

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1865

[Page 393]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fred'sburg held at the Mayor's Office on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 1865

Present M Slaughter

Wm A Little, Recorder

Geo W Eve, Wm H Cunningham, H B Hall, B T Gill, J W Sener, J G Hurkamp, James J Young, Jas McGuire—Common Councilman

The following Resolutions offered by Mr J W Sener were passed viz,

1<sup>st</sup> Resolved That the Corporation borrow from the Trustees of the Soldier's Family Fund the \$50,000 of 7 per cent Confederate bonds now in their hands and give to said Trustees their obligation to return one year the termination of the present war, an equal amount of the 8 per cent bonds of the Confederate States, to said Trustees and to pay semi-annually to them the same interest as the said bonds so borrowed now yield.

2<sup>nd</sup> That the said Trustees be requested to comply with the wishes of the Council as expressed in the foregoing resolution.

3<sup>rd</sup> That the Finance Comm'e of the Corporation be instructed to carry out the foregoing resolutions

On motion Mr Wm H Cunningham was appointed a member of the Finance Committee during the absence of Mr Jas A Bradley.

On motion, Ordered the Property Comm'e & they are hereby authorized to permit Mrs Martha Stephens to occupy [Page 394] and cultivate the Fair Grounds during the pleasure of the Council.

On motion of Mr Wm A Little, Resolved that our Townsman W S Gillman Esq be and he is hereby requested by the Council to give us the benefit of his influence & cooperation with T B Barton Esq who was appointed heretofore to press before the members of Congress the application of this Corporation now pending there for relief Confederate States taxation.

On motion the Council then adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Mayor's office on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of February 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Wm A Little, Recorder

H B Hall, J J Young, Geo Gravatt, Jos W Sener, Wm H Cunningham, B T Gill, Geo W Eve, J G Hurkamp—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been called for the purpose of giving some expression of the high estimate in which our fellow Citizen Gen'l Daniel Ruggles is held in this Community.

Upon motion it was unanimously Resolved,

That this Council has recently with great pleasure greeted the return upon a short Furlough of Brig Gen'l L Ruggles to his home in our midst. That they have observed with pride & pleasure his steady devotion to the Confederate cause and his distinguished and arduous services in our army for the past four years and have seen with regret that Promotion in his case has not followed and unawarded his devotion to the

cause. Born in the Enemy's country but marrying a daughter of Virginia, and making his home among us, at the first call of the Southern War Trumpet he resigned his commission as Command in the Enemy's Army and all the fair prospects of rank and promotion sacrificing property & family ties and tendered his sword to his adopted State, and among the first if not the very first officer of the old who did so, with unswerving devotion has directed his best efforts to the success of the Southern Cause, after four years of arduous & valuable service he returns to us with the Rank of Brigadier General, the Council and the whole community feel mortified to think that an adopted son of old Fredericksburg should thus labor unrewarded and that his distinguished services should be thus overlooked & unappreciated and they respectfully present his case to the consideration [Page 395] of the Confederate Authorities in the confident trust that they will repair this injustice & permit this war torn & loyal Town to repair in the reflection that the devoted loyalty & prompt and valuable service of Daniel Ruggles are appreciated and honored by his adopted Country.

Resolved, that a copy of these Resolutions be respectfully forward to the President, Sec'y of War & to Gen'l R E Lee, Commander of our Armies & to Gen'l Ruggles

On motion the Council then adj'd  
M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Mayor's Office on the 27<sup>th</sup> of Feb'y 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Wm A Little, Recorder

B T Gill, H B Hall, L B Rose, J J Young, Wm H Cunningham, G W Eve, Js B Sener—Common Councilmen

On motion of Mr Wm A Little, It was resolved that George F Chew be and he is hereby recommended by the Common Council of Fred'g to the Commissioners appointed under the Act of February 1864, to distribute the fund coming to this Corpo for the relief of the indigent families of soldiers & sailors in the Confederate Service from Fred'g. It is believed that Fred'g has furnished some 500 soldiers & sailors to the Country and there are now 82 families many of them large & helpless dependent upon this fund for bread &c

The following Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Resolved that Mess'rs G H C Rowe & John F Scott be and they are hereby appointed by the Council to wait on the Military Authorities of Fred'g and to respectfully request that the impressment of corn or other provisions in a community so destitute of supplies as ours, be suspended, and that they earnestly protest against the reported impressment this morning and against any further action in that direction looking toward such impressment the Council being satisfied that the supplies in the Town are entirely insufficient for the supply of our people and the poor depending upon them for bread.

On motion the Council then adj'd  
M Slaughter, Mayor  
[Page 396]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Mayor's Office on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March of 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

W A Little, Recorder

Geo W Eve, B T Gill, Geo Gravatt, Wm H Cunningham, Jas McGuire & H B Hall—Common Councilmen

The following proceedings were heard viz

Whereas it has come to the knowledge of this Council that a large lot of tobacco said to be 4000 boxes part of which has already arrived is about to be transported to and Stored within the limits of this Corporation under the control and by direction of certain officials of the Confederate government, the manifest effect of which is to attract a raid of the Enemy upon us, inviting more injury and destruction to us impoverished Citizens, and their unfortunate town for it will be impossible to conceal the fact from the enemy of this arrangement is completed. This Council therefore being of opinion that a proper regard for their own interests & those of the Confederacy require that they should communicate this information to the Secretary of War that the Government may be fully advised of this proceeding respectfully do so hereby.

And they further respectfully suggest that if this be a bona-fide government transaction its results may be disastrous to this Community in its present unprotected and exposed condition and while we are prepared to do all thing & to suffer all things which a proper regard for the public interest may demand of us as loyal and law abiding community we are unwilling to subject ourselves to unnecessary and useless exposure without adequate results in benefit to this Order; and we further respectfully suggest that a large brick fire proof house owned by William Pratt, Esq with a mile of Hamilton's Crossing on the river would be a better point to store and ship said Tobacco if it must take this direction, and its storage there would save costly transportation to this Government and perhaps avoid the dangers to us which its deposit here so manifestly threatens.

On motion Resolved, that the Mayor be requested to communicate the foregoing proceeding as soon as possible in such manner as he may think best.

On motion the Council then adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

[Page 397]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Mayor's office on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of March 1865

Present Wm A Little, Recorder

B T Gill, George Gravatt, John G Hurkamp, John J Young, George W Eve, Horace B Hall, William H Cunningham & Joseph W Sener—Common Councilmen

The Recorder stated that the Council had been called for the purpose of considering and passing upon such claims as may be presented against the Corporation.

The following claims were presented passed & ordered to be paid viz

James T Kendall \$115.50

Robert W Hart, Comm Rev \$125.00

On motion the Council then adj'd

Wm A Little, Recorder

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Court House on Monday morning the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March 1865,

Jno G Hurkamp, Jos W Sener, J J Young, Jas McGuire, Geo W Eve, H B Hall, B T Gill, Wm H Cunningham

There not being a competent number present for the dispatch of other business the members present ordered the polls to be opened for the election of twelve Councilmen this being the day fixed by law for that purpose and the voters having cast their ballots, it was found on counting the same, that the votes were as follows; viz

For Horace B Hall	170
Wm H Cunningham	167
Geo Gravatt	167
John G Hurkamp	161
John J Young	150
Beverly T Gill	148
Geo W Eve	144
Wm A Little	127
Jas McGuire	127
Jos W Sener	103
Thos F Knox	76
Chs S Scott	70
Chas Herndon	66
Peter B Burr	58
Edwin Carter	45
W W Spindle	36
Geo Mullen	36

The first named twelve of whom were declared duly elected.

And then the Council adj'd

M Slaughter, Mayor

[Page 398]

Council Chamber March 21<sup>st</sup> 1865

Horace B Hall, W H Cunningham, John G Hurkamp, Beverley F Gill, Wm A Little, Jas McGuire, Jos W Sener, , Thos F Knox, G W Eve, J J Young, & Geo Gravatt

Members elect of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg met at the Council Chamber and severally took the oaths of office before J G Wallace, Esq a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

On motion, Jas McGuire was called to the Chair

The Salary of the Mayor was fixed at one thousand dollars. \$200

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Mayor when M Slaughter was elected and took the several oaths of office before J G Wallace, Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

Mr W A Little was duly elected Recorder of the Corporation and took the oaths of office before M Slaughter a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg

The salaries of the following officers were fixed as follows

The Clerk	Two hundred dollars
The Chamberlain of the Corporation at	Eight hundred dollars
The Commissioner of the Revenue at	Five hundred dollars

The Collector of taxes & Rents at Five percent of the Amt collected

Geo F Chew was elected Clerk of the Council & Chamberlain of the Corporation.

R W Hart was elected Commissioner of the Revenue

L J Huffman was elected Collector of taxes & Rents

Rob't W Hart was elected Inspector & measurer of lumber, wood &c, coal, grain, Salt &c

On motion the number of police officers for the current year was fixed at two and their salaries were fixed at five hundred dollars each per annum.

The Council the proceed to elect police officers for the current year when James T Kendall & John Timberlake were elected on the first ballot

[Page 399]

Tax on Drays, Carts & Wagons for the present Year was fixed at following viz;

On drays & carts \$30, and on wagons \$60.

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

On Finance Wm A Little, W H Cunningham & Chs Herndon

On Public Property J G Hurkamp, James McGuire, Geo Gravatt

On Street Jos W Sener, Thos F Knox, Chs S Scott

On Pumps H B Hall, Jno J Young, B T Gill

Mr George W Eve resigned his office as a member of this board which resignation was on motion received.

The Council then proceeded to elect a member to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Geo W Eve, when Chas Herndon Esq was unanimously elected and thereupon the said Chas Herndon appeared, was qualified before the Mayor & took his seat at the board.

On motion, Ordered that the Street Committee be and they are hereby instructed to take immediate steps to have the marsh on the west of the Town thoroughly drained.

On motion of Mr W H Cunningham, Resolved that the council deeming it necessary to the health of the Town do earnestly request the Citizens of the Town to have their cellars opened and cleaned out and also their lots cleaned and kept in as good order as possible and that the Police Officers be instructed to publish notices to this effect.

On motion of Mr Jos W Sener, Ordered that the a/c of Mrs Ann E Aler & Geo W Wroten heretofore laid on the table be referred to Comm'e to be appointed by the Mayor.

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs Jos W Sener, W H Cunningham, & Chas Herndon, the Committee under the foregoing order.

On Motion the Council then adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

[Page 400]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Wm A Little, Recorder

Jos W Sener, James McGuire, Chs Herndon, Geo Gravatt, J J Young, Wm H Cunningham, Thos F Knox, H B Hall—Common Councilmen

James G Read who has been elected Surveyor of the Corporation, appeared and took the oath of office before the Mayor.

Whereas the military authorities have withdrawn from the Town and left the Community in an unprotected situation & liable to Trespass and annoyance from straggling soldiers & other lawless persons, and our police force of two persons are manifestly insufficient in this emergency. Therefore on motion, Resolved that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized to call upon the citizens of the Town, when in his opinion occasion may require it, to act as a voluntary Police force and to enroll their names as such and the Citizens are earnestly requested to respond at once to said call in order to secure the peace, protection and good order of the Community.

On motion the Council then adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a Called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Mayor's Office on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of April 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Wm A Little, Recorder

John J Young, Charles Herndon, James McGuire, Jos W Sener, Wm H Cunningham, B T Gill, Geo Gravatt, Jno G Hurkamp, Thos F Knox, Horace B Hall—Common Councilmen

Chas S Scott, a member of the Council elect appeared, was qualified before the Mayor & took his seat at the Board.

On motion of Mr J J Young, It is ordered that a Committee to consist of three be appointed by the Mayor whose duty it shall be to draft Resolutions expressions of the sense of the Council in regard to our present situation and to report the same to [Page 401] the Council this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

The Mayor app'd Mess'rs Charles Herndon, John J Young, and Wm H Cunningham the Committee under the foregoing resolution.

On motion the Mayor, Mr M Slaughter was added to the committee.

On motion the council adj'd till 4 o'clock this afternoon

M Slaughter, Mayor

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Mayor's office on Wednesday afternoon April 27<sup>th</sup> 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Wm A Little, Recorder

Chas Herndon, Geo Gravatt, Jos W Sener, H B Hall, Wm H Cunningham, Chas S Scott, B T Gill, J G Hurkamp, Jas McGuire, J J Young, Thos F Knox.

The Committee appointed to draft Resolutions expressive of the sense of this Council in regard to our present situation reported Resolutions which on report was on motion moved and seconded laid on the table.

The following preamble and Resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz,

Whereas this Community finds itself after four years of devastating War, all of whose act and sacrifices they have been called on to endure, subject to the Government & laws of the United States and under the control of its authority; and

Whereas they are satisfied that the War is at an end, and that their interests and duty alike require that they sh'd recognize the situation and submit to said authority & laws and as quiet & orderly citizens acknowledge the power that be and endeavor to preserve that character of a law abiding & peaceable community which it has been their purpose to maintain; and

Whereas further it is deemed proper that this community through their constituted representatives give expression at this time to these views and communicate the same to the United States authorities,

Therefore, Resolved,

1<sup>st</sup> That M Slaughter Esq, Mayor, be and he is hereby appointed a Commissioner to proceed to Richmond and present a copy of these [Page 402] these proceedings through Gen'l M R Patrick to said authorities.

2<sup>nd</sup> Trusting that as this Community and State is in no way responsible for the Causes which led to the Revolution and have already suffered so seriously during its progress, a magnanimous government will be satisfied with the restoration of its authority and adopt towards us the policy of leniency and conciliation, which will tend with the people of Virginia to restore friendly relations, soften the asperities and heal the wounds of the past and enable us to resume our former position as peaceful and prosperous citizens of Virginia and the United States

4<sup>th</sup> Resolved, that the crime of assassination which has so recently deprived this United States of its President has in all ages & countries received the unqualified detestation of honorable and civilized communities and that the perpetration of this Crime deserves the utmost punishment of the law the and condemnation of all upright men

On Motion the Council then adjourned to meet Thursday morning at 10 o'clock

M Slaughter, Mayor

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Mayor's Office on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Charles Herndon, W H Cunningham, Jos W Sener, J J Young, B T Gill, H B Hall, Jno G Hurkamp, Jas McGuire, Chs Scott, Geo Gravatt, Thos F Knox—Common Councilmen

Mr J J Young moved a reconsideration of the Preamble and resolutions relating to our present situation, adopted on yesterday, which motion was unanimously carried and thereupon on motion of Mr W A Little, the following Preamble & Resolutions were unanimously adopted ,

Whereas this Community finding itself subject to the Government and laws of the United State and under the undisputed control of its authority and

Whereas they are satisfied that their interests and duty alike require that they should recognize the situation and submit to said authority and laws, and as quite and orderly [Page 403] citizens,

acknowledged the powers that be and endeavor to preserve the character of a law abiding and peaceful community which it has ever been their purpose to maintain and

Whereas further, it is deemed proper that this community through their constituted representatives give expression to these views at this time, and communicate the same to the United States authorities,

Therefore, Resolved

1<sup>st</sup> That the Mayor, M Slaughter Esq'r be and he is hereby appointed Commissioner to proceed to Richmond and present a copy of these proceedings through Gen'l M R Patrick, to said authorities

2<sup>nd</sup> Trusting that as this Community is in no way responsible for the causes which led to the Revolution and have already suffered so seriously during its progress a magnanimous Government will be satisfied with the restoration of its authorities and adopt toward us the policy of cooperation[?] & conciliation, which will tend with the people of Virginia to restore friendly relations, soften the asperities and heal the wounds of the past and enable us to resume our former position as peaceful and prosperous citizens of Virginia and the United States

3<sup>rd</sup> Resolved, that this community in common with the whole Southern people, believe that the crimes of assassination which so recently deprived the United States of its President has in all ages and countries received the unqualified detestation of honorable and civilized communities hereby express their hearty condemnation of the said crime and the profound regret that it should have been occasioned.

On motion the Council then adj'd

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Mayor's Office on Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

W A Little, Recorder

Wm H Cunningham, J W Sener, B T Gill, Chas Herndon, Horace B Hall, Chas S Scott, Jno J Young, Geo Gravatt, Jas McGuire, Thos F Knox, J G Hurkamp—Common Councilmen

M Slaughter, Esq Mayor made a verbal report of the result of his mission to Richmond under resolutions of the Council adopted on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 1865 and thereupon on motion of Mr T F Knox [Page 404] It was unanimously

1<sup>st</sup> Resolved, that in the judgment of this body, in the situation in which we are now placed it will be proper and manifestly the duty as it is clearly the interest and policy of our Civil authorities to take the oath of amnesty and allegiance to the United States Government thus securing the preservation of our civil rights, and as speedily as possible resuming our de facto position as Citizens of the United States. Resolved, that the Mayor and Council and Civil officer of the Corporation of Fredericksburg in a body take said oath before Col Sumner, Commanding Sub District of the Rappahannock.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chamber on Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> day June 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Wm A Little, Recorder

Thomas F Knox, Jos W Sener, Chas Herndon, Chas S Scott, Ben T Gill, James McGuire, John G Hurkamp



After a verbal statement made by the Mayor

On motion of Mr Jos W Sener, It was Resolved, that M Slaughter, Mayor, W A Little & Chas Herndon, be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draft resolutions to be presented to his excellency Gov'r Pierpont, setting forth our present situation &c and in his further motion, the subject of having the obstructions &c in the River removed was referred to the same Committee with directions to take such actions as to them may seem necessary to effect that object.

On motion the Council adj'd

M Slaughter, Mayor

[Page 405]

Council Chamber

Fredericksburg, July 20<sup>th</sup> 1865

James McGuire, B T Gill, Thomas F Knox, Chas S Scott, J G Hurkamp, John J Young, Wm A Little, Horace B Hall, Jos W Sener, Geo Gravatt, & Wm H Cunningham, members of the Common Council elect of the Town of Fredericksburg met at the Council Chamber and took the oaths of office before G F Chew a notary public for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

On motion James McGuire, was called to the Chair and W H Cunningham was appointed Clerk pro tem

On motion, the salary of the Clerk of the Council was fixed at \$2 for each session of the Council

Geo F Chew was elected Clerk of the Council was qualified & entered upon the discharge of his duties as such.

The Salary of the Mayor was fixed at \$200 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March next.

M Slaughter was unanimously elected Mayor of the Corporation and took the several oaths of office before Wm H Cunningham, Commr' under a Commission from the Governor of Virginia

Jas W Sener was elected Recorder of the Corporation and took the oaths of office before M Slaughter a Justice of the Peace for the Corpor'n of Freds'burg

The salaries of the following officers were fixed as follows

The Chamberlain of the Corpo at the rate of Four Hundred dollars per annum.

The Commissioner of the Revenue at \$250 for the balance of the Year.

The collector of Taxes & Rents at 2 percent on all taxes collected by him to the 1<sup>st</sup> of October & 5 pr cent on Taxes rec'd thereafter & 2 percent on Rents

Geo F Chew was elected Chamberlain

Robt W Hart was elected Commissioner of the Revenue

[blank] was elected Collector of Taxes & Rents

Carter M Braxton, was elected surveyor

Robt W Hart was elected Inspector & Measurer of Lumber, Wood &c

Lewis Layton was elected weigher & measurer of coal, grain, salt &c

On motion the number of Police officers for the current years was fixed at two and their salaries were fixed at the rate of \$150.00 each per annum.

The Council then proceeded to elect Police Officers for the [Page 406] current year when James A Magree & John S G Timberlake were elected on the first ballot.

The Tax on Drays Carts & Wagons for the present year was fixed as follows, viz, on Drays & carts \$5 and on Wagons \$10.

Absent: M Slaughter, Mayor

On Motion, James McGuire was called to the chair

On motion the vote by which the salary of the Mayor was fixed at \$200 for the balance of the year was reconsidered.

On motion the salary of the Mayor was fixed at the rate of Four hundred dollars per annum.

The Mayor appoint appointed the following standing Committees

On Finance: Wm A Little, Wm H Cunningham, & Chas S Scott

On Public Property: James McGuire, Horace B Hall, Chs Herndon

On Streets: Jas W Sener, Jno G Hurkamp, George Gravatt

On Pumps: Beverley T Gill, John J Young, Thomas F Knox

Robt W Hart, James A Taylor, John S G Timberlake took their oaths of office before the Mayor

On Motion the Council then adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Mayor's office on Tuesday evening the 1<sup>st</sup> day August 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Beverley T Gill, Wm H Cunningham, Jas McGuire, John J Young, Chas S Scott, J G Hurkamp, Geo Gravatt—Common Councilmen

The official bond of Geo F Chew as Chamberlain of this Corpo in the penalty of \$10,000 with John J Chew & John G Hurkamp as securities was presented to the board approved and ordered to be filed with the Mayor to be taken care of by him in the best manner he can under existing circumstances.

Chas Herndon, member of the Council elect appeared and qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board.

[Page 407]

On motion ordered that a committee of three be appointed whose duty it shall be to enquire into the right and expediency by the Corpo of taxing stages, carriages & all other vehicles running on the streets of the Town at the same rates that Drays and Carts & wagons are now taxed and the said Committee are directed further to enquire and ascertain whether the Charter of the Rd Fred'g & Potomac Rail Road Company has expired and if so what rights heretofore granted to said Company by the Corporation reverts to the Corporation by reason thereof

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs Chas Herndon, W A Little & Chs S Scott the Committee under the foregoing order with directions to report.

An a/c of M Slaughter against the Corpo amounting to \$18.75 was presented, allowed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

The following communication was presented to the Mayor, viz.

Fredericksburg, Va Aug 1<sup>st</sup> 1865. Mayor Slaughter.

The sanitary conditions of the town will of course claim the first and earnest attention of your council. I am desirous of co-operating so far as I am able in this matter, and desire the co-operation of the City authorities in return. It will be indispensable to have labor which cannot be procured without money. I would therefore suggest that your take into consideration the propriety of levying a small per capita tax and also property tax for this purpose.

I am Respectfully yours

T M Harris, Brig Gen'l

which communication having been read was ordered to be filed. On motion the mayor is requested to reply to said communication.

The Council proceeded to elect a collector of Taxes & Rents of the Corporation when Landon J Huffman was unanimously elected.

The following persons were elected overseers of the poor for the Town to serve until the next annual appointment Viz; Chs S Scott, Edwin Carter, Edwd L Heinichin, Geo W Wroten, Chs B Waite, Wm Burke.

L J Huffman, Collector &c took the oaths of office before [Page 408] before the mayor.

The official bond of Landon J Huffman as Collector of taxes & Rents in the penalty of \$10,000 with W P Conway & W H Hall as securities was presented to the board approved & ordered to be filed with the Mayor to be taken care of by him, in the best manner he can under existing circumstances.

On motion, ordered that a Committee of two be appointed whose duty it shall be to enquire and report to the Council what alterations & amendments are necessary to be made in the ordinances of the Corporation in relation to colored persons.

Mess'rs Charles Herndon & Wm A Little were appointed the Committee under the foregoing order.

On motion the Mayor was added to the foregoing Committee.

On motion, Ordered the Finance Committee be instructed to require the Comm'r of the Revenue forthwith to proceed and list all persons doing business in this town & also subject to license tax and the said Comm'e are directed to prepare a tax bill in conformity with such list & to report the same to the Council, at the earliest day practicable.

James B Sener, W A Little, and John F Scott are appointed proxies to represent the interests of the Corporation in the Fred'g & Gordonsville Rail Road Company at any meeting of the Stock holders of the said Company to beheld therewith

On motion the Council then adjourned.  
M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, held at the Council Chamber on Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

J W Sener, Recorder

Wm H Cunningham, Chas S Scott, Beverley T Gill, Chas Herndon, James McGuire, John J Young, J G Hurkamp—Common Councilmen

On motion made and seconded, it is ordered that the Chamberlain be & he is hereby directed to purchase fourteen chairs for the use of the Council [Page 409] & of the Corpo Court upon the best terms that he can.

An Ordinance imposing taxes for the year 1865 was passed and is in the words and figures as following to-wit;

An Act imposing Taxes for the year 1865

Passed August 8<sup>th</sup> 1865

1. Be it ordained by the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that there shall be levied and collected on persons, property and other subjects of the Town of Fredericksburg to defray the expenses of the Corporation for the Year ending the third Monday in March 1866. The taxes following to-wit.
2. On real estate forty cents for every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioners books.
3. On all personal property forty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioner's Books.
4. On each white or colored male above twenty one years of age two dollars.
5. On monies solvent bonds, securities and liquidated claims except Corporation Bonds forty cents on every hundred dollars
6. On all capital invested or used in any manufacturing business or invested used or employed in any trade or business twenty five cents on every one hundred dollars.
7. On the monies and personal property of joint stock companies forty cents in every hundred dollars.
8. On a license to keep an ordinary or house of public entertainment twenty dollars and if the yearly value of such house & furniture exceeds one hundred dollars but is less than two hundred dollars, the Tax shall be forty dollars, and if the yearly value exceeds two hundred dollar then shall be added to the last mentioned sum, five per centum in so much thereof as exceeds two hundred dollars.
9. On a license to keep a house of private entertainment or private boarding house or any other house not private but kept for public rent for any purpose five dollars, and if the yearly value of such rent & furniture exceeds one hundred dollars then the tax added to the last mentioned sum five per centum on so much thereof as exceeds one hundred dollars. (But no house shall be deemed a private boarding house with less than five boarders.
10. On every license to keep a cook shop or eating house \$7.50, and in addition thereto 10 per centum on so much of the yearly value thereof as exceeds \$100.00
11. On every license permitting a bowling alley or saloon, twenty dollars, provided that where there is more than one such alley kept in one room \$7.50, each shall be charged for the excess over one.

12. On every license permitting a Billiard table, \$37.50 dollars provided that where there are more than one such table kept in any one room fifteen dollars (\$7.50) each shall be charged for the excess over one table.
13. On every license permitting a bagatelle or other like table twelve dollars and fifty cents and if more than one two dollars and fifty cents for each additional table kept in the same house.
14. On every license to a keeper of a livery stable, one dollar for each stall thereof.
15. On every license to a merchant or mercantile firm if the capital employed including as capital the cash so used, whether borrowed or not and goods purchased on credit by the Merchant or firm be shewn by affidavit to be less than \$500.00, the tax to be paid shall be Twelve dollars and fifty cents, if over \$500.00 and under \$1,000. \$15, if \$1,000 & under \$1,500 \$17.50, if \$1,500 & under \$2,500 \$20.00, if \$2,500 & under \$5,000.00 \$30, if \$5,000 & under \$10,000, \$50, if \$10,000 & under \$15,000, \$65.00 if \$15,000 & under \$20,000, \$75. And in every case in which the license to a Merchant or Mercantile firm includes permission to sell wine, ardent spirits or a mixture thereof, porter, ale or beer by wholesale or retail and additional tax of twenty dollars, subject however to a deduction of amount of tax imposed on this class by the military authorities.
16. Merchant Tailors, lumber merchants, dealers in coal, ice, or wood, shall obtain licenses as merchants & be assessed and taxed thereon as other merchants are by the preceding section of the act.
17. On every license to a Commission Merchants forwarding merchant and script broker twenty dollars each.
18. On every license to an auctioneer or vendue master, twelve dollars and one per centum upon the amount of all sales made by business thereon.
- 19 On every license to a person selling goods by sample or card, otherwise than at some store house or place of trade, fifty dollars, but such sales made at such store house shall subject the person doing business at such store house to a tax required to be paid by a merchant.
20. On Hawkers, Pedlars, others vending articles in the Streets or elsewhere in the Town whether foreign or domestic growth & manufactures \$25.00
21. On every license permitting any public show, exhibition, or performance \$10.00, and for every exhibition of a circus, \$20.00 and for every exhibition of menagerie \$30.00. All shows exhibitions and performances whether under the same canvass or not shall be construed to require separate licenses therefore and upon any such shows, exhibitions and performances being concluded so that an additional fee for admission be charged, the same shall be construed to require an additional license therefore
22. On every license to an Agent or subagent of any insurance company not chartered by this State, twenty five dollars.
23. On every license to the owner of a daguerrean or such like gallery by whatever means it may be known or called twelve dollars.
24. On every license to sell by retail porter, ale or beer twenty dollars
25. On every license to a broker \$25.00
26. On every license to a person engaged as agent for the renting of houses and lands \$10.00
27. On every license to a person engaged as agent for selling and purchasing real estate \$12.50
28. On toll bridges & ferries, \$10.00
- [unnumbered] On any Steam board agent the sum of \$50 for each Steamer for which he may be an agent.
29. Be it further ordained that the Commissioner of the Revenue do enter in the books provided for the purpose, the amount due from each person under the provisions of this ordinance.
30. Be it further ordained that the said Commissioner of the Revenue shall assess all persons required to obtain licenses and make a fair alphabetical list thereof as far as he may have progressed with the same at intervals not exceeding fifteen days and deliver such list to the Collector for his guide in collecting the taxes imposed by this ordinance on such licenses.

31. Be it further ordained that all persons who shall call on the collector and pay him the taxes due by them under this ordinance (except for license tax) by the 15 day of December next, shall be entitled to a deduction of five per centum and those paying the by 15 day of January next to a deduction of two per centum on the amount of their respective accounts.

32. Be it further ordained that the taxes shall be collected, accounted for and paid to the Chamberlain of the Corporation by the Collector from time to time as collected and that the said Collector shall finally settle his collections on or before the second Monday in March next.

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

This Act shall be in force from its passage.

On motion the Council then adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting to the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chambers on the 21<sup>st</sup> day August 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

J W Sener, Recorder

Wm A Little, James McGuire, Chas S Scott, Wm H Cunningham, Bev T Gill, Geo Gravatt, Chas Herndon, Horace B Hall—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of considering a Communication addressed to J W Sener, Esq'r , Recorder, by Geo H C Rowe, Esq'r, Chairman of a Committee appointed at a public meeting of the Citizens [Page 410] of Fredericksburg protesting against the Tax bill lately passed by the Common Councilmen and also a communication from Capt Herman Selission Provost Marshall regarding the sanitary condition of the town which communication was read and ordered to be filed and thereafter on motion of Mr Wm A Little

It was resolved that an appropriation of [blank] dollars be made to be expended under the direction of the Street Committee in cleaning the lots, streets, & alleys of the town, in conjunction with the Military Authorities and that the Ordinances, Chap 38 be at once strictly enforced by the police officer, except that the owner or agent of vacant lots shall be required to remove all nuisances at once and the same shall be removed by the Police and the expenses changed to said owners and received by warrant in case said parties fail to obey said order.

On motion of Mr Horace B Hall, the blank in the foregoing Resolution was filled with the sum five hundred dollars by the following vote, Viz

Ayes Wm A Little, James McGuire, Chs S Scott, Bev T Gill, George Gravatt, Chas Herndon, Horace B Hall

Noes Jos W Sener, Wm H Cunningham

Ordered that the Clerk of the Council produce a copy of the foregoing Resolution to be presented to the Military Authorities of the Town

On motion the tax bill passed by the Council on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 1865 was taken up for reconsideration & amendment and thereafter the following tax bill was read & passed instead of the bill passed the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 1865. viz

An ordinance imposing taxes for the year 1865

Passed August 21<sup>st</sup> 1865

1. Be it ordained by the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg that there shall be levied and collected on person property and other subjects of the Town of Fredericksburg to defray the expenses of the Corporation for the Year ending the third Monday in March 1866. The taxes following to-wit.
2. On real estate forty cents for every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioners books.
3. On all personal property forty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioner's Books.[Page 411]
4. On each white & colored male above twenty one years of age two dollars.
5. On monies solvent bonds, securities and liquidated claims except Corporation Bonds forty cents on every hundred dollars
6. On all capital invested or used in any manufacturing business or invested used or employed in any trade or business twenty five cents on every one hundred dollars.
7. On the monies and personal property of joint stock companies forty cents in every hundred dollars.
8. On a license to keep an ordinary or house of public entertainment twenty dollars and if the yearly value of such house & furniture exceeds one hundred dollars but is less than two hundred dollars, the Tax shall be twenty five dollars, and if the yearly value exceeds two hundred dollar then shall be added to the last mentioned sum, five per centum in so much thereof as exceeds two hundred dollars.
9. On a license to keep a house of private entertainment or private boarding house & that house not private but kept for public rent for any purpose five dollars, and if the yearly value of such rent & furniture exceeds one hundred dollars then the tax added to the last mentioned sum five per centum on so much thereof as exceeds one hundred dollars.
10. On every license to keep a cook shop or eating house seven dollars and fifty cents, and in addition thereto 5 per centum on so much of the yearly value thereof as exceeds one hundred dollars.
11. On every license permitting a bowling alley or saloon, twenty dollars, provided that where there is more than one such alley kept in one room seven dollars and fifty cents, each shall be charged for the excess over one.
12. On every license permitting a Billiard table, thirty seven dollars and fifty cents provided that where there are more than one such table kept in any one room fifteen dollars each shall be charged for the excess over one table.
13. On every license permitting a bagatelle or other like table twelve dollars and fifty cents and if more than one five dollars for each additional table kept in the same house.
14. On every license to a keeper of a livery stable, one dollar for each stall thereof.
15. On every license to a merchant or mercantile firm if the capital employed [412] including as capital the cash so used, whether borrowed or not and goods purchased on credit by the merchant or firm be shewn by affidavit to be less than \$500 the tax to be paid shall be ten dollars, if over \$500, & under \$1000 fifteen dollars, if \$1000 & under \$1500 seventeen dollars & fifty cents if \$1500 & under \$25000 twenty dollars, if \$2500 & under \$5000, thirty dollars, if \$5000 & under \$10,000 fifty dollars, if \$10,000 & under \$15,000, sixty five dollars and if \$15,000 & under \$20,000 seventy five dollars, and in every case in which the license to the merchant or mercantile firm includes privileges to sell wine or ardent spirits and mixtures thereof . Porter, Ale or beer by wholesale or retail, and additional tax of twenty dollars subject however to a deduction of the amount of taxes imposed on this class by the Military Authorities.

16. Merchant tailors, lumber merchant, dealers in wood shall obtain licenses as merchants and to be assessed and taxed thereon as other merchants are by the preceding section of this act.
  17. On every license to a Commission merchant forwarding merchant and ship broker twenty dollars each
  18. On every license to an auctioneer or vendue master twelve dollars and fifty cents and one percent made by him or them.
  19. On every license to a person selling goods to sample card, therein than a some of the houses or place of trade, fifty dollars, but such sales made at street store house, shall subject the person from at such store house to a tax required to be paid by merchant.
  20. On hucksters, pedlars & others, selling articles on the streets or alleys of the town, whether from foreign or domestic growth and manufacture Twenty five dollars.
  21. On every license permitting any public show, exhibition, or performance \$10 and for every exhibition of a circus \$20 and for any exhibition of a menagerie \$30 all shows exhibition and performances, whether under the same canvass or not shall be construed to require a separate license therefore, and upon any such shows exhibition or performances being concluded so that an additional fee for admission be changed, the same shall construed to require and additional license therefore.
  22. On every license to an agent or sub-agent of an insurance company [Page 413] not chartered to this state, twenty five dollars.
  23. On every license to the owner of a Daguerean or such like gallery, by whatsoever name it may be known or called twelve dollars & fifty cents.
  24. On every license to sell by retail Porter, ale or beer, twenty dollars.
  25. on every license to a broker, twenty five dollars
  26. On every license to a person engaged as agent for the renting of houses and lands ten dollars
  27. On every license to a person engaged as agent for the selling and purchasing real estate twelve dollars and fifty cents.
  28. On every license to a physician, Surgeon, Dentist and on any license to an attorney at law five dollars.
  29. On every steamboat agent, fifty dollars for each steamer for which he may be an agent
  30. On toil bridges and ferries, ten dollars
  31. Be it further ordained that the Commissioner of the Revenue do enter in the books provided for the purpose, the amount due from each person under the provisions of this ordinance.
  32. Be it further ordained that the said Commissioner of the Revenue shall assess all persons required to obtain licenses and make a fair alphabetical list thereof as far as he may have progressed with the same at intervals not exceeding fifteen days and deliver such list to the Collector for his guide in collecting the taxes imposed by this ordinance on such licenses.
  33. Be it further ordained that all persons who shall call on the collector and pay him the taxes due by them under this ordinance (except for license tax) by the 15 day of December next, shall be entitled to a deduction of five per centum and those paying the by 15 day of January next to a deduction of two per centum on the amount of their respective accounts.
  34. Be it further ordained that the taxes shall be collected, accounted for and paid to the Chamberlain of the Corporation by the Collector from time to time as collected and that the said Collector shall finally settle his collections on or before the second Monday in March next.
  35. Be it further ordained that the said Collector shall not be allowed to return any lists of insolvents or absentees or have any credit therefore but upon oath or affirmation that such list is true, nor shall such return be admitted by the Chamberlain in his settlement with the Collector until the same be passed upon and allowed by the Common Council
- This Act shall be in force from its passage.

The following resolution offered by Wm A Little was adopted.



Resolved, That the Finance Committee be requested to report to the adjourned meeting of the Citizens of Fredericksburg on the Tax bill; that the Council have carefully considered the tax bill and all the objections made thereto by the Committee appointed by said meeting though they have much fear that the bill as amended will not raise the fund necessary to be raised for the necessary expenditures of the Corporation. Yet in deference to the expressed wishes of the people in said meeting and in the earnest desire to reduce the taxes to the lowest point in the present condition of this community the council has reduced the bill.

On the application of Mr James R Dowell leave is granted him to extend his telegraph line through the town during the pleasure of the Council and under the supervision of the Street Committee.

On motion Mr Chas S Scott as an Overseer of the Poor is requested to attend specifically to the case of Jeremiah Allen, a citizen of the town.

On motion the 8<sup>th</sup> section of the 25<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the ordinance licensing drays, carts & wagons is amended so as to read "the rates of hauling shall be forty cents for drays & carts and eighty cents for wagons, per load to and from the wharves, until changed or altered by an ordinance.

Mr H B Hall tendered his resignation as a member of the Council which was on motion received.

The council then proceeded to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Horace B Hall when Robert W Adams was unanimously elected.

On motion the Council then adjourned  
M Slaughter, Mayor  
[Page 415]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> of August 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Jos W Sener, Recorder

John J Young, Thos F Knox, Chs Herndon, Chs S Scott, James McGuire, Wm H Cunningham, B T Gill, Wm A Little—Common Councilmen

And a/c of C S Scott against the Corpo amounting to \$19.30 is allowed and ordered to be paid.

The Mayor presented to the Board a communication from Geo H C Rowe, Chairman on the part of a meeting of the Citizens of Fred'g accompanied by a copy of the Resolutions passed by said meeting, which communication having been read was on motion rec'd and thereupon the following resolutions were adopted, viz;

Resolved that in reply to the Resolutions of the adjourned meeting of citizens of Fredericksburg, the Council respectfully that they fixed the salaries of the Corporation officers at a former meeting and by law they now have no further control over the matter. That they have reduced the tax bill as far as they can do with any regard to their sworn duty; and that it is not possible further to reduce said bill and carry on the organization of the Corporation

On motion the Council then adjourned  
M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Jos W Sener, Recorder

Chas S Scott, John J Young, Chas Herndon, J G Hurkamp, Jas McGuire

Robt W Adams a member of the Council elect appeared was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board.

An a/c of Hart & Hayes, amt'g to \$0.80 is allowed and ord'd to be paid.

Ord that the a/c of Buddy Taylor for cleaning out and [Page 416] liming the Exchange Hotel, amt'g to \$5.00 is allowed & ordered to be paid, and it is further ordered that the Mayor proceed to recover the said amount from the Exchange Hotel Company under the Ordinance as that case made and provided.

Present Wm H Cunningham

On motion, Jas McGuire was excused

Messr C S Scott tendered his resignation as an overseer of the Poor of the Corpo, which motion was on motion rec'd

Mr Chs B Waite tendered his resignation at an overseer in this Corpo, which resignation was on motion received.

Mess'rs James Hayes & Argalus E Samuel were elected overseers of the Poor of the Corpo in the room and stead of Chas S Scott & Chas B Waite resigned.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> day September 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

J W Sener, Recorder

Chas S Scott, Wm H Cunningham, Thos F Knox, John J Young, James McGuire, Wm A Little, Chas Herndon, Ro W Adams

The following preamble & resolutions were on motion and unanimously adopted, viz;

Whereas the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg has reason to believe that the animus and principles of the people have been misrepresented to the people and Government of the United States, Therefore,

I. Be it Resolved by this body that personally as well as in the name and on behalf of the people of Fredericksburg we claim for them and do hereby declare that by our voluntary and prompt acceptance of the oath of amnesty and assumption of the obligations of Citizenship we have signified our intention [Page 217] and now reiterate our determination to bond the State of Virginia to the Federal Union, believing that in that Union lies all her interests and all her hopes of prosperity.

II. Resolved, that the forbearing and conciliatory course of President Johnston and his wise and magnanimous statesmanship claim our admiration, confidence & grateful appreciation and that we recognize in his co-labor in the work of the restoration of the South, Hon F D Pierpont, Governor of Virginia an officer equal to the arduous task before him and whose administration calls for this recognition of its ability and success.

III. Resolved that we take this occasion to testify our appreciation of the able impartial and courteous character of the Military administration of Mayor Gen'l S S Carroll, Commanding this District, that we recognize his successful efforts to administer justice & promote harmony among all classes, and in our opinion the interests of the Government will be served by his continuing in command at this place.

4. Resolved, that the Mayor be requested to communicate a copy of these proceeding to Major Gen'l Terry commanding department of Va also Major General S S Carroll, commanding this District

Ordered that the a/c of E McDowell against the Corpo amt'g to \$11.50 be paid by the Chamberlain

On motion, M Slaughter, is appointed Proxy to represent the interests of the Corpo at any meeting of the stockholders of the Fred'g and Gordonsville Railroad Co in place of John F Scott who declines to act.

On motion an additional appropriation of \$250.00 is made to expended by the Street Committee

On motion ordered that the public property Committee cause the wall around the grave yard on Pr Edward Street to be repaired & put in order.

On motion the Council then adj'd

M Slaughter, Mayor

[Page 418]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday the 22<sup>d</sup> day of September 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Jos W Sener, Recorder

Charles Scott, Charles Herndon, James McGuire, Beverley T Gill, George Gravatt, William H Cunningham, John J Young

The Mayor presented a communication from the Street Committee which being read, on motion made and seconded the same was referred to a committee consisting of Charles Herndon, Wm H Cunningham & William A Little, with directions to said committee to report upon the subject matter of said communication to an adjourned meeting of the Council to be held at four & a half o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

On motion the Council adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at Council Chamber on Saturday the 23<sup>d</sup> day of September 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

J W Sener, Recorder

James McGuire, Charles S Scott, Wm H Cunningham, John J Young, Charles Herndon, Beverley T Gill

Charles Herndon from the Committee appointed on yesterday to consider & report upon the communication of the Street Committee presented on yesterday made a report which was read and adopted and is as follows, viz.

Whereas the Corporation of Fredericksburg in the original grant to the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Rail Road Company expressly stipulated that in laying the rails across the streets the said company shall not allowed to form any inconvenient obstruction to the passage of carriages along the street across the said railroad, nor to obstruct the passage of the water through the gutters of the said streets. And whereas said company lately rebuilt its bridge over the Rappahannock river at this place and in such rebuilding at line without the consent of the Corporation authorities elevated said bridge and by consequence it tracks through [Page 419] the Town, thereby in the opinion of the Street Committee and other citizens forming inconvenient obstructions to the passage of carriages across said streets and whereas the culverts and the means of drainage on or near Princess Ann street are in the opinion of the same committee in such condition as not effectually to drain the water from the street and lots adjacent thereto.

And whereas Col Carter M Braxton, the Engineer agent of the said Company states in person before the Council that he is instructed by said Company so to grade the streets as well in his opinion do away with any and all obstruction so complained of or likely to be complained of and that he is instructed also so to open and clear out the culverts and other means of drainage at the points complained of as effectually to drain the streets & lots adjacent thereto. Now this Council not desiring to act in any capricious spirit but only to preserve intact the rights of the town are willing at the instance of the said Engineer officer to await the result of said grading and cleansing which in the opinion of said Engineer will remedy the said grievances or cause their delay or actual prejudice to the streets of the Town in the premises and said Company will have to remunerate any and all individuals who may be injured or damaged by the work already done or that which is to be done. Should said grading when completed satisfy the Street Committee that said track as it then stands forms no inconvenient obstruction to the passage of carriages across said street, and should said cleaning effectually drain the streets and lots now complained of, then this Council will be will be satisfied that no damage will result to the town from the present elevation of said track.

But should the said grading and cleaning not effectually remedy the grievances complained of, then this Council will proceed at once against said Company to enforce the legal rights of the Town in the premises.

Resolved that a copy of these proceedings be sent to the President of said Company

On motion the council then adjourned.

M Slaughter, Mayor

[Page 420]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday afternoon October the 23<sup>d</sup> 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Jos W Sener, Recorder

Chas Herndon, Wm H Cunningham, Chs S Scott, Geo Gravatt

There being no quorum present the Council stood adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening October the 24<sup>th</sup> 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Jos W Sener, Recorder  
James McGuire, Robt W Adams, Chas S Scott, Wm H Cunningham, Bev T Gill, J G Hurkamp, Geo Gravatt, J J Young, Chas Herndon—Common Councilmen

The Mayor having reported in writing that the Police officers had discharged their duties for the last quarter as well as could be expected under the circumstances, it is ordered that the Chamberlain pay them their salaries for said quarter.

An account of Johnston & Co for lamps & kerosene oil amt'g to \$4.75 is allowed and ordered to be paid.

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Robt W Hart \$93.75 amt of his salary as Com'r of the Revenue for the quarter ending the 20<sup>th</sup> inst.

An acct of Jno J Berry against the Corpo amt'g to \$11.00 was on motion referred to the Finance Comm for settlement.

On motion of Chs Herndon, Esq'r, Resolved that the quarter salaries of the Corporation officers due March 1865 be paid at the rate of 23 for 1 in specie or its equivalent.

A Motion was made by Mr Chs Herndon, that the Salaries of Corpo Officers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March 1865 to the 20<sup>th</sup> July 1865 be paid at the rate of 60 per 1 on specie or its equivalent and the vote being taken on motion it was rejected  
[Page 421]

Mess'rs M Slaughter & Jos B Sener, proxies to represent the Corpo at any meeting of the stockholders of the Fredericksburg and Gordonsville Rail road Company made a report in writing which report having been read was on motion received and ordered to be filed.

On motion of Mr Chs Herndon the following preamble and resolution was adopted.

Whereas a memorial has been addressed to the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fred'g from Mess'rs Chs J Howell and John E Vassar asking for the use of the armory room in the Court house building for the purpose of instructing white children of the Town whose parents & guardians may be unable to pay for tuition.

Resolved that the use of said be granted to said applicants for the period of twelve months for said purpose, the necessary repairs to be made without expense to the Corpo as proposed in the memorial of said applicants.

On application in writing from Hugh S Doggett proposing to rent the main building of the Town Hall was on motion referred to the Public Property Committee with instructions to said Committee in any arrangements made with the applicant, to keep in view the thorough repair of the building in order to the preservation of that property.

On motion of Mr James McGuire it is ordered that the Chamberlain be and he is hereby directed to cause a notice to be served on the Sergeant of the Corporation of Fredericksburg requiring him to pay over to the said Chamberlain the amount of a judgment recovered by the Mayor and Commonalty of said Town against the Old Dominion Steam Boat Company.

On motion the Council adjourned  
M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chamber on Thursday evening the 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 1865

Present Jos W Sener, Recorder

James McGuire, Geo Gravatt, W A Little, William H Cunningham, Charles Herndon, Beverley T Gill, Chas S Scott, John G Hurkamp, Jno J Young

[Page 422]

The Chamberlain reported to the Council that in obedience to an order heretofore entered he caused a notice to be served on the Sergt of this Corpo requiring him to pay over to the sd Chamb'r for the use of the Corpo, the amount of a judgment in favor of the sd Corpo against the Old Dominion Steam Boat Company and that the said Sergeant has failed to do so as required.

An account of Mess'rs Waite & Sener amounting to \$66.50 as certified by the Corpo Court for payment is allowed and ord. to be paid by the Chamb'r.

Mr Chs Herndon moved that the Serg't of this Corpo be direct to pay over the amt of the Judg't received by the Corpo against the Old Dominion Steamboat Company to Mess'rs Wm A Little & Chas T Goolrick the Council of the Corpo in said case, which motion Mr Cunningham moved to amend to the extent that said Serg't be directed to pay over one moiety of sd Judg't to Mr Wm A Little and the he pay over the other moiety thereof to the Chamb'r for the use of the Corpo and the vote being taken on said amendment it was carried.

An application of Mr Jos B Ficklen proposing to purchase the fee simple estate in an house and lot on Caroline Street was on motion referred to the Comm'e on Public Property with directions to report the next Council.

Mr Wm A Little, of the Finance Comm'e to whom was referred the account of the Mr John J Berrey amounting to \$11.00 reported adversely on the payment of the sd a/c. Report was concurred in.

On motion of Mr James McGuire the Recorder Mr Joseph W Sener, is requested to confer with the Freedmans Bureau and ascertain their views with regard to the appointment of an agent on the part of the citizens of the Town to act in cooperation with said Bureau in all cases in which white and colored citizens are concerned.

On motion Mr Chs S Scott Jr, is ordered that a Committee of three be appointed by the Mayor whose duty it shall be to confer with the Fred'g Aq't Co and inform them of the reasonable complaints of the public of the town arising out of the mismanagement of the affairs of said company and [Page 423] and request that a General Meeting of the said Company be called to confer with the said committee & also to ascertain at what sum said company will dispose of their works to the Corporation and to report the results of their conference to the Council.

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs Chs S Scott, Jno G Hurkamp, & Jos W Sener as the Committee under the foregoing order.

On motion the Council adjourned.

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Nov'r 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Mos W Sener, Recorder

Ro W Adams, James McGuire, Wm B Cunningham, Chas Herndon, Chs S Scott, J G Hurkamp, Bev T Gill, Thomas F Knox—Common Councilmen

Ordered that the a/c of James H Bradley amounting to \$8.00 which is allowed be paid by the Chamb'r

On motion ordered that the Clerk be & he is hereby authorized to purchase stationary for the use of the Council for the official purposes, the account for the same to be rendered to the Council for its approval

On motion of Mr Chs Herndon, Resolved that the council in response to the proposition of the Steam Boat Company to remove the wrecks from the channel of the river near the Town provided the Council would agree to pay for the coal to be used in the experiment, hereby signify their willingness to furnish the coal necessary provided not more than \$60 of worth of coal will be required or used to be pd for by the Chamb'r, upon the order of the Finance Committee and should the first experiment succeed then the Finance committee are authorized to make a further expenditure in coal to remove the other wrecks. Said further expenditures not to exceed the sum of \$150. The additional expenditures to be paid by the Chamb'r on the order of the said Committee.

[page 424]

The Public Property Committee to which was referred the application of Mr Jos B Ficklen to purchase the fee simple estate in a house & lot on Caroline Street, reported adversely to said application which report on motion received & adopted.

On Motion, the Council then adjourned

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a Called meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 1865

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

J W Sener, Recorder

Chas S Scott, James McGuire, Geo Gravatt, J G Hurkamp, Wm H Cunningham, John J Young, Bev T Gill

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of considering the propriety and necessity of appointing a citizen of the town to act in conjunction with the Freedman's Bureau, when Mr Chs S Scott moved that such appointment be now made which motion was carried.

The Council the proposed to elect a Commissioner on the part of the citizens of the Town in the Freedman's Court about to be convened, when James B Sener Esq'r was unanimously elected.

On motion the Mayor was authorized to employ counsel to protect the interest of the Corpo in a suit now depending in the Circuit Court of Spots County under the style of "Timberlake vs Little &c".

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay the insurance quota now due to the Mutual Society of Va Amounting to \$101.74.

On motion of Mr C S Scott, ordered that the Mayor be & he is hereby requested & authorized to correspond and ascertain on what terms a sufficient fire apparatus for the use of the Town can be procured.

[Page 425]

On motion of Mr J J Young, Resolved that the Mayor be requested to issue his Proclamation calling the Citizens to gather at an early day for the purpose of organizing a Fire Company.

Mr J W Sener, offered the following resolution Viz:

Resolved that from and after this day a tax of 5 upon every passenger passing through the Town upon the Rich'd Fred'g & Poto Rail Road be imposed and that said Company be liable to said tax which said resolution was on Motion of Mr Jas McGuire laid on the table.

On motion the Council then adjourned.

M Slaughter, Mayor

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday Evening the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor

Joseph W Sener, Recorder

John G Hurkamp, William H Cunningham,, George Gravatt, William A Little, James McGuire, Beverley T Gill

The Mayor stated that he had conveyed the council at the instance of the Recorder who desired to submit a report in relation to the Fire Engines belonging to the Corporation.

Whereupon on motion made & seconded it was resolved that J W Sener be appointed a Committee to proceed to Richmond ascertain whether the Fire Engine now in said City is the property of the Corporation of Fredericksburg and if so to take the necessary steps to procure it and the said Joseph W Sener is hereby invested with full power to sell & dispose of the said Engine if in his judgment it would be better to do so looking to the interests of the Corporation.

The Mayor stated that he had in obedience to the request of the Council employed Mr Thomas B Barton as council in the case against the Old Dominion Steamboat Co, his compensation to be fixed subject to the Council by request of Mr Barton.

[Page 426]

The mayor read a communication from Wm R Morse Brev Mayor U.S.A. & also Comm'r of Freedman whereupon it was resolved that permission be granted the Morse to occupy one of the rooms in the Court House for the purpose of holding a Freedman's Court.

On Motion, ordered that the Committee heretofore appointed to confer with the Fred'g Aqueduct Co in relation to the management of said Co be requested to examined into the present conditions of the works of the Company and report to the Council.



The following bills were presented and ordered to be paid

A A Little <i>New Era</i>	\$14.25
J B Sener <i>Ledger</i>	\$16.00

Whereas the attention of the Council has been called by the Grand Jury of Inquest of the Corporation to the filthy condition of the Market House lot and the steps leading down from Princess Anne Street to the Market House,

On motion ordered that the Public Property Committee be instructed to wait upon the officer commanding this post and respectfully request him to have the Market House now occupied by the troops vacated as it is very much needed for Corporation purposes and to further represent that that the condition of the premises is caused (as the Council believes) b y the occupation of said building by the soldiers.

Whereas the Grand Jury of Inquest of this Corporation has found the burnt walls on the Farmers hotel lot to be very dangerous and should be removed, Therefore Resolved that the police officers be directed to notify the owner thereof to remove the same without delay and if the said nuisance be not removed in three days after notice to said owner then the police officers are hereby directed to remove the same at the expense of the owner to be recovered by warrant.

On motion made and seconded, Resolved that the Mayor be requested to confer with Mr Alexander K Phillips in relation to the interests of the Corporation under the will of the late Mrs Margaret Phillips and report the result of his conference to the Council.

On motion the Council then adjourned.  
M Slaughter, Mayor

[Page 427]

At a Called Meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, held at the Council Chamber on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of December 1865.

Present M Slaughter, Mayor  
J W Sener, Recorder

Chs S Scott, Ro W Adams, B T Gill, Jas McGuire, J G Hurkamp, Geo Gravatt, Wm H Cunningham, J J Young.

An s/c of B Peyton amt'g to \$1.50 is allowed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain

Mr Jos W Sener who was heretofore invested with full power to sell & dispose of the fire engine in the City of Richmond made a report which was read, received and ordered to be filed

An a/c of J W Sener amt'g to \$16.25 is allowed & ordered to be paid.

The committee heretofore appointed to confer with the Fred'g Agt Co in relation to the management of said Company made a report in writing which having been read was on motion ordered to be filed

Mr Chas Herndon resigned his seat as a member of the Council which resignation was on motion received.

The Council then proceeded to elect a member to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr Chs Herndon when Mr Jno L Marye Jr was elected on the first ballot.

A Communication from Thos B Barton Esq'r relating to the case of the Corpo Fredericksburg vs The Old Dominion Steam Boat Co was received & on motion ordered to be filed.

On motion made & seconded ordered that the several communications rec'd by the Mayor & now held by him, on the subject of purchasing Fire Engines be turned over to the Commander of said Company in the Town Fredericksburg

On motion of J W Sener ordered that the Mayor be & he is hereby requested to direct the Com'r of the Revenue to complete & furnish to the collector of Taxes his books for 1865 [Page 428] as soon as possible, and in the event of his inability to procure blank books to prepare them himself.

Mr Jno L Marye Jr having declined to serve as a member of the body, the Council proceeded to elect a member to elect a member in the room & stead of Charles Herndon resigned when Mr G W Shepherd was elected in the first ballot  
Present Thomas F Knox

Mr J J Young the following resolutions viz;

1. Resolved, as the sense of the Council that the interest of this Corpo in the Fred'g & Gordonsville Railroad be given to any company or corporation that will agree with the President & Directors of the sd road to furnish the same in five years from the first day of January next.
2. Resolved that the Delegate in the Legislature be requested to present this action to the Legislature and urge similar action by that body.

And the vote having been taken on said Resolutions by ayes and noes, they are adopted by the following vote viz.

Ayes: Jos W Sener, Chs S Scott, J G Hurkamp, Wm H Cunningham, Jno J Young, Geo Gravatt -6

Noes R W Adams, Bev T Gill, Jas McGuire, Thos F Knox. -4

On motion the Council then Adjourned,

M Slaughter, Mayor