

Fredericksburg Council Minutes 1890

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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Monday January 15th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

W E Bradley, J T Knight, J S Knox, G W Wroten, M G Willis, E D Cole, J H Myer, A K Phillips Jr, J W Colbert, T McCracken —councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council was called at the request of Councilmen Knight, Phillips & Colbert, for the purpose of receiving and acting upon the petition of voters and fixing the date of the election on the Bridge question.

Mr Knight stated that he had received a telegram from our Delegate informing him that the Governor had signed the Bridge Bill, and it had become a law; he presented a petition signed by 53 citizens of the Town qualified voters, 27 of whom were free holders, asking the Council to cause an election to be held in the City in accordance with the bill for the purpose of deciding “For” or “Against” a bridge across the Rappahannock River opposite this [Page 239] city within 30 days at a cost of not exceeding \$25,000.

The petition was read after which Mr Knight presented the following which was seconded,

Resolved that the Mayor be requested to issue his proclamation ordering a special election to be held at the usual voting precincts in this Town on Thursday January 23rd 1890 on the question “For” or “Against” a Bridge and that he also be requested to have the same advertised in the Fredericksburg Star and the Free Lance and also in hand bill form and that he do anything else that may become necessary in furtherance of this object, Whereupon,

Mr Colbert offered the following as a substitute for the resolution offered by Mr Knight, which was also seconded,

Whereas the Legislature of Virginia has granted to the Corporation of Fredericksburg the right to issue bonds to the extent of \$25,000 to erect a bridge at some point between Prussia and Fauquier Streets; Resolved that before the question “Bridge” or “No Bridge” is submitted to the voters, or the Council fix a site for the same, that a competent Engineer shall be employed by the Bridge Construction Committee to examine the several sites and report to the Council;

First of a site most convenient to the Citizens of Fredericksburg and of the Citizens of Stafford and King George counties, and the probable cost of erecting a bridge at the sites that may be offered.

Second, said Engineer shall also report, which of the several sites in his or their judgment is best suited for a bridge that will be safest against floods and other casualties that may arise.

Resolved, that the Bridge Construction Committee be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for a sum sufficient to carry out these resolutions.

The vote was taken upon the substitute offered by Mr Colbert, by Ayes & Noes, and it was adopted by the following vote,

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Ayes Mess’rs Knox, Colbert, McCracken, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Myer 7

Noes Mess’rs Wroten, Phillips, Gouldman, Knight 4

Mr McCracken stated that a Charter was now before the Legislature for the building of a rail road by the C & O Railway Co, from Gordonsville to Quantico, calculated to severely interfere with the trade of Fredericksburg if built upon the route as laid down in the Charter and he hoped some action would be taken by the Council to prevent the passage of the bill in its present shape.

On Motion, Mr Cole, the rule was suspended for the present meeting.

Mr McCracken offered the following which was adopted.

Resolved that a Committee of the members of the Council and three citizens be appointed to go to Richmond and use their best efforts with the Legislature to prevent the passage of the proposed charter for a railroad from Gordonsville to Quantico unless it is so modified as to include Fredericksburg in the route of said road.

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs McCracken, Knox and Bradley from the Council and Mess'rs H F Crismond, T P Wallace, and J G Mason from the citizens.

Mr J G Mason was present and by consent heard on behalf of Mess'rs C Wilder & Co and he submitted the following for the consideration of the Council.

"It appearing that Mess'r G W Wilder & Co had pursuant to undertakings and agreements with the Corporation of Fredericksburg dated 9th August 1889 through the Committee of its Council, Mess'rs M G Willis, T McCracken & J W Colbert, deposited in the National Bank of Fredericksburg \$1500.00 to credit of St G R Fitzhugh & J G Mason as security for their [Page 241] good faith in the erection of the proposed Silk Factory and it further appearing that said Wilder & Co had shown their good faith and full intention to erect and complete said Factory, now already advanced fairly to completion; it is hereby Resolved, that said St Geo R Fitzhugh and J G Mason be and they are hereby authorized to check upon said fund in favor of C W Wilder & Co for the full amount of said deposit of fifteen hundred dollars.

Mr Colbert moved the adoption of the paper offered by Mr Mason, which was seconded, whereupon, Mr Bradley moved that the matter be referred to the Special Committee consisting of Mess'rs Willis, McCracken & Colbert for report at the Council on Friday next.

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

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At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Monday January 17th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

J H Myer, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, M G Willis, J S Knox, J M Griffin, T McCracken, E D Cole—
councilmen

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The Mayor reported fines for the past quarter \$15.50, also Dog collars License issued to 1st Inst \$320.50 On Motion, Mr Cole, the usual fee of 15¢ each was allowed the Mayor for Licenses for Dog Tax. The Mayor reported that the Police Officer had discharged their duties faithfully and on Motion the Treasurer was directed to pay the Police Officers their salaries for the past quarter ending 31st December 1889.

Mr Knox, Chrm Finance Committee reported favorably upon the application of Shiloh Baptist Church to refund \$10.91 taxes paid upon their property used for public worship.

On Motion, Mr Bradley, the Treasurer was directed to pay to Shiloh Baptist \$10.91 amount of taxes erroneously paid upon their church property.

Mr McCracken, Chrm Pub Prop Comm, reported that the Committee had purchased two new stoves for the Court House which were very much needed.

Mr Wroten, Chrmn Street Committee, stated that some time ago his Committee had been directed to enquire into the cost of opening Pitt Street to the Washington Monument, but as there was no immediate necessity for it no action had been taken. The Committee is of the opinion that Washington Avenue should be widened say to 150 feet from Commerce St to the Monument as there is every prospect of the Washington Monument being completed, the Ladies having taken hold of the matter in earnest and the City to have an attractive approach to it.

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Mr Willis submitted the following which was adopted.

Resolved that the Street Committee be requested to have a survey and plot made of the Street from Commerce Street to Washington Monument and report at a called meeting of the Council.

Mr Willis, Chrmn Water Comm, reported the Water Works in good order, collections for water rents equal to any collection we have had. He presented application of J T Goolrick asking the Council to make a rebate in the Water rent against the property of Judy Prior Est, the rent been paid amt'g to \$19.67

On Motion, Mr Bradley, the application of Judge Goolrick was laid on the table.

Mr Willis called the attention of the Council to the fact that Mr Clark had drawn on the Committee for 6 mos Rent, which the Committee declined to pay as they consider that there should be a rebate for time lost in repairs of dam, some 3 or 4 months, in which time no water was furnished.

On Motion, Mr Cole, the matter of water rent due Mr Clark was referred back to the Water Committee with power to act.

Mr Willis presented a communication from Marye & Fitzhugh handing their account amt'g to \$25.00 for professional services in the matter of Ray & Pettit in responsibility in keeping or taking care of the water passing through their canal from the Water Power Co canal.

On Motion, the account of Mess'rs Marye & Fitzhugh was ordered to be paid.

Mr Wroten, presented a memorial of Mrs E A & Miss S C Pittman to the Legislature of Va asking that body to refund to them the fine of \$150 imposed by the Corpo Court of Fred'g and paid. The Memorial is signed by the Commonwealth Attorney and the Jurors, and they ask that the Council also recommend a remission of the fine.

Mr McCracken offered the following which was adopted.

Resolved, that our Senator and Delegate in the Legislature of Virg'a be requested to use their

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best efforts to secure the remission of the fine of \$150 imposed upon and paid by Mrs E A & Miss S C Pittman.

Mr Willis, Chrmn Special Committee stated that the Committee had examined into the application of Mess'r C W Wilder & Co and report that they had progressed with the work of building the Silk Factory to the entire satisfaction of the Committee and the Committee recommends that the \$1500 deposited by Wilder & Co in National Bank Fredericksburg to credit of Mess'rs St G R Fitzhugh & J G Mason be released and the same paid over to them in accordance with the resolution offered Jan'y 13, 1890 and referred to us.

On Motion the report of the Committee was adopted and the amt deposited by Wilder & Co ordered to be turned over to them.

A communication for the Garfield Light Infantry Co Fred'g was presented asking the Council to appropriate \$96.00 to enable the Company to pay the rent of the Armory.

On Motion, Mr Cole, the sum of ninety six dollars was appropriated for the purpose of paying the rent of an Armory for the Garfield Light Infantry Company provided that the hall used as an Armory be not used for political purposes at any time.

On Motion, Mr Willis, the Council proceeded to the election of Superintendent City Water Works. The Salary of Superintendent City Water Works was fixed at \$600 per annum. Capt S J Quinn was nominated, balloted for and unanimously elected Superintendent of City Water Works for the ensuing year.

Mr Tansill having failed to give bone as Scavenger for the Upper Ward, Mr J W Rodgers was nominated, balloted for and elected scavenger for the Upper Ward in place of Mr Tansill who failed to give the required bond.

Mr McCracken, Chrmn Bridge Committee, stated that the Committee had a meeting a few days since and [Page 245] decided to engage the services of an Engineer to examine and report in regard to a site for the bridge and probable cost of same. Only four members of the Committee he regretted to say were present. The Council then adjourned
A P Rowe, Mayor

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Monday January 20th 1890
Present H R Gouldman, Recorder
M G Willis, J S Knox, J H Myer, J W Colbert, E D Cole, A K Phillips Jr—councilmen

The Recorder stated that the Council was called at the request of the Street Committee to report on the resolution of Mr Willis offered at last Council in regard to Street from Commerce Street to Washington Monument.

Mr Myer from the Street Committee stated that the Committee in obedience to the resolution offered and passed at last Council presented a plat of Washington Avenue from Commerce St to Washington Monument made by Prof Wm Nelson and which was laid before the Council as the Committee's report

On Motion, Mr Cole the report of the Committee was received and plat returned to be preserved by the Committee.
The Rules were suspended for the present meeting.

Rev'd J G Shackleford was present and desired to be heard in reference to the fund allowed by the Council for support of Mrs Malone. Mr S stated that the amount of \$8.00 pr month had been regularly drawn up to the present time and the same judiciously expended for the parties and as he would leave Fredericksburg on or about 15th February, he desired the Council to name some suitable person to disburse the fund in his place, should [Page 246] if be the pleasure of the Council to continue the appropriation after he leaves the City.

On Motion, Mr Willis, the statement of Mr Shackleford as to the disbursement of the fund referred to him was approved and the same adopted as his report, and the matter of continuing the appropriation after 15th February was referred to the Committee on Alms House

The Council then adjourned,
H R Gouldman, Recorder
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At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Monday January 21st 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

J H Myer, J T Knight, J W Colbert, G W Wroten, J M Griffin, W E Bradley, A K Phillips Jr, J S Knox, E D Cole, T McCracken—councilmen

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr Knox, Chrmn of Finance Comm, presented an account of the *Free Lance* office amt'g to \$7.14 which was ordered to be paid.

Mr Cole, Chrmn Alms House Committee reported that the Committee was unanimous against continuing the allowance of \$8.00 per month for the support of Mrs Malone & daughter, outside of the Alms House.

Present: M G Willis

Mr Knight presented a communication from members of the Fire Department recommending the re-election of Mr H McCracken to the position of Chief of the Department

Mr M H McCracken was nominated and unanimously elected Chief of the Fire Department for the ensuing year.

Mr Knight presented the following which on Motion Mr McCracken was referred to the Ordinance Committee.

The Committee on Fire Department and Police respectfully submit the following recommendation, That the Mayor cause to be kept in his office a book in which shall be recorded all complaints made to him or his officers and the disposition of them, the value of all property reported stolen with a description of same, the value of all property recovered with the name of the officer recovering same; the number of persons arrested; the number of houses and premises entered by thieves ; the number and names of persons provided with lodging in the lock up; the number and names of persons provided by the Mayor with transportation to offer cities or towns, and the [Page 248] number of arrests made for crimes committed outside of the Criminal jurisdiction of the Corporation and that the Mayor be authorized to designate one of his officers to keep said record.

Mr McCracken, Chrmn of Bridge Constr Committee, reported in writing that after some delay the committee had secured the services of a competent Engineer to survey two sites for the proposed bridge across the Rappahannock River, one at Scott's old site, & the other near the rail road bridge. The Engineer hoped to be able to complete the survey of both sites within two weeks. He also submitted the proposition in writing of Mr A L Johnson the Engineer employed to make the survey and give estimates of cost of erecting or building the bridge at both sites for the sum of \$250.00 which proposition the Committee had accepted.

On Motion, Mr Bradley, the report of the Committee was adopted.

Mr Knight, presented the following which was adopted.

Whereas there is now pending in Congress a bill having for its object the building of a roadway to the National Cemetery at this place and

Whereas the United States Engineer has made a survey and recommendation of said roadway, now Therefore, be it resolved by the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg that our Representative in Congress, Hon F H Bayley Brown and our Senators, Hon J W Daniel and Hon J S Barbour be and they are earnestly requested to do all in their power to further and hasten said legislation and that the clerk of this Council be directed to send a copy of this resolution to our Senators and Representatives from this State.

Mr McCracken presented the following bills to be forward to the legislature for its adoption, authorizing the City to build, purchase, or lease Gas Works and the borrow money for the purpose [Page 249] An Act to allow the City of Fredericksburg to supply Gas for use of said City and to issue bonds of the City to effect said purpose.

1st Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia that it shall be lawful for the City of Fredericksburg to provide for supplying said City and the inhabitants thereof with a suitable and adequate supply of gas by leasing or by the purchase and enlargement or improvement of suitable Gas Works, or the erection of new gas works and to that end to borrow money and to issue and negotiate the bonds of said City for the same to the extent of twenty five thousand dollars.

2nd Said Bonds shall be known and designated as Fredericksburg Gas Bonds and shall be registered or Coupon bonds as may be determined by the Council of said City; shall be issued in such denominations and bear such rate of interest not exceeding six percent per annum as many be determine by said Council. The principal of said bonds shall be payable thirty years after the first day of January 1890 or upon the call of said Council at any time after ten years from said date; said bonds shall bear the Corporate seal of said City , shall be signed by the Mayor thereof and countersigned by the Clerk of said Council and shall have printed on the face or back thereof the statement that they were issued pursuant to the provision of this act, and the ratification by the voters of said city, as prescribed herein, they shall be negotiated or sold in such manner as may be prescribed by said Council and they may be so negotiated or sold at not less than pa, provided that only so much money shall be borrowed hereunder and such amount of said bonds issued therefore as may be necessary for the purpose herein declared; and no money shall be borrowed nor any of the said bonds issued thereof unless and until a plan or scheme for supplying said City with gas shall be agreed upon and adopted by the Council thereof and ratified by the vote of the qualified voters of said City as hereinafter provided.

3rd The control and management of said gas works shall be [Page 250] under the directions of said Council to be exercised by itself or through such Committees or Agencies as it may adopt, and said Council shall prescribe and regulate the rate of charges to be paid for the use of Gas lights furnished by the City, may impose fines and penalties for the injury or abuse of said works or property connected therewith or for the abuse or waste of the gas furnished by said City; and may enforce and collect such fines and penalties and the charges for gas by distress or otherwise as said Council may determine.

4th The revenues derived for the charges of gas and the fines and penalties collected pursuant to the third section thereof shall after paying the running expenses of said works be appropriated towards the payment first of the interest on the bonds herein authorized to be issued; next to provide a sinking find for the liquidation of said bonds, and then to such objects as the Council may determine, but to provide for keeping up and running said works, and the payment of the interest and principal of said bonds, sand Council shall in aid and supplement of said revenues levy and collect taxes on any and all subjects, which it is now or may hereafter be authorized to tax; and said Council may also secure the payment of the principal and interest of said bonds by a mortgage or deed of trust upon all the works, rights, and properties, which may be erected, built or acquired under this act. The sinking fund to be provided for the liquidation of said bonds shall not be less than one per cent per annum upon the amount of bonds outstanding.

5th To the purpose of erecting, building, enlarging or improving gas works as aforesaid and laying pipes said City may acquire by purchase or otherwise and hold such real of personal property within or without said City as may be necessary therefore; and may have such lands within or without said City necessary for such purpose condemned and the right of way acquired by proceeding before the tribunal having jurisdiction over the same in the manner prescribed by the general laws of [Page 251] the State for condemning lands for other works of internal improvement.

6th After said Council shall have matured and adopted a plan or scheme for supplying said City with gas as aforesaid it shall submit such plan or scheme to the qualified voters of said City at such time and in such manner as said Council may prescribe consistent with this act for their ratification or rejection, at least ten days notice of the time and manner of such election shall be given by publication in newspapers, published in said City and by hand bills posted therein; and the result thereof shall be ascertained and declared in the manner prescribed by said Council and shall be proclaimed by the Mayor by publication. If at such election three-fifths of the qualified voters of said City who shall vote on said plan or scheme embracing a majority of the free holders of said City so voting thereon shall appear to be in favor of said plan or scheme it shall be declared ratified, otherwise it shall be declared rejected and this act shall be void; and such vote shall be taken within three years from the date of the approval of this act and thereafter.

7. This act shall be in force from its passage.

On Motion Mr McCracken the bill was adopted and our Senator and Delegate in the Legislature were requested to use their best efforts in procuring the passage of the same before the close of the present session.

A communication from J C Grant, Lieut, Garfield Infantry asking the Council for the privilege of renting their Armory to religious societies for entertainment, the rent from such entertainments to be used for the benefit of the Company was read.

On Motion, Mr Bradley the permission asked for by Lieut. Grant was granted.

Mr Knight offered the following which was adopted.

Whereas the map of this Corporation is now inaccurate and defective, be it [Page 252]

Resolved, that the Committee on Finance be authorized to contract for and have an accurate survey and map drawn of this City.

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday January 21st 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

G W Wroten, J W Colbert, A K Phillips Jr, J T Knight, J M Griffin, E D Cole, J H Myer, M G Willis, J S Knox, W E Bradley—councilmen

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr Knox, Chairman of Finance Committee presented the following.

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report at this meeting and recommends the adoption of the License tax for the Year beginning on 1st day of May 1890 and ending April 30, 1891, they recommend the same License taxes (as a whole) that the Council passed last year, with the amendment made by the Council changing the manner of collecting the license from the Opera House passed in October or November in which a specific sum for each performance was substituted for an annual license ; all other

licenses remaining the same, the other features such as [Page 253] discount allowed for prompt payments &c are fully set forth in the printed pamphlets, save and except the time for final payment changed by a former council to May 15th is held on to and its adoption by your Committee, all of which is respectfully submitted.

Signed, J S Knox, H R Gouldman, E D Cole, committee

On Motion, Mr Knox, the License tax for the year 1890-91 as recommended by the Committee was adopted.

Mr Cole, Chrmn Alms House Committee, Reported one death at the Alms House since last regular meeting.

A communication from W T Hart was read asking the Council to make some change in the ordinance concerning bill posters so as to protect licensed bill posters from outside parties distributing bills, paying no license.

On Motion, the communication was referred to the Ordinance Committee.

Mr Knight, Chrmn F & P D, reported that complaint had been made that some of the Fire Plugs were out of order but that the Supt of Water Works had to day reported that the plugs had been repaired.

Mr Cole for the Bridge Construction Committee stated that in the absence of the Chrmn Mr McCracken the Committee was unable to report. He stated that the Engineer had not yet furnished the Committee with drawings and estimates of the bridge but they were looked for in a few days. Mr Cole also read a letter from Mr Mosby to the Bridge Committee explaining the cause of the delay.

Mr Knight presented the following which was seconded.

Whereas nearly three months have elapsed since the contemplated bridge was chartered by the Legislature and the bill pushed through with such unusual activity that if the same energy had marked its course since that eventual period a Western or Southwestern Virginia town would have completed the bridge before this time and [Page 254] the country people uninterruptedly coming to our markets would have helped trace and enhanced property values, thus enlivening our City, and helping to keep some of our business men in Fredericksburg to invest their Capitals here and build up this old Virginia Town with manufacturing advantages and great rail road and water facilities for mercantile purposes and trading with the different sections of this great country of ours, activity and progress should characterize us as a business people and we should not longer delay in this all important matter, no longer allow this slow policy to operate detrimentally to the business interests of our town, second to none as she is in location and other advantages.

Two weeks have elapsed since the Engineers were here, making estimates and yet nothing definite has been done and as it takes only a few weeks added to a few already past to make months yet again thus entailing upon our town, loss of trade and loss citizens, therefore be it

Resolved that the McDougall site adjoining Prussia Street be and the same is hereby selected by this Council for the location of the contemplated bridge as per Charter or bill of last Legislature.

Mr Bradley rose to a point of order, that the preamble and resolution of Mr Knight could not be considered until the Bridge Construction Committee had made its report under the resolution passed at a meeting of the Council held on 13th January past.

The Mayor decided the point well taken.

Mr Knight appealed from the decision of the Mayor, but afterward withdrew it.

An application from T F Stonebraker presented for the privilege of using Prince Edward Street adjoining the Basin, was read and on Motion referred to the Street Committee.

The Mayor having reported favorably the Treasurer on motion, was directed to pay the police officers their salaries for the quarter ending 31st Inst.

The Council then adjourned,

R W Adams, Clerk.

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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Monday March 31st 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

J S Knox, T McCracken, M G Willis, W E Bradley, J H Myer, E D Cole—councilmen

A quorum not being present the Council stood adjourned.

R W Adams, Clerk

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday April 1st 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

J H Myer, M G Willis, J S Knox, T McCracken, W E Bradley, E D Cole—councilmen

A quorum not being present the Council stood adjourned.

R W Adams, Clerk

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday April 2nd 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

J S Knox, M G Willis, W E Bradley, J H Myer, T McCracken, E D Cole

A quorum not being present the Council stood adjourned.

R W Adams, Clerk

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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Thursday April 10th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

J S Knox, J H Myer, T McCracken, M G Willis, W E Bradley, E D Cole—councilmen

A quorum not being present the Council stood adjourned.

R W Adams, Clerk

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday April 11th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

E D Cole, J S Knox, T McCracken, M G Willis, J H Myer, W E Bradley, J M Griffin, A K Phillips Jr, G

W Wroten, J T Knight, J W Colbert—councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council was called for the purpose of receiving the reports of the Bridge Construction Committee and to comply with the requirements of the Bridge Act of 10th January 1890.

Mr McCracken, Chrmn Bridge Constn Committee presented the following as the Report of a Majority of the Committee.

“The Committee herewith returns the estimates of Mr Johnson, a competent Engineer who was recommended to the Committee by Major E T D Myers, an Engineer of reputation.

By these estimates it appears that it will cost \$1000 more to build a bridge at Scott’s site than at Prussia Street. Both estimates provide that the Bridge piers shall be one foot above the highest freshet.

Your Committee further report that the people of lower Stafford and Upper King George have held public meetings and requested that the bridge be built at Scott’s site and [Page 257] as it is expected that those people jointly will pay an annual rental of about \$1000 your committee consider than in a financial point of view the City should accede to their request. These people also suggest that unless the bridge is built where it will be useful to them and where they desire that they will send their produce to Alexandria and Washington, they will not pay the cost of opening new roads to a new site, and if Fredericksburg was to pay this cost it would make the lower bridge cost much more than the upper.

It will also be noted in the estimates that the cost of condemnation of landing on Leitch’s farm has not been estimated which will be an additional cost, for this reason looking at the matter from a financial stand point your Committee recommends the Scott Site as the judicious one to be selected.

Second, as a matter of policy the Scott site will benefit the larger number of merchants, it being opposite the most densely populated and the business portion of the city.

A bridge built near the railroad bridge would be useless to Lower Stafford unless costly roads are opened through the Phillips farm and the Leach farm about two miles in length. No country vehicles could cross a bridge built at Prussia Street with being frightened by passing trains and few would risk the danger.

Moreover in event of accident which would certainly happen, the Corporation might be held liable for damages, especially if there should be loss of life.

The approach at Prussia Street which is only twenty eight feet wide would be over Ray & Pettit’s Mill Race, this being only a wooden frame would certainly break in with heavy travel over it and the City would be liable for any injury in this way to person and property as well as Mess’rs Ray & Pettit. The Committee are of the opinion that under no circumstances should the bridge be built on Prussia Street.

The Bridge Construction Committee would further report that [Page 258] that they are entirely satisfied from much reliable information that there will be no difficulty in obtaining contracts form the most responsible and competent bridge builders for the construction of such bridge as is required at Scott’s Site at a cost including the site not in excess of the limit of \$25,000 prescribed by the Act of 10th January 1880 and probably at a much lower figure, and they would further report that they now hold a 60 days option from MR Chs S Scott on his said site at the price of \$1500 including the island which is a most valuable addition to the bridge site and its acquisition by the City might be very important.

Signed, T McCracken, M G Willis, E D Cole, Charles Wallace.

Mr McCracken also submitted the following and recommended its adoption on the part of the Committee as part of their report.

At a Special Meeting of the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg, Virginia at the Council Chamber in pursuance of lawful notice this 11th day of April 1890 at 8 o’clock PM the said Mayor and Common Council having been petitioned by fifty voters of the City of Fredericksburg, one half of whom are free holders to cause a vote of said City to be taken in pursuance of the provisions of an Act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved January 10th 1890 entitled “An Act to Authorize the City of Fredericksburg to build and operate a bridge across the Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg, the first section of which said act is as follows (see 1st section in margins)

It is ordered by the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg in pursuance of said first section of said act and in strict accordance with its requirements that a vote of said city of Fredericksburg be taken on Tuesday the 29th day of April 1890 upon notice advertized by hand bills and by publication at least in once a week in the *Fredericksburg Star* and the *Free Lance* until the day of election, the first

advertisement to be published in the Free Lance Newspaper on Tuesday April 15th 1890, upon the question of authorizing the Common Council of said City to build a bridge across the Rappahannock River at some point between Fauquier and Prussia [Page 259] Streets of said city with authority to condemn or purchase any sites and rights necessary therefore on other side of said river the entire cost of building said bridge not to exceed twenty five thousand dollars. Such vote to be taken at the usual voting places in the Upper and Lower wards of Fredericksburg, pursuant to Section 1244 of the Code of Virginia of 1887 except that on the ballots used shall be printed or written “for the Bridge”

or “against the Bridge” instead of “For the Subscription” and “Against the Subscription” as provided by said section. The Judges of Election hereinafter names shall open the polls at their respective precincts at sunrise upon said day and conduct said election in accordance with the directions of said act of 10th January 1890 and shall close said polls as required by law in other elections.

And it is further ordered that the Mayor shall see that the above order is executed in accordance with law, and that the proper advertisement is made and tickets printed as prescribed by said act.

And it is further ordered that the following citizens and voters of Fredericksburg constitute the Judges of Election for the Upper Ward, Viz;

Jas T Layton
Douglas H Knox and
John Sullinger

And the following citizens and voters of said City constitute the Judges of Election from the Lower Ward viz:

A Mason Garner
John W Rodgers and
Geo F Downing

In the event of the failure of any of said Judges to serve their places shall be filled as required by law.

Mr Bradley moved the adoption of the majority report with the recommendation which was seconded, Whereupon, [Page 260]

Mr Knight presented the minority report of the Bridge Construction Committee and moved to adopt, which was seconded, which was read and is as follows;

The undersigned members of the Bridge Construction Committee dissenting from the report made on 31st ulto respectfully submit;

The Engineer mentions only the probable cost of erecting each of the two bridges contemplated, a drawing unaccompanied by any suggestions, recommendations, or specifications is all we have as the result of his labor, but as he did all that was required of him we forbear to censure, why he was not directed to perform all the duties laid down in the resolution authorizing his employment we are not informed, and as it was deemed important by the majority to publish their entire report, including figures of Engineer showing probable cost before the convening of your honorable body, we are left to wonder why the Engineer report itself, line for line was not included in the publication.

Your minority have never been advised of the coming or arrival of Engineer, when his several short visits were made, had they known of these visits they would cheerfully have met him and joined their counsel with that of the majority.

Though the drawings plainly indicate that but little consideration and still less labor was bestowed on the lower site, yet the fact forced its way that the cost of erecting a bridge there was much less than at upper, this is admitted by the Engineer’s estimate.

After a careful view of both location ourselves, together with data obtained from competent engineers and builders we are thoroughly convinced that a structure at lower site complete in all particulars including

roadways across Leitch farm (the right of way being given for a mere trifle) can be had for less than two-thirds cost of a structure of equal height and permanency as at upper, this we believe can be substantiated by inviting contractors to view both locations and make actual bids for the work, bids to be accompanied by drawings, plans and specifications, [Page 261] a disinterested Engineer might be employed for consultation who could remain afterwards and superintend erection in the interest of the City. This in our judgment would be the most business like proceedings and the least could be said of it would be your are starting right.

We boldly assert that no worse approaches could be found fronting this City than those leading to the upper site from the Stafford side, and with equal emphasis declare that no better could be desired than those approaching the lower.

Only tow roads are practicable as near approaches from Stafford side; nature could hardly have made them worse, to be utilized at all. Leaving bridge on that side and moving eastward the traveler must ascend a long steep and at night dangerous hill; when the crest is reached must descend passing for the most part over a miry clay road until reaching Claiborne run, the condition of whose banks and frequent liability to overflow thus impeding travel, is too well known to be commented on here, nor is the route improved continuing on toward and up Phillips' Hill where again must be encountered, mire clay and long ascent. Leaving bridge from same side and moving southward after passing a few hundred yards one must go through a narrow defile in an embankment with miry bottom and plunge into a route where track serves the treble purpose of road bed, county stream and basin for the waters of surrounding highlands; at times of high water and during the prevalence of ice and snow, this route is impassable and would never have been located except from dire necessity, that necessity the reaching Coalter's bridge, contrast this with the advantages of lower site approaching the Stafford side. The bridge would land at once on a hard gravel ridge and this ridge continues whether moving in an easterly or southern direction for miles; the angle of the east and south roads is but a short distance from where the bridge would land and these roads lead directly toward the fine farming lands of the Rappahannock & Potomac; [Page 262] middle and lower Stafford could pass into the east road from either side; Claiborne run with its mud slush and hills would be avoided, the route to King George by way of the river or South road is in line with lower site and but a short distance from it with an excellent ridge road from the Start. This Site would be accessible from all points and we know would be hailed with delight by lower Stafford, all King George and the counties below. Coming from bridge into City a dead level is struck instantaneous and this level is continued in almost every direction until City limits are passed.

The Producer is within three blocks of both rail road depots and the docks and no matter in what direction he might turn, a host of competitive buyers would be found for his marketing until either extreme was reached, and if desired he might go to both, property would enhanced in value an many improvements stimulated thus increasing the revenue of our City. We have taken the liberty of the making these rather lengthy suggestions because the reports of the majority and Engineer have not touched upon them at all. It is next to impossible to erect a bridge at upper site of the required height without grading at enormous cost at both ends, and at the same time placing a barrier across Water Street which would be ruinous to the interest of that thoroughfare, to say nothing of its unsightly appearance. The grading on the Stafford side would be of such a pitch, unless at great expense as to almost bar the approach from the south road. No bridge has ever been placed there but has washed away while the rail road bridge contiguous to the lower site has stood the test of all freshets from the time it was built nearly sixty year ago to the present. Engineers estimate makes bridge at upper site cost \$28,200, but does not enter into details or particulars, does not even sate whether bridge is to be of iron or wood, and says nothing as to number of feet high. No other estimate was spoken of or exhibited at the called meeting of Construction Committee to [Page 263] consider the reports &c. Which meeting your minority attended. Indeed it appears all through to have been the paramount duty to fix upon upper site, and this it seems has been done, disregarding all business principles in regard to cost or character of structure. Engineer places length of bridge at 721 feet; we learn length of old bridge was more than 1000 feet, certainly he cannot shorten it and if longer than his figures

must add largely to his estimated cost. Estimate provides for using the stone from the old pier; competent judges inform us that the soft sand stone in those piers is entirely unfit for supporting a heavy iron structure and should not under any circumstances be used; the site we learn can be had for \$1500. If the old stone is rejected then the cost of site and structure according to the Engineer's estimate would be \$29,700; far in excess of the appropriation; but we believe the cost of a completed highway there that would compare favorably with what is proposed for lower site would before finished be much greater than these figures, thus increasing taxation; Actual bids for complete structure at lower site by first class bridge builders to fill all the requirements of the situation is for an iron bridge placed on solid stone piers for \$22,300 and if placed on solid stone bases, with heavy iron pillars, which we learn are being used every where, for \$18,000; and we are told by bidders themselves that in each estimate these figures may be considerably reduced under a live competition.

We are authorized to state that a frontage of 40 feet on Water Street and extending back to river will be donated to this City through the generosity of Mrs McDougall; and have reason to believe that Mrs Nicholson will be equally as generous in granting a landing and roadway on Stafford side; If natural advantages in respect of sites and approaches, general adaptability, together with least cost, are to have no weight or consideration in determining location then the interest of our City as a whole, and the wishes of a large majority of its citizens are not appreciated. The avowed purpose of a bridge being the inducement to trade and wholly in the interest [Page 264] of the City we earnestly advocate its being made free to all, no matter from what quarter they come, nothing could be more unjust and unreasonable than to ask that the rural districts be taxed to support an establishment by which it is claimed their City is to be so largely benefitted. Our City is fully able to build and maintain a free bridge, and should do so. On the other hand our farmers impoverished by failures of crops and extreme low prices of their products are burdened with all they can bear and should be encouraged and helped.

The declaration of the majority report that trade should be thrown into any particular part of the City for benefit of merchants in that section is untenable. Trade will naturally seek its best interest, and if any locality desired it such inducement should be offered particularly to farmers as would attract commerce and barter, certainly not by forcing them against their will to enter the City at the very door sills of those merchants and the emptying of purses and produce into their hands.

The idea that Country people would not cross a bridge well protected by high and substantial side rails for fear of having their horses frightened by occasional trains passing more than half a block distant, is far fetched and far behind the age. Under that plea road depots and stations would be of little service anywhere. Equally strained is the suggestion that the substantial raceway of Ray & Pettit Mill might give trouble, though no casualty has ever occurred there since its construction, thirty years ago, nor is any likely to occur; it is the duty and interest of the Mill owners to keep the race way in perfect order and should there be an accident, Mill owners, not the City would be liable.

In spite of these apparent facts the majority report recommends the adoption of the upper site, and we are forced to the conclusion that our City has been unfortunate in the selection of four out of six of its [Page 265] bridge Construction Committee from Commerce Street for while these gentlemen are of unquestionable integrity and ability and have shown a commendable zeal in their efforts to give a bridge, yet so closely are their business interests interwoven with the erection of a bridge at their adopted site that they could scarcely be expected to see matters in the same light as do the majority of our free holders, who insists that the lower site is their preference, and claim the right to vote on site as well as appropriation, repelling with indignation the idea that they are not competent to vote on both, as an insult to their intelligences.

The minority from the beginning have felt themselves so helplessly in that element as to believe that their presence at the former meetings would avail nothing, in determining any important measures under consideration, hence their absence.

Your minority in deference to the wishes of the majority of the people, who coincide with their view in the interest of true economy, together with the many advantages herein set forth urgently recommend the adoption of the lower site.

Signed W J King, J T Lowery.

The vote was taken upon the minority report offered by Mr Knight and it was lost by the following Yeas & Nay vote.

Ayes	Mess'rs Wroten, Colbert, Griffin, Phillips, Gouldman and Knight	6
Noes	Mess'rs Knox, McCracken, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Myer and the Mayor	7

The question recurring upon the adoption of the majority report with recommendations presented by Mr McCracken;

Mr Gouldman rose to a point of order, in that the order for an election is not accompanied by the petition of voters and could not be considered; Mess'rs Knight & Phillips favored the point raised by Mr Gouldman; Mr McCracken resisted [Page 266] the point urging that a petition of voters had already been presented to the Council for an election, but independent of this, that the vote had already been taken upon the Minority report and it was now too late and not in order to consider or raise the point presented by Mr Gouldman.

The Mayor ruled that the point raised by Mr Gouldman was not well taken, and that a vote upon the majority report &c was in order.

The vote was then taken by Ayes & Noes upon the Majority Report & recommendation offered by Mr McCracken and the same was adopted by the following vote;

Ayes	Mess'rs Knox, McCracken, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Myer, and the Mayor	7
Noes	Mess'rs Wrote, Colbert, Griffin, Phillips, Gouldman, and Knight	6

Mr Bradley offered the following which was seconded put to the vote by Ayes & Noes and adopted Resolved by the Common Council of Fredericksburg that if it shall appear that a majority of the qualified voters, voting at the Election which has been ordered to be held on Tuesday 29th day of April 1890 which shall include a majority of the free holders so voting are in favor of building said bridge over the Rappahannock river at Fredericksburg, then and in that event, it is ordered by the Council that the old site at the foot of Commerce Street, known as Charles Scott site be and the same is hereby selected as the site of the new Bridge, provided the Bridge can be built at that site within the limits as to cost, prescribed by the Bridge Act of the 10th January 1890.

The vote is as follows;

Ayes	Mess'rs Knox, McCracken, Willis, Cole, Myer and Bradley and the Mayor	7
Noes	Mess'rs Wroten, Colbert, Griffin, Phillips, Gouldman & Knight	6

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On Motion Mr Knox the rules were suspended for the present meeting.

The Mayor read a letter rec'd from E M Crutchfield, Supt Public Schools, Fred'g in which he states that he had received a communication from Hon J E Massey as to the feasibility of locating a Peabody Normal for Colored teachers this summer, and whether the Council would make a small appropriation to aid in payment of incidental expenses.

On Motion, Mr Phillips, the communication was laid on the table until next meeting.

A Communication from S J Quinn, Clerk School Board was read informing the Council of the expiration of the terms as trustees of A B Bowering from the Lower Ward and H J Eckenrode from the Upper Ward and requesting that their successors be appointed at the present meeting.

The Council proceeded to the election of Trustees to fill the vacancies occasioned by the expiration of terms of A B Bowering and H J Eckenrode.

A B Bowering & M C Hall were nominated and balloted for as Trustees of Public Schools from the Lower Ward and the ballots being counted resulted in the election of Mr Bowering for the term of 3 years from April 1890; Mr Bowering received 8 ballots, Mr Hall 4.

H J Eckenrode and R T Knox were nominated and balloted for as Trustees of Public Schools from the Upper Ward and the ballots being counted resulted in the election of Mr Eckenrode for the term of 3 years from April 1890. Mr Eckenrode received 10 ballots, Mr Knox 4

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

[Page 268]

At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday April 18th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

J S Knox, T McCracken, M G Willis, W E Bradley, G W Wroten, J H Myer, A K Phillips Jr, J T Knight, J M Griffin, E D Cole

The minutes of the last meeting was read and approved.

The communication from E M Crutchfield, Supt Public Schools presented and read at the last meeting was on motion referred to the School Committee.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Committee, presented the following accounts which on motion were ordered to be paid Viz

Free Lance	\$7.25
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Fred'g Star	\$19.00
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Mr Willis, Chrmn Water Comm, reported that the water works were in good condition, but the funds of the Committee were running low and asked an additional appropriation of \$200.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the sum of \$200 was ordered to be placed to the credit of the Water Committee.

Mr Willis desired the expression of the Council as to the Committee continuing the rip rapping of the Reservoir which was interrupted by the flood of last June. He stated that there was still unexpended of the appropriation about four hundred dollars.

On Motion, Mr Myer, the Committee was directed to continue the work of rip rapping to the extent of the unexpended balance in their hands.

Mr Phillips asked and obtained leave to retire, Absent: Mr Phillips

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Mr McCracken, Chrmn Bridge Const'n Comm, reported that he had received notice to appear in Court on 21st to answer the injunction which had been obtained against the Committee and asked that counsel be employed to represent the Committee, Mayor and Treasurer in the case.

On Motion, Mr McCracken

Resolved that the Mayor be authorized to employ counsel to represent the Mayor, Bridge Committee, and Treasurer in the injunction case in the Circuit Court on 21st Inst which was seconded put to the vote by Ayes and Noes and carried by the following vote.

Ayes Mess'rs Knox, McCracken, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Myer

6

Mr Knight presented and read a paper signed by six members of the Council, viz. Jno T Knight, H R Gouldman, A K Phillips JR, G W Wroten, J W Colbert, J M Griffin, objecting to an election being held or a vote be taken on April 29th 1890 upon the question of authorizing the Common Council of Fredericksburg Va to build a bridge across the Rapph'k river at Fredericksburg, and giving in said paper their grounds of objection, also recommending that the order of election made on 11th April be withdrawn and that until the Council is presented with a petition signed by 50 voters one half of whom are free holders it will take no further action in the premises looking to the ordering of said election.

Mr McCracken moved that the paper be rejected, which was seconded, whereupon Mr Bradley moved as a substitute that the paper be laid on the table which was also seconded, Mr McCracken accepting the substitute; the vote was taken by Ayes & Noes and it was carried by the following vote [Page 270]

Ayes Mess'rs Knox, McCracken, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Myer 6

Noes Mess'rs Wroten, Griffin, Gouldman, Knight 4

A communication from the Trustees of Public Schools was presented and read and asking an appropriation of \$1150 stating that the amount asked for is needed in order that the Schools may be continued to the close of the present scholastic year.

On Motion, Mr Knox

Resolved that the sum of \$1150 be appropriated and place to the credit of the School Board for the purpose indicated in their communication.

The vote was taken by Ayes & Noes and adopted unanimously.

Ayes Mess'rs Knox, Wroten, Griffin, McCracken, Gouldman, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Knight, Myer 10

Noes None

Mr McCracken presented a communication of Shiloh Baptist Church (col'd) new site asking the Council to allow the congregation the privilege of using the Court House as a place of worship until the Completion of their new Church soon to be in course of construction.

On Motion, Mr Willis, the communication was referred to the Pub Prop Committee with power to act

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

[Page 271]

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday May 2nd 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

T McCracken, J W Colbert, J S Knox, M G Willis, J H Myer, E D Cole—councilmen

The mayor stated that the Council was called to receive and enter of record as required by law the report of the board of the Commissioners who canvassed the vote taken on 29th April 1890 under the bridge act

The report of the Commissioners was read by the Clerk and is as follows

To the Common Council of Fredericksburg, Virginia

We the undersigned members of the Board of Commissioners constituted pursuant to section 1244 VC of 1887 to count the ballots cast at the vote taken on the 29th day of April 1890, pursuant to the Act of the General Assembly approved January 10th 1890 entitled "An Act to authorize the City of Fredericksburg to build and operate a bridge across the Rappahannock river at Fredericksburg & correct the return if needed

and to ascertain and report how many of said ballots were cast by freeholders and how many by non freeholders "For the Bridge" and "Against the Bridge" respectfully report that we met within two days after the ballots had been deposited with the Clerk of the Council on Wednesday the 30th day of April 1890 at the officer of said Clerk of the Council, that four sealed packages of ballots were produced to us by the Clerk of the Council and were opened and counted by us, and that we ascertained that one hundred and thirty eight ballots were cast by freeholders "For the Bridge" and that one hundred and five [Page 272] ballots were cast by freeholders "Against the Bridge", and that three hundred and twenty one ballots were cast by non-freeholders "For the Bridge", and that two hundred and thirty one ballots were cast by non-freeholders "Against the Bridge".

We certify also that this report is signed by a majority of the board and is made to the Common Council to be entered on the order book, or proper record book of said Council pursuant to law.

Given under our hands this first day of May 1870

Signed Jno A England, Robt T Knox, W D Scott, H F Crismond

R W Adams, Clerk of Council

Mr McCracken offered the following which was unanimously adopted by a Yeas & Nay vote

Whereas the report of the Commission constituted pursuant to section 1244 of the Code of Va of 1887 to canvass the vote taken on the 29th day of April 1890 in accordance with the Act of the Gen'l Assembly approved January 10th 1890 entitled An act to authorize the City of Fredericksburg to build and operate a bridge across the Rappahannock river at Fredericksburg has this day been laid before the Council by the Mayor showing a majority of 123 of the popular vote "For the Bridge" and a majority of 33 of the free hold vote "for the bridge" therefore it is hereby ordered that said report be spread upon the record of the Common Council pursuant to law.

The following is the vote

Ayes Mess'rs Knox, Colbert, McCracken, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Myer 7

Noes None

The Council then adjourned

R W Adams, Clerk

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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday May 9th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

T McCracken, E D Cole, J S Knox, M G Willis, G W Wroten, J M Griffin, J T Knight, J H Myer, J W Colbert, A K Phillips Jr—councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council was called for the purpose of considering a communication from the Bridge Committee.

Mr McCracken, Chrmn Bridge Committee, presented the following paper and asked that it be read and moved that the same be spread on the minutes of the Council which motion was put to the vote and carried.

It is agreed that the following order shall be adopted and entered of record at the next meeting of the Council.

1st That no site shall be purchased whereon to locate a bridge until it shall be ascertained that it is practicable to contract with reliable and responsible party or parties who shall give bond with approved security to build a permanent and safe Stone and Iron bridge which shall not cost the City of Fredericksburg more than \$25,000 to which sum said City is restricted by the Bridge Act of January 10 1890.

And which sum is to cover the cost of the bridge, the site, the abutments, roadways, bridge house and land damages on both sides of the Rappahannock river, and said bridge shall be at least one foot above the perils of high water and above the line of the flood of June 1889. And the Council will proceed without delay to advertise for sealed bids for the construction of said bridge or shall authorize the present Bridge Construction Committee so to do.

2nd If it is ascertained that a bridge such as is above described can be built at Scott Site at a cost to [Page 274] the City not exceeding \$25,000, including the cost of site, then the bridge shall be built at Scotts site, and the site and franchises shall be purchased for that purpose.

3rd That the bonds authorized to be issued under the second section of the Act of January 10th 1890 shall not be sold until due advertisement in the *Baltimore Sun* and Fredericksburg papers shall be made for fifteen days of said sale and said sale shall be to the highest bidder within the requirements of the Bridge Act, and the bids for said bonds shall be sealed bids.

4th If it shall be ascertained that a bridge cannot be built at Scott's site within the limit of \$25,000 prescribed by the Bridge Act, then the Council will proceed without delay to select some other site within the terms of the Bridge Act of January 10th 1890, where said bridge can be built at a cost to the City not to exceed the said \$25,000 and shall build the same at that site;

5th That in no event will the advocates of Scott's Site seek to build a bridge at Scott's Site or any other site which shall involve a cost to the City of Fredericksburg of over \$25,000 and under no circumstances will the friends of that site act for additional legislation for a further or larger sum to build a bridge at the Scott's Site or elsewhere.

6th It is understood that by the use of the expression in the first section of this agreement that the building of the bridge shall not cost the City of Fredericksburg more than \$25,000, it is not the purpose of the agreement as it is not in the contemplation of the Bridge Act of January 10th 1890 that the title and ownership of the said bridge (subject to the deed of trust to secure the bonds issued by the City of Fredericksburg) shall vest in whole or in part in any other person or Corporation than the City of Fredericksburg, which City shall be [Page 275] the exclusive owner thereof.

7th If the foregoing is agreed to, the injunction suit of Hunter vs McCracken shall be dismissed at the May Term of the Circuit Court of Fredericksburg, each party to said suit paying their own costs; and the advocates of the lower site will institute no further suits to prevent, delay, or interfere with the building of the bridge at Scott's Site, and its speedy completion.

Signed	H R Gouldman	John T Knight
	Geo W Wroten	A K Phillips Jr
	M G Willis	J M Griffin
	J H Myer	T McCracken
	W E Bradley	J W Colbert
	J S Knox	E D Cole

Chas Wallace, W J King, J T Lowery, Chas E Hunter

Mr McCracken offered the following which was adopted

Resolved that the Bridge Construction Committee be directed to proceed at once to obtain the necessary specifications and to advertise for sealed proposals to build an iron bridge with stone piers across the Rappahannock River at Scott's Site, said bridge to be one foot above the highest water mark, receiving the reserving the right to decline any and all bids, and to report a suitable bid as soon as is made to the Council for further instructions in the premises.

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

[Page 276]

At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday May 17th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

W E Bradley, T McCracken, G W Wroten, J S Knox, J M Griffin, M G Willis, E D Cole, J T Knight, J W Colbert.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Committee presented the following accounts which on motion Mr McCracken were ordered to be paid, Viz

Free Lance amt'g to \$36.25

Free Lance amt'g to \$2.50

Mr Knox also presented a/c of Judges & Clerks of Election for Lower Ward for services at Bridge Election 29th April amt'g to \$25.00 which amount Mr Knox stated was excessive and on his motion the sum of \$3.00 each was allowed the Judges & Clerks of Election for their Services at the election held on 29th April last.

Mr Willis, Chrmn City Water Committee, reported the water works in excellent condition, the work of riprapping the new reservoir was going on well and in order to complete the whole work \$150 more would be needed and the Committee asked that the amount named be appropriated.

On Motion, Mr Cole, the sum of \$150 additional was appropriated and directed to be placed to the credit of Water Committee for the purpose of completing the work on the new Reservoir.

Mr Griffin, Chrmn School Committee submitted the following,

To the Hon Mayor and Common Council

Your Committee to whom was referred the [Page 277] communication of Superintendent Crutchfield relative to the proposed Colored Normal, beg leave to recommend that in the event of its location here the sum of seventy five dollars or so much thereof as may be necessary be appropriated to defray the incidental expenses in connection therewith; said money to be expended under the supervision of the School Committee.

Signed, Jno M Griffin, J W Colbert, T McCracken (committee on schools)

On Motion, Mr McCracken the report of the Committee was adopted and the sum of \$75 appropriated for the purpose named in the report to be expended under the supervision of the School Committee.

Mr Cole, Chrmn Alms House Committee, submitted the report of the Supt Alms House

Showing number of inmates at present, 18; Whites 2 males, 3 Females 5

Colored 7 males, 6 Females 13

3 are under treatment by the Doctor, 3 scarcely able to walk from infirmity and old age, the combined ages of 6 of the inmates is 548 years.

Mr Knight from the Alms House Committee reported the case of Mr Iron who was badly frost bitten and paralyzed last winter, and when care was so critical for some time that he has to be take care of in the City. The Committee will have him removed to the Alms House.

Mr Bradley, Chrmn Health Committee, called the attention of the Council to the pool of stagnant water on the steamboat Co's wharf.

Mr McCracken presented the following which was adopted.

Resolved that the sum of fifty dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated out of the Treasury of this City as a donation to the Fredericksburg Grays to assist in defraying the expenses of said company incident to their contemplated trip to Richmond on the occasion of the unveiling of the Monument to General R E Lee on the 29th Instant, and the Treasurer of this City is directed to pay the amount thus appropriated to R B Berrey, Captain commanding said Company to be disbursed [Page 278] by him for the benefit of his command.

Capt R B Berrey being present was heard in advocacy of the appropriation.

Mr Colbert offered the following which was seconded put to the vote and lost by the following vote;

Ayes	Mess'rs Wroten, Colbert, McCracken	3
Noes	Mess'rs Knox, Gouldman, Griffin, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Knight	7

Resolved that the sum of Fifty dollars be and is hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of the Old Confederate Veterans to Richmond at the Unveiling of the Lee Monument on 29th Inst.

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor
R W Adams, Clerk
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At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday June 20th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

A K Phillips Jr, J H Myer, G W Wroten, J S Knox, J W Colbert, W E Bradley, E D Cole, J M Griffin, J T Knight, M G Willis—councilmen

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the sum of \$3.00 each was allowed the Commissioners for their services canvassing the vote of the Bridge Election held on 29th April last.

Mr Wroten, Chrmn Street Committee, presented the following report.

Your Committee having had under consideration the opening and extending of Charlotte, Spotswood and Mercer Streets, beg to submit the following; that in our opinion the opening of Charlotte Street to Mercer would be impracticable and unwise as it would preclude from frontage all of the property on the South side of said Street from the Canal to Spotswood Street. The owners of said property having protested against such action. The Opening of Spotswood Street to Hanover, and Mercer Street to Spotswood extended is not respectfully recommended.

Signed G W Wroten, chrmn,

A K Phillilps Jr

J H Myer

June 18, 1890

Mr Chs Wallace was present and was permitted to be heard on the subject of the report.

On Motion Mr Gouldman, the matter was referred back to the Street Committee with instructions to report as to cost &c of opening the proposed streets.

Mr Wroten, Chrnm presented report of Committee showing amount expended on the Streets for the year \$1187.20 being \$187.20 in excess [Page 280] of appropriation.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the sum of \$187.20 was directed to be placed to the credit of Street Committee to cover the deficiency.

Mr Willis, Chrnm Water Committee, reported the Water Works in good order, a full report would be furnished at the next meeting.

Mr Gouldman, Chrnm Light Committee, reported the cost of lighting the Streets for the year at about \$1600.

Mr Cole, Chrnm Alms House Comm, presented the following bills which were ordered to be paid.

A K Phillips for rent of house for Mr Iron	\$10.66
Mrs Jefferson, Services Mr Irons & family	\$5.00

Mr Colbert asked and obtained leave to retire: Absent Mr J W Colbert

Mr Bradley presented a petition signed by a number of citizens asking the Council to have the pump in front of Dr F W Johnston's residence closed up.

Accompanying the petition was a certificate from Dr A C Doggett stating that the continued use of the pump was prejudicial to the health of the locality.

On Motion, Mr Bradley, the Water Committee was instructed to have the pump in front of Dr Johnston's residence dismantled at once.

The resignation of Dr H M D Martin as a member of the School Board from the Upper Ward was presented and read, and on motion of Mr Gouldman, the resignation was accepted.

A Communication from J W Kales, Supt [blank] Teleg Co was presented and read asking the Council to modify or make some rebate in the License tax against the company.

On Motion, the communication was referred to the Finance Committee.

The Mayor reported fines for the quarter \$36.00, one half of which has been paid to the police officers, the balance \$18.00 paid over to the Treasurer.

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The Mayor having reported favorably on Motion, the Treasurer was directed to pay the police officers their salaries for the quarter ending 30th Inst

On Motion, Mr Knox, the Council adjourned until Friday next, 8 O'clock PM

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

At an adjourned Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday June 27th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

J H Myer, M G Willis, J S Knox, E D Cole, G W Wroten, J M Griffin, J W Colbert, J T Knight, A K Phillips Jr.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Committee presented the annual report of the Committee giving the financial condition of the City for the fiscal year.

The Report shows that in the settlement of the accounts of Mr A P Rowe Jr, Collector, the Collector had paid over to the City Treasurer from Taxes, Licenses & Rents collected by him during the year the sum of \$24,198.70. And that Mr Rowe has in his hands uncollected tax bills for the Years 1876-1889 inclusive amounting to \$7825.60. Also that the Committee had examined the account of R W Adams City Treasurer and found the same correct. The amount paid by the Treasurer during the year (including \$1495.91 due him on last years a/c) was \$28,096.60.

There was paid to the Treasurer from all sources as shown by the report the sum of \$27,545.48 leaving a balance due the Treasurer of \$551.42.

The Treasurer has in hands from Licenses 1890-91 over \$5,000.00.

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The Committee recommend the continuing of the tax rate at \$1.20.

The debt of the City & Sinking fund remain as last reported.

On Motion, Mr Willis, the report of the Committee was received and ordered to be filed.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Committee presented the ordinance levying taxes for the Year 1890-91 which is as follows:

Tax bill for the City of Fredericksburg for the Year 1890-91

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, that the following taxes on persons and property (real and personal) shall be assessed, levied and paid for the year 1889-90 for the support of the Municipal Government, Public Schools, for the poor, to pay the interest, and to provide a sinking fund for the ultimate redemption of the City debt, Viz:

1st On every male person over 21 years of Age (not legally exempt) 50¢

2nd On all Real and Personal property income, toll bridges, ferries, monied Capital in any business investments, bonds in or out of the State and Stock in incorporated Companies, on every \$100 value thereof \$1.20

3rd On any property taxed by the State and not included in the foregoing, the tax shall be The same as that fixed by the State

4th A deduction of 5 per cent shall be made on all taxes paid on or before the 15th October next

5th On all taxes remaining unpaid after the 15th day of October next there shall be [Page 283] added 5 per cent and interest from that date until paid, and the Collector shall proceed to collect the same in the modes prescribed by law, and ordinances of the City

6th The taxes imposed by this ordinance shall be payable in National Currency of the United States and in the Coupons of the 7% bonds of the City due on 1st November next (without rebate), in pursuance of the ordinance on that subject

On Motion, Mr Willis, the ordinance was unanimously adopted.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Comm, presented the ordinance making appropriations for the year 1890-91 which is as follows.

1st Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg that the following appropriations be made for the year (1890) ending Jun 30th 1891

For Interest and Sinking Fund 7% Bonds \$10,000

For Interest and Sinking Fund 6% water bonds \$2100

For Alms House \$1200

Salaries \$3500

Police \$750

Repairs of Public Property \$450

Repairs of Streets \$1000

Light	\$1950
Park	\$150
Public Schools	\$2600
Water	\$1000
Commerce & Navigation	\$50
Contingencies	\$1300
Fire & Police Committee	\$100
[Total]	\$26,150

2nd That it shall not be lawful for the Treasurer to pay any amount in excess of the appropriations aforesaid, and it shall be his duty to notify the Common Council at the Next Meeting if any of these appropriations are exhausted and not to pay any orders [Page 284] on him until further appropriations are made to meet the same.

On Motion, Mr Myer, the ordinance was adopted.

Mr Cole in absence of the Chrmn Pub Prop Comm, reported the amount expended for repairs of Public Property for the year \$592.42.

Mr Wroten, Chrmn Street Comm, stated that the Committee was unable to report at the present meeting upon the cost of opening the Streets, referred to the Committee at the last meeting.

Mr Willis, Chrmn Water Comm, presented the report of the Committee showing the amount expended for rip rapping the new reservoir \$884.61

Also the report of the Supt Water Works Capt S J Quinn showing the works to be in excellent condition

Amount expended during the year 604.19

Amount received for Water Rents during the Year 2,670.61

Amount due for Water Rents for Years 1885-90 inclusive 1,835.00

Also the report of the Committee showing total expense including cost of keeping the pumps 699.99

On Motion, Mr Knight, the reports were received and ordered to be filed

Mr Phillips, Chrmn Ordinance Committee submitted the following as an ordinance which was adopted. That the Mayor cause to be kept in his office a book, in which shall be recorded all complaints made to him, or his officers, and the disposition of them, the value of all property reported Stolen with a description of same. The value of all property recovered with the name of the officer recovering same. The number of persons arrested, upon what charge, and by whom arrested. The number of houses and premises entered by thieves. The number and name of persons [Page 285] provided with lodging in the Lockup. The number and name of persons provided by the Mayor with transportation to other Cities and Towns, and the number of arrests made for crimes committed outside of the Criminal jurisdiction of this Corporation.

That the Mayor be authorized to designate one of his officers to keep said record.

This ordinance to take effect on and after 1st July 1890.

Mr Cole, Chrmn Alms House Comm, submitted the report of the Committee, also report of Supt Alms House. The Committee's report show the expenses of the Alms House for the year to be \$1247.27, being \$47.27 in excess of appropriation.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the report was received and ordered to be filed and the sum of \$47.27 was directed to be place to the credit of the Committee to cover the deficiency.

Mr Knight, Chmn F D & P Comm submitted the report the Committee showing the amount expended for the Year \$230.44.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the report of the Committee was received and ordered to be file and the sum of \$30.44 was directed to be placed to the credit of the Committee to cover deficiencies.

A Communication from C L Cole, informing the Council of his removal to the upper ward and that thereby his position as Trustee of Public Schools from the Lower Ward was vacated and asking the Council to elect his successor.

On Motion, Mr Phillips, the Council proceeded to the election of school Trustees from the Upper and Lower Wards, made vacant by the resignation of Dr H M D Martin from the Upper Ward and the removal of C L Cole from the Lower Ward.

Mr C L Cole and Mr C E Hunter were nominated and balloted for as Trustee of Public Schools for the Upper Ward and the ballots being counted resulted as follows:

For Mr C L Cole 4

For Mr C E Hunter 6

Mr C E Hunter having received a majority of the votes cast was declared [Page 286] elected Trustee of Public Schools for the Upper Ward for the unexpired term of Dr H M D Martin.

Mess'rs H R Gouldman, Geo A Walker, & H F Crismond were nominated and balloted for as Trustee of Public Schools for Lower Ward and the ballots being counted resulted as follows

For H R Gouldman 3

For Geo A Walker 6

For H F Crismond 1

Mr Geo A Walker having received a majority of the votes cast he was declared elected a Trustee of Public Schools for the Lower [Ward] for the unexpired term of Mr C L Cole, made vacant by his removal to the Upper Ward.

Mr Colbert called the attention of the Council to the Condition of Hay Scales stating that repairs were needed.

On Motion the matter was referred to the Public Property Committee

The Council then adjourned.

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

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The Common Council elect (at the election held on Thursday May 24th 1890) met pursuant to call of Mayor A P Rowe at the Council Chamber on Tuesday July 1st 1890
Present A P Rowe, Mayor in the Chair

The following councilmen elect having qualified according to law appeared and took their seats at the board viz.

Geo W Wroten, Js S Knox, W I King, M G Willis, H H Wallace, Jr, W E Bradley, E D Cole, J M Griffin, J T Knight, A K Phillips Jr, H R Gouldman, J H Myer

The Mayor called the Council to order and stated that the first business in order was the election of the Clerk of Council.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the salary of Clerk of Council was fixed at \$75.00 per annum.

R W Adams was nominated by W E Bradley, balloted for and unanimously elected clerk of Council for the ensuing year.

Mr H R Gouldman, J S Knox, & A K Phillips Jr were nominated and balloted for as Recorder of the Corporation and the ballots being counted resulted as follows:

For H R Gouldman 8

For J S Knox 3

For A K Phillips 1

Mr Gouldman having received a majority of the ballots was declared elected Recorder of the Corporation for the ensuing year.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the Compensation of Collector of Taxes was fixed as follows:

2½ per cent commission on all taxes collected by or before 15th October and 5 percent on all taxes collected thereafter.

Mr A P Rowe Jr was nominated, balloted for, and unanimously elected Collector of Taxes and Rents for the ensuing year.

Wm Nelson was nominated, balloted for and unanimously elected Surveyor of the Corporation for the ensuing year

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The Salary of Clerk of Market was fixed at seventy five dollars per annum.

W G Smith & Geo A Mills were balloted for as Clerk of Market and the ballots being counted resulted in the unanimous election of Mr W C Smith, and he was declared elected Clerk of the Market for the ensuing year.

Mess'rs Anthony Patton & Wm T Hart were nominated and balloted for as weigher & measurer of Coal, Salt &c and the ballots being counted resulted in the election of Mr Patton and he was declared elected weigher & measurer of Coal, Salt &c for the ensuing year.

Mr Anthony Patton was nominated, balloted for and unanimously elected measurer of lumber, wood &c for the ensuing year.

The Salary of Superintendent of Alms House was fixed at \$100 per annum.

Mess'rs A Hooton & W C Smith were balloted for as Supt Alms House, and the ballots being counted resulted in the election of Mr Hooton and he was declared elected Supt of Alms House for the ensuing year.

Mr J P Rodgers was nominated, balloted for and elected Scavenger for the Lower Ward for the year commencing 1st September next.

Mr J U Rodgers was nominated, balloted for and elected Scavenger for the Upper Ward for the year commencing 1st September next.

On Motion Mr Knox,

Resolved that the Council elect three policemen for the ensuing year viz one day policeman, one day night policeman, and one night policeman and the salaries of the same be fixed at \$150 for day policeman and \$300 per annum each for day and night and night policemen.

The Council on Motion, proceeded to the election of a Night Policeman

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Mess'rs M Cahill, M A Gately Jr, Jno Ingram and John Larkin were balloted for as night policemen, and after eight ballots being taken and the votes counted no choice was made, the first ballot resulted as follows:

For M Cahill	5
M A Gately Jr	6
Jno Ingram	1
2 nd Ballot M Cahill	5
M A Gately Jr	6
Jno Ingram	1
3 rd Ballot M Cahill	5
M A Gately Jr	6
Jno Ingram	1
4 th Ballot M Cahill	6
M A Gately Jr	4
Jno Ingram	1
Jno Larkin	1
5 th Ballot M Cahill	5
M A Gately Jr	4
Jno Ingram	1
Jno Larkin	2
6 th Ballot M Cahill	5
M A Gately Jr	4
Jno Ingram	1
Jno Larkin	2
7 th Ballot M Cahill	5
M A Gately Jr	4
Jno Ingram	1
Jno Larkin	2
8 th Ballot M Cahill	5
M A Gately Jr	5
Jno Ingram	1
Jno Larkin	1

After the 8th ballot Mr Gouldman moved to suspend balloting for night policeman for the present and proceed to the election of a day, and day and night policeman, which was seconded put to the vote and carried [Page 290]

J H Robinson, Jno Larkin & M A Gately Jr were balloted for as day policeman and the ballots being counted resulted in the election of Mr Robinson and he was declared elected day policeman for the ensuing year.

Chas A Gore & John Larkin were balloted for as day and night policemen and the ballots being counted resulted in the election of Mr Gore and he was declared elected day and night policeman for the ensuing year.

On Motion, Mr Knox the salary of Commissioner of the Revenue was fixed at \$250 per annum.

On Motion, Mr Knox, the salary of Mayor was fixed at \$350 per annum.

On Motion, Mr Cole, the Council resumed balloting for night policeman.

After three additional ballots, making 11 ballots in all; on the 11th ballot the vote was as follows:

For M Cahill	7
M A Gately Jr	3
Jno Ingram	1
Jno Larkin	1

Mr Cahill having received a majority of the votes cast he was declared elect night policeman for the ensuing year

The Mayor announced the following Standing Committees

Finance, J S Knox, E D Cole, H R Gouldman
 Public Property, E D Cole, J H Myer, W I King
 Streets, Geo W Wroten, W E Bradley, J H Myer
 Water Works, M G Willis, H R Gouldman, J M Griffin
 Ordinances, A K Phillips Jr, J S Knox, J T Knight
 Comm & Navigation, W I King, G W Wroten, W E Bradley
 Light, W E Bradley, M G Willis, A K Phillips Jr
 Public Schools, H R Gouldman, A K Phillips Jr, E D Cole
 Alms House, J M Griffin, J T Knight, M G Willis
 Hurkamp Park, J H Myer, J M Griffin, H H Wallace
 [Page 291]
 Health H H Wallace, W I King, J S Knox
 Fire & Police, J T Knight, H H Wallace, G W Wroten

Mr Knight called the attention of the Mayor to the fact that he had failed to announce the Bridge Construction Committee and that a vacancy occurred, both from the Council and Citizens growing out of the non-election of Mr McCracken to the Council and Mr King elected to the Position of Councilman from the Citizens.

The Mayor stated that the Bridge Construction Committee would remain as before except that he would appoint Mr King in the part of the Council in place of Mr McCracken, and Mr McCracken on the part of the Citizens in place of Mr King.

On motion, Mr Knight the rules were suspended for the present meeting.

A Petition signed by a number of Citizens asking the Council to change the hours of Sprinkling from 5½ to 7½ O'clock as a present to five to seven o'clock.

On Motion, the petition was laid on the table until next meeting.

A Communication from Mr S W White a reporter of the New York World was read asking the Council to co-operate with the "World" in advertising Fredericksburg.

Mr White was present and by permission made a statement in regard to the matter, after which

On motion, Mr Phillips, the subject was referred to the Finance Committee with power to act.

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor
 R W Adams, Clerk
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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Wednesday July 9th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor
 H R Gouldman, Recorder

J S Knox, E D Cole, W I King, W E Bradley, M G Willis, A K Phillips Jr, Jno T Knight, H H Wallace Jr, J M Griffin, J H Myer—councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council was called to consider the Report of the Bridge Construction Committee.

Mr Willis from the Bridge Construction Committee stated that Mr Charles Wallace, Sec'y of the Committee was present and would present the report.

The report was presented by Mr Wallace and read by the Clerk and is as follows.

To the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg;

The undersigned the Bridge Committee appointed by your body to obtain proposals from responsible parties to erect an iron bridge over the Rappahannock River at Scott's Site at a cost not exceeding the limit prescribed by the Act of the General Assembly of Virginia authorizing the erection of a Bridge by the Mayor and Common approved January 10th 1890, respectfully report that in pursuance of the authority given to your committee they advertised extensively for proposals and also correspond with Bridge companies in various parts of the United States and that sealed proposals in writing accompanied by plans and specifications were received by your committee from ten Bridge Companies tendering to erect such a Bridge at varying prices stipulated in said proposals, Your Committee further report that with the aid of Thomas J Moncure, Civil Engineer, of large practical experience and approved skill in the superintendence and construction of Iron Bridges, they gave full consideration to all of the [Page 293] said proposals which offered to such a bridge with said limit of cost. They further report that after full time and consideration given to this matter your committee were enabled to obtain a proposal from the Groton Bridge and Manufacturing Company of the Town Groton in New York, offering to erect an Iron Bridge with eighteen foot roadway over said river at Scott's site on or before the 1st December 1890 at and for the sum of twenty three thousand, three hundred dollars (\$23,300) upon plans and specifications accompanying said offer covering all the matters as to plan of Bridge, the masonry of the piers and abutments, the plan of the Iron work in the trusses and the grading of the approaches to the bridge on both sides of the river, so as to make a turn key job; said Bridge to be erected of such a height as that the Bridge floor system shall be not less than two feet higher than the highest mark reached by the flood in said river of June 1st 1889.

Your Committee further report that upon careful investigation they ascertain that said Groton Bridge Company is a Corporation with large Capitals and ample shops and Machinery and has established a good reputation for satisfactory work done in various parts of this county. Your Committee submitted said proposal of said Company to Mr Moncure; and he after full consideration advised your committee that the plans and descriptions accompanying this proposal were satisfactory and advised your committee to accept said proposal. Your Committee authorized Marye & Fitzhugh as counsels for the Town to prepare a written contract between the Town of Fredericksburg and said Bridge Company for the erection of said Bridge, and the Committee herewith returns laid contract which said attorneys drew after full conference with the said Engineer and embodies all the plans and specification which were [Page 294] deemed proper and important by said Engineer and which will enable said Engineer, or any other Engineer who may act in the premises to require and secure the erection of a first class Iron Bridge as called for in said contract. Your Committee recommends the adoption of said contract and that they be authorized to execute the same upon behalf of the Town of Fredericksburg, and to deliver the same to said Bridge Company so soon as said company shall execute and deliver to them the bonds herewith returned in the penalty of \$5000.

Your Committee further recommends that so soon as said contract is signed by your committee and the president of said company (now present in Fredericksburg) that said Committee be authorized to purchase Scott's Site in pursuance of the option now held upon the same, and that the title to same shall be passed on by Marye & Fitzhugh attorneys.

Respectfully submitted this 9th July 1890

Signed, T McCracken, M G Willis, E D Cole, Charles Wallace, W I King

The contract and bond referred to in the report were also read.

On Motion Mr Bradley

Resolved that the report of the Bridge Construction Committee be approved and adopted

Mr Knox offered the following which was seconded,

The Bridge Construction Committee having this day filed its report recommending that the contract accompanying said report for the erection of an Iron Bridge over the Rappahannock River at Scott's Site by the Groton Bridge and Manufacturing Company of Groton, New York at the price of Twenty three thousand and three hundred dollars, payable [Page 295] as specified in said contract be approved and authorized by this council;

It is hereby resolved and ordered by the Council that said contract is approved, and the said Bridge Construction Committee is authorized and directed to execute the same and deliver said contract on behalf of the Town of Fredericksburg so soon as the Bond in the penalty of \$5000, filed with said report and conditioned for the faithful performance of said contract shall be executed by said Company and delivered to said Committee.

And said Committee is further authorized and directed so soon as said contract is signed by said Committee and by the President of said Bridge Company to purchase on behalf of the Town of Fredericksburg the site of Scott's Bridge with the piers, abutments, toll house, and dwelling house and all franchises and appurtenances belonging thereto, in pursuance of the option now held upon said property, and that the title to said property be passed upon by Marye & Fitzhugh as attorneys.

The vote upon the resolution was taken by Ayes & Noes and adopted unanimously

Ayes Mess'rs Knox, Griffin, Phillips, King, Gouldman, Willis, Cole, Wallace, Bradley, Knight, Myer
11

Noes None

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

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At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday July 18th 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

J H Myer, J S Knox, H H Wallace Jr, J T Knight, W I King, E D Cole, M G Willis, J M Griffin

The proceedings of the previous meetings were read and approved.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Committee presented the official bond of A P Rowe Jr, Collector of Taxes, in the penalty of \$10,000 with M B Rowe and E D Cole as sureties, which was approved by the Committee and the Council and turned over to the Mayor to be deposited in the National Bank of Fredericksburg for safe keeping.

A Petition signed by W S White, S E Eastburn & others, owners of property on Kenmore was presented and read asked the Council to open Winchester Street as far as Pitt Street and stating that it was absolutely necessary for the development of their property that the Street should be opened at once.

On Motion, Mr Cole, the petition was referred to the Street Committee with power to act.

Mr Knight presented the following which was adopted.

Resolved that the Street Committee be instructed to recommend to the Council some practical and suitable plan of naming or lettering the Streets and numbering the houses of the City with the probable cost of same.

The Council then adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor,

R W Adams, Clerk

[Page 297]

At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday August 1st 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

J S Knox, M G Willis, E D Cole, H H Wallace Jr, J H Myer, A K Phillips Jr, W I King, J T Knight—
councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council was called at the request of the Bridge Construction Committee for the purpose of submitting its report.

Mr Willis from the Bridge Construction Comm, reported verbally that the Committee had signed the Contract with the Groton Bridge Co, for the erection of the Bridge over the Rappk River, and that the site for the Bridge had been purchased of MR C S Scott for \$1500 and paid for, and the deed for same had been signed &c and as the Committee would soon be called for payment towards the bridge the meeting was called for the purpose of taking steps for the issuing and sale of bonds under the Bridge Act, he submitted the following resolution and asked its adoption.

Resolved that the Bridge Construction Committee proceed without delay to have the \$25,000 of Bonds provided for by the Act of the General Assembly of January 10th 1890 entitled “An Act to Authorize the City of Fredericksburg to build and operate a Bridge across the Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg” lithographed or printed s they may deem best in the following amounts; Ten bonds of \$100 each, Twenty bonds of \$500 each and Fourteen bonds of \$1000 each.

The Said bonds to bear six percent interest payable semi-annually, redeemable in ten years and payable in thirty years; and the same shall be exempt from City Taxation, and shall be secured by a Deed of Trust on the said Bridge, and all rights pertaining thereto, and said Council will [Page 298] will proceed in due time to levy the tax provided in said Act of January 10th 1890, said bonds shall bear date on July 1st 1890, further,

Resolved that the Bridge Construction Committee shall proceed as soon as practicable to advertise for Bids for said Bonds as provided in the third section of an order entered at a meeting of the Council on May 9th 1890, and the said Committee shall determine in what quantities said bonds shall be offered with a view to giving an opportunity to our own people to invest in them; and shall open said bids, and shall negotiate the sale of said bonds and receive the proceeds & thereof and deliver said bonds to the purchasers and shall deposit the said proceeds in the National Bank of Fredericksburg to the credit of said Committee, the money to be drawn out from time to time as needed to perform the contract for the building of said Bridge upon the checks of said Committee or a majority thereof.

The vote was taken upon the resolutions and they were adopted.

After the vote, Mr Bradley moved a reconsideration of the vote which was seconded and put to the vote and carried.

After some remarks by Mr King & others, the question was taken upon the adoption of the resolutions offered by the Committee and they were adopted.

Mess'rs Gouldman and Myer asked and obtained leave to retire, Absent: Mess'rs Gouldman & Myer.
No further business, the Council then adjourned
A P Rowe, Mayor
R W Adams, Clerk
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At a called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers
on Thursday August 7st 1890
Present H R Gouldman, Recorder
G W Wroten, E D Cole, W E Bradley, J H Myer, W I King, J T Knight, A K Phillips Jr, H H Wallace Jr, J
M Griffin—councilmen

The Recorder stated that the Council was called at the request of the Street [Committee] who wished to
submit their report upon the application of Citizens for opening Streets.

Mr Wroten, Chrmn Street Committee, submitted the following report.
To the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg
Your Committee to whom was referred the application of I Hirsh and others for opening Streets in the
Western part of the City, and the application of W S White and others for openings Winchester Street to
Pitt Street respectfully report,
1st That the Committee has had a conference with the applicants in the western part of the City and the
parties agree that if the Corporation will take charge of and work the Street that there will be no charge for
land damages and the Committee unanimously recommend the acceptance of the proposition. The Streets
to be opened are Washington and Weedon.
2nd As to the application of W S White, the Committee find upon investigation that the opening of
Winchester to Pitt Street would involve a cost for land damages that should not be bourne by the City. But
if the applicant think proper to donate the land through which the Street would pass your committee
would then recommend that it be opened and taken charge of by the City.
Respectfully submitted,
G W Wroten, J H Myer, W E Bradley—Street Committee
[Page 300]

Your Committee also recommend the opening of Fauquier Street to Washington Avenue as one half of
the Street is opened on the north side and a survey made given the giving the proper lines &c
Signed, G W Wroten, J H Myer, W E Bradley

On Motion, Mr Cole, the report of the Committee was received and adopted.

On Motion, Mr Cole, The Mayor was requested to make application to the Corpo Court for the
appointment of Commissioners in the matter of land damages in the opening of Fauquier Street to
Washington Avenue.
The Council then adjourned
A P Rowe, Mayor
R W Adams, Clerk
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At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council
Chambers on Friday August 15th 1890
Present A P Rowe, Mayor

Geo W Wroten, J S Knox, W E Bradley, H H Wallace Jr, W I King, M G Willis, J H Myer, A K Phillips Jr—councilmen

The minutes of the previous meetings were read and approved.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Committee, presented an account of *Free Lance* amt'g to \$3.50, which on motion was ordered to be paid.

Mr Bradley, Chrmn Light Comm, stated that the contract with the Electric Light Company for lighting the Streets would soon expire and that the Committee were now in conference with the Company as to a renewal of the contract and would submit the result at a called meeting. Mr B also read a communication addressed to the Committee from Judge Souther, Sec'y & Treas'r of the Company.

The Mayor stated that Mr Jno Rodgers, Scavenger elect for the Upper Ward had decline to qualify and give bond and it was in order for the Council to elect Scavenger in his place.

The Council on Motion, Mr Bradley proceeded to the election of Scavenger for the Upper Ward in place of J W Rodgers, who declines to serve.

Hillary H Jackson was balloted for and unanimously elected Scavenger of the Upper Ward for the year commencing September 1sts 1890 in place of J W Rodgers declining to serve.

A communication from R B Merchant was read offering to furnish the Council 1000 copies of the "Historical" Number of the Fredericksburg Star for the Sum of one hundred dollars.

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On Motion, Mr Willis, the communication was referred to the Finance Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

At a Called Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday September 2nd 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

J M Griffin, G W Wroten, E D Cole, W I King, H H Wallace Jr, J S Knox, A K Phillips Jr, W E Bradley, M G Willis, J H Myer—councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council was called at the request of the Light Committee for the purpose of considering the subject of renewing the contract with the Electric Light Co for lighting the Streets.

Mr Bradley, Chrmn Light Committee, presented the following communication.

Mr W E Bradley, Chrmn Light Committee, City of Fredericksburg.

The Contract between the City and the undersigned Company for electric lighting is near its termination and in view of the fact that it is necessary for us to know at this time whether a new contract can be made with the City for future service. I take the liberty of addressing this communication to your Committee, the price paid by the City for lighting under the present contract has not been sufficient to the Company, for its service has been at a loss[?] for nearly three years, from a schedule of prices furnished me, which is reliable I find that sixty five places in the United States using 1200 candle power are lights under the same condition as used here, only two of them are lighted at less than \$60 per year per light, six at \$60 [Page 303] and the remaining 56 are over \$60, the prices run from \$53, the lowest to \$168, the highest. We only ask to do business at a living rate; we can no longer do it at a loss. That we have performed the service at a loss, an inspection of our books will demonstrate, and they are at the service of the Committee for inspection.

We cannot continue the business of Street lighting at less than six dollars per month per light of 1200 candle power for the number of lights now used, and at the same rate for any increase, and upon the terms and conditions of the present contract, except the prices. If the contract can be thus renewed, we wish to make other improvements by which the service can be improved and better suited to the wants of the Community generally. This will add largely to the present investment and will take some time to complete, for this reason we bring the matter this early to your attention.

Very respectfully,

Signed, Rappk Electrical Light & Power Co

Henry Souther, Sec'y & Treas.

After a full discussion of the subject of the renewal of the contract or the terms proposed by the R E L & P Co in which Mess'rs Cole, Willis, Bradley, & others engages, Mr Wroten offered the following.

Resolved that the Light Committee be authorized to renew the Contract for lighting the Streets with the Rappahannock Electric Light & Power Co on the best terms as to rates and time or term of service; which was seconded and adopted by the Yea & Nay vote as follows; Mr Knox excused from voting;

Ayes Mess'rs Wroten, Griffin, Phillips, King, Willis, Cole, Bradley, Wallace 8

Noes Mr Myer 1

On motion the rules were suspended for the present meeting.

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Mr Knox offered the following which was adopted.

Pursuant to the Act of the Legislature approved January 10th 1890 the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg hereby directs the issue of Coupon Bonds to an amount not exceeding twenty –five thousand dollars bearing interest at the rate of six percent, redeemable in ten years and payable in thirty years from July 1st 1890, as set forth in order of Council of August 1st 1890, said bonds to be executed by the Mayor and Clerk of the Council under the Seal of the City and to be negotiated by the Bridge Construction Committee at a rate not less than their par value, and said bonds to be secured by a deed of trust on said Bridge and all rights, pertaining thereto, which deed is to be executed by the Mayor and Clerk of the Council under the Seal of the City of Fredericksburg.

Mr Wroten presented a communication from Mr C E Hunter asking the Council to grant him the privilege of running a sewer pipe from his residence just above the Opera House to the culvert at the intersection of Commerce and Sophia Streets.

On Motion the communication was referred to the Street Committee with power to act.

Mr Knox stated that the Finance Committee had contracted with Mr Graybill to make a survey and Map of the City for the sum of \$160.

Absent: Mr A K Phillips

On Motion, Mr Knox

Resolved that in the absence of Mr Wm Nelson, the Corporation Surveyor elect, that Mr L H Graybill be authorized to act as City Surveyor.

The Council then adjourned.

A P Rowe, Mayor

R W Adams, Clerk

[Page 305]

At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday October 17^h 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

W I King, H H Wallace Jr, M G Willis, J S Knox, J H Myer, J T Knight, E D Cole—councilmen

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Comm presented an account of the Free Lance for Printing &c amt'g to \$9.50 which on motion was ordered to be paid.

Mr Knox presented a communication from Mr Grabill stating that the Maps of the City would soon be completed and asked that the Council make the appropriation necessary as the work would be finished before another meeting of the Council. He also made some suggestions as to numbering the blocks. On Motion Mr Knox, the sum of \$160 was appropriated for the purpose of paying Mr Grabill for survey and maps of the Corporation as per contract with the Finance Committee.

On Motion, Mr Willis, the matter of numbering the blocks on the Map of the City referred to in Mr Grabill's communication was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr Knox presented a communication of Citizens calling the attention of the Council to the neglected condition of [Page 306] (in the Fred'g Cemetery) of the late R B Semple, long Mayor of the City, and asking that a suitable slab or stone be placed over the grave to mark his resting place. On Motion, Mr Knox, the sum of fifty dollars was appropriated for the purpose of placing a suitable memorial stone over the grave of the late R B Semple.

Mr Willis, Chrmn Water Comm, reported the works in good order, he called the attention of the Council to the need of extending the mains along Prussia St, the cost of which would be about \$500. The Committee was unanimous on the subject, but needed the funds to carry out the work.

On Motion, Mr Knox, Resolved that the Water Committee be authorized to extend the pipes up Prussia Street when in their judgment the interest of the town demands it.

Mr Willis from the Light Comm, stated that the Committee had contracted with the Rappk E L & P Co for lighting the Streets of the City for three years.

Mr Knight, from the Alms House Committee stated that in the absence of the Chairman he had no report; that nothing officially had been reported as to the fire at the Alms House.

Mr Willis, from the same Committee [stated] that the stable & hen house were burned and that the main buildings barely escaped.

Mr King from the Bridge Construction Comm, submitted a written report setting forth the action of the Committee, the progress being made upon the Construction of the Bridge, and reporting the sale of the \$25,000 Bridge bonds at 107.20 realizing for same the sum of \$26,762.50. The Committee ask the Council to purchase a lot belonging to Mr Limerick for the purpose of erecting thereon a Bridge and toll house as the present house will have to be removed and cannot be used for the purpose.
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Mr King submitted the following which was adopted.

Whereas, it being shown by the report of the Bridge Construction Committee that the site of the present Toll house is inadequate and for various reasons unsuitable to serve the purpose for which it was formerly use be it

Resolved that the Bridge Construction Committee are hereby authorized and empowered to purchase for the Corpo of Fredericksburg that parcel of land on the north side of the east terminus of Commerce St possessed by Rufus Limerick and the sum of \$250 is hereby appropriated for said purpose and all expenses attending same, and they are further authorized to take down the present toll and bridge keepers house and to dispose of same or use such parts as may be advisable in the erection of a new Toll and Bridge keepers house on the land acquired by the aforesaid purchase. The Cost of said new house &c to be paid from the fund now held by the Bridge Construction Committee realized by the recent sale of Bridge bonds.

A Communication from E T D Myers President, R F & P R Rd asking the Council to allow the Company to cross Main St with two additional tracks was read and on Motion referred to the Street Committee for report at next meeting.

A Communication from Fred'g Ice Co asking the Council to allow them the privilege of crossing Main St with a Rail Road track running parallel with the track of the R F & P R Road was read and on motion referred to the Street Committee for report.

The Council then adjourned.

A P Rowe, Mayor

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At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday November 21st 1890

Present A P Rowe, Mayor

H R Gouldman, Recorder

J S Knox, W I King, E D Cole, G W Wroten, H H Wallace Jr, J H Myer, J M Griffin, J T Knight, W E Bradley—councilmen

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Committee, turned over to the Council the Maps of the City made by Mr Grabill; He also presented an account of Mr Hoyer for framing maps amt'g to \$11.50 which on motion was ordered to be paid.

Mr Knox reported that the Committee had contracted for a memorial stone to be place over the grave of the late R B Semple former Mayor of the City at cost of \$50, lettered and completed.

Mr Knox, Chrmn Finance Comm, to whom was referred the proposition of R M Merchant to furnish the Council with 1000 copies of the Historical Star for \$1000 reported that the Committee had conferred upon the subject and could not agree and it was deemed best to refer the matter to the Council for decision.

Mr Bradley moved that the sum of \$25.00 be paid Mr Merchant for 1000 copies of the Star to be distributed by the Finance Committee which was seconded, Whereupon

Mr Gouldman moved to amend Mr Bradley's motion by inserting \$50 instead of \$25.00 to be offered Mr Merchant for 1000 copies of the Star, which was seconded and adopted by the following vote:

Ayes Mess'rs Wroten, Griffin, King, Gouldman, Cole, Knight 6

Noes Mess'rs Knox, Wallace, Bradley, Myer 4

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Mr Cole, Chrmn Pub Prop Comm, reported that the Council Chamber had been put in good order as it needed renovating.

Mr Wroten, Chrmn Street Comm to who was referred the applications of R F & P R R Co, and Fred'g Ice Co submitted the following report:

Your Committee to whom was referred the applications of the Richmond Fred'g & Potomac Rail Road Co and the Fred'g Ice Co respectfully report that they have given the applications due consideration and recommend that the same be granted; the laying of the tracks to be under the supervision of the Street Committee; the grade of the Street not to be changed and the Street where crossed to be covered with strong oak plank.

On Motion, the report of the Committee was approved and the Committee authorized to act in the premises.

The Committee suggested that the time had come for opening Winchester St, and recommended the appointment of Commissioners to condemn the land through which the Street passes.

On Motion, Mr Bradley, the Mayor was requested to make application to Judge Wallace for the appointment of Commissioners in opening Winchester St.

The Matter of Opening Washington Avenue to the Monument was discussed and referred to the Street Committee for further Report.

Mr Bradley, Chrmn Light Comm, reported that the Committee had contracted with the Rappk EL& P Co for lighting the Streets for 3 years, 34 lamps at \$6.00 pr lamp per month, the Committee thought it best to have a lamp at the Bridge and had contracted for one more lamp for the purpose named and hoped the action would be approved by the Council

On Motion Mr Myer the report of the Committee was received and approved.

On Motion, Mr Bradley, ordered that the three maps of the City be placed in the Council Chamber, Clerks Office and Office of the Commissioner of Revenue, one copy in each.

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Mr Griffin asked that the Alley from Weedon to Fair Street be opened under the Supervision of the Street Committee.

The matter was referred to the Street Committee with power to act.

Mr Knox offered the following which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved that the thanks of this Council be and are hereby tendered to Mr L R Grabill for the elaborate survey and handsome maps of the City made by him and furnished in compliance with his contract with the Finance Committee, and that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to Mr Grabill by the Clerk.

A petition of citizens asking the Council to have the Water from the Star officer conducted to the South side of Commerce Street was presented and read, and on Motion of Mr Knight the same was referred to the Street Comm to report costs &c.

Mr Cole asked and obtained leave to retire: Absent Mr E D Cole.

Application s from L B Eddins & Frank Brown for the position of Bridge Keeper were read and on motion Mr Knox, laid on the table.

A Communication from F B Chilton, Gen'r Manager of the Southern Interstate Immigration Convention to be held at Asheville NC was read asking the Mayor to appoint Delegates to the Convention;
On Motion, Mr Knox, the matter was referred to the Mayor with power to appoint delegate & alternate without expense to the City.
The Council then adjourned.
A P Rowe, Mayor
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At a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg held at the Council Chambers on Friday December 19th 1890
Present A P Rowe, Mayor
J H Myer, H H Wallace Jr, M G Willis, J S Knox, E D Cole, W E Bradley—councilmen
A quorum not being present the Council stood adjourned.
R W Adams, Clerk