

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1859

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At a Called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening the 14<sup>th</sup> of January 1859

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

William S Chesley, J Gordon Wallace, Geo F Carmichael, M Slaughter, John M Herndon, John E Tackett, James H Bradley—Common Councilmen

The proxy appointed to represent the interest of the Corporation at the general meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g Water Power Co submitted a verbal report; Whereupon the following resolution was offered; Resolved that the proxy of the Corp'n be instructed to vote in the general meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g Water Power Co for the sale at public auction, or by private contract of the property of the Company, upon the best terms that can be obtained therefor restricting the purchaser or purchasers to the general use of the Water Power on the Fred'g side of the River.

The question on the adoption of the resolution was taken by Ayes & Noes and the same was rejected;

Ayes, Wm S Chesley, J G Wallace, Geo F Carmichael, M Slaughter, Wm Allen, J M Herndon, James H Bradley 6

Noes, John E Tackett

The Resolution was then offered in the following form, viz;

Resolved that the proxy of the Corporation be instructed to vote in the general meeting of the Stockholders of the Freds'burg Water Power Co for the sale at public auction or by private contract of the property of the Company on the best terms that can be obtained therefor.

The question of the adoption of the resolution was taken by Yeas & Noes, and the same was adopted;

Yeas, , Wm S Chesley, J G Wallace, Geo F Carmichael, M Slaughter, Wm Allen, J M Herndon, James H Bradley 6

Noes, John E Tackett

The application of Thomas Hill asking the Council to appoint proxies to represent the interests of the Corporation in the Hazle River Navigation Company was on motion of Jas H Bradley, laid on the table.

On motion the Council then 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 Thursday evening the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 1859

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

John M Herndon, J G Wallace, Wm S Chesley, John E Tackett, H S Doggett, Geo F Carmichael, James H Bradley, A K Phillips—Common Councilmen

The application of Mr John E Beck to have refunded to him taxes which he has been erroneously assessed with & paid was on motion laid on the table.

The proxy appointed to represent the interest of the Corp'n at the General Meeting of the Stockholders of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company, submitted a verbal report; Whereupon the following resolution was offered & passed, viz;

Resolved that the Council decline the proposition made by the individual stockholders of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company to subscribe 20 pr cent additional to the stock held by the Corp'n in said Company with the view of paying off the debts and going on with the work of the Company.

The following resolution was offered and passed, viz;

Resolved that the proxy of the Corporation be instructed to vote in the general meeting of the stockholders of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company for the sale at public auction or by private contract during the month of April next of the property of the Company upon the best terms that can be obtained therefor, restricting the purchaser or purchasers to the use of the Water Power within the Corporation Limits of the Town of Fredericksburg.

The application of Henry W Landram to have refunded to him taxes with which he alleges he has been erroneously charged with was rejected.

On motion the Council adjourned.

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 Thursday evening January 27<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Hugh S Doggett, John E Tackett, Wm S Chesley, Ro W Adams, J Gordon Wallace, John M Herndon, James H Bradley, Geo F Carmichael, M Slaughter—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of receiving a report from the Proxies appointed to represent the Corporation at the meeting of the stockholders of the Fredericksburg Water Power Company and thereupon Mr Wm S Chesley made a verbal report stating that the private stock holders dissented from the resolution of the Council passed at the last meeting of the Council restricting the purchaser or purchasers to the use of the Water Power within the limits of the Town of Fredericksburg, and Mr Wm S Barton being present, by leave addressed the Council on the subject; Whereupon, on motion, it is ordered that the instructions given to the Proxy of the Corporation at the last meeting of the Council in the Fredericksburg Water Power Company to vote in the general meeting of the Stockholders for the sale of the property of the Company with the restriction that the purchaser or purchasers shall use the Water Power within the Corporation limits be rescinded

On motion resolved that the Finance Committee be and they are hereby authorized to borrow the sum of three thousand dollars and to pledge the credit of this Corporation for the payment of the same. And the Mayor & Chamberlain are hereby instructed to execute any note, obligation or deed that may be required by the Finance Committee under this order.

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 evening the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 1859

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

H S Doggett, J M Herndon, John E Tackett, Ro W Adams, Geo F Carmichael, J G Wallace, Wm S Chesley—Common Councilmen

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The Mayor having reported to the Council verbally that James A Taylor, a Police Officer of this Corporation had been brought before him upon a charge of assault & battery committed on a female and that after hearing the evidence he had recognized him to answer an indictment to be preferred against him by the Grand Jury at July Term next of the Corporation Court of Fredericksburg.

On motion of Mr John M Herndon, it is ordered that the said James A Taylor be notified to appear here on Thursday evening next to shew cause if any he can why he should not be dismissed from officer for the said offence.

Whereas at a General meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g Water Power Company held on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January 1859 the following plan to raise the funds necessary to complete the Works of the said Company and to render the Power afforded thereby available for use within the limits of the Corporation of Fredericksburg was adopted, viz;

A contract to be entered into between the Mayor & Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg and the Fredericksburg Water Power Company to the following effect; the Mayor & Commonalty to convey its stock to a Trustee to be conveyed & transferred to the Company by him, when the works of the said Company shall be completed and the Water Power thereby afforded be ready to be applied to some industrial use within the limits of the said Town.

In consideration of which the said Company shall covenant and engage never to grant any right or permit any power to be used outside of the limits of the said Corporation.

A preferred stock to be created to the amount of three hundred and fifty shares to be preferred to the extent of six per cent dividends.

To each share of such preferred stock the Company shall grant four shares of Stock to be transferred by the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

In taking subscriptions to such preferred stock the tax payers of the said Town to have to right to subscribe in preference to all other persons.

An equitable scaling of stock to take place in case the subscription by tax payers should exceed the amount named

And Whereas no other available plan presents itself to secure the indirect benefits to this Corporation which have always been looked to as the chief object sought to be obtained through the said Company, Therefore Be it resolved by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that the said plan be and is hereby adopted by them for and on behalf of the said Town. And the Mayor [Page 284] is hereby instructed to execute on behalf of this Corporation the proposition with the said Company to carry the said plan into full effect. And he is further instructed to execute instruments conveying the stock now held by this Corporation in the said Company to John M Herndon, hereby appointed Trustee for the purpose upon the Trust that when the works of the said Company shall be completed so that the power afforded by them shall be available for use within the limits of the said Town, he shall convey and transfer the said Stock to the said Company.

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

Jno M Herndon	\$5.50
Jno F Scott	\$4.00
Robt W Hart	\$6.25
Elias Rollow	\$8.00

And then on motion the Council adj'd till Thursday evening next at 7 o'clock  
Peter Goolrick, Mayor

At an adjourned Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Thursday evening February the 3<sup>rd</sup> 1859  
Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

Geo F Carmichael, Wm S Chesley, John E Tackett, J G Wallace, H S Doggett, Jas H Bradley, John M Herndon, M Slaughter, Ro W Adams—Common Councilmen

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Council that John E Beck has been erroneously charged with \$15.00 tax on a Negro man & on land & has paid the same, on motion, it is ordered that the Chamberlain refund the said amt to him.

James A Taylor, Police Officer of this Corporation, who was notified to appear here this day to shew cause if any he could why he should not be dismissed from office appeared accordingly and have made a statement Mr Wm S Chesley moved the following resolution, viz;

Resolved that James A Taylor be and he is hereby dismissed from office as Police Officer of this Corporation. The question of the adoption of the Resolution was taken by Ayes & Noes and the same was adopted, viz;  
Ayes, Wm Allen, H S Doggett, Jno E Tackett, J M Herndon, J G Wallace, Geo F Carmichael [Page 285] Wm S Chesley, Jas H Bradley 8  
Noes, R W Adams, M Slaughter 2

On motion the Council adj'd  
Peter Goolrick, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a Called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1859

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

John M Herndon, John E Tackett, J G Wallace, Geo F Carmichael, William S Chesley, James H Bradley, Ro W Adams, H S Doggett, Douglas H Gordon—Common Councilmen

On motion, ordered that the Mayor employ Mr Wm S Barton to defend the suits instituted in the Circuit Court of Spotsylvania County by Lewis Wrenn & wife against the Corporation of Fred'g

Mr John M Herndon, Chairman of the Finance Committee to whom was referred the account of Geo W Rothrock, made a report in writing adverse to the claim, which report having been read was on motion received and adopted.

On motion resolved that the Chamberlain be and he is hereby authorized to pay to Mess'rs F Slaughter & Co \$129 upon said Slaughter & Co executing an indemnifying bond for the payment of coupons for a like sum lost by them should payment of said coupons be demanded of the Corp'n

An account of Wm M Baggett amounting to \$100 was on motion referred to the Committee on Public Property with instructions to report on the same at the next meeting of the Council

On motion ordered that the Mayor employ counsel (at a contingent fee) to prosecute the claim of the Corp'n against the Old Dominion Steam Boat Company for taxes due the Corp'n

The following preamble and resolution was offered by Mr Wm S Chesley, viz;

Whereas the Act incorporating the Town of Fred'g vests in the Common Council the power to appoint all necessary officers of the Corp'n and it is deemed expedient that the Council should exercise the power, Therefor Resolved that the Clerk [Page 286] of the Council previous to the next Municipal election cause notice to be given in hand bill form requesting the voters of the Town to vote for members of the Council designating

on the capelin of their tickets the person whom they prefer as Mayor only; and the question being taken in the adoption of the resolution by Ayes & Noes, the same was adopted, viz;  
Ayes, Wm Allen, H S Doggett, John M Herndon, John E Tackett, Ro W Adams, J G Wallace, D H Gordon,  
Wm S Chesley, Jas H Bradley, 9  
No, Geo F Carmichael 1

An account of Peter Goolrick, coroner for holding an inquest on the body of Henry Thompson, amounting to \$8.33 was allowed and ordered to be paid.

An account of Peter Goolrick, coroner for holding an inquest on the body of James Manning was allowed & ord'd to be paid.

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a Called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening March 16<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

J G Wallace, Jas H Bradley, H S Doggett, D H Gordon, R W Adams, Wm S Chesley, John M Herndon—  
Common Councilmen

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

J W Adams	\$5.25
Wm J Jones	\$18.00
Fitzhugh & Little	\$6.00
B Cole	\$28.50
E McDowell	\$23.67
W H White	\$9.62
<i>Recorder</i>	\$7.00
L O Magrath	.30
Jesse White	\$9.20
English & Spindle	\$7.88
Wm Allen	\$10.00

On motion ordered that the Finance Committee do settle the accounts of the Collector of Taxes and of the Chamberlain of the Corp'n and make report to the Council

On motion the Council then adj'd  
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 Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Peter Goolrick, Mayor

William Allen, Recorder

H S Doggett, John E Tackett, M Slaughter, J G Wallace, G F Carmichael, Wm S Chesley, John M Herndon, R W Adams—Common Councilmen

The following a/cs were read, passed & ord'd to be paid, viz;

J W Kelly	\$12.51
J W Hunnicutt	\$21.75
Thos H Lipscomb	\$10.00

The Finance Committee made the following reports which were approved & ordered to be entered in the minutes, viz;

We the undersigned Committee have examined the accounts of George F Chew, Chamberlain of the Corporation of Fredericksburg & find the same to be correct and supported by proper vouchers, by which account it will be seen that there is a balance due to the Corporation of \$2011.65, the Scrip notes and coupons filed as vouchers in the said account were withdrawn by us and destroyed.

Given under our hands this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 1859

J M Herndon, D H Gordon—Committee

We the undersigned have examined the account of Thomas A Curtis, collector of taxes for the Corporation of Fredericksburg and find the same correct and supported by proper vouchers. The balance due by the Collector per said account, viz; \$708.15 has been paid over by the Collector to the Chamberlain and credited in said Chamberlain account

Given under our hands this 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 1859

D H Gordon, J M Herndon—Committee

On motion ordered that Leonard Hoffman have credit on his bond give for the rent of one of the Market Stalls for the year 1858 to the extent of \$2.84

On motion resolved that the Commissioner of the Revenue of the Corp'n of Fred'g be directed to correct the assessment of the Fred'g Gas Company for the year 1858 as follows, to wit; to assess the Capital stock of said Company at the rate of \$20 per share and deducting from the value of the whole Capital thus ascertained the value of the real estate, to assess the balance as Capital [Page 288] invested in Manufacturing.

On motion ordered that the Report on the right to vote in the Municipal elections made by Mess'rs Barton, Conway & Marye, be adopted for the approaching election.

On motion the Council adj'd till Monday Morning next at 8 o'clock  
Geo W Chew, C C

At an adjourned Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday Mar 21<sup>st</sup> 1859

Present William Allen, Recorder

John E Tackett, M Slaughter, J G Wallace, G F Carmichael, William S Chesley, R W Adams, A K Phillips,  
John M Herndon—Common Councilmen

Mr William Allen was called to the Chair

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 1860 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;

M Slaughter	379
John E Tackett	356
Geo F Carmichael	299
H S Doggett	249

J G Wallace	248
John A English	239
Wm Allen	228
D H Gordon	218
J M Herndon	207
Wm S Chesley	202
Wm A Little	195
George Aler	193
Robert W Adams	191
Wm H Hill	167
Wm S Barton	156

The first named twelve of whom were declared duly elected

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Geo F Chew, C C

Council Chamber, March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1859

John E Tackett, William Allen, J G Wallace, Wm S Chesley, Wm A Little, G F Carmichael, John M Herndon, M Slaughter, J A English, D H Gordon, Geo Aler—Members elect of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg met at the Council Chamber and severally took the oaths of office before Benj'n Clark a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

On motion John M Herndon was called to the Chair

The Salary of the Mayor was fixed at four hundred dollars.

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Mayor when William S Scott was unanimously elected and took the several oaths of office before Benj'n Clark a Justice of the Peace for the Corp'n of Fred'g

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

Montgomery Slaughter was elected Recorder of the Corporation and took the oaths of office before Benj Clark a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

On motion the salaries of the Clerk of the Council & Chamberlain were fixed at the same amounts as last year. The salary of the Commissioner of Revenue was fixed at \$200.

The Salary of the Collector of Taxes & Rents was fixed at 2 pr cent for all monies received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of June and five per cent on all taxes received by him thereafter and 2 pr cent on rents.

The Salary of the Clerk of the Market was fixed at \$100 pr annum

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 & Chamberlain

Robert W Hart, Commissioner of the Revenue

Thomas A Curtis, Collector of Taxes & Rents

Wm J Jones, Clerk of the Market

John Minor, Surveyor

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

Morris Montgomery, Measurer of Coal, Grain, &c

On motion of Wm Allen, the number of Police officers for the present year were fixed at three, by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, G F Carmichael, Wm A Little, Jno A English, Geo Aler, Wm Allen, J M Herndon 6  
Noes, M Slaughter, J G Wallace, D H Gordon, John E Tackett, Wm S Chesley [5]

On motion ordered that the election of Police officers be postponed until the next meeting of the Council and that the Mayor be requested to nominate such officers as he may think fit, subject to the action of the Council.

Robert W Hart, Geo F Chew, Morris Montgomery, William J Jones took the oaths of office before the Mayor

On motion the rules and regulations of the last Council were adopted for the government of this Council.

Ordered that the penalty of the bonds to be given by the [Page 290] Chamberlain and collector of Taxes and Rents be fixed at \$10,000 each

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Wm S Scott, 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 the 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 1859  
Present Wm S Scott, Mayor  
M Slaughter, Recorder  
G F Carmichael, Wm S Chesley, J G Wallace, Geo Aler, Wm A Little, D H Gordon, John M Herndon, John E Tackett—Common Councilmen

The official bond of Thomas A Curtis, collector of taxes & rents in the penalty of \$10,000 with James D Hunt and William S Chesley as securities was submitted to the Board approved & ordered to be recorded.

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

The Tax on drays, carts & wagons for the current year were fixed at the following rates, viz;

On drays & Carts from 1<sup>st</sup> April for one year \$5.00

On drays & Carts from 1<sup>st</sup> Nov to 1<sup>st</sup> April \$3.00

On drays & Carts from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan'y to 1<sup>st</sup> April \$2.00

For one month \$1.00

And on wagons in the same proportion at the rate of \$10 per year.

No License to issue at any time for less than one dollar.

The Mayor appointed the following standing Committees for the current year, viz;

On Finance, John M Herndon, D H Gordon, Wm A Little

On Public Property, Wm Allen, John E Tackett, M Slaughter

On Streets, Wm S Chesley, Geo Aler, H S Doggett

On Pumps, J G Wallace, G F Carmichael, Jno A English

The Board of Overseers of the Poor made a report shewing a statement of the amount disbursed by the Board for the year ending the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday in March 1859, which report was on motion received and referred to a Committee consisting of M Slaughter, Wm A Little, & Wm S Chesley with directions to said Committee to report generally upon the subject at the next meeting of the Council.

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Mr H S Doggett, member of the Council elect was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the board

Mr John S Caldwell by note of writing resigned his office of an overseer of the Poor in this Corp'n which resignation was on motion received.

Mr John M Herndon moved that the order made at the last meeting fixing the number of police officers at three be rescinded which motion was carried by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, Wm A Little, G Aler, H S Doggett, J M Herndon, John E Tackett, J G Wallace, D H Gordon, Wm S Chesley 8

Noes, M Slaughter, G F Carmichael, Wm Allen 3

And Thereupon Mr Herndon moved that the number be fixed at two, which motion Mr Allen moved to amend by fixing the number at three, and the vote being taken by ayes & noes upon the amendment it was lost, viz;

[Ayes], G F Carmichael, Geo Aler, Wm Allen 3

Noes, M Slaughter, Wm A Little, H S Doggett, J M Herndon, John E Tackett, J G Wallace, D H Gordon, Wm S Chesley 8

And the number was fixed at two

On motion the salary of the Police officers was fixed at \$150 each

The Council then proceeded to ballot for police officers when James A Taylor and John W Collins were elected on the first ballot.

John A Taylor and John W Collins qualified before the Mayor as police officers of this Corp'n

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

The Cemetery Company \$7.00

Wm H White's Est \$10.00

On motion the council then adj'd

Wm S Scott, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening April 18<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

Wm Allen, John M Herndon, Geo F Carmichael, John A English, John E Tackett, Wm S Chesley, D H Gordon, J G Wallace, Geo Aler—Common Councilmen

The mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of receiving the report of the Finance Committee on the subject of the Taxation for the present year; and thereupon Mr J H Herndon [Page 292] Chairman of the Finance Committee reported a bill imposing taxes for the year 1859 which bill having been read was passed and is as follows, viz;

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 1860, the taxes following to-wit;

On real estate, one dollar & fifty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof by the Commissioner's books

On all Personal property other than slaves, one dollar & fifty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioner's 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 and Virginia State Bonds, 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 \$100.

On the Capital monies and personal property of Joint Stock Companies, eighty cents on 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 year next proceeding the first day of May 1859 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 evidences 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's Books under the laws of the State, \$1.25 on the \$100.

On Estates of Decedents as prescribed by the 39<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the Code of Virginia, one per cent on such Estate.

On every license granted to an insurance agent, eight per centum on the amount received by him as Commission or compensation and in no 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.

On every license to a broker, thirty three & a third per centum on the State Tax

On the Dividend declared by Insurance Companies within the year preceding the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 1859 to be paid by such Companies respectively, thirteen & a third per centum

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

On Bagatelle tables, fifteen dollars

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 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 every 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 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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, twenty 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 Ambrotype 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.

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 [Page 294] the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April and before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, shall be returned on or before the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the said month of July and a list of such as are granted on or after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July and before the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 prices 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 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 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 Corporation by the Collector from time to time as collected and that the said Collector shall finally settle his accounts on or before the first 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.

Present, M Slaughter, Recorder, H S Doggett

On motion of Mr M Slaughter ordered that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the propriety of revising the ordinances of the Corporation and the probable costs attending the same and the printing thereof.

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs J M Herndon, M Slaughter & Wm S Chesley, the Committee under the foregoing order.

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Ordered that the Clerk cause the tax bill this day passed to be printed in the *Weekly Advertiser*.

On motion of John M Herndon, Mr Granville J Hollis was appointed the proxy to represent the stock of the Corp'n in the Hazle River Navigation Company at any general Meeting of the Stockholders of said Company during the present year.

On motion ordered that the Claim of Wm M Baggett against the Corporation be referred to the Committee on Public Property with directions to report thereon to the next meeting of the Council.

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Wm S Scott, 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 26<sup>th</sup> of April 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder  
Wm Allen, Wm S Chesley, John E Tackett, Jno A English, H S Doggett, Geo F Carmichael, John M Herndon,  
George Aler—Common Councilmen

Mr John M Herndon, Chairman of the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council to take into consideration the propriety of revising the Ordinances of the Corporation reported verbally on the subject recommending the revisal which report was rec'd and on motion of John A English, the said Committee were directed to take the necessary steps to have the Ordinances of the Corporation revised & report the same to the Council for confirmation and approval.

It being suggested that it has been considered that a portion of the Real Estate belonging to the Fredericksburg Water Power Company lies without the limits of this Town, and whereas the Common Council is informed that it is proposed shortly to commence the erection of buildings upon a portion of the said real estate which lies beyond the limits of the Corporation to use power afforded by the Works of the said Water Power Company, and whereas by the contract between the said Company and the Mayor and Commonalty of this town dated the [blank] day of [blank] 1859, the said Company agreed and bound itself not to permit any power afforded by its works to be used beyond the limits [Page 296] of the said Town without the consent of the Common Council. Now therefor, resolved that the assent of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg be and the same is hereby given to the use of any power afforded by the works of the said Water Power Company upon any of the Real Estate belonging to the said Company, situate, without the limits of the Town upon the condition that the said Company shall unite with the proper authorities of this Town in application hereafter to be made to the Legislature of the State to include such real estate as may be so used within the Corporate limits of this Town.

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Wm S Scott, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening May 24<sup>th</sup> 1859  
Present Wm S Scott, Mayor  
M Slaughter, Recorder  
John A English, John M Herndon, George Aler, William Allen, Wm S Chesley, J G Wallace—Common Councilmen

Mr Wm Allen, Chairman of the Public Property Committee made a report adverse to the claim of Wm M Baggett which report was read and on motion laid on the table until the next meeting of the Council.

Ordered that John A English, John M Herndon, & M Slaughter be and they are hereby appointed proxys to represent the Corporation in the meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g Plank Road Company, to be held on Saturday next, and also at any meeting of the said stockholders of said Company during the present year

On motion, the Council then adj'd  
Wm S Scott, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> 1859  
Present Wm S Scott, Mayor  
M Slaughter, Recorder  
[Common Councilmen attending not listed]

A bill of Mess'rs Fitzhugh & Little for retaining fees in defending the suits instituted by Lewis Wrenn & wife against the Corporation amounting to \$50 was presented and on the motion of M Slaughter was laid on the table.

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On motion ordered that permission be granted to the proper authorities to use the Potter's field for the execution of Negro slave, Ned, sentenced by the Court of this Corporation to be hung on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August next.

Present, Hugh S Doggett

On motion of Wm Allen, resolved that any hog with an iron ring in its nose one eighth of an inch in thickness may be permitted to run at large in the streets of the Town from this date until the first of November next.

On motion resolved that the Committee to whom was referred the report of the Board of Overseers of the Poor be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

On motion resolved that the Mayor be requested to ascertain whether any and what contract has been made with Mess'rs Fitzhugh & Little in relation to the fees for the defense of two suits brought against the Corp'n by Lewis Wrenn & wife, and also to confer with Mess'rs F & Little as to the probable amount of their fees for defending said suits.

On motion the Council then adj'd

Wm S Scott, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening the 27<sup>th</sup> of July 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder

John M Herndon, John A English, George Aler, Wm Allen, John E Tackett, William S Chesley, H S Doggett, Geo F Carmichael—Common Councilmen

Mess'rs Wm A Little and J Gordon Wallace by notes in writing resigned their offices as members of the Council, which resignations were on motion received.

The Council proceeded to elect two members to supply the vacancies occasioned by the resignation of Wm A Little, & J Gordon Wallace, when Mr Robert W Adams was elected in the place of Wm A Little & William H Hill was elected in the place of J Gordon Wallace.

Mr Robert W Adams was appointed a member of the Finance Committee & Wm H Hill was appointed a member of the Pump Committee.

On motion ordered that the Street Committee be requested to continue the repairs on the streets &c and the Chamberlain is hereby directed to pay the orders of said Committee.

An account of A A Little amounting to \$3.00 was allowed and ordered to be paid.

Mr John M Herndon, Chairman of the Committee heretofore appointed to have the Ordinances revised reported verbally that they had employed Mr John S Caldwell to perform that duty; and thereupon [Page 298] Jno S

Caldwell being present proceeded to read the ordinances so revised and on motion he was directed to have the same printed upon the best terms he could procure and reported for future action by the Council.

On motion the Mayor is requested to have a copy of the revised Ordinances when printed to be delivered to each member of the Council.

On motion the Council then adjourned

Wm S Scott, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening August 24<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder

William Allen, George F Carmichael, William S Chesley, John E Tackett, John A English, George Aler, Hugh S Doggett—Common Councilmen

William H Hill duly elected a member of the Common Council appeared and declined to qualify  
Robert W Adams, elected a member of the Council, appeared, was qualified and took his seat at the Board.

John S Caldwell Esq'r appointed to revise the Ordinances of this Corporation reported the same so far as printed.

On motion of Mr Allen ordered that the Committee on Public Property be instructed to have the outside of the Market House painted upon the best terms they can.

And then the Council adj'd

Wm S Scott, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Thursday evening Aug't 25<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder

Wm Allen, Wm S Chesley, John E Tackett, George Aler, Jno A English, Geo F Carmichael, Douglas H Gordon, Robert W Adams—Common Councilmen

The Council proceeded to consider further the printed ordinances reported by John S Caldwell Esq'r and having made some progress, the further consideration was suspended until all the Ordinances could be printed.

Wm H Hill Esq'r elected a member of the Council having declined to qualify, the board proceeded to the election of a member when William Barton was unanimously elected.

On motion the Council then adj'd

Wm S Scott, Mayor

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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening September 12<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder  
Wm Allen, D H Gordon, H S Doggett, Jno M Herndon, Geo F Carmichael, Wm S Chesley, Geo Aler, Robert W Adams—Common Councilmen

On motion, Mr John M Herndon, has leave to absent himself from the Board

The Council proceeded to consider further the printed ordinances reported by John S Caldwell Esq'r and having made some progress the further consideration thereof is postponed until the next meeting of the Council.

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Wm S Scott, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening September the 23<sup>rd</sup> 1859  
Present Wm S Scott, Mayor  
M Slaughter, Recorder  
William Allen, G F Carmichael, John M Herndon, William S Chesley, H S Doggett, George Aler, D H Gordon—Common Councilmen

Mr Wm S Barton heretofore elected a member of the Council appeared was qualified before the Mayor & took his seat at the Board.

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

John B Hall & Sons	\$2.81
Fitzhugh & Little	\$50.00
Charles T Goolrick	\$40.00

The Council on motion proceeded to consider further the printed ordinances reported by John S Caldwell and the reading of the same having be concluded, further action thereon by the Council is postponed until Tuesday evening next.

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Wm S Scott, Mayor  
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At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 1859  
Present Wm S Scott, Mayor  
William Allen, D H Gordon, John M Herndon, George Aler, William S Chesley, George F Carmichael, Hugh S Doggett, Wm S Barton—Common Councilmen

The Mayor having made a favorable report, on motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the police officers their salaries for the quarter ending the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst.

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

Wm Allen	\$15.75
Jno W Collins, police officer for killing dogs	\$27.00

Present, Robt W Adams

A Report of the Street Committee was received recommending an allowance to James A Taylor, Police Officer of fifty dollars for extra services rendered in superintending the repairs on the Streets during the past summer which report was on motion received and adopted and the Chamberlain is hereby directed to pay to Mr Taylor the said sum of fifty dollars

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Mr John S Caldwell the sum of seventy five dollars towards payment for his services in revising & superintending the printing of the Ordinances of the Corp'n and the special Committee are directed to report to the Council what further compensation should be made Mr Caldwell for said services.

On motion ordered that the Public Property Committee cause the Hay Scales of the Corporation to be repaired upon the best terms that they can procure.

On Motion the Council adj'd  
Wm S Scott, Mayor

At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening Oct'r 25<sup>th</sup> 1859  
Present Wm S Scott, Mayor  
William Allen, Geo F Carmichael, Wm S Chesley, Hugh S Doggett, Geo Aler, John A English, John E Tackett—Common Councilmen

John S Caldwell Esq'r is unanimously appointed a member of the Board of Overseers of the Poor of this Corporation to supply the vacancy in the Board

On motion ordered that the Public Property Committee be instructed to enquire & ascertain whether the upper rooms in the Town Hall can be procured [Page 301] for the purpose of being used as an armory for the Volunteer Companies being organized

On motion the Council adj'd  
Wm S Scott, Mayor

At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> 1859  
Present Wm S Scott, Mayor  
M Slaughter, Recorder  
Wm Allen, John M Herndon, Geo Aler, H S Doggett, John A English, R W Adams—Common Councilmen

An account of Wm Allen for Coal amounting to \$78.75 allowed & ordered to be paid.

An account of Benj Clarke acting coroner for holding an inquest on the body of James Heslop, amounting to \$5 is allowed & ordered to be paid.

An account of the Washington Guards against the Corporation amounting to \$57.50 is allowed & ordered to be paid.

On motion of John A English, ordered that a special Committee be appointed to confer [with] Mr Hunnicutt & understand from him upon what terms he will surrender the Citizens Hall to be used as an armory or upon what terms they can procure a hall to be used for such purposes and report to the Council.



The Mayor appointed Mess'rs John A English, H S Doggett, & Geo Aler the Committee under the foregoing order

On motion the Council then adj'd till Tuesday evening next at 7 o'clock  
Wm S Scott, Mayor

At an adjourned Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening Nov'r 29<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder

Wm Allen, John E Tackett, Wm S Chesley, Geo Aler, Robt W Adams, Jno M Herndon, Wm S Barton, D H Gordon, John A English, George F Carmichael—Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Mr William S Chesley ten dollars, the amount of two a/c for hauling the Hope Engine from the River & for leather purchased from J G Hurkamp to repair the same.

An account of Hart & Hayes amt'g to \$20 for tax on license improperly assessed was on the motion laid on the table.

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On motion of Mr M Slaughter ordered that the Mayor, Wm S Barton & John M Herndon be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to take into consideration the revised Ordinances reported by Mr Caldwell, making any alterations or suggestions therein & report the same to the Council.

On motion of Mr W S Barton, the subject of opening the continuation of Pr Edward Street is referred to the Street Committee with full powers to do in the premises what to them may seem proper and to the interest of the Corporation.

Mr John A English, Chairman of the Committee appointed at the last Council reported verbally that they had been unable to procure the City Hall, or any other room in the Town suitable for the purpose of an Armory.

On motion the Council then adj'd  
Wm S Scott, Mayor

At a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening December the 27<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder

Wm Allen, John A English, Jno E Tackett, D H Gordon, John M Herndon, W S Barton, Geo Aler—Common Councilmen

The Mayor having reported favorably on motion it is ordered that the Chamberlain pay to the Police Officers their salaries for the year ending the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst.

On motion 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 1<sup>st</sup> Jan'y 1860; and the Council hereby pledge the Taxes of the Corporation for the year 1860 for the payment of said loan so to be made & the interest thereon; and the Mayor and Chamberlain are hereby

instructed to execute and obligation and deed that may be required by the Finance Committee under this resolution.

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

James A Taylor for killing dogs	\$12.00
R W Hart Comm'r of the Rev for books	\$9.00

The account of Mess'rs Hart & Hayes against the Corporation for an alleged erroneous assessment was on motion laid on the table

The following resolution offered by Mr John M Herndon was on motion laid on the table until the next meeting of the Council, viz;

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Resolved that the Council will permit a building to be erected for an Armory & drill room on the North east corner of the Court House lot and that the Council will subscribe one thousand dollars toward the erection of such a building to be paid in two annual installments of \$500 each with interest, provided that such additional sums be raised as will be required to complete the building.

On motion the Council adj'd

Wm S Scott, Mayor

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday Evening December the 29<sup>th</sup> 1859

Present Wm S Scott, Mayor

M Slaughter, Recorder

John E Tackett, Geo Aler, Wm S Barton, John M Herndon, John A English, H S Doggett, George F Carmichael—Common Councilmen

Mr Wm S Barton of the Committee heretofore appointed to take into consideration the revised ordinances of the Corporation reported by Mr John S Caldwell, reported the same with sundry amendments and alterations and the said ordinances having been read, the same were passed to take effect and be in force on and after the third Monday in March; and on further motion the Committee of Revisal directed to have the same printed & to draw on the Chamberlain for any expense incurred in having the same printed

The Following resolutions offered by Mr John M Herndon at the last meeting of the Council & which was laid on the table was on motion again taken up and the vote being taken thereon the same was passed.

Resolved that the council will permit a building to be erected for an armory & drill room on the Northeast corner of the Court House lot & that the Council will subscribe one thousand dollars towards the erection of such building to be paid in two annual installments of \$500 each with interest provided that such additional sum be raised as will be required to complete the said building.

On motion of Mr Jno E Tackett ordered that the Street Committee be and they are hereby authorized to allow to Mr James A Taylor such sum as they may deem proper for his services in superintending the repairs on the Streets.

On motion the Council then adj'd

Wm S Scott, Mayor

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