

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1857

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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber the 5th of January 1857

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Jno J Rollow, James Gray, Jno A English, Chs C Wellford, Jno S Wellford, Jas McGuire, W A Little, Jas Cooke—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of appointing proxies to represent the Corporation in the meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'sburg Water Power Company at its annual meeting on the 6th instant.

Mess'rs John S Wellford, Douglas H Gordon, & James Gray were elected proxies to represent the stock of the Corporation in the Fred'sburg Water Power Company at the General Meeting of the Stockholders of the said Company to be held on the 6th Inst and to act as such proxies for the next twelve months or until their successors shall be appointed.

On motion made & seconded ordered that the Proxies of the Corporation be and they are hereby directed in the General Meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'sburg Water Power Company to offer a resolution instructing the Directors in said Company to offer a resolution that a dividend to net the Corporation the sum of twenty four hundred dollars on the last subscription of \$40,000 by the Corporation to said Company be declared for the year 1857.

The following ordinance was read & passed, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fred'sburg that all personal property in the Corporation of Fred'sburg subject to taxation shall be charged annually to the persons having the possession or care of the same on the first day of February instead of the 9th day of March as heretofore presented by this ordinance, passed the 23 June 1829.

On motion resolved that the Young Men's Christian Association have leave to occupy the two rooms in the first floor of the Main or Center building of the old Town Hall for the use of the said Association

The application of Mrs E B Vass to have the tax imposed on a slave for the years 1855 & 1856 refunded was rejected.

On motion, the Council adjourned.

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

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At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on 27 January 1857

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

John S Wellford, Jno J Rollow, James Cooke, James Gray, W Warren Jr, M Slaughter, Geo Aler—Common Councilmen

A communication from Mr G B Scott asking to be compensated for the loss sustained by him from his horse falling over an obstruction on Lewis Street was on motion referred to a Committee to consist of three with directions to said Committee to report thereon to the next Council.

The mayor appointed Mess'rs W A Little, James Gray & William Warren Jr the committee to consider the communication of Mr Geo B Scott.

An account of Mess'rs Hart & Hayes, amounting to \$3.20 is referred to the Chamberlain with directions to pay the same if found to be correct.

On motion ordered that the police officers be allowed \$1.25 per night for patrolling during the Christmas Holidays & that the Chamberlain pay them upon the order of the Mayor

On motion ordered that the account of Jas A Taylor for refreshments furnished the patrol amounting to \$10 which is allowed be paid by the Chamberlain

Present, James McGuire, Chs C Wellford

A resolution offered by Jno A English, viz;
Resolved that the proxies of the Corporation of Fredericksburg heretofore appointed to represent the stock in the 4th Annual Meeting of the Fred'sburg Water Power Company be and they are hereby instructed to call the adjourned meeting provided for in the minutes of said meeting held at the office on the 7th instant within [blank] days and at such meeting to vote to increase the salary of the President to the sum of \$500 for this year that being the amount heretofore established and that sum that it was intended by the Council whose said proxies are appointed, should be fixed for this year, and also that said proxies be instructed to vote for a reconsideration of the resolution passed by the stockholders at their meeting on the 7th instant authorizing the President & Board of Directors to sell the property & works of the Company upon such terms & conditions as they may deem advisable.

Was on motion laid on the Table.

The following resolution offered by Jno S Wellford was adopted viz;
Resolved that it is inexpedient to require a dividend of the Water Power Company at this time, and all action on that subject be suspended for the present.

On motion the Council adjourned
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor
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At a Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber the 25th Feb'ry 1857

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder

James Gray, Jas McGuire, James Cooke, Geo Aler, M Slaughter, Jno S Wellford—Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the Justices of the Peace for their services in Court upon the Certificate of the Clerk the amounts due them respectively.

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

Chs W Gore	\$22.50
Jno F Scott	\$4.25
W H Hill	\$4.50
Scott French & Co	\$.63
Jno L Knight	\$19.80
J W Hunnicutt	\$5.00

Democratic Recorder \$14.67
Jas S Magrath \$18.00
Jno J Chew \$20.

On motion ordered that the account of W S Scott for wood furnished the poor through the Young Men's Christian Association be referred to the Chamberlain with directions to pay the same where correct.

Mr John S Wellford presented to the board an ordinance relating to the Public Schools in the Town of Fredericksburg which having been read was passed and is as follows;

An Ordinance relating to Public Schools in the Corporation of Fred'sburg passed Feb'ry 25, 1857

Be it ordained by the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that by virtue of the authority in them invested by an act of the General Assembly of Virginia passed on the 28 day of February 1856 entitled "An act to authorized the Common Council of Fred'sburg to establish public schools in the Corporation of Fred'sburg" there shall be established a system of public schools for the said Corporation composed of such a number of schools as may be deemed advisable by the Board of Commissioners elected in accordance with said Act. Said schools shall be graded and the different branches assigned to each and the scholars promoted from one to the other as they may become qualified in such manner as may be established by the said Board of Commissioners.

2nd Be it further ordained that at its regular meeting in December of each year the Council shall elect three fit persons to serve as the Board of Commissioners for twelve months from the first of January running or until their successors are elected, When said persons thus elected shall organize they shall become endowed with all the authority invested in the Board of School Commissioners under the act herein before recited

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3rd Be it further ordained that the said Board of Commissioners shall make a full report annually to the Common Council at its regular April Monthly meeting and at any other time that the Council may require.

On motion the Council proceeded to elect three Commissioners of Public Schools in the Corporation to serve until the first day of January next or until their successors be elected, when Mess'rs William Slaughter, John S Wellford, & W H White were duly elected.

On motion of Doct J S Wellford, to take a vote at the approaching municipal election upon the subject of the lighting the Streets of the Town was laid on the Table.

On motion ordered that W A Little be requested to prepare a petition addressed to the Post Master General stating the inconvenience to the Community on account of the present mode of transporting the mail between this place & Washington City & praying that greater facilities be afforded, that the public officers circulate the said petitions for signatures and that the Mayor do transmit the same to our representatives in Congress.

Mr James McGuire, Chairman of the Public Property Committee returned a list of the public property rented out by them which is ordered to be filed and the Clerk directed to furnish a copy thereof to the Collector.

On motion ordered that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to give notice of the approaching municipal election and that the voters be requested to designate in their tickets the names of the several officers they may prefer with the exception of the Police officers.

On motion the Council then adjourned till Wednesday evening the 11th March 1857
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

At an adjourned Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday Evening March 11th 1857
Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

James McGuire, John J Rollow, James Gray, John A English, M Slaughter, John S Wellford, Geo Aler, James Cooke, Wm A Little—Common Councilmen

The following accounts were read, passed & ordered to be paid, viz;
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Wm Allen	\$12.69
Wm Allen	\$10.88
<i>Virg'a Herald</i>	\$16.52
English & Spindle	\$17.66
Waite & Sener	\$10.12
E McDowell	\$9.22
James McGuire	\$2.21
R W Hart	\$4.00
Geo Aler	\$229.50

The Mayor having made a favorable report it is ordered that the Chamberlain pay the Police Officers their salary for the quarter ending the 16th Instant

Ordered that the Finance Committee do settle the a/c of the Chamberlain and of the Collector of Taxes &c and report the same to the Council on Saturday evening next at 4 o'clock

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

John Timberlake	\$1.90
B Cole	\$38.25

Wm A Little, Chairman of the Committee to whom was referred the Communication of Geo B Scott made a report adverse to the claim set up by said communication, which report having been read was on motion received, adopted and ordered to be filed.

An a/c of M Ames amounting to \$13.69 was referred to the Chamberlain with direction to pay the same if found correct

On motion ordered that the Mayor be requested to give notice that the voters at the election to be held on Monday next be requested to vote for 3 police officers

On motion the Council adj'd till Saturday Evening next at 4 o'clock
Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

At an adjourned Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Saturday afternoon March 14th 1857

Present John S Caldwell, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Wm A Little, John S Wellford, C C Wellford, Jas McGuire, J J Rollow, James Gray, John A English, M Slaughter.

The Finance Committee appointed by an order of the last Council to examine and settle the account of the Chamberlain made the following report which was approved and ordered to be entered in the minutes, viz;

The committee appointed to examine & settle the accounts of Geo F Chew, Chamberlain of the Corporation of Fredericksburg respectfully report, that they have examined the same and find all the debts supported vouchers and all proper credits given and they find a balance of five hundred and forty two dollars & fifty five cents due by the Corporation to the said Chamberlain. The scrip notes filed as vouchers in account of the Chamberlain were withdrawn by us and destroyed.

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Fred'g Mar 14th 1857

M Slaughter, Wm Allen, Wm Little—Finance Committee

The Finance Committee appointed by an order of the last Council to examine & settle the account of Thomas A Curtis, Collector of Taxes &c made the following report which was approved & ordered to be entered on the Minutes, viz;

We the Committee to examine the accounts of Thomas A Curtis, Collector &c of taxes for the Corporation of Fred'sburg have examine the same and find them to be correct and supported by proper vouchers

Fred'g Mar 14th 1857

M Slaughter, Wm Allen, Wm A Little—Finance Committee

An a/c of Fitzhugh & Little amt'g to \$10 was allowed by the Council, ord'd to be paid

On motion the council adj'd till 8 o'clock on Monday Morning next.

Jno S Caldwell, Mayor

At a Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday

[Monday?] March 16th 1857

Present William Allen, Recorder

John S Wellford, James Gray, James McGuire, John J Rollow, James Cooke, George Aler, John A English & M Slaughter—Common Councilmen

This being the day fixed by law for the election of twelve men to serve as Common Councilmen for the Town of Fred'g until the third Monday in March 1858 and until others are elected in their stead. The voters met at the Court House and 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; for

D H Gordon	317 votes
Wm S Barton	314
John M Herndon	249
John E Tackett	225
Wm F Cheek	224
Geo B Scott	219
Wm Allen	216
Hugh S Doggett	216
Alex K Phillips	215
J Gordon Wallace	210
Wm A Little	200
Wm S Chesley	207
William Warren Jr	193
J J Rollow	170
John S Wellford	167
James Cooke	165

The first named eleven of whom were declared [Page 244] duly elected and there was a tie between the twelfth & thirteenth name, each receiving 209 votes

And then the Council adj'd Sine Die

Council Chamber

March 17th 1857

William Allen, James H Bradley, Wm F Cheek, John E Tackett, J G Wallace, Geo B Scott, John M Herndon, Hugh S Doggett members elect of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg met at the Council Chamber and severally took the oaths of office before C C Wellford, a Justice of the Peace of Spotsylvania County.

On Motion, Mr Wm Allen was called to the Chair

On motion the salary of the Mayor was fixed at five hundred dollars

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Mayor when Peter Goolrick was elected and took the several oaths of office before Charles C Wellford a Justice of the Peace for the County of Spotsylvania

Present, Peter Goolrick, Mayor

Wm Allen was elected Recorder of the Corporation and took the oaths of office before Chs C Wellford, a Justice of the Peace of the County of Spotsylvania.

On motion the salaries of the Clerk of the Council, Chamberlain, Commissioner of the Revenue, Collector of Taxes & Rents & Clerk of the Market were fixed at the same amounts as last year

The Council then proceeded to the election of Officers of the Corporation for the current year when Geo F Chew was elected Clerk of the Council and Chamberlain of the Corporation

Robert W Hart, Commissioner of the Revenue

Thomas A Curtis, Collector of Taxes & Rents

James M Southard, Clerk of the Market

John Minor, Surveyor

Robert W Hart, Inspector & Measurer of Lumber, wood &c

James B Anderson, Measurer of Coal, Grain &c

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Wm Allen moved that the election of Police Officers of the Corporation be postponed until the next meeting of the Council which was lost by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, Wm Allen, Hugh S Doggett 2

Noes, John E Tackett, Geo B Scott, John M Herndon, J G Wallace, Wm F Cheek, James H Bradley, John M Herndon 7

On motion of Mr Allen the number of Police officers of the present year was fixed at three

On motion the salaries of the Police Officers for the present year were fixed at one hundred & fifty dollars

The Council then proceeded to the election of Police Officers for the present year when Bernard Cole, John Timberlake & James A Taylor were duly elected to continue in office during the pleasure of the Council.

On motion of Mr Geo B Scott, resolved that a Committee be appointed to raise the sum of \$3500 and report at the next meeting of the Council.

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs Geo B Scott, J M Herndon, & Wm F Cheek the Committee under the foregoing resolution.

Ordered that the penalty of the bond to be given by the Chamberlain & the Collector of Taxes & Rent be fixed at \$10,000 each

Geo F Chew, Robert W Hart, James B Anderson, Bernard Cole, J Timberlake & James A Taylor took the oaths of office before the Mayor.

On motion the rules & regulations of the last Council were adopted for the Government of this Council.

On motion the Council adjourned till Friday the 27th Inst at 4 o'clock PM

Peter Goolrick, Mayor

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At an adjourned Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock March 27th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Geo B Scott, Wm F Cheek, James H Bradley, John M Herndon, Hugh S Doggett—Common Councilmen

Mess'rs Wm S Barton & Alex K Phillips members of the Council elect appeared, were qualified before the Mayor & took their seats at the board

Present Wm S Barton, Alex K Phillips

The official bond of Thomas A Curtis, Collector of Taxes & rents in the penalty of \$10,000 with Jno D Hunt & Wm S Chesley as securities was submitted to the Board, approved & ordered to be filed.

The official bond of Geo F Chew as Chamberlain in the penalty of \$10,000 with J J Chew & Robt C Duerson & Wm F Hart as securities was submitted to the board, approved & ord'd to be filed.

The Council on motion proceeded to elect a common Councilman when Mr M Slaughter was duly elected on the first ballot.

The Mayor appointed the following standing Committees for the current year

On Public Property, Wm S Barton, Hugh S Doggett and John E Tackett

On Streets, James H Bradley, Alex K Phillips, Geo B Scott

On Pumps, Wm Allen, M Slaughter, J Gordon Wallace

On Finance, D H Gordon, J M Herndon, Wm F Cheek

A requisition having been made by the School Commissioner for an appropriation of \$500 to defray the expense of the Free School to the 1st April next, on motion, ordered that the Chamberlain pay over the said amt to said Commissioner

On motion of Mr Hugh S Doggett,

Resolved that the School Comm'rs be requested to cause a report to be made by the Teachers under their charge of the average number of students male & female actually attending each school daily, their names, & also the cost of Stationary, fuel, & house rent, salaries of Teachers & how many & when and for what period engaged & report the same to the next Council.

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Mr Geo B Scott, Chairman of the committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to raise the sum of \$3500 for the use of the Corp' n reported that they had performed that duty U& procured the amt from the Farmers Bank upon a note at 90 days drawn by the Mayor & endorsed by the Recorder & Chamberlain.

The tax on Drays, Carts & Wagon for the current year were fixed at the following rates, viz;

On drays & carts from 1 april for 1 year	\$6.00
On drays & carts from 1 Nov to 1 April	\$4.00
On drays & carts form 1 Jan'y to 1 April	\$2.00

And on Wagons in the same proportion at the rate of \$12 dollars pr year. No license to be issued at any time for less than two dollars.

On motion ordered that the Town be divided into three Districts, viz;

1st from Amelia Street to the northern limits of the Town

2nd from Amelia street to Charlotte Street

3rd From Charlotte Street to the southern limits of the Town

On motion resolved that the application of the Agricultural Society relative to the Fair Grounds be referred to the Public Property Committee with instruction to said Committee to grant the same upon such terms as it may deem expedient.

On motion ordered that the Police Officers cause to be printed / circulated 150 handbills notifying the owners of hogs that they will not be permitted to run at large after the 10th day of April next.

On motion ordered that the ordinance concerning dogs passed 26th April 1850 to be published in hand bill form

On motion the Council then adj'd

Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening April 28th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, Geo B Scott, J Gordon Wallace, H S Doggett, Jas H Bradley, John E Tackett, John M Herndon—
Common Councilmen

A communication from Mr M Slaughter & MR Wm A Little [Page 248] asking that the money paid by them for repairing the side walks opposite their lots be refunded to them was read & on motion laid on the table.

The School Comm'rs made a report in response to the Resolution of the Council of the 27th Mar last which report was read & on motion laid on the table.

On motion of Mr Geo B Scott, resolved that the Finance Committee be & they are hereby authorized to borrow the sum of \$1200 to meet the engagements of the Corp'n and the revenues of the present year are hereby pledged for the payment of the same.

On Motion of Mr Wm Allen, ordered that the subject of taxing the Banks be referred to the Finance Committee with direction to examine into the same & to report, specifically upon the subject to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion of Mr H S Doggett, resolved that the ordinance amendatory to an ordinance passed June 23rd 1829 to prevent the straining or breaking of horses & to prevent persons riding on the footways, passed Oct 16, 1849 be amended in this that no Drayman, Cartman, Wagoner, or other person shall drive any horse or horses (when attached to any Dray, Cart, or Wagon) within the limits of the Town faster than ordinary travelling gate.

On motion the Council then adj'd

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday Afternoon May 6th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Wm S Barton, Geo B Scott, J Gordon Wallace, Wm F Cheek, Jas H Bradley, John E Tackett, John M Herndon, Alexander K Phillips—Common Councilmen

On motion of Mr Wm S Barton, ordered that any person having bonds issued by the Mayor & Commonalty of Fred'g by surrendering the same to the Chamberlain have a new bond without coupons issued for the amount of those surrendered payable at the same time as those surrendered.

A Bill imposing taxes for the year 1857 was reported by the Finance Committee which having been read was passed

[Page 249] and is as follows

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 subject in the said Town to defray the expenses of the Corporation for the year ending the third Monday in March 1858, the Taxes following to-wit;

On real estate, one dollar and fifty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof by the Commissioners books

On all Personal property other than slaves, one dollar and fifty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioners books

On each white male above twenty one years of age, three dollars

On each slave above twelve years of age, five dollars

On each free colored male above 21 years of age, three dollars

On monies, bonds, securities and liquidated claims except the bonds of the Corporation of Fredericksburg, eighty 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, fifty cents in every hundred dollars.

On the interest or profits which may have been received by any person or converted into principal so as to become an interest bearing subject or otherwise appropriated within the years next proceeding the first day of September 1857 arising from bonds, bank stock and certificates of debt of this state or of any public corporation created by this state, thirteen and one third per centum.

On all money and Bonds or other evidence of debt under the control of any person acting as receiver or Commissioner under an order of any Court, eighty cents on every hundred dollars

On the salary, income, or fees of every person as ascertained by the Commissioner of the Revenue under the laws of the State, one dollar & twenty five cents on every hundred dollars.

On every license granted to an insurance agent, eight per centum on the amount received by him as Commissioner compensation and in a case, less than fifteen dollars.

On every merchants, Auctioneers, ordinary keepers and livery stable keepers license granted by the State, thirty three & a third per centum of the State Tax.

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On any license to a broker, thirty three & a third per centum on the [?]

On the Dividend declared by Insurance Companies with the year preceding the 1st day of February 1857 to be paid by such Companies respectively, thirteen & a third per centum

On every slave sold by auction, fifty cents on every hundred dollars of the amount of such sale to be paid by the auctioneer

On Bagatelle tables, fifteen dollars each

On Ten Pin Alley, fifteen dollars, provided that where there are more than one such alley in any room, ten dollars each shall be charged for the excess over one.

On any license to a person selling goods by sample or card otherwise than at some store house or place of trade & unless the party shall obtain a merchants license, thirty dollars

On Billiard tables, fifteen dollars provided that where there is more than one such table kept in any room, ten dollars shall be charged for the excess over one.

On Hawkers & Pedlars and others vending articles in the street or elsewhere in the Town, whether of foreign or domestic growth and manufacture, ten dollars for each carrier and no license to issue for less than one year from the 1st of April last.

On every license granted by the State permitting the proprietor or occupier of any public room fitted for public exhibition to use the same for such purposes, fifty five dollars.

And if the Proprietor or Proprietors of any such room shall use or permit the same to be used for such purpose without first paying the said tax, he or they shall forfeit and pay to the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg fifty dollars, and shall be liable also to the said Tax. In such case the tax shall be recoverable immediately by warrant or distress

On every license to the Owner or occupier of a Daguerrean or Ambrolize room or gallery, ten dollars for each room.

On every public show, exhibition or performance, ten dollars for every twenty four hours and for every exhibition of a circus or menagerie, thirty dollars for every twenty four hours.

On every Toll Bridge, twenty dollars.

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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 shall assess all persons required to obtain license under the laws of the State and make a fair alphabetical list thereof so 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 the Commissioner of the Revenue shall return to the Chamberlain a list of all persons required to obtain licenses as aforesaid, that is to say, a list of such as are granted on or after the 1st day of April and before the 1st day of July, shall be returned on or before the 10th day of the said month of July and a list of such as are granted on or after the 1st day of July and before the 1st day of March following shall be returned during the said Month of March, such lists shall specify the date of each license for what purpose it was granted, the name of the person to whom granted and the amount of the tax.

Be it further ordained that any licensed auctioneer who may sell at auction in this Corporation 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 price obtained for them and also pay over to the said Chamberlain the tax imposed by this ordinance on such sales. And any auctioneer who shall neglect or refuse to render such account to said officer within the time prescribed shall forfeit and pay to the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg ten dollars for every slave so sold by him to be received by warrant with costs.

Be it further ordained that all persons who shall call on the Collector at the Court House and pay him the tax due by them under this ordinance by the 15th day of June next shall be entitled to a deduction of five per centum and those paying by the 15th of July to a deduction of three per centum on the amount of their respective accounts and all taxes not paid by the first day of August shall bear interest at 6 per centum per annum from that date.

Be it further ordained that the taxes shall be collected & accounted for and paid to the Chamberlain of the [Page 252] Corporation by the Collector from time to time as collected and that the said Collector shall finally settle his accounts on or before the 1st day of December next.

Be it further ordained that the said Collector shall not be allowed to return any list of insolvents, absentees, or deferred taxes or have any credits therefor but upon oath or affirmation that such list is true nor shall such return be admitted by the Chamberlain in his statement with the Collector until the same be passed upon and allowed by the Mayor and Common Council.

Ordered that the Clerk cause the tax bill this day passed to be published in the newspapers of the Town

On motion the Council then adj'd
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock May 19th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

George B Scott, John E Tackett, John M Herndon, James H Bradley, Wm F Cheek, Hugh S Doggett—Common Councilmen

On motion the Council proceeded to appoint a proxy to represent the stock of the Corporation at the meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g & Valley Plank Road Co to be held on Wednesday the 29th day of May 1857; when William F Cheek, Esq'r was appointed such proxy.

On motion of Wm F Cheek, ordered that the application of Thomas Nicholson to occupy a portion of Sophia Street together with the subject of Street generally be referred to the Street Committee with instructions to consider & report at the next regular meeting of the Council

On motion the Council then adj'd

At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening May 26th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Geo B Scott, Wm S Barton, John M Herndon, J Gordon Wallace, Hugh S Doggett, James H Bradley, John E Tackett—Common Councilmen

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Montgomery Slaughter Esq'r member of the Council elect appeared was qualified & took his seat at the Board

The Communication from Mess'rs Slaughter & Little which was presented to the last monthly meeting of the Council and laid on the table was on motion again taken up and on Motion made and seconded, the said communication was referred to the Committee on Streets with directions to report thereon at the next Council.

An ordinance in the words and figures following to wit was passed.

1st Be it ordained by the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg that hereafter it shall not be lawful for any person to turn his or her horse, male or Jack ass loose or at large or permit his or her horse male or Jack ass to turned loosed or to run at large within the limits of the Town aforesaid except in arriving, going out or passing through the Town aforesaid. Any person violating this ordinance shall be subject to the same fines and penalties of the 23rd June 1829 for its violation.

2nd This ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

On motion made and seconded it is ordained that the Pump Committee be and they are hereby authorized to make such arrangements with Mr Geo Aler respecting the well upon his lot at the lower end of the Town as they may deem proper looking to the interests of the Corp'n

On motion the Council then adj'd
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on
Tuesday afternoon June 9th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder

John E Tackett, J Gordon Wallace, Wm F Cheek, John M Herndon

There being no quorum present, the Council stood adjourned.

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At a Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on
Tuesday afternoon June 23rd 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder

John E Tackett, Wm S Barton, J G Wallace, M Slaughter, Wm F Cheek, Jas H Bradley, Hugh S Doggett, John
M Herndon—Common Councilmen

An application from the Fred'g Gas Company asking for a correction of the assessment of their property for the present year was on motion made & seconded referred to the Finance Committee with directions to report thereon & such other members of the Council as the Mayor may appoint.

On motion of Mr Wm Allen ordered that the Public Property Committee do take such steps as may be necessary to close the deed of trust executed by the Union Fire Co to Wm A Little Trustee and said Committee are directed to report to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion of Mr Wm Allen an appropriation of five hundred dollars was made to the Hope Fire Company to enable them to perfect their organization and the chamberlain is directed to pay over the said sum as called for by the Commander of the said Company

The Mayor having made a favorable report it is ordered that the salaries of Police Officers for the quarter ending the 15th Inst be paid by the Chamberlain.

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

Robt W Hart, Comm'r Revenue	\$173.13
Scott & Herndon a/c	\$61.75
Jas A Taylor	\$16.00
B Cole	\$14.50

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the School Commissioners the sum of \$400 to defray the expenses the free School for the quarter ending the 1st July next

On motion resolved that any hog with an iron wire two inches long twisted in its nose may be permitted to run at large in the streets of the Town from this date until 1st day of Nov next.

On motion the Council then adj'd
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening the 17th July 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder

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George B Scott, John E Tackett, Hugh S Doggett, J G Wallace, Wm F Cheek, Jas H Bradley, John M Herndon, William J Hart—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened to consider the memorial of John T Lomax & others in relation to the condition of the low grounds above the Rail Road in the Western portion of the Town, which memorial having been read, on motion the said memorial was referred to the Street Committee by the following vote;

Ayes, Wm Allen, John E Tackett, Hugh S Doggett, J G Wallace, Wm F Cheek, John M Herndon, William S Barton 7

Noes, Geo B Scott, Jas H Bradley 2

With direction to said Committee to do what may be necessary to abate the nuisance complained of

Mr Geo B Scott by and in writing resigned his seat as a Common Councilman which resignation was on motion received

The Council then proceeded to elect a member to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Geo B Scott, when Wm S Chesley, Esq'r was duly elected

The Mayor appointed Mr Wm S Chesley as a member of the Committee on the Streets in the room and stead of Geo B Scott resigned.

An account of Wm M Baggett against the Corporation amounting to \$205.00 is allowed and the same is directed to be placed to the credit of Mr Baggett in his a/c with the Corp'n for taxes due by him to the Corp'n for the year 1856

On motion ordered that a Committee of two be appointed to amend the bye laws in relation to the attendance of members at meetings of the Council.

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs W S Barton & John M Herndon the Committee

On motion the Council then adjourned
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday afternoon at July 28th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder

Hugh S Doggett, John M Herndon, Wm S Barton, M Slaughter, J G Wallace, Wm S Cheek, Jas H Bradley—Common Councilmen

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Mr Wm S Barton, Chairman of the Committee on Public Property reported verbally that they had directed the Trustee in the Deed of Trust from the Union Fire Comp'y to proceed to close the said deed.

An account of John Minor, surveyor against the Corporation amounting to \$31.63 is allowed and ordered to be paid.

Mr John Minor heretofore elected surveyor of the Corp'n and took the oath of office before the Mayor.

Mr Wm S Chesley, member of the Council elect appeared was qualified before the Mayor & took his seat at the Board.

The subject of the location of the corner stone of the Corp'n in the field of Mr Jno Howison was on motion laid on the table.

The Mayor stated to the Board that since the last meeting of the Council MR James M Southard, clerk of the Market had departed this life & that therefore it became necessary to elect his successor. And thereupon the Council proceeded to elect a Clerk of the Market to continue in office until the 3rd Monday in March next when William J Jones was elected on the fourth Ballot

A Report from the Board of School Comm'rs was presented and read & on motion received and thereupon Mr Bradley moved that the School Comm'rs be requested & authorized to appoint a Teacher of School No. 2 to continue in office until January next which motion Mr Barton moved to amend, by leaving the subject to the direction of the Comm'rs and the Ayes and Noes having been called for the amendment was carried as follows;
Ayes, Wm Allen, H S Doggett, J M Herndon, Wm S Barton, M Slaughter 5
Noes, J G Wallace, Wm F Cheek, Jas H Bradley, Wm S Chesley 4

Ordered that the Street Commr' enquire and ascertain & report to the Council as to the policy & costs of opening Sophia street from its present Southern termination as far down as Knox's Wharf.

An account of J Haydon & Bro against the Corp'n amt'g to \$10.11 was referred to the Chamberlain with directions to pay the same if found correct.

On motion the Council adj'd
Peter Goolrick, Mayor
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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday afternoon Aug't 10th 1857
Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder
Wm F Cheek
There being no quorum present the Council stood adjourned.

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday the 11th August 1857
Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder
James H Bradley, Hugh S Doggett, Wm F Cheek, J G Wallace, John M Herndon, Wm S Chesley, Wm S Barton—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 meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg and Gordonsville Rail Road Company to be held on this day; Whereupon it is ordered that three proxies be appointed and the following gentlemen were elected on the first ballot Mess'rs Wm F Cheek, H S Doggett, Wm S Chesley

An a/c of C C Wellford amt'g to \$10 is allowed & ord'd to be paid

An a/c of the Democratic Recorder against the Corp'n amt'g to \$29.62½ was presented, allowed & ordered to be paid.

On motion the Council then adj'd
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Thursday morning Sept 24th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

H S Doggett, Jno M Herndon, M Slaughter, J G Wallace, Jas H Bradley, Wm S Chesley, John E Tackett—
Common Councilmen

The Mayor having made a favorable report it is ordered that the salaries of the Police Officers for the Quarter ending [Page 258] the 15th instant be paid by the Chamberlain

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

The *Fred'g News* for advertising \$13.25

B Cole for killing dogs \$4.00

W H White \$2.25

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the School Commissioners the sum of three hundred dollars to defray the expenses of the Free School for the quarter ending the 1st Oct next

On motion of Mr Allen the report of the Committee on Streets on the application of Mess'rs M Slaughter & Wm A Little is laid on the table until the next meeting of the Council and the Clerk is directed to notify Mr Little thereof in order that he may attend if he thinks proper.

The application of Mr Arthur Goodwin to have refunded to him the tax paid on his servant woman Milly, was on motion submitted to the vote by Ayes & Noes, when the said application was rejected;

Ayes, Wm Allen, J M Herndon, J G Wallace, Jno E Tackett 4

Noes, H S Doggett, M Slaughter, J H Bradley, W S Chesley 4

And there being a tie the Mayor cast his vote in the negative.

It being represented to the Council by the Street Committee that the culvert near Pritchard's shop is obstructed by the pipe of the Gas Company so as to prevent the free passage of water from the Street; it is ordered that the Mayor notify the said Gas Company to remove the said obstruction without delay and in the event that it be not done by the said Company, the Street Committee are directed to remove it at the expense of said Company; and the said Street Committee are further instructed to take like action in the case of any other person or company so obstructing the culvert or street.

An account of Wm S Chesley for work done on the culvert at the Old Baptist Church amounting to \$11.75 was on motion allowed & ordered to be paid.

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Wm A Little Esq'r the sum of \$43.56 expenses incurred in executing the deed of Trust from the Union Fire Company to him as Trustee for the benefit of the Corp'n

On motion the Mayor was authorized and requested to proceed [Page 259] to Washington City and to take such steps by employing counsel &c as to him may seem proper in order to defend the application of Wm F Grayson now pending there for his pardon

On motion the Council adjourned
Peter Goolrick, 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 Tuesday the 27th October 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

H S Doggett, John E Tackett, John M Herndon, Wm F Cheek, J G Wallace, Jas H Bradley, Wm S Chesley—
Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the Collector of Taxes proceed to distrain for all taxes remaining unpaid on the 10th day of November 1857

On the Motion of Abraham Cox to have a portion of the tax on a certain house which was burnt down in Jan'y last remitted the Council on consideration doth defer action on said motion until the next meeting.

Hugh S Doggett was unanimously elected an overseer of the Poor of this Corporation to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of John Buck

On motion ordered that the Board of Overseers of the Poor be directed to hold meetings once a month

On motion ordered that the Mayor make quarterly reports of fines and amercements to the Council

On motion the Council then adjourned
Peter Goolrick, 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 Tuesday Evening November 24th 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

J G Wallace, H S Doggett, D H Gordon, Jno M Herndon, Wm F Cheek, Wm S Barton, Jno E Tackett—
Common Councilmen

On motion of Douglas H Gordon, Resolved that the Finance Committee [Page 260] be instructed to apply to our Representative in the Legislature to obtain the passage of a law at the next session tending to facilitate the collection of Taxes on real estate, within the Corporation.

On application of Mrs E B Vass setting forth that she was assessed with the tax on three slaves for the year 1856, amounting to \$15 and that for the year 1857 she was assessed with a like tax on the same slaves, when in fact the records of the Corp'n Court shew that the said slaves were manumitted some years previous; on consideration thereof and it appearing that the said Applicant was erroneously assessed with said slave it is

ordered that the Chamberlain refund to Mr Vass the said Tax to the extent that she may have paid the same, and that so much thereof as she may not have paid be remitted.

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

Wm Allen	\$54.91
Wm Allen	\$9.00
Sam'l J Baggett	\$3.50

On motion resolved that the Common Council of the Town of Fred'g cordially approve of the effort proposed to be made to secure the erection of the Monument of Gen'l Hugh Mercer, provided for by the resolution of Congress passed on the 8th day of April 1777, and do hereby appoint Thomas B Barton, Wm Allen & Douglas H Gordon, Esq'rs a committee to co-operate with the Committee appointed by the Rapp'k River Agricultural & Mechanical Society; and the Council doth further request the Trustees of the Mercer Monument Association incorporated by the General Assembly of Virginia on the 14th January 1851 to aid in obtaining an appropriation from Congress to erect the monument to General Mercer.

A Petition from the Fred'g Gas Company asking for a reduction of the tax in their Capital was presented to the Board,, and thereupon Mr Jno E Tackett moved that the tax on said Capital be reduced to 25 pr cent, which motion Mr H S Doggett move d to amend by fixing the tax at 37½ per cent and the vote being taken on the amendment it was lost and then the vote being taken on the original motion it was likewise lost.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

Peter Goolrick, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 12th December 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

D H Gordon, M Slaughter, J M Herndon, Wm F Cheek, John E Tackett, Jas H Bradley, Wm S Barton—
Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened at the instance of the Finance Committee; and thereupon On motion of Mr Wm S Barton, resolved that the Collector of Taxes be and he is hereby instructed to sue all means to collect the taxes for the present years that are still due and unpaid.

Resolved that the Finance Committee be and they are hereby authorized and requested to borrow upon the best terms they can procure such sum as may be necessary to meet the engagements of the Corporation falling due on the 1st day of January 1858, and they are fully authorized and empowered to pledge any of the property and the credit of this Corporation for the payment of the loan so to be made and the Mayor and Chamberlain are hereby instructed to execute any obligation that may be required by the Finance Committee under this resolution

The following accounts were read, passed & ord'd to be paid, viz;

Hart & Hayes	\$1.50
James Jennings	\$1.50

An application of the Old Dominion Steam Boat Company to have the tax imposed upon them was rejected.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

Peter Goolrick, 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 Tuesday evening the 22nd December 1857

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor
William Allen, Recorder

J G Wallace, Wm S Chesley, Wm F Cheek, A K Phillips, D H Gordon, James H Bradley, Wm S Barton, John M Herndon—Common Councilmen

A report from the Board of School Commissioners was presented & read and on motion received & laid on the Table

Mr Wm F Cheek moved that the ordinance establishing Public Schools in the Town of Fredericksburg be and stand repealed from and after the 1st day of January next, and the vote in said motion being taken [Page 262] by Ayes and Noes it was carried as follows, viz;

Ayes, Wm S Chesley, D H Gordon, Wm F Cheek, A K Phillips, J M Herndon, Wm S Barton, Jas H Bradley, J G Wallace 8

Noes, Wm Allen 1

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the Board of School Comm'rs three hundred dollars to defray the expenses of said Schools for the quarter ending the 30th of December 1857

The Mayor having reported favorably on motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the Police Officers their salaries for the quarter ending the 15th Instant

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

Robert W Hart	\$9.25
Thomas Griffin	\$6.75

On motion of Wm S Barton, Resolved that the Finance Committee be, and they are hereby authorized & requested to borrow upon the terms they can procure such sum as may be necessary to meet the current engagements of the Corporation and they are hereby authorized & empowered to create a Trust on any of the property and to pledge the credit of this Corporation for the payment of the loan so to be made and the Mayor & Chamberlain are hereby instructed to execute any note, obligation & deed that may be required by the Finance Committee under this resolution.

On motion the Council proceeded to elect proxies to represent the Corporation at the Meeting of the stockholders of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company, to be held in January next, when Mess'rs D H Gordon, Alex K Phillips & Wm F Cheek were duly elected

On motion then Council then adjourned

Peter Goolrick, Mayor
Geo F Chew, C C