

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1855

[Page169]

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday Evening January 1<sup>st</sup> 1855

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, Geo W Eve, Alex'r K Phillips, Wm S Chesley, Wm S Barton, Chas C Wellford, John E Tackett, John Pritchard, John W Collins—Common Councilmen

The subject of an additional subscription to be made by the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg of forty thousand dollars to the stock of the Fred'g Water Power Company was on motion again taken up; and thereupon the following resolution was offered by Mr Wm S Barton, viz;

1<sup>st</sup> Resolved that the Mayor be directed to subscribe when the book's are opened on behalf of the Mayor and [Page 170] Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg the sum of \$40,000 to the Capital Stock of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company payable in coupon bonds of the Corporation of Fredericksburg which shall mature in 30 years from their date.

2<sup>nd</sup> Resolved that the Mayor & Chamberlain of this Corporation be and they are hereby directed to execute & deliver to the Treasurer of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company the coupon bonds of this Corporation payable at the Bank of the Republic in the City of New York, or at the Chamberlain's office in the Town of Fredericksburg in 30 years from the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1855, in such sums as may be preferred by said Company, not less than \$300 each, to the amount of \$40,000;

And the vote being taken on the 1<sup>st</sup> Resolution by Ayes & Noes, it was adopted as follows, viz;

Ayes, Wm Allen, John E Tackett, Wm S Barton, A K Phillips, Wm S Chesley, Geo W Eve, John W Collins, John Pritchard, Charles C Wellford 9

Noes, Wm F Cheek 1

And the vote having taken on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Resolution by Ayes & Noes, it was rejected as follows, viz;

Ayes, Wm Allen, Wm S Barton, John Pritchard, C C Wellford 4

Noes, Wm F Cheek, John E Tackett, A K Phillips, Wm S Chesley, George W Eve, John W Collins 6

Mess'rs John E Tackett, Wm S Chesley & John W Collins were elected proxies to represent the stock of this Corporation in the Fredericksburg Water Power Company at a meeting of the stock holders to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Instant, and on motion of Mr G W Eve the said proxies are hereby directed to vote in said meeting for John L Marye Jr Esq'r for President of said Company and the following gentlemen for Directors, viz;  
Chas C Wellford, John F Scott, A K Phillips, Peter Goolrick, Jno M Whittemore.

On motion, ordered that the statement furnished by the Chamberlain be referred to the Finance Committee with instructions to report a tax bill sufficient to meet the pressing liabilities of the Corporation.

On motion the Council adjourned,

Peter Goolrick, Mayor

[Page 171]

At Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

John E Tackett, George W Eve, Wm S Barton, Wm F Cheek, Alex'r K Phillips, John Pritchard, Wm S Chesley, John F Scott, John W Collins, Hugh S Doggett—Common Councilmen

The Finance Committee through their Chairman Mr A K Phillips made a report in writing as to the condition of the Finances of the Corporation at the present time & the propriety of assessing a tax to meet her liabilities which report was on motion received, read, and ordered to be filed.

The following resolution offered by Mr Wm S Barton was adopted, viz;  
Resolved that bonds be executed by the Mayor & Chamberlain and delivered to the Finance Committee who are instructed to sell to a sufficient amount to pay the pressing liabilities of the Corporation and the said Committee are hereby authorized to employ an agent, upon such terms of compensation as they may deem proper.

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay the school commissioners \$800

A motion was made by Mr John W Collins that the Council reconsider the instructions given to the proxies appointed at the last meeting to represent the stock of the Corporation in the meeting of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company to vote for certain gentlemen as Directors of said Company, which motion was carried and thereupon after balloting the said proxies are instructed to vote for the following gentlemen as Directors viz;

John F Scott, C C Wellford, Wm A Little, Peter Goolrick, and Alex'r K Phillips.

On motion of Mr Hugh S Doggett it is ordered that owners of lots in the Town be required to keep the footways in front of the same in good repair, under the supervision of the Street Committee and that the Clerk of the Council do prepare an ordinance to that effect and report the same to the next meeting of the Council

On motion, the Council then adjourned [Mayor did not sign]  
[Page 172]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday Evening January 20<sup>th</sup> 1855  
Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder  
Wm F Cheek, John E Tackett, John Pritchard, Charles C Wellford, George W Eve, Wm S Chesley, Hugh S Doggett—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened in order to take some action in consequence of a disagreement between the Finance Committee as to the price at which the bonds of the Corporation should be sold as directed by the Resolution entered at the last meeting of the Council

Mr Wm F Cheek tendered his resignation as a member of the Finance Committee, which on motion was received.

On motion the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Council directing the issue of the bonds to be delivered to the Finance Committee to be sold by them to meet the pressing liabilities of the Corporation is rescinded and the subject is referred to the special Finance Committee with instructions to sell the said bonds to a sufficient amount to pay the present liabilities of the Corporation.

On motion the council then adjourned  
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

Council Chamber January 20<sup>th</sup> 1855  
Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

Geo W Eve, Wm F Cheek, John W Collins, John Pritchard, Wm S Chesley, Hugh S Doggett, C C Wellford, John E Tackett—Common Councilmen

On motion it is ordered that the Collector of Taxes in this Corporation be and he is hereby required to settle his account of collection of taxes for the year 1854, on or before the 12<sup>th</sup> day of February next

On motion the Council then adjourned  
Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
[Page 173]

At a Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening February 13<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

Wm S Barton, Wm F Cheek, John E Tackett, Hugh S Doggett, Wm S Chesley, John Pritchard, John W Collins—Common Councilmen

On motion an offer of Mr John L Marye to purchase the house and lot on the corner of William and Princess Ann Street at the price of \$1650 payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1855 with interest from this date, was accepted and the Mayor was instructed to execute the proper conveyance.

On motion, Resolved that the Mayor & Chamberlain of this Corporation be and they are hereby directed to execute and deliver to the Treasurer of the Fred'g Water Power Company, the Coupon Bonds of this Corporation payable at the Bank of the Republic in the City of New York in thirty years from the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1855, in such sums as may be preferred by said Company, not less than \$300 each, to the amount of \$40,000 in accordance with a vote of the Citizens of the Town polled on the 28<sup>th</sup> of December 1854.

On motion ordered that the Public Property Committee enquire into and ascertain the costs of introducing gas into the Court House, Council Chamber &c and make report to the next Council.

The Clerk reported an ordinance requiring owners of lots in the Town to keep the footways in front of the same in good repair, which having been read & amended was adopted & ordered to be published as follows;

1<sup>st</sup> Be it enacted and ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that hereafter it shall be the duty of the owners of lots in the Town of Fredericksburg to keep the footways in front of their lots in good order & condition, paved with brick on stone, or covered with good sharp sand or such other material as may be approved by the Street Committee.

2<sup>nd</sup> Be it further enacted and ordained that the Police Officers be and they are hereby directed and authorized under the direction of the Street Committee in all cases where the footways are out of order to notify the owner or owners in front of whose lot or lots said footways are to have the same put in good order and properly graded [Page 174] and in case the same is not done within fifteen days after the service of such notice, then that the said Street Committee cause the same to be done at the cost & charges of such owner, such costs and charges to be recovered by warrant before any Justice of the Peace for the Town aforesaid.

3<sup>rd</sup> This Ordinance shall commence and be in force from the passing thereof.

The following accounts were presented, read, & ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz;

Ritchie & Dunnavant	\$8.12½
Jesse White	\$.80
Jos Williams	\$3.50
James Jennings	\$1.00
John S Caldwell	\$99.23

On motion, ordered that the Collector of taxes be and he is hereby instructed to cause the free Negroes who have failed to pay their taxes to be hired out on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March if the taxes respectively due by them be not paid by that day.

John S Caldwell, Esq'r presented a statement of his accounts as collector of Taxes & Rents agreeably to the order entered on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January last which statement & accompanying documents were read, examined & ordered to be filed by the Clerk.

Ordered that the Collector of Taxes be allowed a credit on his final statement of his account to the amount of \$72 being the poll tax erroneously assessed upon 18 efficient members of the Union Fire Company per statement of Jas McGuire, Esq'r, commander of said Company, the said members having been exempted from poll tax by an ordinance of the Corporation.

On motion the Council then adjourned  
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of February 1855

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

John Pritchard [Page 175] Wm S Chesley, John E Tackett, Chas C Wellford, G W Eve—Common Councilmen  
There not being a quorum present the Council adjourned  
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening March 13th 1855

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

Hugh S Doggett, John E Tackett, Wm S Chesley, John F Scott, A K Phillips, John Pritchard, John W Collins, George W Eve, Charles C Wellford—Common Councilmen

A communication from John R Taylor, President of the Old Dominion Steam Boat Company requesting that the tax imposed upon the Capital Stock of said Company by the Corporation be remitted for the reasons appearing in said communication was on motion, referred to Mess'rs Wm S Barton, A K Phillips, & Wm S Chesley, with instructions to report thereon.

The following resolution offered by Mr Jno F Scott was adopted, viz;  
Resolved that a Committee be appointed to examine and report in reference to the purchase of a show ground for the use of agricultural Fairs &

The mayor appointed Mess'rs A K Phillips, Jno E Tackett, Hugh S Doggett, Jno F Scott the Committee under the foregoing resolution.

Mr Jno F Scott moved that permission be granted to the Fred'g Water Power Company to use any of the streets & public alleys of the Town for the passage of water for the purpose of said company & to promote the objects of the enterprise &c which on motion of Mr Hugh S Doggett was referred to a Committee to be appointed by the Mayor.

Mess'rs Wm S Barton, Jno W Collins, Hugh S Doggett & Jno E Tackett were appointed the said Committee

On motion the Council then adjourned

Peter Goolrick, Mayor

[Page 176]

Council Chamber March 14<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

John F Scott, A K Phillips, John Pritchard, Jno E Tackett, Wm S Chesley, C C Wellford, H S Doggett, Jno W Collins—Common Councilmen

Mr A K Phillips, Chairman of the Committee appointed to examine & report in reference to the purchase of a show ground for the use of the agricultural fairs made a report which having been read, Mr Geo W Eve moved that the report be laid on the table & the Ayes & Noes having been called on said motion it was rejected as follows, viz;

Ayes, Geo W Eve, John Pritchard 2

Noes, Wm Allen, John F Scott, A K Phillips, Wm S Chesley, John W Collins, Chas C Wellford, H S Doggett  
7

& thereupon the vote being taken upon the adoption of the Report, it was adopted by the following vote;

Ayes, Wm Allen, John F Scott, A K Phillips, Wm S Chesley, Jno W Collins, Chas C Wellford, Hugh S Doggett  
7

Noes, Geo W Eve, John Pritchard 2

Mr John S Tackett from the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to consider the propriety of permitting the Fred'g Water Power Company to use any of the alleys & public Streets of the Town for the purposes of said Company &c made a report, which report having been read was on motion received & adopted

On motion ordered that the Mayor & Chamberlain of the Corporation be & they are hereby direction to execute & deliver coupon bonds of this Corporation payable at the Chamberlain's office in Fred'g in 20 years from their date, to the amount of three thousand dollars to be appropriated to the purchase of ten acres of land for the exhibition of the Rapp'k River Agricultural Society & for such other purposes as the Corp'n may direct agreeably to the Report of the Committee on the subject, which report has been adopted said bonds to be delivered when proper deeds are executed & accepted by the said Committee

On motion Mr C C Wellford was appointed a member of the Finance Committee in the place of Wm F Cheek, resigned.

Ordered that the Finance Committee do settle the accounts of the Chamberlain & of the Collecetor of Taxes [Page 177] & report the same to the Council on Monday morning next.

The following accounts were read, passed & ordered to be paid, viz;

The Justices of the Peace per statement	\$204.00
Bernard Cole	\$46.54
J Timberlake & J's Mazeen	\$3.00
J Timberlake & J's Mazeen	\$16.00
Editor <i>Democratic Recorder</i>	\$6.37
Editor, <i>Fred'g News</i>	\$53.81
Ed McDowell	\$9.80
C C Wellford	\$13.50
Editor, <i>Christian Banner</i>	\$11.00
Jesse White	\$1.80
<i>Democratic Recorder</i>	\$5.75

H S Doggett	\$5.56
Doggett & Taliaferro	\$9.32
Editor Va Herald	\$60.45
Wm H White	\$5.81
J B Timberlake & Co	\$15.00
John Seddon	\$250.00
John S Caldwell	\$3.25
Chs S Scott	\$2.30
Waite & Sener	\$11.13
Wm M Mitchell	\$25.00
English & Spindle	\$12.45
Thos Murray	\$12.00

On motion ordered that the subject of the exercise of the right of suffrage at the Municipal elections of the Corp'n be submitted to Mess'rs E Conway & Wm S Barton & in the event of their disagreeing with liberty to call John L Marye Jr Esq'r as umpire; and tht Mess'rs John F Scott, Peter Goolrick & Geo W Eve be appointed a Committee to obtain their opinion in writing

On motion ordered that that the Chamb'n pay to Mr G Johnston \$10 for his services as auctioneer in offering the Public Property of the Corp'n for sale.

On motion the Council adjourned till Friday evening next at 7 o'clock  
Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
[Page 178]

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1855  
Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder  
John F Scott, Jno W Collins, Alex'r K Phillips, Jno E Tackett, John Pritchard, Wm S Chesley, Chs C Wellford,  
Wm S Barton, H S Doggett, Geo W Eve—Common Councilman

The Mayor having made a favorable report ordered that the Chamberlain pay the Police Officers their salaries for the quarter ending the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst

The following a/c were read, passed & ordered to be paid

Peter Goolrick	\$37.10
Bernard Cole	\$3.00
Js Mazeen & Jno Timberlake	\$7.00
M Ames	\$27.37½

An opinion in writing of Mess'rs Eustace Conway, Wm S Barton & John L Marye Sr upon the question who are entitled to vote in the Municipal elections of the Corp'n of Fred'g was received & read & the said opinion coming up for its adoption by the Council, Mr John Pritchard called for the Ayes & Noes, whereupon the 1<sup>st</sup> Section of the opinion was unanimously adopted, the 2<sup>nd</sup> section was adopted by the following vote;  
Ayes, Jno E Tackett, Wm S Barton, Wm S Chesley, George W Eve, Jno W Collins, John Pritchard, Hugh S Doggett 7  
Noes, Wm Allen, John F Scott, A K Phillips, C C Wellford 4  
And the 3<sup>rd</sup> section was unanimously adopted

On motion of Mr G W Eve ordered that the sum of \$5.00 be allowed to G Johnston in addition to the am't allowed him at the last Council for his services as auction offering the Corp'n property for sale.

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

Geo F Chew, C C

[Page 179]

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday March 19<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

John F Scott, Hugh S Doggett, Wm S Barton, John Pritchard, Charles C Wellford, Wm S Chesley, John W Collins, John Tackett—Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the accounts of the Chamberlain made the following report which was approved & ordered to be entered on the minutes, viz;

To the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg

The undersigned appointed a Committee to examine, audit & report the accounts of Geo F Chew, Chamberlain of the Corporation respectfully report that they have discharged the duties imposed upon them & found all the debts supported by proper vouchers and all proper credits given; they received all the scrip notes mentioned in the account from the Chamberlain and destroyed them, they find a balance in the hands of the Chamberlain of \$718.71. They take occasion to commend the admirable order system, neatness and particularity of the accounts

Respectfully submitted

A K Phillips, W S Barton

The Committee appointed to examine and settle the accounts of the Collector of Taxes &c made the following report which was approved & ordered to be entered on the minutes of the proceedings, viz;

The undersigned, a Committee appointed by the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, to examine the account of John S Caldwell as Collector of Taxes for the year ending this day, hereby certify & report to the Council that they have carefully examined the account the account of the Collector aforesaid, a statement of which is annexed and that the same is correctly stated that the credits for payments to the Chamberlain on account of Taxes are supported by the receipts of the Chamberlain and that the other credits for commissions &c are all correct and we further certify that there is a balance due John S Caldwell of seven hundred & thirteen dollars & sixty six cents by the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

Given under our hand this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 1853

Chas C Wellford, John F Scott

[Page 180]

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 third Monday in March 1856 and until others are elected in their stead, the voters met at the Court Room & deposited their ballots and after counting the same it was found that the largest number of votes were given for the following persons, to wit;

William Allen	454
Chas C Wellford	444
John F Scott	441
John L Marye Jr	429
William A Little	429
Jas McGuire	428
Montgomery Slaughter	428
Wm Warren	427

John J Rollow	423
John S Wellford	423
George Aler	413
John Haydon	408
Eustace Conway	258
John E Tackett	256
Wm S Barton	251
Jas B Timberlake	221
Geo W Eve	242
Wm S Chesley	241
Wm F Cheek	200
U H Bradshaw	186
Jno M Whittemore	181
Robt W Adams	154
E E Rollins	153

The first named twelve of whom were declared duly elected

On Motion the Council adjourned  
Geo F Chew, C C

Council Chamber March 20<sup>th</sup> 1855

William Allen, Chs C Wellford, John F Scott, John L Marye Jr, Wm A Little, Jas McGuire, Mont'gy Slaughter, Wm Warren, John R Rollow, John S Wellford, George Aler, and John Haydon members elect of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg met at the Council Chamber and severally took the oaths of office before Hugh Scott a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg

On motion Mr William Allen was appointed President pro tempore of the Council

On motion, the salary of the Mayor was fixed at \$400

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Mayor, when John S Caldwell was elected & took the several oaths of office before Hugh Scott a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg

Mr William Allen elected Recorder of the Corporation and took the oaths of office before the Mayor.

On motion ordered that a Committee be appointed [Page 181] to report upon the salaries to be allowed to the Clerk of Council, Chamberlain of the Corporation, Commissioner of the Revenue, Collector of the Taxes & Rents, Jailor Clerk of the Market & of the Police Officers with directions to report at an early day.

The Mayor appointed the following gentlemen as the Committee under the foregoing order, viz;  
Mess'rs Montgomery Slaughter, Wm Warren & Jas McGuire

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Surveyor, an Inspector & Measurer of Lumber, Wood &c & a Measurer of Coal, Grain &c when  
Mr John Minor was elected, Surveyor  
Mr Rob't W Hart was elected, Inspector & measurer of Lumber, wood &c  
Mr Jos B Anderson was elected, Measurer of Coal, grain &c

The Mayor appointed the following standing Committees for the current year  
On Public Property, Jas McGuire, J F Scott, John L Marye



On Finance, M Slaughter, W A Little, Geo Aler  
On Streets, J J Rollow, Wm Warren, John Haydon  
On Pumps, Wm Allen, C C Wellford, J S Wellford

On motion ordered that the Clerk of the Council do cause to be printed in sheet form the ordinances & laws of the Corp'n which have been enacted since the last publication of the laws.

On motion, the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the last Common Council were adopted for the government of this Council with the exception that the Monthly meetings of the Council be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday instead of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in each & every month.

On motion the Council adjourned till tomorrow afternoon at 4 o'clock  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday afternoon March 21<sup>st</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

John F Scott, John S Wellford, John Haydon, Geo Aler, Wm A Little C C Wellford, Mont'gy Slaughter, Jas McGuire—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated to the Council that he wished to make some changes in the standing Committees appointed yesterday [Page 182] that he had reason to believe would be agreeable to all the members, but that it could only be done by annulling the appointment made yesterday; and on motion it was unanimously resolved that the Mayor have leave to appoint the standing Committees in the place of those appointed by him on yesterday; Whereupon the Mayor appointed the following Committees

On Finance, M Slaughter, Jno F Scott, Wm A Little  
On Public Property, Jas McGuire, C C Wellford, Jno L Marye Jr  
On Streets, Geo Aler, Wm Warren, Jno Haydon  
On Pumps, Wm Allen, Jno J Rollow, J S Wellford

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to consider the subject of the Salaries of the officers of the Corp'n made a report which having been read, the salaries of the following officers were fixed at the following sums, to wit;

Clerk of the Council, for each session of the Council	\$2.00
Chamberlain of the Corp'n	\$400.00
Collector of Taxes & Rents, 2 percent on the amt rec'd by him for taxes & licenses before the 1 <sup>st</sup> of August and 4 pr cent on all taxes collected by him thereafter & 2 per cent on Rents collected	
Commissioner of the Revenue	\$150.00
Clerk of the Market	\$100.00
Police Officers each	\$200.00

The following resolution offered by Mr John S Wellford was adopted, viz;

Resolved that the Town be divided into three wards by the Mayor and one police officer be required to reside in each ward, and it shall be the especial duty of each police officer to preserve good order & see that the ordinances of this Corporation are duly observed in the wards in which they respectively reside & also to do their best to perform the same duties in all parts of the Town.

An ordinance concerning the Collector of Taxes was adopted in the words & figures following, to wit;

1<sup>st</sup> Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that any Collector of Taxes and Rents hereafter appointed by the Common Council shall before he proceed to the discharge of his duties give bond with good security payable to the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg to be approved by the Mayor and Council in the sum of Ten thousand dollars conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties as such Collector and for the [Page 183] payment to the Chamberlain of said Town of all taxes and rents collected by him by virtue of his office of Collector as aforesaid and for the payment of all monies that shall come into his hands in any other manner for the use of the Corporation aforesaid.

2<sup>nd</sup> And be it further ordained that if the person appointed Collector shall fail to give said bond pursuant to the foregoing section within ten days from his appointment such appointment shall be void; and the Mayor and Council shall proceed without delay to appoint another person as Collector in his stead and may proceed to make a new election from time to time whenever for the cause aforesaid it shall become necessary. This ordinance shall commence and be in force from the passing thereof

The Council then proceeded to the election of officers of the Corporation when;  
G F Chew was elected Clerk of the Council and Chamberlain of the Corporation  
Rob't W Hart, Commissioner of the Revenue  
Thos A Curtis, Collector of Taxes & Rents  
James M Southard, Clerk of the Market  
Bernard Cole, John Timberlake, Jas Mazeen, Police Officers

Ordered that the penalty of the Bond to be given by the Chamberlain be fixed at \$10,000

On motion of Mr John F Scott, ordered that the Clerk of the Council prepare an ordinance prescribing the duties of the Collector of Taxes & Report the same to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion of Mr John F Scott, Resolved that as it is the earnest wish of this Council that all ordinances of this Corporation concerning the health of this Town, the good order of the same, shall be strictly enforced, that the Citizens of the Town be and they are hereby invited to report all nuisances & violations of the ordinances on the subject and also any neglect of duties by the police officers or any of them to the Mayor.

An ordinance concerning Police Officers was adopted in the words & figures following to wit;

1<sup>st</sup> Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that hereafter there shall be annually in the month of March, three Police officers appointed [Page 184] by the Common Council who shall hold their offices at the pleasure of the Council.

2<sup>nd</sup> Be it further ordained that the salaries of such police officers shall be fixed by the Council before their appointment but it is hereby expressly declared that they nor either of them shall be entitled to such salaries nor any part thereof until the Common Council shall order the same to be paid by the Chamberlain which may be done quarterly if the Council deem proper; and the Council hereby reserve the right to withhold the salary of all or any one of the Police officers for neglect of duty

3<sup>rd</sup> Be it further ordained that the Mayor be and he is hereby requested to report quarterly in writing to the Common Council of the manner in which the several Police officers in his opinion shall have discharged their several duties for the previous quarter.

4<sup>th</sup> Be it further ordained that the ordinance entitled "an ordinance concerning Police Officers" passed April 4<sup>th</sup> 1845 be and the same is hereby repealed.

5<sup>th</sup> This ordinance shall commence and be in force from the passing thereof

On motion Resolved that it shall be the duty of the Collector of Taxes to rent out the stalls & Hay scales under the superintendence of the Public Property Committee take bonds for the rent payable on the first day of March next and deliver said bonds to the Chamberlain taking his receipt for the same & the said Chamberlain shall

keep said bonds safely so far as he can, until due and then return them to the Collector for Collection taking his receipt therefore & charging him with the same.

An ordinance to amend the ordinance concerning the weighing of Hay, Fodder and other long provender and prescribing the duties of the Farmer of the Hay Scales, was read and adopted & it is in the words and figures following, to wit;

1<sup>st</sup> Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that all persons bringing or causing to be brought to the Town aforesaid for sale any Hay, Fodder, or sheaf oats, shall cause the same to weighed at and with the Hay scales of this Corporation before selling the same; and if any person or persons shall sell or buy any hay, fodder or sheaf oats in the Town aforesaid, that shall be brought to the Town for sale, without having the same weighed at the Hay Scales aforesaid by the person or persons to whom the Hay Scales shall be let for that purpose such [Page 185] seller and buyer shall each forfeit and pay five dollars for every cart load or wagon load or any part thereof so bought, to any person who will warrant for the same to be recovered with costs before any Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

2<sup>nd</sup> Be it further ordained that it shall be the duty of the person or persons to whom they hay scales of this Corporation shall at any time be let to ascertain the weight of all hay, fodder and sheaf oats brought to the scales for that purpose and issue his or their note to the owner or person having possession thereof with his or their signature, expressing the gross weight of the carriage and hay fodder or sheaf oats, weight of the carriage and the net weight of the hay, fodder or sheaf oats, and the date when weighed; for which he or they shall be entitled to demand and have from the owner of such provender three cents for every net hundred pounds thereof; and it shall be his or their further duty to ascertain the weight of all the carriages used in bringing hay, fodder, or sheaf oats to this Town for sale once in every three months, and at all other times when required so to do by purchaser of any load of hay, fodder, or sheaf oats;

3<sup>rd</sup> Be it further ordained that the persons to whom the hay scales of this Corporation may hereafter be let and his or their deputies shall make oath before a justice of the peace to discharge the duties prescribed by this ordinance faithfully and impartially before he or they undertake the same;

4<sup>th</sup> All ordinances and parts of ordinances with the purview of this ordinance shall be and the same are hereby repealed;

5<sup>th</sup> This ordinance shall commence and be in force from and after the passing thereof.

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, CC

At a Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

John J Rollow, Geo Aler, John F Scott, John Haydon, J S Wellford, Wm A Little, Wm Warren—Common Councilmen

The official bond of Thomas a Curtis as Collector of Taxes & Rents in the penalty of \$10,000 with C H Hunt, C B [Page 186] White & Jno W Collins as securities was submitted to the Board, approved, and ordered to be filed.

The official bond of Geo F Chew as Chamberlain in the penalty of \$10,000 with John J Chew, R C Duerson & Wm T Hart as securities was submitted to the Board, approved & ordered to be filed.

Present, James McGuire

On motion made & seconded Mess'rs Wm A Little & John F Scott are appointed a Committee to examine into the title & see that proper deeds are executed for the 10 acres of ground contracted to be sold to the Corp'n by Wm M Mitchell for a fair ground &c & make report to the Council.

On motion of Jno S Wellford, Esq'r, ordered that when the purchase of the 10 acres of ground as a fair ground &c is consummated the said ground shall be known as the "Mercer Square"  
Present, Montg'y Slaughter

John L Marye Jr Esqr by note in writing addressed to the Mayor & Council resigned his seat as a member of this Board, which resignation was on motion received.

The Council proceeded to elect a member of the Common Council to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of John L Marye Jr when Douglas H Gordon Esq'r was unanimously elected.

On motion and in conformity with the report of the Finance Committee the tax on Drays, Carts and Wagons for the current year were fixed at the rates following, to wit, viz;

On Drays & carts from 1 Ap'l for 1 year	\$6.00
1 Nov to 1 Apr	\$5.00
1 Jan'y to 1 Apr	\$4.00

And on wagons in the same proportion at the rate of \$12 per year. No license to issue at any time for less than \$4.00.

The Finance Committee made a Report accompanied by a bill imposing taxes for the year 1855, and the same having been read and partially acted upon, on motion the further consideration of the subject is postponed until the next meeting of the Council.

On motion resolved that the late Committee on behalf of the Council to examine & report in reference to the purchase of ground for fairs &c be requested to carry out the intention of the Council in the premises.

On motion Mess'rs Scott & Herndon & John J Rollow were allowed the use of the streets opposite their foundry & workshops [Page 187] as a place to put machinery for a distance not exceeding ten feet from the curbing.

On motion Mr Geo King was allowed the use of the Street opposite his Candle & Soap Factory as a place to deposit the ashes from his factory, for a distance not exceeding ten feet from the curbing.

On motion resolved that all persons carrying on business in this Town shall be and they are hereby permitted to occupy the footway to the extent of three feet from the wall of their respective houses of business for the deposit of articles in their line of business, any ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding

On motion the Council adjourned  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Saturday afternoon March 31<sup>st</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

Chas C Wellford, John F Scott, Wm Warren, Wm A Little, John Haydon Jr, George Aler, Montg'y Slaughter, James McGuire

Douglas H Gordon Esq member of the Council elect appeared was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the board.

Douglas H Gordon is appointed a member of the Committee on Public Property in place of John L Marye Jr resigned.

Wm A Little Esq, chairman of the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to examine into the title to the 10 acres of ground contracted to be sold to the Corporation by Wm M Mitchell made a report in writing which having been read was on motion received & ordered to be filed.

Present, John J Rollow

The following resolution was offered by Mr Montgomery Slaughter, viz;  
Resolved that a Committee be appointed to investigate the subject of the purchase of ten acres of land at \$3000 of Wm M Mitchell by the last Council and to Report to the Council after such examination how far the Corporation is bound both legally & morally to consummate the purchase, and the Ayes & Noes being called for on its passage, it was passed as follows, viz;

Ayes, Wm Allen, John F Scott, Wm A Little, Jas McGuire, Montg'y Slaughter, Wm Warren, Geo Aler, John Haydon 8

Noes, C C Wellford, D H Gordon, Jno J Rollow 3

The Mayor [Page 188] appointed the following gentlemen the Committee under the foregoing resolution, viz;  
Montg'y Slaughter, Wm A Little & D H Gordon

On motion of Wm Allen, resolved that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sect of the ordinance concerning Police Officers passed March 21<sup>st</sup> 1855 be amended in this that in place of "The mayor being requested to report quarterly" it read, "That the Mayor be and he is hereby required to report quarterly in writing &c"

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain out of funds of the Corporation do pay Jurors for their services upon the presentation of proper certificate or orders of Court

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, CC

At a Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of April 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

John F Scott, J S Wellford, John J Rollow, Wm A Little, George Aler, Wm Warren, Montg'y Slaughter, James McGuire, John Haydon, D H Gordon, C C Wellford—Common Councilmen

Mr Slaughter, Esq'r Chairman of the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to investigate the subject of the purchase of ten acres of land from Wm M Mitchell made a report in writing which having been read was ordered to be filed.

On motion the question whether a deed with General Warranty executed by John S Caldwell & wife, Geo F Chew, Peter Goolrick & wife, John E Tackett, Jas W Ford & wife, Thomas Manuel & wife to the Corporation for the ten acres of land contracted to be sold by Wm M Mitchell would be satisfactory to this Council was put to the vote by Ayes & Noes & decided in the negative as follows, viz;

Ayes, William Allen, Chs C Wellford, John F Scott, John J Rollow, John S Wellford 5

The following preamble & resolution was offered by Mr Wm A Little, viz;

Whereas the late Council of the Town of Fredericksburg contracted to buy of Wm M Mitchell a ten acre lot of land being part of the field opposite the residence of George Rowe, and said Council as we are informed by Mess'rs Wm Allen, Jno F Scott & Chs C Wellford who were members of the late Council decided that a deed executed by the parties who bought said field from Mr John [Page 189] Howison would be satisfactory & sufficient for the said ten acre lot aforesaid & to authorized the delivery of the bonds for \$3000 therefore, be it resolved that when a proper deed executed by the parties aforesaid, conveying the lot aforesaid with a avenue 51 feet wide leading out from Charlotte Street and an avenue 50 feet from the Turnpike to said lot and also one from the south part of the lot to the Court House road 51 feet wide, with a covenant to make a perfect title to the said ten acre lot & the avenues aforesaid before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1857, that the Mayor & Chamberlain be and they are hereby authorized to deliver the said Wm M Mitchell the bonds agreed to be given him by the late council;

And the vote being taken by Ayes & Noes upon the passage of the said Preamble & Resolution it was adopted as follows, viz;

Ayes, Wm Allen, Chs C Wellford, John F Scott, D H Gordon, Wm A Little, M Slaughter, Wm Warren, John J Rollow, John S Wellford, Geo Aler, John Haydon 11

Noes, Jas McGuire 1

The report of the Finance Committee with the bill imposing taxes for the year 1855 was on motion taken up and the same having been read was adopted & ordered to be published, the said tax bill is as follows, viz;

An Act Imposing Taxes for the Year 1855

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that there shall be levied and collected on persons, property and other subjects of the Town of Fredericksburg, to defray the expenses of the Corporation for the year ending the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March 1856 the taxes following, to wit;

On Real Estate, one dollar and ten cents on every hundred dollars value thereof by the Commissioner's books

On each white male above twenty one years of age, four dollars and fifty cents

On each slave above twelve years of age, four dollars and fifty cents

On each free colored male above twenty one years of age four dollars and fifty cents

On all personal property other than slaves, one dollar and ten cents on every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioner's books

On monies, bonds, securities and liquidated claims except the bonds of the Corporation fifty cents on every hundred dollars

On all capital invested or used in any manufacturing business or invested, used, or employed in any trade or business, twenty five cents on every hundred dollars

On the monies and personal property of joint stock companies, fifty cents on every hundred dollars

On the interest or profit which may have been received by any person [Page 190] or converted into principal so as to become an interest bearing subject or otherwise appropriated within the year next proceeding the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1855, arising from bonds, bank dividends and certificates of debt of this state or of any public Corporation created by this State, eight and one third per centum.

On the salary income or fees of every person as ascertained by the Commissioner of the Revenue under the laws of the State, one per centum.

On every license granted an insurance agent or sub-agent, six per centum on the amount received by him as commission or compensation and in no case less than ten dollars

On every merchant's auctioneer's and ordinary keeper's license granted by the State, fifty per cent on the state tax

On every license to a broker, six per cent on the amount received by him as compensation or commission for the last year and in no case less than thirty dollars.

On Bagatelle Tables, ten dollars each

On Ten pin Alleys, ten dollars each

On billiard tables, then dollars each

On every license to a person selling goods by sample or card, otherwise than at some store house or place of trace, twenty five dollars

On Hawkers and Pedlars and others vending articles in the Streets or elsewhere in the Town whether foreign or domestic growth and manufacture, ten dollars for each carrier, any ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding.

On every License granted by the State permitting the proprietor or occupier of any public room fitted for public exhibitions to use the same for such purposes, forty dollars; and if the proprietor or proprietors of any such room shall use or permit the same to be used for such purposes without first paying the said tax, he or they shall forfeit and pay to the Mayor and the Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg, fifty dollars and shall be liable also for the said taxes. In such case the tax shall be recoverable immediately by warrant or distress

On every public exhibition other than at a room fitted for public exhibition for each time of performance forty dollars, and for every exhibition of a circus or menagerie twenty-five dollars.

On every license to the occupied of a Daguerrean Room or Gallery, ten dollars

On every toll bridge, eighteen dollars

On every slave sold by auction, one per cent on the amount of sales, to be paid by the auctioneer.

On the Estate of a decedent prescribed by the 39<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the Code of Virginia, two per centum on such estate.

[Page 191]

Be it further ordained that the Commissioner of the Revenue do extend in the Books provided for the purpose the amount due from each person under the provisions of this ordinance.

Be it further ordained that the said Commissioner of the Revenue shall assess all persons required to obtain licenses under the laws of the State and make a fair alphabetical list there of as far as he may have progressed with the same at intervals not exceeding fifteen days and deliver such lists to the Collector for his guide in collecting the taxes imposed by this ordinance on such licenses.

Be it further ordained that all persons who shall call on the Collector at the Court House and pay him the taxes due by them under this ordinance by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June next, shall be entitled to a deduction of five per centum; and those paying by the 15<sup>th</sup> of August next, to a deduction of three per centum on the amount of their respective account.

Be it further ordained that the taxes shall be collected, accounted for and paid to the Chamberlain of the Corporation by the Collector from time to time as collected and that the said Collector shall finally settle his collections on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December next.

Be it further ordained that the said Collector shall not be allowed to return any list of insolvents or absentees or have any credit thereof but upon oath or affirmation that such list is true, nor shall such return be admitted by the Chamberlain in his settlement with the Collector until the same be passed upon and allowed by the Mayor and Commonalty in Common Hall assembled.

On motion, resolved that every police officer who shall give information of a violation of any law relative to the revenue of the Town & there shall be a conviction in the case shall be entitled to one fourth of the tax, when the tax is paid, or one half of the penalty when the penalty is paid.

An ordinance concerning auctioneers was read, passed & ordered to be published and is as follows, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that every licensed auctioneer who may sell at auction in the Town aforesaid, any slave or slaves, shall within ten days after such sale render an account to the Chamberlain of the Corporation of the number sold and the prices obtained for them and also pay over to the said Chamberlain the tax imposed by the Corporation on such sales; and any auctioneer who shall neglect or refuse to render such account to said officer with the time prescribed shall forfeit and pay to the Mayor and Commonalty [Page 192] of the Town of Fredericksburg ten dollars for every slave so sold by him to be recovered by warrant; provided the slaves so sold shall not be part of a decedent's

estate and sold by the representative according to law or sold under a deed of trust or under a decree or order of Court.

Propositions from Mess'rs Waite & Sener & Thos Taylor for lighting the Court House with gas were rec'd, read & on motion laid on the table.

On motion ordered that the Public Property Committee do enquire into & ascertain what will be the expense of fitting one of the engine rooms for a Mayor's office & Council Chamber

On motion, the Council then adjourned  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

At called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on  
Wednesday May 16<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

Chs C Wellford, Jno J Rollow, Geo Aler, M Slaughter, James McGuire, Jno S Wellford—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of appointing proxies to represent the stock of the Corporation at the annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg & Valley Plank Road Company to be held on this day; Whereupon it was ordered that three proxies be appointed and the following gentlemen were elected on the first ballot, viz;  
M Slaughter, John S Wellford, & John J Rollow, Esq'r

The following resolution offered by Mr M Slaughter was adopted, viz;  
Resolved that the Proxies of the Corporation be instructed to vote for the salaries of the officers of the Plank Road Company to be fixed at the same amount as last year.

On motion the council then adjourned,  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C  
[Page 193]

At called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening May 29<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

John F Scott, Jas McGuire, M Slaughter, Wm Warren Jr, Jno J Rollow, Jno Haydon, Jno S Wellford—Common Councilmen

The account of Benj Clark acting Coroner for holding an inquest on the body of an unknown infant amt'g to \$5 was read, passed & order'd to be paid

The account of Bernard Cole for summoning an inquest &c on the body of an unknown infant, amounting to \$4.25 was read, & ordered to be paid.

Jas McGuire, Esq'r, Chairman of the Public Property Committee made a report adversely to fitting upon one of the Engine rooms for a Mayor's office & Council Chamber, which report being read was on motion received & ordered to be filed and the said Committee discharged from the further consideration of the subject



Present, Geo Aler, C C Wellford, D H Gordon

The Mayor stated that a call had been made by the Board of Directors of the Fred'sburg and Gordonsville Rail Road Company for the amount due said Company on the subscription of the Corp'n to the Capital stock of the Comp'y under the 10<sup>th</sup> requisition of the Board of Directors being five dollars per share on 850 shares.

Whereupon on motion of [blank] it was ordered that the Chamberlain be directed to issue bonds to the extent of \$4250 being the amount of the 10<sup>th</sup> installment to the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Company, said bonds to be issued at ten years to bear date 1<sup>st</sup> June 1855 and to be issued under the directions of the Finance Committee and not to be disposed of at less than par value.

An ordinance prohibiting Free Negroes & slave from smoking in the Streets of the Town & for other purposes was read, passed and ordered to be published & is as follows, viz;

1<sup>st</sup> Be it ordained by the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that it shall not be lawful for any slave, free Negro or mulatto to smoke segars or tobacco in any form in any of the streets, alleys or public places in the Town aforesaid.

2<sup>nd</sup> Be it further ordained that all slaves, free Negroes or mulattos when meeting with or overtaken by white persons on the side walks of the Town shall yield the passway to such persons by going next to the street.

3<sup>rd</sup> Be it further ordained that any slave, free Negro or Mulatto violating this ordinance shall upon conviction thereof before a Justice of [Page 194] the Peace receive not less than ten lashes at the public whipping post. Provided always that the infliction of the lashes may be remitted at the discretion of the Justice of the Peace before whom such slave, free Negro, or Mulatto may be taken upon the payment by him or her of a fine of one dollar and the costs of arrest.

4<sup>th</sup> This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 1855

The Council then proceeded to appoint proxies to represent the Stock of the Corporation at the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Company to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> June next; whereupon the following gentlemen were elected, viz;

Wm Allen, Jno J Rollow, Wm A Little

On motion ordered that the fines heretofore imposed upon E A Heslop, Horace Heslop, L J Huffman, Mr's B Gordon, F Powell & Wm Heslop for running drays, carts, or wagons in the streets without having obtained a license therefor be remitted.

The following resolution offered by Mr Jas McGuire was adopted, viz;

Resolved that the Public Property Committee be directed to divide the public burying ground adjoining the lands of Geo Rowe, assigning one portion for whites and the other for Negroes and that said ground shall be under the care & superintendence of the Police Officer in whose district it lies, and that no grave shall be opened in said grounds without consulting the said police officer in whose District the said ground lies.

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening June 16<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

George Aler, Jno J Rollow, Jas McGuire, Wm A Little, M Slaughter, John F Scott, Chas C Wellford—Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay the Jurors attending the Council & Corporation Courts upon presentation by them of proper Certificates from said Courts.

Mr Wm A [Page 195] presented a report from the proxies appointed at the last meeting of the Council to represent the Stock of the Corporation at the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Company, to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> Inst, which report having been read was on motion received & ordered to be filed.

Present John S Wellford

The following resolution offered by Mr M Slaughter was unanimously adopted, viz;  
Resolved that the Corporation proxies be and they are hereby instructed to vote for an adjournment of the meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Company to the 13<sup>th</sup> day of November and that they vote for an economical prosecution of the work in the meantime.

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Rob't W Hart the amount of his salary as Commissioner of the Revenue of this Corp'n for the year 1855, amounting to \$150; and also the sum of \$17.44, the amount of his fees for registering 588 votes.

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain prepare a statement of the present resources & liabilities of the Corp'n the said statement to be made under the direction and superintendence of the Finance Committee.

On motion ordered that the Commissioners of the Free School be requested to report generally on the subject of said School to the Council.

On motion, Mr D H Gordon was appointed a member of the Committee on Finance

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain do pay the expenses of the Police Officers in going to Richmond to arrest George A Evans a fugitive from justice upon the said expenses being certified by the Mayor

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, CC

[Page 196]

At the Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening June 26<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

Jno S Wellford, John J Rollow, James McGuire, George Aler

There being no quorum present the Council stood adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 16<sup>th</sup> day July 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

M Slaughter, Wm A Little, Charles C Wellford, John S Wellford, James McGuire, George Aler, D H Gordon, John F Scott—Common Councilmen

On motion of John S Wellford, resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to examine the free schools & report some plan by which the said school may be rendered more efficient and less expensive. The Mayor appointed Mess'rs Jno S Wellford, Jno F Scott & Wm Warren on the Committee under the foregoing Resolution

The Mayor having made a favorable Report it is ordered that the salaries of the Police officers for the quarter ending the 18<sup>th</sup> June last be paid by the Chamberlain.

On motion ordered that the Public Property Committee be and they are hereby directed to expose to sale at public auction after giving reasonable notice in one or more of the newspapers published in the Town of Fred'g the Public Property on Main & Commerce Streets & report said sales to the next meeting of the Council after such sale shall be made for confirmation.

Whereas the Council has been informed that the Grand Jury at the late term of the Corporation Court considered the Privy in the Market Yard as a nuisance and laid the case before the Attorney for the Commonwealth for action to be had—and the Council concurring in [Page 197] opinion with the Grand Jury that the same ought to be abated, therefore Resolved that the School Commissioners be requested to dispose of the same without delay.

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the School Commissioners eight hundred dollars to be appropriated towards paying the expenses of said Schools.

It appearing to the Council that Mrs E Dickey has been improperly assessed by the Commissioner of the Revenue with \$315 Interest instead of \$31.50 making a difference of 23.53 in her tax bill, it is ordered that the Chamberlain refund to her the said sum of \$23.63.

On motion of Mr M Slaughter, Resolved that the Clerk of the Council be requested to draft an ordinance requiring the Public Measurer of Coal to weigh one bushel or other measure out of every cargo or parcel of coal sold in this Corporation & by the weight so obtained to ascertain how many bushels are contained in a ton of 2240 lbs and that it shall be the duty of the Coal Measurer to deliver all coal by the weight (2240 lbs to the ton) accordingly that shall be hereafter sold from vessels or coal yards &c

The following accounts were allowed & ordered to be paid

Rob't W Hart, Commissioner of the Revenue	\$3.00
Geo W Wroten	\$15.00
James M Southard	\$4.49
Jesse White	\$6.60

Application having been made to have a pump near the alley leading to the stables of the Farmers Hotel opened, on motion, ordered that the Pump Committee take the same into consideration and report to the Council

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

[Page 198]

At the Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening June 26<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

Chas C Wellford, Wm A Little, James McGuire, Wm Warren, John J Rollow, George Aler—Common Councilmen

An account of George Aler amounting to three dollars was presented & ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain

Ordered that the allowance of the attorney for the Commonwealth and all other officers appointed by the Court of this Corporation be paid quarterly & that the Chamberlain be & he is hereby directed to pay the same hereafter quarterly

Ordered that the Collector of Taxes be & he is hereby required to sell according to law all the real estate which is in arrears for Corporation Taxes for the year 1854 and previous years if the same be not paid before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October next.

An account of Wm D Buck amounting to \$1.13 was presented & ordered to be paid.

Ordered that the Committee on Pumps be authorized to expend the sum of \$20 in improving the pump at Alexander's corner by inserting iron tubes.

The Mayor stated that a call had been made by the Board of Directors of the Fredericksburg & Gordonsville Rail Road Company for the amount due said Company on the subscription of the Corporation to the Capital stock of said Company under the 11<sup>th</sup> requisition of the Board of Directors being \$5.00 per share on 850 shares; Whereupon on motion of James McGuire, it is ordered that the Chamberlain be directed to issue bonds to the extent of \$4250, being the amount of the 11<sup>th</sup> installment to the Fred'sburg & Gordonsville Rail Road Comp'y said bonds to be issues at fourteen years to bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 1855, and to be issued under the direction of the Finance Committee, and not to be disposed of at less than par, and in sums not less than one hundred dollars.

The following resolution was adopted, viz;

Resolved that any hog with a twisted wire thru the nose may run at large in the Streets of the Town from this date until the 13<sup>th</sup> October next.

On motion the Council adjourned

Geo F Chew, C C

[Page 199]

At the Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening August 29<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

Chas C Wellford, Wm A Little, John J Rollow, John S Wellford, William Warren, George Aler, John Haydon Jr—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that a call had been made by the Board of Directors of the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Comp'y for the amount due said Company on the subscription of the Corporation to the Capital Stock of said Comp'y under the 12<sup>th</sup> requisition of the Board of Directors, being \$5.00 per share on 850 shares; Whereupon on motion of Wm A Little it was ordered that the Chamberlain be directed to issue bonds to the extend of \$4250 being the amount of the 12<sup>th</sup> installment to the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Comp'y said bonds to be issued at fifteen years to bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of September 1855 and to be issued under the direction of the Finance Committee and not to be disposed of for less than pad and in sums of not less than one hundred dollars.

The Public Property Committee made a verbal report of sales under the order of the Council passed 16<sup>th</sup> July 1855; Whereupon on motion of John S Wellford the Council refused to confirm any of the sales.

On motion of Wm A Little, ordered that the Public Property Committee enquire, ascertain, & fix the value of the leasehold property held by this Corporation and also further enquire whether it would be practicable to negotiate a loan to be secured by a lien on the property and report to the next meeting.

Ordered that the Chamberlain refund to Wm H Kennedy the sum of \$2.20 tax on furniture improperly charged to him.

The petition of James Perry asking to have the sum of \$6.75 for a hog sold by the Constable &c refunded was presented and rejected.

An account due the *Democratic Recorder* office for advertising, printing blanks &c amounting to \$30.50 was presented & the Chamberlain directed to pay the same.

On motion ordered [Page 200] that the Chamberlain pay to B Cole & John Timberlake constables & keepers of the Court House the sum of \$25 each certified by the Corporation Court for allowance for keeping the Court House.

The Mayor brought to the attention of the council the subject of a new charter when on motion of Wm A Little, it was ordered that a Committee of which the Mayor should be a chairman be appointed to consider and report a new charter to the next meeting. Wm A Little, John S Wellford, Esq'rs were appointed in conjunction with the Mayor said committee.

Ordered that the Clerk prepare & state to the next meeting an ordinance to prohibit Negroes from raising or keeping hogs within the limits of the Corporation

On motion the Council adjourned,  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At the Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening September 25<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

John S Wellford, Chas C Wellford, John J Rollow, Montg'y Slaughter, James McGuire, Geo Aler, John F Scott, Wm A Little—Common Councilmen

The Clerk reported an ordinance to prohibit Negroes from raising or keeping hogs within the Limits of the Corporation which having been read was on motion laid on the table.

John S Wellford, Esq'r, Chairman of the Committee appointed to examine the Free Schools and to report some plan by which said schools may be rendered more efficient & less expensive made a report accompanied by sundry resolutions which Report & Resolutions having been read was on motion of Mr J J Rollow, accepted & ordered to be laid on the table for the present.

Upon the application of the Fred'g Gas Company and it appearing to the Council that the said Company has been erroneously assessed on the monies & personal property of [Page 201] said Company instead of on the

Capital stocks or used for manufacturing. It is ordered that the Commissioner of the Revenue do correct the said assessment accordingly.

On motion ordered that the Tax imposed on the Old Dominion Steam Boat Company for the years 1854 & 1855 be remitted.

The Mayor stated that a call had been made by the Board of Directors of the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail road Company for the amount due said Company on the subscription of the Corporation to the Capital Stock of said Company under the 13<sup>th</sup> requisition of the Board of Directors being \$5 per share on 850 shares; whereupon on motion it was ordered that the Chamberlain be directed to issue bonds to the extent of \$4250 being the amount of the 13<sup>th</sup> requisition to the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Comp'y said bonds to be issued at sixteen years to bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> of October next & to be issued under the direction of the Finance Committee & not to be disposed at less than par & in sums of not less than \$100.

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the Commissioners of the Free School six hundred dollars to appropriated towards defraying the expenses of the school.

The Mayor having made a favorable report it is ordered that the salaries of the Police officers for the quarter ending the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst be paid by the Chamberlain

The following accounts were read, passed & ordered to be paid, viz;

Charles C Wellford	\$8.50
Samuel G Daniel	\$16.00
John Eubank	\$4.00
S Phillips & son	\$13.50

Mr Wm Allen agreeing to purchase the interest of the Corp'n in the lot on Market Square now occupied by him at the price of two thousand dollars payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> November next (the price fixed by the Finance Committee) and the Council agreeing to accept the same, it is ordered that the Mayor be requested to execute a deed to the said Allen for the interest of the Corp'n in said lot upon his executing a note payable on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November next for the purchase money & it is hereby understood that the ground rent cease & determine from this date.

On motion ordered that the Finance Committee & they are hereby instructed to offer to Joseph B Ficklen the Leasehold property now held by him being part of the Market [Page 202] Market Square at the price of \$1800; that held by S S Howison at \$2000 & that held by the Estate of Duff Green dec'd at \$1400 & if they decline to purchase then to any other person and in the event of their failure to effect such sales that they be authorized to borrow money upon said property & that the Mayor do execute a deed of Trust on the said property to secure the payment of the money so borrowed.

On motion of Wm Allen, ordered that the Council meet hereafter at 7 o'clock PM & that when the Council adjourn it adjourn to meet on Monday evening next at 7 o'clock

And then the Council adjourned  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening October 1<sup>st</sup> 1855  
Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder  
Wm Warren, Jas McGuire—Common Councilmen  
There being no quorum present the Council stood adjourned  
Geo F Chew C C

At the Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday October 23<sup>rd</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

Geo Aler, James McGuire, John Haydon, Charles C Wellford, M Slaughter, John S Wellford, William A Little—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that a call had been made by the Board of Directors of the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Company for the amount due said Company on the subscription of the Corporation to the Capital Stock of said [Page 203] Company under the 14<sup>th</sup> requisition of the Board of Directors being \$5 per shard on 850 shares; whereupon on motion it was ordered that the Chamberlain be and he is hereby directed to issue bonds to the extent of \$4250 being the amount of the 14<sup>th</sup> requisition to the Fred'g Gordonsville Rail Road Company said bond to be issued at seventeen years to bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 1855, to be issued under the direction of the Finance Committee an not to be disposed of at less than par & in sums of less than \$100

An ordinance in the words & figures following to wit: was passed

An ordinance to prohibit person from trespassing upon the Mercer Square, otherwise called "The Fair Grounds" Be it ordained that it shall not be lawful for any person to enter to lot belonging to this Corp'n called "Mercer Square" by any other way than through the gateways or to get upon the sheds erected thereon or on the palings inclosing the same any white person violating this ordinance shall forfeit three dollars to the Corporation aforesaid to be recovered by warrant before any Justice of said Corporation any slave or free Negro offending herein shall be punished by stripes not exceeding twenty upon conviction before a Justice of the Corporation aforesaid, but said punishment may be remitted upon the payment of three dollars & the costs of prosecution by any person on behalf of the convicted party. Any white person under 21 years of age offending herein the penalty aforesaid shall be recovered of the parents or guardian of such minor.

On motion ordered that the Clerk cause 100 copies of the foregoing ordinance to be printed on hand bill form and that the mayor cause the same to be posted.

On motion ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to cause trees to be set out in the Court House lot provided the expense thereof does not exceed \$20.

On motion ordered that a sum not exceeding \$50 be appropriated to pay the Bond for their services at the approaching Fair the said amount to be paid by the Chamberlain upon the order of the Mayor.

The following Resolution was adopted, viz;

Resolve that the grounds purchased by the Common Council of Wm M Mitchell and now called "Mercer Square" be and they are hereby appropriated for the uses and purposes of the Rappahannock Agricultural and Mechanical Society" upon the following limitation and conditions, viz;

1<sup>st</sup> That the said society shall have the use of said grounds or Mercer Square for the purpose of holding its annual Fairs so long as such Fairs shall be held upon it and said Society [Page 204] may establish such regulations in respect to its annual use of said grounds not inconsistent with the ordinances of the Corporation until may seem neat and proper

2<sup>nd</sup> That if said Society shall fail to hold its annual Fairs upon said grounds for the space of two consecutive years the right to use the same by said Society shall cease and determine. But the Council hereby retain the

custody and control of said grounds and the buildings which may be erected thereon with the right to use the same at any time when the same shall not be in the actual use of said Society

On motion, the Council then adjourned  
Jno S Caldwin, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 1855  
Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder  
Geo Aler, D H Gordon, Wm A Little, Jas McGuire, M Slaughter, John S Wellford, C C Wellford, John F Scott—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened to take into consideration the means of providing the payment of the Corporation bonds which fell due on the 1<sup>st</sup> Instant; the amounts of said bonds, \$35,000 as the cash in the Treasury is insufficient by a large sum to pay the same. Whereupon the following resolution was offered by Mr Wm A Little, viz;

Resolved that the proceeds of the sales of the real property of the Corporation now in the hands of the Chamberlain amounting to the sum of \$ [blank] and the Corporation interest in the real property on Market Square to wit; the three house and lots which are now held by Ficklen & Howison (at \$1400) and the remaining bonds due by purchasers of Corporation be tendered to creditors of the Corporation hold bonds now due for an equal and rateable division among them; and that a tax of fifty per cent the taxes of the present except the tax on licenses be now laid by the Council, payable on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February next, to be appropriated to the further payment of the creditors [Page 205] and that this Council as far as it can, do also pledge to said creditors the faith of the Corporation to the payment of said Creditors and the vote being taken on said Resolution it was unanimously passed.

An Ordinance in the words and figures following, to wit; was passed unanimously, viz;  
“An act imposing additional taxes of the year 1855 passed November 5<sup>th</sup> 1855”

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that there shall be levied and collected on all subjects embraced in the former tax bill of the present year passed on the 24<sup>th</sup> of April 1855, an additional tax of fifty per cent upon the taxes levied in said Bill, excepting only the taxes therein levied upon licenses, and that said Taxes shall be levied according to the Commissioner’s Books already made out for the present year.

Be it further ordained that all persons who shall call on the Collector at the Court House and pay him the taxes due by them under this ordinance by the 15<sup>th</sup> of January next, shall be entitled to a deduction of two per centum on the amount of their respective accounts.

Be it further ordained that the Collector shall collect and pay over said Taxes form time to time as collected by him and shall finally settle his collections on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 1856.

Be it further ordained that said Collector shall not be allowed to return any list of insolvents or absentees or have any credit therefore, but upon oath that such list is true nor shall such return be remitted by the Chamberlain on his settlement with the Collector until the same be passed upon and allowed by the Mayor & Commonalty in Common Hall assembled.

Resolved that the Commission to be paid to the Collector for his services on collecting the taxes under this ordinance shall be two per cent upon the said Collections

Mess’rs Wm Allen, John J Rollow, George Aler were duly elected by ballot Proxies to represent the Corporation at the next meeting of the stock holders of the Fredericksburg & Gordonsville Rail Road Company



An account of Wm Allen amounting to \$68.80 was allowed and ordered to be paid.

A Communication from Mr R T Thom that he wished to set trees near the Church requesting that the Council appoint some one of its members to direct where they should be set was read, and whereupon on motion Mr Wm Allen was appointed to act in conjunction with the vestry of the [Page 206] Church & to direct where the trees shall be set and then the Council adjourned till tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening November 1<sup>st</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

Wm A Little, John F Scott, D H Gordon, James McGuire, Wm Warren, Dr J S Wellford, John J Rollow, M Slaughter—Common Councilmen

On motion the Report of the Committee of Free Schools was taken up and having been read, the same was adopted & ordered to be filed.

The following resolutions were adopted viz;

Resolved that the Commissioners of the Public Schools &c requested to report quarterly to the Common Council the condition of the schools and the amount necessary until the next Report.

Resolved, that the Commissioners appointed be considered by their acceptance as pledging themselves to comply with any instruction in relation to the Public Schools, which may be passed by the Common Council.

On motion the Council proceeded to elect the school Commissioners of the Free School by ballot when Mess'rs Wm Slaughter, Dr John S Wellford and William Z C White were duly elected in the place & stead of the present school Commissioners.

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C  
[Page 207]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening November 19<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

John F Scott, M Slaughter, J S Wellford, Jas McGuire, John J Rollow, George Aler—Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the funds in the hands of the Chamberlain pledged for the payment of certain bonds due the 1<sup>st</sup> November be distributed pro rata amongst the holders of said bonds, excepting however the bonds that by transfer may be held by Mess'rs English & Spindle and Wm Warren, or any other person holding them as offsets against debts due to the Corporation.

Mr J S Wellford on behalf of the School Commissioners reported verbally to the board that after the 31<sup>st</sup> of December they would have no further use for the Town Hall.

On motion of Mr J S Wellford, ordered that the Public Property Committee examine the report &c of the Committee heretofore made on the subject of the removal of a market house & report thereon to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion the Council then adjourned  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a Regular Monthly meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Thursday November 29<sup>th</sup> 1855  
Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder

There being no quorum present the Council stood adjourned  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C  
[Page 208]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Thursday November 29<sup>th</sup> 1855  
Present John S Caldwell, Mayor  
Wm Allen, Recorder  
John F Scott, Wm A Little, John Haydon Jr, John J Rollow, John S Wellford, Charles C Wellford, Geo Aler—  
Common Councilmen

The Mayor brought to the notice of the Council a case of small pox which had occurred at the Planters House on Commerce Street and stated that he had after the most diligent search & enquiry been unable to find a suitable place to remove the patient; Whereupon on the motion of J S Wellford it was;  
Resolved that the whole subject be referred to the Mayor with full power to act in the premises as he deem best

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain place to the credit of the school Commissioners the sum of \$650

The Mayor stated that a call had been made by the Board of the Directors of the Fredericksburg & Gordonsville Rail Road Company for the amount due said Company on the subscription of the Corporation to the Capital Stock of said Company under the 15<sup>th</sup> requisition of the Board of Directors being \$5.00 per share on 850 shares; whereupon motion it was ordered that the Chamberlain be & he is hereby directed to issue bonds to the extent of \$4250 being the amount of the 15<sup>th</sup> requisition to the Fredericksburg & Gordonsville Rail Road Company; said bonds to be issued at 18 years to bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December 1855 to be issued under the direction of the Finance Committee and not to be disposed of at less than par & in sums of not less than \$100.

On motion ordered that the Committee on Streets enquire if the contract with Wm M Mitchell in regard to the opening of streets leading to the Fair Grounds has been complied with, and report to the Council.

On motion ordered that the Finance Committee be instructed to enquire into the debts due by English & Spindle & William Warrant and take such legal advice as they may deem expedient in relation to the recovery of said debts and report to the next council

And then the Council adjourned  
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor  
[Page 209]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening December 17<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

Wm A Little, John S Wellford, John F Scott, M Slaughter, George Aler, John J Rollow—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened at the insistence of the Finance Committee; Whereupon Mr John F Scott of said Committee state is was desired by the Committee that the Collector should be investigate with power to distrain & sell property of delinquent tax payers the collector being under the impression that he was not authorized to do so.

The following Resolutions offered by Mr Wm A Little were adopted, viz;

Resolved, that the Collector of Taxes of this Corporation be and he is hereby required to collect without delay the unpaid taxes now due and to distrain and sell unless the same be paid forthwith, he being fully empowered so to do under the present law.

Resolved that the Mayor & Chamberlain be and they are hereby authorized to make a temporary loan to pay such balance as may be required to meet the interest due on the Corporation debt on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1856, and the Revenue of the Corporation are hereby pledged for the payment of the same.

Mr John F Scott presented an ordinance to exempt any buildings commenced within five years from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1856, which shall be erected within the limits of the Corporation to use the Water Power afforded by the Fredericksburg Water Power Company & the Capital used employed or invested in any business or occupation using the said power in its prosecution until the assessment of 1867 from one half the taxes for the use of the Corporation which would otherwise be levied upon &c which having been read was on motion laid on the table.

Mr John S Wellford, School Commissioner presented to the Board a draft of an act to authorize the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg to establish Public Schools in the Town of Fredericksburg which having been read was, on motion ordered to be forwarded to the General Assembly of Virginia to be enacted into a law.

On motion, Lewis Y Field is appointed the proxy [Page 210] to represent the stock of the Corporation in the Hazle River Company at a called meeting of said Company to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> Inst and also at any other meeting of said Company to be held during the next twelve months and Robert S Voss is appointed his alternate

On motion ordered that the Mayor be authorized to employ a patrol during the Christmas Holy Days

The Mayor having made a favorable report, it is ordered that the salaries of the Police Officers for the quarter ending this day be paid by the Chamberlain.

On motion, ordered that the Mayor & Chamberlain execute to Chas S Scott a duplicate bond of the Corporation for the sum of \$204 numbered 44 in the Chamberlain's Register, upon the said Scott's giving an indemnifying bond conditioned to indemnify & save harmless the Corporation from any loss, damage, or injury which she may sustain by issuing said duplicate.

On motion the Council adjourned till Wednesday evening the 26<sup>th</sup> Inst at 7 o'clock

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening December 26<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

John F Scott, John J Rollow, George Aler, M Slaughter, William Warren, John Haydon Jr, James McGuire, D H Gordon, C C Wellford, J S Wellford—Common Councilmen

The following accounts were presented, read & ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain out of any money in his hands not otherwise appropriated viz;

The Fred'g News (A A Little) \$58.31

The Christian Banner (J W Hunnicutt) \$21.50

Mess'rs James McGuire, J S Wellford, D H Gordon were elected Proxies to represent the stock of this Corporation in the Fredericksburg Water Power Company at the General Meeting of the Stock holders of the said Company to be held in January [Page 211] next.

Propositions from Mess'rs Waite & Sener and Thomas Taylor put in suitable pipes & fixtures to light the Court House with gas were read and on motion referred to the Committee on Public Property.

On motion resolved that the 10<sup>th</sup> section of the Act regulating the Market passed Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 1854, shall not be so construed as to require persons from the Country from selling or offering for sale any of the articles mentioned in said section the payment of the tax therein stated unless the said articles shall be cut up and sold in pieces

On motion the Council adjourned till Friday evening at 7 o'clock

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening December 28<sup>th</sup> 1855

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

Wm Allen, Recorder

John J Rollow, James McGuire, George Aler, Chas C Wellford, John Haydon Jr, Wm A Little, John F Scott—Common Councilmen

An ordinance exempting from taxation for a limited time such flouring mills and other manufacturing establishments that maybe erected in this Town within certain period, which shall use the water of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company, for their motive power was presented to the Board by Mr Wm A Little, read and passed and is the words & figures following to wit;

Be it ordained by the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg

That any buildings commenced with five (5) years form the first day of January eighteen hundred & fifty six,

which shall be erected within the limits of the Corporation to use the water power afforded by the

Fredericksburg Water Power Company, and the Capital used employed or invested in any business or

occupation using the said power in its prosecution shall be exempt until the assessment of 1867 from one half of

the [Page 212] taxes for the use of this Corporation which would be otherwise levied upon it along with other

Real Estate of Capital used employed or invested within this Corporation not specially exempted

And the faith of the Corporation is hereby pledged that no taxes for the use of this Corporation shall be levied upon the subjects of this ordinance excepting such as are therein allowed

On motion the Council adjourned

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C