

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1850

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 1850.

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

G Gilman, Geo W Eve, P Hough, L J Huffman, Jas McGuire, Wm Allen, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, H Scott—Common Councilmen

Ordered that an account of Wm M Baggett for \$25, a memorandum of which was submitted to the Board on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 1849 and not then acted on, be paid by the Chamberlain, provided the same be certified to be correct by the Commissioners appointed by the 4<sup>th</sup> Court to superintend the building of a Court house.

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

R B Semple's for wood purchased for the Poor during the last snow amounting to ten dollars

Geo B Waite's, H S Doggett, R B Alexander, B Coles, and John Timberlake's for guarding the Town 5 nights each during the Christmas holidays, at \$1 each, per night amounting to the whole of twenty five dollars

Present, John Minor—Common Councilman; B S Herndon, Recorder

Mr Geo Ficklen of Fauquier appeared before the council in advocacy of a subscription of the Hazel Run and Mr John G Lane, of Rappahannock, on behalf of the Turnpike Company from Sperryville to Carter's Run on the Rappahannock River; both gentlemen having explained their views of the benefits likely to result from the completion of said improvements, the following resolution was submitted by John Minor, viz;

Resolved that notice be given through one or more of the Newspapers published in this town that a poll will be opened at the Mayor's office on the [blank] day of [blank] account to determine whether any steps shall be taken to obtain an Act of the Legislature enabling the Council to contribute to the completion of certain plans for Roads & Canals, the effect whereof seems to promise to add to the trade of the Town; that is to say a turnpike road from Sperryville to the mouth of Carter's Run and an [Page 389] improvement of the navigation of the Hazel River; and the construction of a plank road from Fredericksburg to the Valley of Virginia and a turnpike from Sperryville to the head of the proposed navigation of the Hazel River which resolution after some discussion was on motion of James McGuire laid on the table.

Ordered that the Mayor be requested to call a meeting of the Citizens of the Town as soon as he shall have procured a copy of the Act of Assembly chartering the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road, with the view of ascertaining the sentiment of the Citizens in relation to a subscription to the stock of either of the before named improvements.

Also ordered that the Mayor draught an ordinance restraining disorderly and improper conduct at exhibitions, shows, &c in the Town Hall or elsewhere within the limits of the Town.

On motion the Council then adjourned till tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock PM

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 5 February 1850.

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

G Gilman, P Hough, J McGuire, Geo W Eve, C C Wellford, J B Alexander, H Scott, J Pritchard, L J Huffman, John Minor—Common Councilmen

An ordinance to restrain disorderly and indecorous behavior at exhibitions &c &c was passed in the following words, viz;

Whereas it has been represented to the Mayor and Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg that certain evil disposed and disorderly persons, some of whom are adults and others minors, have attended the public meetings held by the citizens and exhibitions and shows [Page 390] which are permitted by law; and that the said disorderly persons do, in various ways, by loud talking, singing, whistling and by other means disturb and interrupt the proceedings and by standing up before the audience exclude females as well as males from participation in the enjoyment of the representations and exhibitions, for which they assembled and in various other ways, annoy and disturb the harmony and good order of such assemblages, in violation of good behavior, all of which tend to a breach of the peace with the view to remedy these evils.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg that all persons who shall at any public meeting of the citizens or at any exhibition or show of any kind held within the limits of this Corporation willfully interrupt the same so as to annoy any portion of the persons attending them, or either of them, as specified in the annexed preamble, or willfully do any other act or thing calculated to annoy or disturb the enjoyment of others, or to violate or tending to violate peace of the Commonwealth shall upon conviction thereof before any justice of the peace, pay a fine not less than one, nor more than five dollars and also the costs of the said prosecution to be paid to the Chamberlain for the use of this Corporation and if the offender be a minor, judgment shall be given against his father or guardian, or master if bound as an apprentice, as the case may be who shall pay the said fine and costs.

Be it further ordained that it shall be the duty of the Police Officers of this Corporation to attend such meetings exhibitions and shows and to suppress all riotous conduct tending to the violation of this ordinance, or breach of the peace and they are hereby required to take the offender before some justice of the peace for this Corporation that he or they may be dealt with according to law.

This ordinance shall be in force from its passage.

The Committee appointed on the 7<sup>th</sup> December last to submit a scheme for issuing scrip for the Corporation debt submitted to the Board the form of the scrip or certificates to be issued by the Corporation and the form of an assignment [Page 391] also a copy of an Act of the Legislature entitled “an act to authorize the Corporation of Fredericksburg to fund the residue of its debt” passed January 23<sup>rd</sup> 1850, certified by George W Munford Clerk of the House of Delegates & Keeper of the Rolls of Virginia; Whereupon Mr C C Wellford offered the following resolutions, viz;

Resolved that proposals be published in the Newspapers of this town and in one in the City of Baltimore for a loan of \$30,000 for which scrip of the Corporation similar in form to that of the City of Richmond, shall be issued, said loan to bear interest not exceeding 6 per cent per annum payable semi-annually and to be redeemable as follows, viz; \$10,000 in ten years, \$10,000 in 20 years and \$10,000 in 30 years from the date of issue of scrip for the same; provided always that no part of said loan shall be negotiated under par, that is to say for less than dollar for dollar.

Resolved that when said loan or any part thereof be negotiated the proceeds be applied to the payment of the Bond of this Corporation to the Rappahannock Company and the debts due the Banks in this Town;

and that the Council will set aside a fund from year to year to be called a sinking fund, sufficient to pay the interest on said loan and to redeem the principal thereof at the respective period when the same is redeemable.

Mr John Pritchard moved as an amendment to said resolutions the following, viz;  
Resolved that a poll be opened to take the sense of the voters of the Town upon the question of selling the real estate belonging to the Corporation and applying the proceeds thereof to the extinguishment of the debt of the Corporation upon which amendment the vote being taken it was negative and then the Resolutions offered by Mr Wellford were adopted.

On motion that the Mayor appoint three members of this body to act as commissioners in advertising for and negotiating said loan, it was so ordered and Charles C Wellford, Hugh Scott, and Wm Allen were appointed said Commissioners and were requested to act without delay.

On motion that a select committee of three be [Page 392] appointed to take into consideration the condition generally of the corporation property and the propriety of selling the same or any part thereof with a view to the extinguishment of the debt due by the Corporation it was so ordered and the Mayor appointed Mess'rs H Scott, J McGuire, and John Pritchard who were directed report at the earliest period practicable.

Upon the application of sundry citizens of the town (who had subscribed of themselves, \$184 for the purpose of boring for water in the Town that an appropriation out of the funds of the Corporation in aid of said object be made; said appropriation together with the amount of individual subscription not to exceed \$400 and the same not be called for until the individual subscription is exhausted it was  
Ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation do pay out of the funds of the Corporation to the Treasurer to be appointed by a meeting of said subscribers, a sum not exceeding two hundred and sixteen dollars provided said individual subscription of \$184 shall have been exhausted; and it was further ordered that said parties in conducting their operations of boring for water be and they are hereby privileged to bore in any of the public wells of the Town

And then 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 20<sup>th</sup> February 1850.

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

J McGuire, J Pritchard, H Scott, W Allen, J Minor, J B Alexander, C C Wellford, Geo W Eve, G Gilman,  
P Hough—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that he had convened the Council at the instance of several of its members for the purpose of adopting measure to receive the President of the United States as he passes through town tomorrow on his [Page 393] way to Richmond, whereupon on motion it was

Resolved that the Mayor, Recorder and Mess'rs C C Wellford, J Minor and H Scott be and they are hereby appointed a committee to make all suitable and necessary preparations to receive the President of

the United States and tender him on behalf of the Corporate authorities and the citizens the hospitalities of the Town.

On motion ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to apply to the Executions of the State for a cannon (for the use of this town) of a larger caliber than the one owned by the Corporation, say a twelve pounder

Mr H Scott on behalf of the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to investigate generally the condition of the Corporation property, and the propriety of selling the same or any part thereof for the purpose of extinguishing the Corporation debt, made a verbal report and submitted a written statement exhibiting the amounts of ground and annual rents received for the same, the names of the persons on whose lines the leased depend &c &c and recommending that no sale be had of any part thereof at the same time submitting a letter to the Council from Francis H Bell, containing sundry proposals for the purchase, leasing for life or a term of years or annually of the house on Commerce Street now occupied by him; Whereupon said report was concurred in, and it was on motion resolved that the Committee on Public Property be and they are hereby directed to rent the house occupied by Mr Bell upon the expiration of said Bell's lease for a sum of not less than one hundred dollars per annum.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a Council of Claims held at the Mayor's Officer (pursuant to public notice) on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of March 1850

Present, B S Herndon, Recorder

J B Alexander, L J Huffman, G Gilman, P Hough, G W Eve, H Scott, C C Wellford, J McGuire, W Allen, J Minor—Common Councilmen

The following claims against the Corporation were read, passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain of the Corporation, viz;

F H Bell, or mending keys for Town Hall room	\$ .75
R B Semple, for wood (balance of account)	\$2.50
R B Semple, for wood for Mayor's office	\$9.75
Jesse White, lights for Court house	\$1.00
Jesse White, blanks for Mayor's office	\$4.50
Edw'd McDowell for stationary &c for Mayor's Office	\$4.90
S G Daniel for printing, ordinance &c &c	\$9.69
News Office, for printing, ordinance &c	\$17.75
James D Harrow, for printing, ordinance &c	\$11.76
James D Harrow, for bill of Baltimore American	\$6.00
Wm M Baggott for repairs to Hay Scales	\$3.50
Hunnicut & Co for advertising ordinances	\$4.12
John Davis for cleaning Mayor's office	\$9.00
Waite & Sener for sundries for jail	\$5.18
B S Herndon for sundries	\$1.45
J H Maddox for sundries	\$1.50

J S Caldwell for sundries for Jail	\$11.36
Wm Allen for sundries for Mayor's Office	\$5.12
G Gilman for repairs to Market Stall	\$3.37

And account of David Bradford for the sum of \$7.50 was passed to the extent of \$5.25, the item in said account of \$2.25 for interest being rejected.

The Mayor presented an account shewing the amt received by him for fines and tax on Corporate Seal for the year to be \$9.62, which sum was ordered to be paid over to the Chamberlain and passed to the credit of the Corporation.

The Salaries of the Police Officers were ordered to be paid, the Mayor having reported favorably as to the manner in which they had discharged their duties for the present quarter.

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Mess'rs James McGuire, Geo W Eve and Hugh Scott were appointed a committee to state and settle with the accounts of the Collector of Taxes & Rents and of the Chamberlain of the Corporation and report to the Council on Monday Morning next at 9 o'clock.

A written proposition of Mess'rs Waite & Sener, in the following words and figures to wit; "To the Public Property Committee, Gentlemen, Wishing to increase the length of the house now occupied by us by adding an addition on the back, of 12 feet deep, one story high, or brick, besides some other repairs, such as ceiling the part that over we work in and other alterations such as we want to do so as to make it suitable for our business and give us more room (the cost to us will not be less than \$200.00) we are willing to do the above provided you will agree to let us have the refusal of said house for six years at the same rent now paid by us, that is seventy five dollars per years.

Yours Respectfully,

Waite & Sener

March 1 1850"

Was submitted to the Board by James McGuire, the chairman of the Committee on Public Property, and after due consideration was acceded to by the Council and the same was ordered to be entered at length on the minutes as evidence of the agreement between the Council and Mess'rs Waite & Sener. Mr Sener of said firm being present and assenting in behalf of said firm to be bound by the terms of their proposition.

A Memorial of Mrs Fayette Johnston on the subject of abating a nuisance near her dwelling but without the limits of the Town and asking a reimbursement of expenses already incurred by her, in trying to abate said nuisance, was presented to the Board by the Recorder and was, on motion, laid on the Table.

The attention of the Council being called to a proclamation of the Mayor, directing a poll to be opened at the annual election of Common Councilmen next Monday for the purpose of taking the sense of the voters of the Corporation in relation to a subscription on the part of the Corporation to the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road, and also the proceedings of a [Page 396] recent town meeting requesting the sense of the voters on the same subject and the Council deeming it necessary in order fully to test the sense of the voters, and also to arrive at any practical results, that in taking said poll a definite and certain amount of subscription should be voted for; it was on motion of James McGuire duly seconded and carried, agreed that said amount should be \$20,000. Whereupon it was ordered that the Clerk of the Council in taking the vote for Common Councilmen, on Monday morning next do also take the sense of the voters for and

against a subscription of \$20,000 on the part of the Corporation, to the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road.

On motion the Council then adjourned until Monday Morning next at 9 O'clock.

B S Herndon, Recorder

A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, G W Eve, J Pritchard, Jas McGuire, H Scott, C C Wellford, L J Huffman—Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed to settle the accounts of the Collector of taxes & rents and the Chamberlain of the Corporation made the following reports, which were read, approved, and ordered to be entered on the minutes, viz;

On the Collector account. “undersigned, a committee appointed by the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg to examine the account of John S Caldwell, as collector of said Corporation, have performed that duty and certify that the above account is correctly stated and that the same is properly balanced and settled.

Given under our hands this 16<sup>th</sup> [Page 397] March 1850

Signed, Hugh Scott, George W Eve, James McGuire”

On the Chamberlain’s account. “The undersigned appointed a committee to examine and settle the account of the Chamberlain of the Corporation of Fredericksburg for the fiscal year ending this day, respectfully report that they have performed that duty and find the debits therein supported by proper vouchers, and the credits therein correct, and that there is a balance in the hands of the Chamberlain of four hundred dollars and twelve cents as per preceding account.

Given under our hands this 16 March 1850

Signed, Hugh Scott, Jas McGuire, Geo W Eve”

Said accounts were then ordered to be place on file by the Clerk of the Council.

The Collector returned his lists of insolvents as follows, viz;

Of whites amounting to	\$93.80
Of Blacks amounting to	\$33.00

Which were also ordered to be filed and he likewise returned the following amount of deferred taxes and rents, viz;

Deferred Taxes	\$156.34
Deferred Rents	\$129.16

The Committee also made the following report, viz;

The Committee on examination of the account of the Chamberlain of the Corporation find the sum of nine dollars and sixty two cents, paid in by R B Semple, Mayor, for fines collected during the year. They would respectfully recommend to the Council that an ordinance be passed requiring the Police Officers to

pay in to the Chamberlain any fines or penalties as they may be collected so as that it can be stated in his account from whom said fines and penalties were collected. Whereupon the following ordinance was passed.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council [Page 398] of the Town of Fredericksburg that hereafter in all cases of collection of fines and penalties by the Police Officers for the violation of any bye-laws, ordinance, or police regulation of this Corporation where the same are imposed for the use and benefit of the Corporation it shall be and is hereby made the duty of the said Police Officers to pay over said fines or penalties to the Chamberlain of the Corporation for the time being immediately after collection, taking said Chamberlain's receipt therefor.

Mr W A Little appeared before the Council as representing many of the voters of the town and asking that a poll may be opened this day for a vote upon a Corporation subscription to the improvement of the Hazle River, in accordance with the authority conferred by an Act of the Legislature passed the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 1850 entitled, "An Act to incorporate the Hopewell Gold Mining Company and for other purposes," under which said Act notice of taking said vote had been given; Whereupon a motion was made by C C Wellford that said poll be opened this day forthright which motion being amended by Mr John Pritchard so as to take said poll to day and vote being taken on said amendment and the same having passed, it was, ordered that the Clerk of the Council do open a poll this day for a vote, for and against a subscription on the part of the Corporation to stock for the improvement of the Hazle River, the voters to designate the amount of Stock to be subscribed for, at the time of voting.

This being the day fixed by law for the election of twelve men to serve as Common Councilmen for the Town of Fredericksburg, until the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March 1851, and until others are elected in their stead, the freeholders and housekeepers met at the Council Chamber and deposited their ballots, and upon counting the same it was found that the largest number of votes were given for the following persons, to wit;

Hugh Scott	266
Landon J Huffman	231
Jas McGuire	230
B S Herndon	194
Geo W Eve	183
P Hough	156
John Minor	151
J B Alexander	150
C C Wellford	148
John Pritchard	136
Joseph Sanford	127
Wm Allen	107

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H S Doggett	84
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The first named twelve of whom were declared duly elected as Common Councilmen to serve until the third Monday in March 1851 and until others are elected in their stead.

The vote on a subscription on the part of the Corporation to the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road to the extent of \$20,000 under an order of the Council of the 14<sup>th</sup> Instant was

For subscription	265
Against subscription	13

Not voting 8  
Whole number of votes 286

For subscription to Hazle River under order this day 201  
Against subscription 60  
Not voting 25  
Whole number of votes 286

A very large majority of those voting for the subscription to the Hazle River being in favor of the sum of \$10,000.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

Council Chamber, 19 March 1850

Wm Allen, H Scott, J McGuire, J B Alexander, B S Herndon, P Hough, J Pritchard, L J Huffman, J Sanford, G W Eve, J Minor, C C Wellford—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 was fixed at the sum of four hundred dollars for the present year.

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Mayor, when R B Semple was unanimously re-elected and took the oath of office and also the oaths of a Justice of the Peace, before Bev R Wellford, a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

The Council then went into an election of a Recorder, when B S Herndon was duly elected and [Page 400] took the oath of office and also the several oaths of a Justice of the Peace before the Mayor.

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

Clerk of the Council	\$50
Chamberlain of the Corporation	\$100
Commissioner of the Revenue	\$60
Jailor	\$50
Clerk of the Market	\$100

The compensation of the Collector of taxes & Rents for the current year was fixed at 10 pr cent for collecting taxes and 5 pr cent for Rents.

On motion it was resolved that the Bellman have the use of the dwelling house on the Court House lot as compensation for ringing the Court House bell every night at 9 o'clock, or at such other hour as the Council may hereafter direct.

On motion ordered that the fixing of the Salaries of the Police Officers be postponed till the next meeting of the Council and that the present incumbents of said offices be continued in office at the present salaries until the further order of the Council.



The Council then proceeded to the election of officers of the Corporation for the current year, when the following persons were elected, viz;

Arthur Goodwin, Clerk of the Council and Chamberlain of the Corporation

Daniel Bradford, Clerk of the Market

John S Caldwell, Collector of Taxes & Rents

Jesse White, Bellman

John Minor, Surveyor

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

Rob. W Hart, Inspector and Measurer of Lumber, Wood &c

A motion was made that the appointment of a Commissioner of the Revenue be postponed till the next meeting of the council and the vote being taken and being a tie, the Mayor gave the casting vote in the affirmative so it was carried.

A motion was made to prohibit smoking in the Council Chamber during the sessions of the Council [Page 401] and the vote being taken by ayes and noes was as follows, viz;

Ayes, Geo W Eve, J Sanford, L J Huffman, John Pritchard, P Hough, C C Wellford, J McGuire, H Scott  
Noes, J Minor, B S Herndon, J B Alexander, Wm Allen 4

So the motion was carried.

On motion it was Resolved that the Standing Committees be the same as last year so far as the old members are concerned, Mr J Sanford being substituted in the place of G Gilman late member.

The Committees were then announced as follows, viz;

On Pumps, Wm Allen, John Minor, J Sanford, Geo W Eve

On Streets, Hugh Scott, B S Herndon, John Pritchard, J B Alexander

On Public Property, C C Wellford, J McGuire, L J Huffman, P Hough

A Goodwin, J Minor, J S Caldwell, Dan'l Bradford, R W Hart, officers elect were severally sworn into office by the Mayor.

On motion, Ordered that the Committee appointed to advertise for proposals for a Corporation loan be and they are hereby instructed to make an effort to raise any portion or the whole of the required amount, by issuing Bonds as scrip of the Corporation at not less than par, and for sum not less than \$100, in amount, and that said Bonds or scrip shall be in such form as the said Committee may approve and shall be executed by the Mayor under the seal of the Corporation and countersigned by the Chamberlain of the Corporation.

On motion ordered that an increase of twenty five per cent on the tax of last year be fixed as the tax of the present fiscal year on licenses to carts, drays, and wagons.

Ordered that tins be furnished at the expense of the Corporation to all drayman, cartmen, and wagoners who are subject to the payment of taxes, on which to No. of their drays, carts and wagons are to be legibly marked and attached to their respective drays, &c &c and that Geo W Eve and James McGuire be a committee to contract [Page 402] for and purchase said tins and deliver the same to the Commissioner of the Revenue to be given to the persons who may take out licenses; said tins to be attached to the drays, carts and wagons in such manner as the Committee may prescribe.

On motion it was ordered that the Clerk of the Council be instructed to receive bids from the several Newspaper publishers of the Town, for the printing of the ordinances &c &c of the Corporation, and to contract with the lowest bidder for the printing for the current year, reserving the right to rescind the contract in the event of an imperfect execution of the work &c &c on the part of the party so contracting.

On motion the Council then 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 29 March 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

Wm Allen, Geo W Eve, J Sanford, J McGuire, L J Huffman, H Scott, C C Wellford, J Pritchard, John Minor—Common Councilmen

A motion was made by H Scott that the Commissioner of the Revenue be directed to take a list of all taxable persons and property within the limits of the Town as established by the several acts of the Legislature, which motion was laid on the table for the future action of the Council.

The following motion submitted by John Minor viz;

Ordered that the tax on licenses for drays & carts, shall be nine dollars and twenty five cents; and that those draymen who take out such licenses shall be “ipso facto” discharged of their poll tax and the tax on their dray horses” was put to the vote and rejected by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, John Minor, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, C C Wellford, Hugh Scott 5

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Noes, Geo W Eve, J Sanford, B S Herndon, J McGuire, Wm Allen 5

The Mayor giving the casting vote in the negative

An ordinance taxing Circus & Menagerie exhibitions was passed in the following words, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that hereafter a tax of five dollars shall be and the same is hereby imposed on each and every exhibition of a circus or menagerie, within the limits of the Town aforesaid. Said tax to be collected by the Collector of Taxes as other taxes are, provided always that when any such circus or menagerie shall be open for exhibition more than once in the same day, it shall be deemed and taken to be as one exhibition and be subject to a tax of five dollars only.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

The council then proceeded to the election of a Commissioner of the Revenue, when John Metcalfe was re-elected.

The Clerk of the Council reported to the Board that he had invited proposals for publishing the ordinances &c of the Corporation from the publishers of the several paper of the Town and that each one made the same bid, and therefore under the order of the Council had no option in selecting the newspaper in which the same were to be published. Whereupon on motion it was ordered that the Clerk of the Council select as the paper, that one having the largest circulation within the corporate limits of the Town, and to

ascertain that fact he address a note to each publisher asking the number of town subscribers to their respective papers, and that he be governed in his selection by the report of said publishers.

Ordered that the fixing the salaries of the Police Officers and the election of Police Officers be further postponed.

Ordered that the Committee on public property provide a table for the use of a reporter for the Editor of the *Democratic Recorder*.

On motion, the Council then adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC.

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 16 April 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

Wm Allen, Geo W Eve, H Scott, J B Alexander, P Hough, John Pritchard—Common Councilmen

The official bond of the Chamberlain of the Corporation and the Collector of Taxes and Rents; the first with R T Thom and John Coakley as securities, and the latter with Samuel Phillips and A K Phillips as securities in the penalties of \$5000 each were submitted to the Board and approved and ordered to be filed by the Mayor.

An order of the Hustings Court, passed 11 April 1850, directed to the Committee on Public Property, requesting an examination of the Jail and to have the same repaired was laid before the Council by the Mayor, and it being state by Mr Hugh Scott, that the damage done by the recent fire in the Jail was occasioned by a servant of Doct J H Wallace being confined there for the convenience of said Wallace and therefore the expense of repairing should be paid by him; it was on motion

Ordered that the Committee on Public Property call upon Doctor Wallace for the purpose of ascertaining what he will do in the business.

An order of the Hustings Court dated 11<sup>th</sup> April 1850, respectfully requesting the Council to appoint a day, and have a poll opened for the purpose of taking the sense of the voters of the Corporation in relation to the building of a new Court house was also submitted to the Board by the Mayor and on motion of Hugh Scott it was laid on the Table

Mr Charles Herndon of the firm of Conway & Herndon attorneys at law, read to the Board an elaborate opinion in relation to the power of the Council to lay and assess taxes on the persons and property of the inhabitants of that part of the Town, commonly called Allen Town. Whereupon the following Resolution was submitted and passed, viz;

Resolved that the Commissioner of the Revenue be required forthwith to make out a list of all taxable persons and property in that part of the town above mentioned in [Page 405] such manner as is required by the ordinances of the Corporation, and that he return the same to the Collector of Taxes who is hereby required and ordered to collect the taxes so assessed and to distrain for the same should payment be neglected or refused.

The Clerk of the Council at the request of Mr Charles Herndon was directed to hand over to Mr Herndon the opinion he had read, with the view to his making out a fair and legible copy of the same to be placed on file.

On motion it was ordered that such portion of a fine recently imposed by the Mayor on Murray Forbes Esq for a violation of the ordinance licensing drays &c as the Corporation is entitled to, be and the same is hereby remitted for reasons satisfactory to the Board.

On motion, the Recorder, Wm Allen and H Scott, Esquire were appointed a Committee to examine and report upon the condition of the road in the neighborhood of Mrs Johnston, the same being represented as a nuisance to the persons residing in that part of Town.

On motion of Mr John Pritchard, who stated to the Board that the individual subscription for boring for water, referred to in an order of the Council of the 5<sup>th</sup> February last, had been exhausted, so far as collection of the same had been made, of which however only about one-half had been paid, it was Ordered that the Treasurer of said Company or association be and he is hereby authorized to draw on the Chamberlain for the amount of the appropriation named in said order of the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1850, that is to say for a sum not exceeding \$216.

And then the Council adjourned till Thursday evening next at 7½ o'clock  
R B Semple, Mayor  
A Goodwin, CC  
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At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Thursday evening the 18<sup>th</sup> April 1850  
Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
B S Herndon, Recorder  
P Hough, Wm Allen, Geo W Eve, Jos Sanford, J B Alexander, J Pritchard, H Scott, L J Huffman, James McGuire—Common Councilmen

The Recorder as chairman of the Committee appointed at the last meeting to report upon the condition of the road near Mrs Johnston's reported that they had examined the same that in their opinion the nuisance complained of is caused by an embankment made by L J Huffman which he has promised to remove.

Ordered, that the following be adopted as the standing rules of this body, viz;  
1<sup>st</sup> In no instance will a Council man be permitted to speak unless he stands.  
2<sup>nd</sup> That no person not a member of the Council shall be permitted to address the Council except with the consent of a majority of the members of the Board.

An application of Mr H B Hoopes to have refunded to him the sum of \$12 or \$14 expended by him in removing the nuisance near Mrs Johnston's, was submitted to the Board and being put to the vote was rejected.

On motion of Hugh Scott the subject of selecting objects of taxation for the current year was taken up and at the instance of the Recorder it was

Ordered that a Committee be appointed to take charge of the matter and report to the Council at an early day, such subjects of taxation as the expected increased expenses of the present year will require.

The Recorder, Hugh Scott, James McGuire and Jos Sanford, Esquire, were appointed a Committee under the foregoing order.

Mr Eustace Conway at the instance of the Commissioner in the Bill chartering the Hazle River Navigation Company, appeared before the Council and with their permission made a statement in relation to the proposed subscription on the part of the Town to said [Page 407] improvement and submitted the following resolution for the consideration of the Council, viz;

Resolved that the Mayor be and he is hereby instructed to subscribe on behalf of this Corporation for one hundred shares of the Stock of the Hazle River Navigation Company and that script therefore redeemable in 30 years be issued as authorized by the Act of Assembly passed [blank] day of March 1850, Action on which resolution was, on motion, postponed till Wednesday evening next by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, Alexander, Hough, McGuire, Scott, Eve, Allen	6
Noes, Huffman, Sanford, Pritchard, Herndon	4

A motion was made by Mr James McGuire to appoint a Committee to take into consideration the subject of the proposed subscription to the Hazle River improvement and to digest a plan or scheme for the consideration of the Council by which the same should be carried out, in the event of said subscription being made, and the motion having prevailed, Mess'rs Wm Allen, B S Herndon, J Pritchard and L J Huffman were appointed said Committee.

Mr Peyton Hough of the Committee on Public Property reported to the Board that under the order of the last meeting of the Council, he had called on Doct John H Wallace, and that he declines paying any portion of the expense to be incurred in the repairing of the Jail, the servant confined therein at the time the fire broke out having been arrested by a Constable as a runaway and committed to custody as such.

On motion, the Council then adjourned till Wednesday evening next at ½ past seven o'clock.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

[Page 408]

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening the 24 April 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, G W Eve, L J Huffman, J Sanford, J McGuire, H Scott, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, C C

Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of considering new subjects of taxation made a report in writing which was read and on motion, laid on the Table.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of the proposed subscription to the Hazle River improvement and to digest a plan or scheme for the consideration of the Council by which the same should be carried out in the event of said subscription being made, made the following report viz;

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the Corporation subscription to Hazle River respectfully recommend to the Council that the Mayor execute scrip (the form to be determined in Council) for \$10,000, in obedience to instructions of the people expressed at the polls on the 18<sup>th</sup> Ult, the scrip to be paid over in installments in the same manner and pro rata with individual subscription. Whereupon petitions signed by numerous voters for and against said subscription, respectfully, retracting or reaffirming their votes on the 18<sup>th</sup> Ult having been presented and read, a motion was made by L J Huffman to adopt said report, to which George W Eve offered as an amendment or substitute a motion to refer back to the people the whole question of subscription no the part of the Corporation to said improvement and the vote thereon being taken by ayes and noes resulted as follows, viz;

Ayes, Scott, Eve, Allen 3

Noes, Huffman, Sanford, Alexander, Pritchard, Wellford, Herndon, McGuire 7

So the motion of Mr Eve failed.

Mr Huffman then withdrew his motion to adopt the report of the Committee and move the adoption of the resolution submitted at the last meeting of the Council, in the following words and figures, to wit; Resolved that the Mayor be and he is hereby instructed to subscribe on behalf of this Corporation for one hundred shares of the Stock of the Hazle River Navigation Company and that scrip therefore redeemable in 30 years be issued as authorized by the Act of Assembly passed [blank] day of March 1850 [Page 409] and the vote being taken the same was adopted

The report of the Committee on subjects of taxation was then on Motion taken up and the [vote] being taken on each item in said report, viz; Real Estate, annual value, white males above 16 years, Slaves above 12 years; free Negroes and Mulattoes, male & female above 16 years, Horses, Carriages, Carioles, Gigs, Phaetons, Pleasure carriages of every description, Goods, Ware and merchandize, household and Kitchen furniture; hogs, pigs & shoats; cows; dogs; bowling or ten pin alleys; billiard tables; bagatelle or other tables for amusement at place of public resort; Cake boys and peddlers, Libraries of \$100 value and over. The same was adopted

The recommendations and suggestions in said report were also passed upon and adopted and ordered to be entered on the minutes as follows, viz; And whereas the Council will have additional powers by the new Code of the State which is to go into effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> July next, we would recommend for your consideration the propriety of an assessment and levying of taxes on or after the 1<sup>st</sup> of July of the various subjects of taxation which the Council will then have the authority & power to tax, and that the Commissioner of the Revenue be directed in taking the lists of taxable property as enumerated in this report be directed also to take a list of all such as will be subject to a town tax after the 1 July next, so far as the same are comprehended in the list he takes in his returns for the State. And it also appears from a partial examination that there is evident inequality in the assessment of taxes, we would therefore recommend that the Books of the Commissioner of the Revenue be submitted to the Council for revision and correction annually, before the Council lay the taxes and that the Commissioner be requested in listing the various subjects of taxation to give his particular attention to the duties required of him by the ordinances of the Corporation on this subject in order to attain a more equal and just assessment. And we would also suggest that the Chamberlain be directed to open an acct with the Collector of Taxes for the deferred taxes and Rents and insolvent lists of each year, in which he shall regularly bring forward the balances in order that the Committee appointed annually for the settlement of the accounts of the Corporation may have before them all of said items and that the insolvent lists returned in each and every year [Page 410] be sworn to by the Collector of Taxes and that copies thereof be posted up by him on the 1<sup>st</sup> July in each and every year in the Clerk's & Mayor's offices as well as on the Court House door as at present ordered

Signed, Hugh Scott, James McGuire, Jos Sanford.”

The following list of persons owning wagons & drays which ran on the streets the past year without having paid a tax or taken out a license was submitted to the Board and the Collector of Taxes was directed to collect the same as also any others he may ascertain not to have paid, viz;

Douglas H Gordon	1 Waggon	\$8
Walter Williams	2 carts	\$10
W H Stephens	1 cart	\$5
L J Huffman	1 cart	\$5
E DeBaptist	3 carts	\$15
J L Knight	2 carts	\$10
J Sanford	2 carts	\$10
Ball & Scott	1 cart	\$5

Amounting in all to sixty dollars

And then the Council adjourned till Friday evening next at ½ past 7 o'clock

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg on Friday evening the 26<sup>th</sup> April 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

W Allen, P Hough, J Pritchard, G W Eve, J Sanford, J B Alexander, J McGuire, H Scott, C C Wellford—  
Common Councilmen

A petition was presented to the Board by the Clerk of the Council, at the request of Mrs Scott, on behalf of herself and many widows and female taxpayers, remonstrating against the subscription on the part of the Corporation to the Hazle River improvement and being read it was on motion ordered that the Clerk of the Council address a note to Mrs Scott, stating that said petition had been received too late for any action to be had thereon, the subject matter of it having been finally disposed of at the last meeting of the Council.

On motion a tax of one dollar for each dog and five dollars for sluts was passed and all dogs running at large without a collar with the Corporation stamp on it as evidence of payment of the tax, to be killed by the Police Officers, who shall receive [Page 411] one dollar for each and every dog or slut so killed, said dogs or sluts to be buried without the limits of the town and the person killing and burying to be paid by the Corporation, in case the same cannot be obtained from the owner of said dogs or sluts; and the Clerk of the Council was directed to prepare an ordinance in accordance with the above view, to go into effect 1<sup>st</sup> June next; which said ordinance is in the words and figures following and entitled;

An Ordinance concerning Dogs

1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that a tax for the current fiscal year of one dollar on each dog and five dollars on each bitch, owned by persons residing within the limits of this town be and the same is hereby imposed; said tax to be paid to the Mayor of the Town who upon the receipt thereof, shall furnish without cost or charge therefore to the persons paying the same a collar with the Corporation stamp thereon to be worn around the neck of his or her dog.
2. Be it further ordained that all dogs owned by residents of this town which shall be found running at large in the streets without a collar with the Corporation stamp thereon shall be liable to be killed and it is

hereby made the duty of the Police Officers to kill all such, by shooting or otherwise and to have such as may be killed, buried without the limits of the Town; and for each dog so killed and buried without the limits of the Town, the said officer shall be entitled to and receive a fee of one dollar, to be recovered by warrant with costs, of the owner of the dog so killed if any owner can be found; otherwise, or in the event of the owner being insolvent, then the same to be paid by the Corporation upon affidavit being made by said officer of the service rendered.

3. Be it further ordained that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to procure at the expense of the Corporation such a number of collars with the Corporation stamp thereon as may in his discretion be deemed necessary and that he render to the Council at the end of each quarter of the fiscal year, an account of the expense incurred in the purchase of collars and the amount of tax received under and by virtue of this ordinance.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 1850

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On motion the Commissioner of the Revenue was released from the duty of taking a list of dogs, cake sellers in the streets & pedlars among the subjects to be embraced in his returns on the Commissioner's books.

The following ordinance was passed entitled "An Ordinance concerning Hogs"

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that it shall not be lawful for any hog to run at large within the limits of this town and it shall be the duty of the Police Officers 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 Chamberlain for the use of the Corporation.

This ordinance shall commence and be in force from and after the 10<sup>th</sup> of May 1850.

On motion the salaries of the Police officers was fixed at the rate of \$200, per annum, each, to commence at said rate from this day.

Bernard Cole and John S Timberlake were then elected Police Officers and took the oath of office before the Mayor

On motion ordered that the Street Committee be and they are hereby directed to enquire into and report to the Council, all cases where any street or streets may be closed up by fencing or otherwise whether the same shall have been done so by the permission of the Council or not.

On motion it was ordered that in all cases of fines and penalties enuring to the use of the Corporation for the violation of ordinances where the Police Officers informing are entitled to no part of the same, that they shall be, and hereby made entitled to one-half thereof, when they are the informers.

And then on motion the Council adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening the 31 May 1850



Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

P Hough, W Allen, J McGuire, G W Eve, J Pritchard, J Minor, L J Huffman, J Sanford—Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the Committee on Public Property procure a table for the use of a reporter for the *Christian Banner* and also one for any other Editor of the Town.

Present, C C Wellford, J B Alexander—Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the following accounts for expenses incurred in paying respect to the remains of the Hon'ble John C Calhoun as they passed through Town be paid by the Chamberlain, viz;

W M Short's for powder &c &c \$7

Jesse White, for tolling bells \$4

Present, H Scott—Common Councilman

The subject of the subscription to the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road as authorized by the vote taken on the 18 March last, having been called to the notice of the Board by the Mayor, who stated that he had been requested by the Commissioners to call their attention to it, with the view that said subscription may be carried out, the books of said improvement being about to be closed;

Whereupon the following resolution offered by Mr G W Eve was passed unanimously, viz;

Resolved that the Mayor of the Town be and he is hereby directed to subscribe for and on behalf of the Corporation for 400 shares of the Capital Stock of said improvement; said subscription to be payable in Bonds or scrip of the Corporation at par, that is to say, dollar for dollar, the time of redemption of said bonds or scrip to be hereafter determined on by the Council.

Absent, J Minor—Common Councilman, B S Herndon, Recorder

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A motion was made to appropriate the sum of twenty dollars per annum towards keeping the clock of the town of the Episcopal Church in order, provided it meets with the concurrence of the vestry of said Church. The consideration of which was on motion of Mr Eve postponed till the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March next.

On motion the Council then 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 Monday evening the 3 June 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

C C Wellford, W Allen, G W Eve, P Hough, J Pritchard, H Scott, J Sanford, J McGuire, J Minor, L J Huffman—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened at the request of a committee appointed by the Commissioners named in the Charter of the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road, with the view of their submitting to the Board then reason for deleting the subscription on the part of the Corporation to stock in said improvement in the mode directed by the order of the Council of the 31<sup>st</sup> Ult; and Doct B R Wellford, the Chairman of said Committee having appeared before the Board and state why said subscription as directed by the order of the Council as aforesaid was not received by the Commissioners it was after due consideration;

Ordered that the order of the 31 May 1850 be and the same is hereby so amended as that said subscription be made by the Mayor, unconditionally and without any restriction whatever.

On motion the Council then adjourned

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening the 12<sup>th</sup> June 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B R Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, J Sanford, L J Huffman, H Scott, J McGuire, C C Wellford, P

Hough, J Minor—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the object for convening the Council to be the appointment of a proxy or proxies to represent the Stock of the Corporation in the general meeting of the stockholders of the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road, advertised to be held on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> current; also to take action in relation to the payment of the salaries of the Police officers for the present quarter.

He then submitted a written report charging dereliction of duty on the part of the Police Officers, so far as the removal of nuisances from the streets was concerned and a question arising as to what those duties were in that particular, and before any definite action was taken on said report the following ordinance amendatory of the ordinances concerning nuisances was read and passed, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the town of Fredericksburg that the ordinance of the 20 Feb'y 1836 be and the same is hereby amended as to subject to the fines & penalties therein named, each and every person who shall throw or cause to be thrown into the Market space or any of the public streets or alleys of the Town any straw, hay, loose papers, or other matter offensive to the sight.

Be it further ordained that in all case of violations of this, or any ordinance of the Corporation concerning nuisances where the offender or offenders are unknown, and the expense of the removal or abatement of the nuisance cannot be recovered of the party offending, it shall be and is hereby made the duty of the Mayor to cause such nuisance to be removed or abated forthwith at the expense of the Corporation.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1850.

The Consideration of the report was then resumed and after an explanation by Mr H Scott, a member of the Street Committee, it was ordered that the Chamberlain pay the Police Officers their salaries for the quarter ending Monday next.

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The subject of the appointment of a proxy or proxies to represent the stock of the Corporation in the General Meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road Company on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> current being then taken up, Mr James McGuire to test the sense of the Council as to the number to constitute said representation move that three persons be appointed and the motion being carried, the Council proceeded to ballot, when Mr Peter Goolrick having secured a majority of votes cast, on the first ballot was declared duly elected as one of the three; after the 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> balloting for the remaining two proxies there being no election Mr John Minor moved that all further balloting be dispensed with and the vote being taken on said motion it was rejected and the balloting was continued without an election until after the 7<sup>th</sup> ballot, where Mr Allen renamed the motion of Mr Minor which being unsuccessful, Mr Hugh Scott moved that the remaining two to be elected be voted for separately, which being carried the balloting was continued, without an election until after the 11<sup>th</sup> trial, when a motion to adjourn until tomorrow evening at 4 o'clock was put and carried and the Council was accordingly adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Thursday afternoon, the 13<sup>th</sup> June 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, C C Wellford, P Hough, L J Huffman—Common Councilmen

An account of E Conway for work furnished at the Taylor festival in February last, amounting to sixteen dollars and which had not been provided for by the Committee of reception, was presented to the Board, passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

Present, J Sanford, H Scott, J McGuire—Common Councilmen

The Council, on motion, resumed the balloting for the two remaining proxies to represent the Stock of the Corporation in the general meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road on Monday next, when on the first ballot Mr James McGuire was elected and on the next ballot Mr John S Caldwell was elected.

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It was then ordered that a certificate of the election of Mess'rs Goolrick, McGuire, and Caldwell, or such other proxies as may be necessary to authorize them to vote for and in behalf of the Corporation in the general meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road be prepared by the Clerk and that the Corporation seal be affixed thereto by the Mayor if deemed requisite.

Present, J Minor—Common Councilman

Absent, L J Huffman—Common Councilman

On motion of Mr John Minor the following resolution was adopted, viz;

Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to enquire into the propriety of enlarging the limits of the town and to report to the Council what in their opinion should be the proper boundaries of such enlarged limits.

J Minor, J Pritchard, and J Sanford were appointed the Committee under the foregoing resolution.

The following preamble &c was offered by H Scott, viz;  
Whereas the Council are of the opinion they have no right to grant permission to enclose any street within the limits of the Corporation; they do hereby rescind all orders heretofore passed authorizing the enclosure of any street and require all streets enclosed to be opened on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> August 1850; and it is the duty of the Police Officers to see this order enforced and there being a tie vote on its adoption the Mayor gave the casting vote in the affirmative and it was passed.

On motion to reconsider the above preamble and order made by Mr Minor prevailed and then on motion of Mr McGuire the said subject was referred to the Committee on Streets with instructions to report specially and in writing each individual case in which any street or parts of streets are enclosed or in any way encroached upon.

On motion the Council then 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 Monday morning the 17<sup>th</sup> June 1850  
Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
B S Herndon, Recorder  
G W Eve, J McGuire, W Allen, J B Alexander, J Minor, C C Wellford, J Pritchard, P Hough, H Scott, J Sanford, L J Huffman [Page 418] Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated he had convened the Council at the instance of several members for the purpose of considering a proposition in relation to sale of a part of the Corporation Stock in the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road; Whereupon Mr Hugh Scott submitted an offer of Mr John Seddon, to purchase 10 shares provided he be appointed a proxy of the Corporation to that extent, to represent the Corporation in the General Meeting of the Stockholders to be held this day, to stock to be transferred after the organization of said Company;

And the vote on said proposition having been taken by Ayes and Noes resulted as follows, viz;

Ayes, Hough, Pritchard, Eve, Scott, Wellford, McGuire & Huffman 7

Noes, Minor, Alexander, Allen, Herndon, Sanford 5

So Mr Seddon's proposition was acceded to and he being present and having placed in the hands of Mr Scott a draft for the money, say \$500, the said sale is hereby confirmed.

Mr E Conway then proposed to take 5 shares for himself, 5 for A K Phillips and 5 for Charles Herndon, which was acceded to on the same terms and conditions with the sale to Mr Seddon, and thereupon he placed in the hands of Mr Scott a check for \$750.

A motion to reconsider the foregoing propositions was made by Mr Pritchard and being seconded was carried and then a motion to confirm said orders being made and the vote being taken by ayes & noes was as follows, viz;

Ayes, Scott, Wellford, McGuire, Huffman 4

Noes, Minor, Alexander, Allen, Hough, Pritchard, Eve, Herndon, Sanford 8

So the said orders were rescinded and Mr Scott, thereupon returned to Mr Seddon and Mr Conway the draft & check herein before referred to.

The proxies of the Corporation appeared before the Council and asked for instructions in casting the Corporation vote for Directors in the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road; Whereupon it was ordered that they be instructed to vote for P Goolrick, J McGuire, J S Caldwell and Hugh Scott, as four to constitute the Board of Directory, leaving it to the discretion of the proxies to select the fifth from the County of Orange.

And then on motion the Council adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday morning the 18<sup>th</sup> June 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

C C Wellford, W Allen, J B Alexander, P Hough, J McGuire, J Sanford, H Scott, G W Eve, J Pritchard, J Minor, L J Huffman—Common Councilmen

The Council was convened by the Mayor at the instance of several citizens for the purpose of considering the propriety of a change in the instructions to the Corporation proxies for voting for the directory of the Fred'sburg & Valley Plank Road Company, four only of said Directors having been elected at the general meeting of the Stockholders on yesterday and said Meeting having adjourned over till today for the purpose of electing a fifth.

Before proceeding to business, Mr C C Wellford moved that the Council hold its session in secret and it being so ordered the Council Chamber was cleared of all spectators.

The Council then proceeded to discuss the propriety of changing the instructions to the proxies and after the members had generally given their views on the subject Mr H Scott offered the following resolution, viz;

Resolved that the proxies be directed to cast the Corporation vote for that person, as Director who may receive the largest number of the votes of individual stockholders in a division being called for in voting on said resolution it was found there were 6 for it and 6 against and there being a tie the Mayor voted in the affirmative and the resolution was adopted.

The Mayor submitted to the Board an advertisement of the Commissioners of the Hazle River Navigation Company calling a general meeting of the Stockholders of said Company at Thompsonville, Culpeper County on Wednesday the 26 Inst for the purpose of organizing and electing its officers, which being read, action thereon was postponed to an adjourned meeting of the Council this evening at 5 o'clock to which hour the Council adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 18 June 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, J Minor, J Pritchard, J Sanford, C C Wellford, Jas McGuire, H Scott—Common Councilmen

The Council having met for the purpose of appointed proxies to represent the Stock of the Corporation in the Hazle River Navigation Company at the general meeting of the Stockholders to be held at Thompsonville in Culpeper County on the 26<sup>th</sup> of this Month, and the following named gentlemen, viz; Geo B Scott and Mr Q Cheek of this town and Monroe Kelly of Rappahannock County being nominated were elected unanimously with the understanding that all or either of them who may attend said meeting shall represent the Stock of the Corporation and that said service on their part be rendered gratuitously.

Ordered that the Clerk of the Council prepare a certificate of the election of said proxies and furnish them with a copy thereof; and it is further ordered that said proxies be and they are hereby instructed in casting the vote of the Corporation for the Secretary of said Company to vote for Joseph Sanford, Esq as a member thereof.

On motion the Council then 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 Tuesday evening the 9 July 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

An order of the Hustings Court passed the 13 June 1850 allowing the Clerk of the Court the sum of Twenty dollars for services rendered under the Act of the General Assembly passed 20<sup>th</sup> March 1850, providing for the reassessment of the lands of the Commonwealth was laid before the Board and on motion the amount was ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

The Chamberlain exhibited to the Board an acct [Page 421] shewing that a nett sum of \$49.75 had been received by him from the Mayor for taxes on dogs, for the quarter ending the 17<sup>th</sup> Ult and that the same had been carried to the credit of the Corporation in his account.

Present, John Minor—Common Councilman

The Books of the Commissioner of the Revenue containing lists of the taxable persons and property of the Corporation for the current year was laid before the Council for examination in compliance with an order to that effect, where a motion to exempt from taxation the item of libraries was made by Mr John Minor and seconded by Mr Allen, and the vote thereon being taken, it was rejected. It was then, on motion, of J McGuire, ordered that said Books be referred to examine and report thereon at the next meeting of the Council; James McGuire, H Scott, B S Herndon were appointed said Committee.

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain in making his estimates of the receipts and expenditures for the current year make provision for raising a revenue of not less than five thousand dollars over and above the amount raised last year to meet the demands for the year.

The first installment of two dollars per share on the Corporation Stock in the Fred'sburg and Valley Plank Road having been called for by said Company, to be paid on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> of this month, it was on motion,

Ordered that the Chamberlain be and he is hereby authorized to raise the amount necessary to meet said call, say eight hundred dollars, the faith of the Corporation being hereby pledged to pay the amount so raised out of the Revenue of the current year.

The Council then adjourned till Monday evening next at 8 o'clock PM  
R B Semple, Mayor  
A Goodwin, CC

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber  
Saturday the 13 July 1850

Present, B S Herndon, Recorder

L J Huffman, J Pritchard, Geo W Eve, C C Wellford, James McGuire, P Hough, H Scott—Common Councilmen

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The Recorder stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of taking such proceedings as in their opinion may be deemed proper and suitable on the occasion of the demise of the late President of the United States; Whereupon Mess'rs C C Wellford, Jas McGuire and Geo W Eve were appointed a committee to draught resolutions expressive of the feelings of this body at so great a national calamity as the death of its Chief Magistrate

The Committee having retired for a short time returned and made the following report which was unanimously adopted.

The Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg having convened and being inspired with deep concern at the great loss sustained by the Nation in the demise of our lamented chief Magistrate and deeming it proper that when one so eminent for his great and long public services, so distinguished for the most exalted virtues that adorn the character of a citizen is taken from us, that it is not only becoming but proper that we should by some public demonstration manifest our deep and heartfelt concern at this national calamity; It is therefore ordered that those who control the churches of this Corporation be respectfully requested to have their bells tolled from 12 to 3 o'clock.

That the Citizens of this Corporation be respectfully requested to abstain from all secular business during the same hours and to close their stores and offices.

That sixty six guns be fired during the tolling of the bells that being the age of the lamented chief Magistrate.

That this body will and the officers of the Corporation are requested to wear the usual badge of mourning for sixty days.

That the Clerk of the Council be requested to forward to Mrs Taylor a copy of these proceedings as a testimonial of our high respect for the memory of her late exalted husband, and of our sympathy with herself and family.

That the edition of the Newspapers of this Corporation be requested to publish these proceedings.

And then the Council adjourned  
B S Herndon, Recorder

A Goodwin, CC  
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At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening the 15 July 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

J McGuire, W Allen, G W Eve, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, J Minor, H Scott—Common Councilmen

The following bills of expenses incurred under the resolution of the Council of the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst directing funeral honors to be paid to the late President of the United States were read and passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz;

Wm T Hart for powder	\$9.75
Thos McEney's for firing Cannon &c &c	\$6.62
Frank Slaughter for wadding	\$1.05
Jesse White for tolling bells and printing bills	\$5.00 in full

A bill of Mrs Terrier amounting to \$4.70 for damages to her house growing out of the firing of the cannon near thereto on the 13<sup>th</sup> Inst was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

A petition of the Hope Fire Company praying aid in procuring new hose for the use of said Company also, Resolutions of the Union and Hope Fire Companies in general meeting assembled, in relation to the appointment of Principal Engineer and fire wardens by the Common Council under the new code of the State that went into operation on the 1<sup>st</sup> Inst were submitted to the Board, read, and on motion laid on the table.

The Committee appointed to examine and report upon the Commissioner's books made a report accompanied with a list of proposed changes in the assessment of the annual value of sundry houses and lots on the said books, which being read over, it was on motion ordered that said report and list be laid over until tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock at which time it was directed that the Commissioner be requested to attend for the purpose of making explanations in regard to the proposed changes in his books.

On motion of Geo W Eve, duly seconded, it was ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation be and he is hereby authorized to sell at par, the whole or any portion of the Stock held by the Corporation in the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road Company, taking [Page 424] bond with security from the purchaser or purchasers thereof to pay the installments on said stock as called for by said Company.

On motion the Council then adjourned till tomorrow evening at 8 o'clock.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber 16 July 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

W Allen, J McGuire, G W Eve, J Pritchard, L J Huffman, J B Alexander, H Scott, J Minor—Common Councilmen



The report of the Committee on the Commissioner's Books was taken up and after some time spent in the examination of the same and the explanations of the Commissioner of the Revenue, it was, ordered that said report with the corrected list of the Committee be referred to the Commissioner of the Revenue for examination and correction with instructions to report the result of said examination to the Council at the earliest practicable moment.

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

Council Chamber, Tuesday evening 29<sup>th</sup> July 1850 A meeting of the Common Council having been called this evening by the Mayor the following members were in attendance, and not being enough to form a quorum retired after waiting a reasonable time for the absentees

R B Semple, Mayor  
William Allen, J Sanford, J McGuire, Geo W Eve, John Pritchard, H Scott—Common Councilmen  
Attest  
A Goodwin, Clerk of Council

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening the 9<sup>th</sup> August 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
[Page 425]

Wm Allen, P Hough, J Sanford, J B Alexander, J Pritchard, C C Wellford, J McGuire, H Scott, Geo W Eve, J Minor, L J Huffman—Common Councilmen

On motion it was ordered that the Mayor be directed to notify the citizens thro' the newspapers that carts will be provided on every Saturday to remove the filth from their lots, that may be deposited in the Streets before their respective premises.

The Chamberlain of the Corporation presented the estimates of the receipts and expenditures of the Corporation for the current year, which he read over when it was ordered that the vote on the taxes to be assessed on the various subject enumerated in said estimates be taken item by item.

The Council then proceeded to vote on each item as enumerated until that of Goods, Wares & Merchandize was passed upon, on which a tax of 40 cents in the \$100 value was laid, when a motion by J Minor to reconsider said vote and substituted 30 cents in place of 40 cents. Mr Hugh Scott asked to be excused from voting and being excused the vote on substituting 30 in place of 40 cents was taken and there being a tie vote, the Mayor gave the casting vote in the affirmative and the tax was laid at 30 cents in the \$100 value.

Mr C C Wellford then moved to strike out the item of libraries and called the yeas and nays which were taken as follows, viz;

Ayes, C C Wellford, J Minor, Wm Allen 3  
Noes, J Sanford, J B Alexander, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, P Hough, Geo W Eve, H Scott, J McGuire 8  
So the motion failed

L J Huffman asked to be excused from further attendance on the score of indisposition, and being excused retired.

After some further time spent in the consideration of the subject of the taxes to be laid for the current year, Mr Allen moved to adjourn which motion was withdrawn at the request of Mr Minor, Chairman of the Committee on the enlargement of the limits of the Town who informally called the attention of the Board to the necessity of early action on the report of said Committee [Page 426] with the view that notice might be given in time for an application or petition for that purpose to be acted upon by the Legislature at its next session.

And then the Council adjourned till Monday evening next at 8 o'clock  
R B Semple, Mayor  
A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber Monday evening the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1850  
Present, B S Herndon, Recorder  
J Sanford, J McGuire, P Hough, Wm Allen, J B Alexander, Geo W Eve, J Pritchard, J Minor—Common Councilmen

A communication from a Committee of the Union Fire Company recommending the appointment of certain gentlemen as suitable persons to compose the Fire Department of the town, was read and on motion laid on the Table.

The Council then resumed the consideration of the subject of the taxes to be assessed for the current year, when a motion to reconsider the tax on income was made and failed

A motion to strike from the list the item of auctioneers was made by Mr Eve, and negative, but subsequently on a motion to reconsider which was carried, auctioneers were stricken from the list and exempted from taxation.

The Council then proceeded to fix the tax on the remaining items in the estimate of the Chamberlain, when the subject of taxing vendors of patent medicines was brought to the notice of the Board by the Recorder, and after some discussion, the matter was indefinitely postponed.

The various items having been then read over by the Clerk a motion to reconsider the income tax prevailed and the same was fixed at ½ of 1 per cent on all over \$400, and then on motion of Mr James McGuire who moved the previous question the vote on the whole was taken and having passed affirmatively, it was

Ordered that the taxes on persons and property &c in the [Page 427] Corporation for the current year be and they are hereby assessed as follows, viz;

On Real Estate, 6 per cent on the annual value

On White males above 16 years of age \$2.25

On slaves above 16 years of age \$2.25

On free Colored Males above 16 years of age \$2.25

On slaves between 12 & 16 years of age \$1.50

On horses \$2.25

On carriages, Carioles, Phaetons, Gigs, Buggys and pleasure carriages of any description in each of the value of \$100 and under	\$2.50
On each above the value of \$100, 3 per cent on the value thereof	
On Furniture, 30 cents on every \$100 value	
On Goods, Wares, & Merchandise, 30 cent in every \$100 value	
On Hogs, pigs and shoats, 50 cents each	
On cows, 50 cents each	
On every Bagatelle table, or other table for public amusement	\$10.00 each
On every ten pin alley or Bowling Saloon	\$10.00 for each alley
On Licenses to sell in the Streets, cakes, fruits or other articles, whether of foreign or domestic growth or manufacture \$10 for each carrier or seller	
Persons from the Country having fruit or vegetables for sale being exempt from the tax	
On libraries, on per cent on the value thereof	
On Gold watches	\$1.00
On silver patent levers & Lepine	\$.50
On all other watches	\$.25
On metal clocks	\$.25
On wooden clocks	\$.12½
On Gold and silver plate over the value of \$50, 1½ per cent	
On Interest on Bonds, State Stock &c &c as enumerated in the Act of the Legislature of Va passed March 2, 1849, imposing taxes for the State, 1½ per cent	
On all yearly income, as enumerated in the aforesaid act of the Legislature, the mode of ascertaining the same to be as is prescribed by an Act of the Legislature passed the 6 Feb'y 1844, ½ of 1 pr ct on all over \$400	
On every Physician, Surgeon, or Dentist	\$5.00
On every Attorney at law residing in the Town or keeping [Page 428] an office within the limits of the Town	\$5.00
On every insurance company of any kind or description or agent thereof, or agent of any foreign company, it being expressly understood that in all cases where any person or firm is the agent of more than one company, the tax shall be \$5 for each agency	\$5.00
On Tavern keepers or persons who have obtained or shall obtain license as such from the Hustings Court of the Corporation	\$5.00

Mr John Minor, Chairman of the Committee on the enlargement of the boundaries of the Town made a report on the subject which was read and adopted, and then on motion, it was ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to draught a petition or memorial to the Legislature praying an enlargement of the boundaries of the Town in accordance with the recommendation in said report and that he cause the same to be circulated among the citizens for their signature; and further that he cause public notice to be given, thro' the newspapers that said petition or memorial will be presented to the Legislature for action thereon, at its next ensuing session.

It was also ordered that the surveyor of the Corporation run the lines of said enlarged boundaries, and that he make a plat thereof for the use of the Council.

A communication from Jesse White asking an increase in the sum allow him by the Council for services rendered in tolling the bells &c in the occasion of the death of the late President of the United States was read and on motion laid on the table.

On motion, ordered that the ordinance concerning hogs passed 26 April 1850 be and the same is hereby suspended in its operation until the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October next provided, however, that such suspension shall only apply to such as have been given in by the owners thereof to the Commissioner of the Revenue in taking his list of taxable property. All others shall be subject to the provisions of said ordinance and it is recommended to the owners of such as have been given in as taxable property, that they ring the nose or ear of their hogs, when set at large, that the Police Officers may distinguish them from those which [Page 429] continue subject to the provisions of said ordinance of 26<sup>th</sup> April 1850.

Ordered that the Fire Companies be notified thro' their Commanders that the Council contemplate action in the organization of the Fire Department of the Town at its next meeting.

And then the Council adjourned to Friday evening at 7½ o'clock.

B S Herndon, Recorder

A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening the 16<sup>th</sup> August 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, J Sanford, G W Eve, J McGuire, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, P Hough, H Scott, J Minor, C C Wellford—Common Councilmen

An ordinance concerning licenses was passed in the following words, viz;

1. Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that in all cases where by an existing order or ordinance of this Corporation a tax on licenses is imposed or where, by any future order or ordinance of the same, a tax may be imposed, it shall be the duty of the persons subject to said tax, to pay the amount thereof to the Chamberlain of the Corporation for the time being, taking his receipt therefor and the Mayor upon the production of said receipt shall issue a license to the party applying for the same.
2. In all cases of violations of this ordinance or where any person or persons subject to said tax shall fail or refuse to take out a license, the party so offending shall be subject to a fine of twice the amount of the tax imposed as the case may be, said fine to be recovered by warrant in the name of the Chamberlain with costs, before the Mayor or any Justice of the Peace for the Town aforesaid, one moiety whereof shall go the informer and the other to the Chamberlain for the use of the Corporation.
3. The Chamberlain of the Corporation shall in his annual [Page 430] settlement account for all taxes and fines received by him under and by virtue of this ordinance and his receipts for the same shall be taken as evidence of payment.
4. This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

An account of John Davis for whitewashing the Mayor's office amounting to two dollars was passed and ordered to be paid. Also an account of H S Doggett & others for acting as a guard or night watch amounting to thirty two dollars.

Absent, J B Alexander—Common Councilman

The petitions of the Fire Companies on the subject of the organization of the Fire Department of the Town having been called up by Mr Minor, and the Law of the State under the new Code having been read, said petitions were, after some discussion on the subject, again laid on the Table on the motion of Mr Allen.

A motion of Mr Eve and for reasons satisfactory to the Board it was, Resolved that this body as the representative of the Stock held by the Corporation in the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road Company do call a general meeting of the stockholders of said Company at the earliest day practicable and that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to take the necessary steps, in the organ of this Board, to effect said object, the vote on the adoption of said resolution being taken by Ayes and Noes was as follows, viz;

Ayes, P Hough, J Pritchard, G W Eve, B S Herndon, C C Wellford, J Minor, H Scott, Wm Allen 8  
Noes, J Sanford, J McGuire 2

On motion of Mr Eve the Council then proceeded to approve three proxies to represent the Stock of the Corporation in said called meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road Company, when Doct B R Wellford was elected on the first ballot and after numerous unsuccessful efforts the Council finally elected J Sanford & G W Eve Esquires who with Doct B R Wellford were declared duly elected as said proxies.

On motion it was ordered that the Clerk of the Council draught an ordinance to restrain horses from running at large or being turned loose in the streets and submit the same to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion the Council adjourned,  
R B Semple, Mayor  
A Goodwin, CC  
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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the evening of the 30<sup>th</sup> August 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, P Hough, G W Eve, J B Alexander, J Pritchard, C C Wellford—Common Councilmen

Mr Arthur Goodwin, the Clerk of the Council being indisposed, on motion, John S Caldwell was appointed Clerk pro tem

Wm S Barton, presented to the Council a deed of lease for a part of the Court House lot to Myrtle Lodge No 50, of I.O.O.F. which was approved and on motion, the Mayor was directed to execute said deed by a vote of 5 to 2

The following resolution was presented and passed,

Resolved that a Committee be appointed to ascertain whether the whole amount required by the Charter of the Hazle River improvement has been subscribed and whether it be expedient or not to withhold the scrip subscribed on the part of the Corporation to said improvement and report to the Council at its next meeting. Hugh Scott, C C Wellford, B S Herndon were appointed said Committee.

The Council then adjourned  
R B Semple, Mayor  
(signed) J S Caldwell, CC pro tem

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday morning the 17<sup>th</sup> August 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

J Sanford, J B Alexander, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, G W Eve, P Hough, W Allen, J Minor, H Scott—  
Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened at the instance of Mr George Ficklen for the purpose of considering the matter of an issue of the scrip of the Corporation for a portion of the subscription of the Corporation to the Stock of the Hazle River Navigation Company

Mess'rs B S Herndon and H Scott of the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the council then made the following report in writing viz; "The committee appointed to ascertain whether the whole amount required by the Charter of the Hazle River [Page 432] improvement has been subscribed and whether it be expedient to withhold the scrip subscribed on the part of the Corporation to said improvement, report, that they have ascertained from one of the Directors, and the President of the Company that the whole of the Stock of the Hazle River improvement has not been subscribed; but that 3/4<sup>th</sup> of it has been; the amount necessary for organization and two installments of \$10 the share, each have been ordered by the Board as appears by an extract from the minutes of the proceedings of said Company accompanying the report and in the following words and figures, to wit;

At a meeting of the President and Directors of the Hazle River Navigation Company held on the 26 June 1850, ordered that an installment of ten dollars on each share of stock subscribed be required of the Stockholders of the Company payable on order from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July (signed) M Y Partlow, clerk.

At a meeting of the President and Directors of the Hazle River Navigation Company held on the 23 July 1850, ordered that an installment of ten dollars on each share of stock subscribed be required of the Stockholders of the Company, payable on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> August 1850 (Signed) M Y Partlow, Clerk

Whereupon on motion of the Recorder it was ordered that scrip of the Corporation to the extent of \$2000 of its subscription to the Stock of the said Company be issued payable to the President, Directors, and Company of the Hazle River Navigation Company, said scrip to be issued under the supervision and superintendence of the Committee appointed under and order of the Council of the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1850, to negotiate a loan for the Corporation and be in such form and signed and countersigned in the mode prescribed by an order of the Council of the 19<sup>th</sup> March 1850 and said scrip to be redeemable for 30 years from the date and to bear interest payable semi-annually viz, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Feb'y and 1<sup>st</sup> Aug in each and every year.

An account of Eustace Conway amounting to \$10 for fees in 2 cases of appeal viz;  
Johnston vs Corporation and Timberlake vs Corporation, in 1848, was presented to the Board, passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

A communication from Judge John T Lomax on the subject of the power of the Corporation to tax the persons specifically of Allen Town was submitted to the Board by the Clerk at the request of Judge Lomax and on motion was laid on the table [Page 433] for the present.

An ordinance supplemental to the ordinance passed 23 June 1829, to prevent the straining or breaking horses and to prevent persons riding on the footways, was passed in the following words.  
Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that hereafter it shall not be lawful for any person to turn his or her horse loose or at large or permit his or her horse to be turned loose or to run at large within the limits of the Town aforesaid; any person violating this ordinance shall be subject to the same fines and penalties that are imposed by the third section of said ordinance of the 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1829 for its violation.

On motion the Council adjourned till this evening at 7½ o'clock  
R B Semple, Mayor  
A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening the 13<sup>th</sup> September 1850  
Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
B S Herndon, Recorder  
W Allen, J McGuire, Geo W Eve, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, J Sanford, J Minor, H Scott—Common Councilmen

The Communication from Judge Lomax which was laid on the Table this morning having been taken up on the motion of Mr Eve and read by the Clerk, was ordered to be filed.

On motion, ordered that the Pump Committee be and they are hereby directed to put a pump in the well at the corner of John B Alexander, if in their opinion it should sub-serve the convenience of the neighbourhood.

The salaries of the Police officers for the present quarter ending Monday next were ordered to be paid, the Mayor having reported in writing favorably as to the manner in which their duties had been discharged.

The Street Committee acting under an order of the Council of 13 June 1850 reported the following streets closed and encroached upon, viz;

Sophia  
Princess Anne  
Prince Edward  
Hawke Streets

Whereupon it was on motion ordered that notice be given by the police officers to all [Page 434] persons who have closed up or encroached on said streets that said enclosures or encroachments be removed by the 1<sup>st</sup> October (proximo) and in the event of refusal or neglect the said officers are hereby directed to have the same opened by the removal of any enclosure or other obstruction.

On motion the council then 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 Saturday evening the 21<sup>st</sup> Sept 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

J Sanford, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, Geo W Eve, J Minor, P Hough, H Scott, James McGuire—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened at the instance of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road in general meeting assembled on last evening for the purpose of giving instructions to the proxies of the Corporation on the subject of the letting out of the contracts for the said Road; When the Recorder arose and read a paper assigning the causes of dissatisfaction in the organization of the Directory of said Company, and made the following motion, viz;

Moved that our Proxy be instructed to request the President and Board of Directors to resign their places and that they put in nomination for the vacant seats the following gentlemen, viz; for President, Rob B Marye; For Directors, John F Taliaferro, B R Wellford, A K Phillips, H Scott & John M Herndon; and the vote being taken thereon it was rejected.

Mr L J Huffman then offered the following resolutions which were adopted,

Resolved that a majority of the people should govern in all questions of public interest; that we are the servants of the people and should carry out their views upon all questions of a public nature.

Resolved that the proxy of the Corporation be and they are hereby directed to cast the vote of the Corporation at the meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road now in session in conformity to the wishes of [Page 435] a majority of our Town Stockholders as expressed by them in voting for or against any measure at said meeting.

Doct B R Wellford, one of the proxies of the Corporation asked of the Board an explanation of the instructions contained in the last of the foregoing resolutions, at the same time giving his construction of them and suggesting that the Clerk of the Council should be directed to cast said vote; this explanation being given, he then resigned as one of the proxies and his resignation was accepted; as also was that of Mr Geo W Eve, which was tendered by Mr Eve.

Daniel Bradford, resigned his office of the Clerk of the Market and the Board proceeded to fill the vacancy when Mr James N Campbell was unanimously elected.

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 Tuesday evening the 8<sup>h</sup> October 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

P Hough, G W Eve, J Sanford, P Pritchard, C C Wellford, Hugh Scott, L J Huffman, J Minor—Common Councilmen



The Mayor submitted to the Board a letter from Doctor Austin Brockenbrough, of Tappahannock, proposing on certain conditions to take a portion of the Corporation loan which being read and duly considered was on motion,

Resolved, that the Mayor be requested to correspond with Doct Brockenbrough and submit a proposition for the loan of \$40000 to the Corporation of Fredericksburg upon the following terms, viz; 1/3 of the amount to be redeemable in 10 years; 1/3 in 20 years, and 1/3 in 30 years from the date of the loan; said loan to bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum (payable semi-annually) and scrip of the Corporation to be issued therefor the money to be paid in by Doct Brockenbrough as the Corporation may want it, three months previous notice being given; and when the whole amount is paid in by Doctor Brockenbrough, the Council pledge themselves to give a deed of trust upon the whole of the Corporation property to secure the debt.

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An account of Wm S Coleman for services rendered as a guard at Christmas and the holy days, for five nights and amounting to five dollars was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

On motion was made and carried to reconsider the order passed on the 13 Sept 1850 directing the removal of obstructions across the streets named in said order and then on motion it was ordered that the same be rescinded so far as it relates to Mr John J Chew's enclosure of the street at the upper end of town, the vote was taken and it was rejected.

On motion, the Council then 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 Monday morning the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1850

Present, B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, J McGuire, C C Wellford, Geo W Eve, J Pritchard, J B Alexander, Hugh Scott—Common Councilmen

An account of John S Caldwell for matrasses furnished the jail amounting to \$5.25 was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

The following requisitions from the Hazle River Navigation Company for installments on the Corporation subscription to said Company were submitted to the Board, viz;

At a meeting of the President and Directors of the Hazle River Navigation Company held at the Lewellen Mills on Tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 1850, Resolved that ten dollars on each share be required of the Stockholders to be paid in by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October next; an extract from the Minutes

(Signed) M Y Partlow, Clerk

At a meeting of the President and Directors of the Hazle River Navigation Company held at Thompsonville on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> October 1850, Resolved that ten dollars on each share be required of the Stockholders to be paid by the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1850; a true extract from the minutes

(Signed) M Y Partlow, Clerk

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At a meeting of the President and Directors of the Hazle River Navigation Company held at Thompsonville 26 November 1850, Ordered that ten dollars on the share be required of the Stockholders to be paid in by the 1<sup>st</sup> December 1850; extract from the minutes  
(Signed) M Y Partlow, Clerk

Whereupon, on motion, it was ordered that scrip of the Corporation to the extent of \$3000 of its subscription to said Company be issued, as in the first requisition of said Company, said scrip to bear interest from this date.

The Secretary and Treasurer of the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road Company stated to the Board that a requisition of three dollars per share on the Corporation subscription to said Company had been ordered by the Board of (Directors); Whereupon on motion it was ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation do pay out of the funds of the Corporation, the amount of said requisition, say twelve hundred dollars.

A memorial of sundry persons in relation to the Pump at the corner of Prince Edward & Lewis Street was submitted to the Board, and on motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Pumps for action thereon.

A petition of Wesley Honey praying to be refunded the sum of \$2.50 for butter seized by the Clerk of the Market for light weight was read and on Motion rejected.

Mr John Buck appeared before the Council on behalf of George K Blackburn, for the refunding the amount for which two pots of butter seized by the Clerk of the Market for a violation of a Corporation ordinance sold for, and the application was rejected.

A Memorial to the Legislature in relation to the enlargement of the limits or boundaries of the Town, prepared by the Mayor under an order of the Council of the 12<sup>th</sup> August last, was made to the Board, when, on motion, the same was referred to a committee for amendment and remodeling; said committee consisting of the Mayor, H Scott, J McGuire, G W Eve, Esquire.

Ordered that the Clerk of the Council prepare an ordinance in relation to the owners of lots keeping the footways before their premises in repair and submit the same to the next meeting of the Council

Ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation [Page 438] refund to J W Ford, one dollar being tax paid by him on a gold watch improperly charged on the Commissioners Books

A Motion of H Scott to charge interest from the 1 Sept next on all taxes and rents which shall be imposed at the end of the fiscal year was laid on the table for the future action of the Council.

Present, John Minor, Common Councilman

On motion the Council adjourned till Tuesday evening the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst at 7 O'clock  
B S Herndon, Recorder  
A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 10<sup>th</sup> December 1850

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

J Pritchard, J Sanford, G W Eve, Wm Allen, P Hough, L J Huffman, J McGuire, J B Alexander, J Minor, Hugh Scott—Common Councilmen

The Clerk of the Council submitted to the Board an ordinance concerning footway, prepared in conformity with an order of the Council at its last meeting, which being read was on motion of Mr John Minor ordered to be laid on the table.

A fee bill of the Clerk of the County Court amounting to \$7.41 was laid before the Council and the same was referred to the Building Committee appointed by the Hustings Court during the last Spring for examination and to report to the Council.

Ordered that the sum of \$2.25 be refunded to Samuel Lyell for tax on a horse erroneously charged him on the Commissioners books and paid by him to the Collector of Taxes

An account of B Cole and J Timberlake for killing dogs amounting to sixteen dollars was passed & ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

An account of John Minor, surveyor for running three lines to form the basis of an application for the extension of the boundaries of the Town amounting to six dollars was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

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The Mayor having reported in writing as to the manner in which the Police Officers had discharged their duties for the present quarter and said report being favourable it was ordered that the Chamberlain pay their salaries for the quarter.

Absent, H Scott—Common Councilman

The committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council, to whom was referred the Memorial in relation to the enlargement of the boundaries of the Town, reported a Memorial accompanied with a map shewing the lines of the proposed boundaries, which was adopted and the same was ordered to be forwarded to the delegate from this County to be presented to the Legislature.

The Mayor, Jos Sanford, Jas McGuire, John Minor, Esquires, were appointed a Committee to superintend the prosecution of said Memorial before the Legislature with power to appoint an agent for said purpose if necessary, and to draw on the Chamberlain for any expenses attending it.

On motion, Joseph Sanford, Esq was appointed a proxy to represent the stock of the Corporation at the General Meeting of the Stockholders of the Hazle River Navigation Company, to be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> current, with power to substitute another in his place if he cannot attend said Meeting, or his character as a Director should disqualify him from acting as proxy.

On motion the Council then 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 Tuesday evening the 17<sup>th</sup> December 1850

Present, B S Herndon, Recorder

Wm Allen, P Hough, J Pritchard, Jos Sanford, L J Huffman, J Minor, Geo W Eve, James McGuire, J B Alexander—Common Councilmen

The Council was convened at the instance of the Committee appointed at the last meeting to prosecute the Memorial for an enlargement of the boundaries of the Town before the Legislature, and Mr John Minor, in the absence of the Chairman of said Committee having made a verbal report [Page 440] of the action of said Committee thus far, it was on motion ordered that said Committee be and they are hereby instructed to employ Eustace Conway, Esq as counsel to prosecute before the Committee of the Legislature to whom said Memorial has been referred, the object of said memorial to wit; the enlargement of the Boundaries of the Town.

On motion, ordered that the Recorder, in the absence of the Mayor, be instructed to give it in charge to the Police Officers that it is expected of them to execute all the laws of the Corporation coming within the sphere of their duty, which was accordingly done by the Recorder in the presence of the Council

On motion ordered that the ordinance prohibiting the firing of crackers in the streets be suspended between the hours of 5 and 12 O'clock PM from the 24 December instant to the 1<sup>st</sup> proximo, inclusive.

On motion the Council then adjourned

B S Herndon, Recorder

A Goodwin, CC