ordered that Bernard Cole who was appointed Constable by the Court, be and he is hereby appointed a Police Officer of this Corporation with the distinct understanding however that said Cole is to act as Police Officer without any salary or reward whatever other than the fees of office.

On motion, Resolved that the Mayor be authorized to offer a reward of two hundred dollars for the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons who set fire to any of the houses that have been burnt within the limits of the Town during the last four months.

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An account of the Eagle Hotel for four dollars and fifty cents for supper furnished the guard was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

On motion, permission was granted to Mr John James Chew to join fences with Wm C Beale, by running his fence across Hawk Street at the upper end of the Town near the old frog pond, with the understanding however that whenever the Corporation wishes it, the said fence across said street shall be taken away by Mr Chew.

Absent—E Conway, Councilman

On motion, it was ordered that the Committee on public property be and they are hereby directed to have enclosed with a post and rail fence the burial ground, commonly called Potter's Field.

On motion the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, at the Council Chamber, Tuesday evening 30<sup>th</sup> July 1844

Present, Robert B Semple, Mayor

Wm Allen, A G Lucas, Geo B Waite, J McGuire, Peter Goolrick, S J Blaydes, Jesse Curtis—Common Councilmen

The attention of the Council being called by the Mayor to the condition of the Corporation Wharf, it was on motion ordered that the Committee on Public Property be and they are hereby directed to have the necessary repairs done to the wharf by letting the same to the lowest bidder or by agreeing with Captain H T Phillips for the repairs of the same.

On motion, it was ordered that Mr Eustace Conway be employed to defend the warrant against the Corporation at the suit of Doctor Wm S Scott, on which an appeal had been taken to the County Court; and in the absence [Page 246] of Mr Conway, the Mayor is authorized to employ other counsel.

Present, Wm A Jackson, Recorder

A petition of sundry citizens of the Town to have a shed erected before the Market House being presented and read, the same was on motion referred to the Committee on public property with instructions to report at the next meeting of the Council upon the propriety of erecting such shed and the probable cost thereof.

The Mayor stated that Mr Samuel Alsop had requested him to present an application to the Board for permission to burn shells on a kiln of bricks which he is about burning a the upper end of Town, which permission was not granted by the Council.

On motion the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, C C At a meeting of the Common Council of the town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 29<sup>th</sup> August 1844

Present Robert B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

R C Bruce, Wm Allen, Geo B Waite, Jesse Curtis, James McGuire, S J Blaydes, A G Lucas—Common Councilmen

An account of John Minor, Surveyor for surveying Potter's field amounting to \$4.67 was read, passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, who was also directed to pay the bill of the Clerk of the County court for furnishing the Surveyor with a copy of the Map of Liberty Town.

An a/c of Doctor Marye Smith for a post mortem examination of the body of Mary Mahoney's child amounting to five dollars which had been heretofore (15<sup>th</sup> March 1844) presented to the Council was on [Page 247] motion, laid on the table for future consideration.

The Mayor having stated that the claim against the Corporation of Doctor Wm S Scott, for the post-mortem examination of the body of James Cavanagh before the Coroner's inquest amounting to twenty dollars on which Doctor Scott had warranted and on which an appeal was had to the County court of Spotsylvania had been decided against the Corporation, it was on motion, ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation pay the said judgment with costs and also pay Mr Eustace Conway his fee for defending said warrant.

And then the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Mayor's office on the 10<sup>th</sup> October 1844

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

Wm A Jackson, Recorder

Wm Allen, J Curtis, R C Bruce, James McGuire, George B Waite, A G Lucas—Common Councilmen

An account of Doctor Wm Marye Smith for five dollars for the post mortem examination of the body of Mary Mahoney's child which was laid on the table on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1844, being taken up, it was on motion, ordered that the Chamberlain pay the same to Doctor Smith.

An Account of R B Semple, Coroner, for holding an inquest on the body of a child found dead amounting to five dollars and an account of B Cole, D Bradford, & L Pullen constables for summoning an inquest for said occasion amounting to three dollars and fifteen cents were passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

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Mr Alexander Marshall of Fauquier County appeared before the Council for the purpose of submitting a proposition for the surrender on the part of the Corporation of the stock held by it in the Rappahannock Canal Company, on the conditions of said work being completed by him and his associates; and having explained the objects of his proposition it was on motion, ordered that Mr Marshall be requested to make

a statement of his proposition in writing and that the consideration of the same be postponed until tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock.

An account of James Lucas for glazing amounting to eighty seven cents, was passed and ordered to be paid.

Present, E Conway—Common Councilman

On motion the council adjourned till tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC

Mayor's office 11<sup>th</sup> October 1844. The Council met this evening pursuant to order of adjournment Present, Robert B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

P Goolrick, R C Bruce, Geo B Waite, Wm Allen, C C Wellford, J Curtis, J McGuire, A G Lucas, Eustace Conway—Common Councilmen

S J Blaydes tendered to the Board his resignation as a member of the Council which being read it was on motion accepted.

The Council proceeded to the election of a member to supply the place of Mr Blaydes when Doctor Brodie S Herndon was unanimously elected & the messenger of the Council was directed to notify Doctor Herndon of his election.

Mr A J Marshall again appeared before the Council and submitted a contract in writing in [Page 249] relation to the proposed surrender of the stock of the Corporation in the Rappahannock Canal Company accompanying the same with some explanatory remarks. Whereupon, on motion, it was ordered that the consideration of the subject be referred to a Committee of three to report at the next meeting of the Council.

Wm A Jackson, E Conway, and Wm Allen were appointed the Committee to examine into & report upon the proposition of Mr Marshall; P Goolrick was, on motion, added to said Committee in place of Wm Allen, who was excused from serving.

On motion the Council adjourned to meet on next Monday week R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening the 21<sup>st</sup> October 1844, pursuant to order of adjournment

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

R C Bruce, Geo B Waite, J McGuire, A G Lucas, E Conway, Wm Allen—Common Councilmen

Brodie S Herndon, member elect to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of S J Blaydes appeared was qualified and took his seat at the Board.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to report upon the propriety of the surrender of the Stock of the Corporation of Fredericksburg in the Rappahannock Canal Company made a verbal report favorable to said object, accompanied by a written contract which was submitted to the Board, Whereupon there not being a full Council it was on motion, ordered that the subject be laid over until Wednesday evening next at 7 o'clock PM to which hour the Council stands adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC [Page 250]

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1844

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

R C Bruce, J McGuire, E Conway, W Allen, Thos F Knox, B S Herndon, J Curtis, P Goolrick, Geo B Waite, A G Lucas—Common Councilmen

The subject of the surrender of the stock of the Corporation in the Rappahannock Canal Company to A J Marshall & others which was laid on the table at the last meeting of the Council being taken up and the contract for the said surrender on the part of the Corporation being read and duly considered by the Board, it was on motion, ordered that the Contract be executed on the part of this Corporation and that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to affix the Corporation Seal to the same and forward it to Mr Marshall at Warrenton; the vote on said question being taken by Ayes & Noes, was as follows, viz; Ayes, A G Lucas, Thomas F Knox, J Curtis, Peter Goolrick, E Conway, R C Bruce, W A Jackson, J McGuire, George B Waite, B S Herndon, William Allen 11

On motion it was also ordained that a copy of said contract & bond annexed thereto be entered in full upon the order book of the Council as follows.

Whereas Alexander J Marshall and others who will be associated with him propose to open the navigation of the Rappahannock River by locks and dams for boats of eight tons burden, from Fredericksburg to the mouth of Carter's Run in Fauquier County and to some point below George Ficklen's lower Mill on the Hazel branch in Culpeper County as near to said Mill as can be judicious by approached with injuring the water rights of said Ficklen.

And whereas it is deemed essential to the accomplishment of this purpose that the stock in the Rappahannock Canal Company now held by private individuals, by the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg and by the State of Virginia should be yielded and surrendered to said Marshall [Page 251] to be for the present under his absolute control and if the said improvement be effected according to the terms herein proposed prior to the year 1850, that then the said Stock shall be to all intents the absolute property of said Marshall.

And whereas the said Rappahannock Canal Company having for a series of years abandoned the purpose of prosecuting said improvement and having deserted the expensive works they had made on the river, so as that the same are now dilapidated and of no value to the stockholders, or usefulness to the public.

Now know all me by these presents that we the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg holding the number of shares opposite our Corporate Seal, do give, grant, and assign the Stock held in the Said Rappahannock Canal Company by the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town aforesaid, to the said Alexander J Marshall, and we assign and convey to said Marshall all & every right & privilege and interest that in any way or form pertains to us a Stockholder in said Rappahannock Canal Company, and we especially empower and request said Marshall in our names and on our behalf to procure certain amendments to the Charter of said Rappahannock Canal Company which are specifically set forth as conditions in a bond or contract tendered by said Marshall to the farmers interested in said improvements one of which is hereto annexed & made part & parcel of this agreement.

But nevertheless, this instrument to the contrary notwithstanding, if the said improvement of the Rappahannock River be not completed to the points herein above specified & if all the condition of the annexed bond be not complied with fully prior to the first day of January 1850, then all the shares of Stock herein assigned & transferred to said A J Marshall shall revert and by force of this instrument be reinvested in us or our successors for the use of the Town of [Page 252] Fredericksburg aforesaid, in full and absolute right as the same are now held; subject however to such encumbrance as may have been incurred in the effort to make said improvement.

And furthermore in all questions touching the peculiar local interests of the Town of Fredericksburg the parties hereto reserve to themselves the right of instructing said Marshall or his assigns in regard to such interests and on all such questions the said Marshall is to act as their proxy only, and is to give the fullest influence and effect to the several shares hereby conveyed and assigned to which the shares would be entitled in the Councils of the Company if they had not made this conveyance.

And further, it is distinctly understood that the said Town of Fredericksburg shall have the free use of the Water from the Basin of said Company (A J Marshall & those who may be associated with him) to be conveyed in pipes from the said basin, for the use of the fire Companies of the Town & for the purpose of watering the streets, if the Corporate authorities of the said Town shall hereafter think proper to have such pipes constructed and laid.

In testimony whereof the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg have caused the seal of said Corporation to be affixed hereto this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 1844 60 shares (Corporate Seal) (copy of Bond annexed to foregoing contract)

Whereas it is in contemplation to open the Rappahannock river and render it navigable for boats capable of transporting eighty barrels of flour to the Basin in or near Fredericksburg, and bringing from said Basin eight tons of Plaster or merchandise up the river as a return cargo, and whereas if said improvement can be effected the value of lands lying on or near the said river would be greatly increased, and whereas said improvement cannot be effected without a large expenditure of labor and Money and a great risk of loss to the undertakers, and whereas Alexander J Marshall [Page 253] shall and others have it in view to undertake the completion of this desirable object and I am willing to contribute to said improvement the sum of [blank]

Now therefore know all men by these presents that for the purposes above stated and to compensate said A J Marshall for his labour, trouble and risk in effecting a safe navigation of the Rappahannock river for boats of the above capacity, I [blank] promise to pay to said A J Marshall his administrators, or assigns the sum of [blank] to which payment well and truly to be made I bind myself, my heirs, executors &c firmly by these presents.

The Condition of the above obligation is such that if an act of the Virginia Legislature shall be obtained giving to the said Alexander J Marshall, or to him and such persons as shall be associated with him, the right and proper powers to construct said improvement of the navigation of said river; and if the said act shall provide that the navigation afforded by said work shall be slack water through the agency of Locks, Dams and Canals, the Locks to be of lasting wood, such as are used on the Rivanna and Appomattox rivers, the dams to be of wood or stone or partly of each according to the facility of getting materials;; and the dames now on the river and also any works heretofore constructed by the Rappahannock Company to be used as a part of the same improvement if by repairs or alterations the same can be made to afford a free and safe navigation and that the said improvement and works be equal in their structure to the similar works on the Appomattox and Rivanna Rivers, and if the said act shall further provide for the examination, approval and acceptance of said work on the part of the State or the Public after it shall be completed and shall further provide in such mode as the act shall direct that the whole tolls of the said work if requisite shall be pledged and appropriated to place and keep the said work in good repair before the said Marshall [Page 254] and his associates or any other proprietors of said work shall be permitted to make dividends from said tolls.

And if the said act shall provide and establish a rate of tolls to be demanded on said river such as the legislature may deem proper but by which the tolls to be demanded for the transportation of wheat, flour, corn and plaster, shall be so restricted as not to exceed the following rates, this is to say; three cents a mile for each forty bushels of wheat; two and a half cents a mile for reach ten barrels of flour, one cent a mile for each ton of plaster; and three cents a mile for each forty bushels of corn.

And if the said act shall further provide that the said work and all the title and interest if at any time for the space of two years the same shall be permitted to be and remain out of repair so as not to admit of a free and useful navigation for boats of eight tons burden; and if the said Marshall and his associates shall (prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1850) construct the said improvement of the Rappahannock River from the Basin at Fredericksburg to the mouth of Carter's run in Fauquier County and to some point below George Ficklen's lower mill on the Hazel branch in Culpeper County as near to said mill as can be judiciously approached without injuring the water rights of said Ficklen, so as that a boat of eight tons burden shall pass loaded up and down the said river, from one of said points to the other.

And if after said work is so constructed it shall be examined and accepted and approved of in the mode provided for in said act of Assembly, then and upon the concurrence of all these contingencies, the above bond shall be immediately binding due and payable with interest from the time of the passage of the first boat upwards and downwards as above described.

And so also, if such an act as is above described be not obtained, but in lieu thereof an act of the Legislature be obtained amending or altering the Charter of the Rappahannock Company, so as to make the said Charter embrace and provide for all the stipulations, terms and conditions above mentioned to be contained in the act above described [Page 255] as to the structure of the work, the keeping of it in repair, the rate of tolls, the forfeiture of the same, and the examination and acceptance thereof, and if the said Marshall and his associates shall by some arrangement with the Rappahannock Company or for and on behalf of the Company, or in the name of the Company, construct the said work between the points aforesaid, prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1850, so as that a boat shall pass up and down as foresaid, and the said work when so constructed shall be examined and approved and accepted as aforesaid, then also the above bond shall be immediately binding, due, and payable, with interest from the time of the passage of the first boat up and down as above described. But otherwise the above obligation shall be absolutely void and of no effect

As witness [blank] hand and seal, this [blank] day of [blank] 1844

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

An account of the Union Manufacturing company for a weight for hay scales amounting to seventy five cents

An account of J H Maddox for candlesticks and candles amounting to one dollar and fifteen cents

Absent, Wm A Jackson, Recorder

The following ordinance was read and passed,

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that the first section of the Ordinance passed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1829, entitled "An ordinance to prevent the straining or breaking horses and to prevent persons riding on the footways" be and the same is hereby so amended that hereafter it shall be lawful for any drayman, cartman, wagoner, or other person to drive his horse or horses (when attached to any dray, cart or wagon) within the limits of the Town aforesaid at an ordinary traveling gait and no faster.

Any drayman, cartman, wagoner, or other person who shall violate this ordinance by driving his horse or horses faster than the above prescribed gait, shall be held liable [Page 256] and subject to penalties prescribed in the first section of said ordinance of the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1829, for a violation of the same. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

On motion ordered that the Committee on Public Property be and they are hereby directed to enquire into the facts in relation to the purchase of the lot adjoining Potter's field from Mrs Elizabeth M T French by order of the Council of the 21<sup>st</sup> August 1843, and whether the title to said lot was not in the Corporation prior to said purchase from Mrs French, and to make a report thereon to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 10<sup>th</sup> December 1844

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

W A Jackson, Recorder

George B Waite, A G Lucas, J Curtis, R C Bruce, James McGuire, Peter Goolrick—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that he had convened the council for the purpose of suggesting the propriety of having a guard for the Town during the coming Christmas holidays; whereupon on motion it was ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to have a guard detailed for two or three nights during the holidays, to whom the customary compensation shall be allowed; and it is further ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby requested to cause to be published in the Virginia Herald, the State Law on the subject of Slaves going from the tenements or premises of their Masters without a pass or permit accompanied by his proclamation that it is the request of the Council that the requirements [Page 257] of said law by rigidly enforced

The following accounts were passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz; L Leavell for coffin & burying child found dead amounting to \$2.50 Samuel Phillips & Sons account for repairs of Corporation Wharf amounting to \$46.41

Wm Duvall's account for wood furnished in 1841 amounting to \$2.75 to be paid James Mason or said Duvall

An account of Michael Ames for \$14 was presented and passed to the amount of \$10.25, the balance being withheld for explanation of the several items, by Mr Ames.

The Council ordered that the Salaries of the Police Officers for the quarter ending on the third Monday in the month be paid by the Chamberlain, the Mayor having made a satisfactory report as to the manner in which the duties have been discharged.

On motion, the Council adjourned R B Semple, Mayor A Goodwin, CC