

Fredericksburg Council Minutes 1895

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Friday January 18th 1895

Present Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

The hour of 8 o'clock having arrived and there being no quorum present, the Council stood adjourned.

A P Rowe, Mayor

Ro B Berrey, Clerk

At a regular meeting of the City Council held on Friday Night February 15th 1895, there were present
Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

Councilmen M G Willis, G W Wroten, J M Griffin, W B Tyler, W E Bradley, E D Cole, J H Myer, & W
L Burruss.

In the absence of Clerk Berrey who was sick, W L Burruss was elected Clerk Pro Tem.

M G Willis, Chairman Finance Committee reported that the suit of Gillespie vs the Corporation was
decided against the Corporation & that the Committee had ordered the cost of \$21.00 to be paid. On
motion of Mr Bradley, the action of the Finance Committee was approved.

Mr Willis also presented the following bills which were ordered to be paid.

Marye & Fitzhugh for legal services \$50.00

W A Little Jr for legal services \$92.00

And bill of J W Adams for stationary amounting to \$7.54.

Mr Willis also stated that on July last the [Page 230] City Water Bonds of \$30,000 issued for ten years,
had expired and that the Committee were of the opinion that they could be floated at 5% instead of 6% the
present rate of interest which would be a saving of 300.00 per annum to the Corporation.

Mr Bradley offered the following which was adopted,

That the Finance Committee be instructed to take steps looking to floating the 30 M City Water Bonds at
a less rate of interest than we are now paying & report to the Council at its next meeting.

G W Wroten, Chairman Street Committee, presented the following report

[from newspaper]

The application of Walter B Tyler, as embodied in the resolution presented at a special meeting of the
Council on Tuesday, March 6th 1894, which resolution provides for granting exclusive franchises to said
Tyler, &c, to establish, erect and locate a telephone line in the city of Fredericksburg and along the streets
thereof, was referred to this committee to report.

Your committee begs leave to report that it approves and recommends the resolution with the conditions
therein named and specified, but recommends that the rights and franchises granted shall be for the period
of fifteen years, from July 1, 1894, and no longer, unless the same be renewed by the Common Council at
the expiration of that time, and the said line be completed by July 1, '96

Geo W Wroten, W E Bradley

After some discussion in regard to the report offered by Mr Wroten, Mr Willis offered the following that
the application of Mr Tyler to erect a telephone exchange be laid over until the next meeting which was
adopted.

E D Cole, Chairman Water Committee, presented the bond of Supt of the Water Works. Capt S J Quinn for \$2000.00 with Capt M B Rowe & E D Cole as security, which was accepted & turned over to the Mayor.

Mr Cole also stated that about \$3,000.00 was due [Page 231] the Corporation for uncollected water rents & that the Committee were using every means to collect same.

On motion of Mr Wroten the hydrant at the Mary Washington Monument was made a public hydrant.

W E Bradley, Chairman Ordinance Committee, presented an ordinance for the re-organization of the Fire Dept.

On motion of Mr Willis, the rules were suspended & the ordinance was adopted as follows:

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council

1st That for the purpose of reorganizing and operating the Fire Department of this City, for extinguishing fires and protecting property from fire the Council shall annually elect a Chief of the Fire Department who shall be authorized and empowered to take charge and control of all fire apparatus belonging to the City and the building in which it is kept. He shall hold his office one year or during the pleasure of the Council and the holding of any other office or position under the United States, State or City Government shall not disqualify him from holding the position of Chief of the Fire Department.

2nd The Chief of the Fire Department as soon as he is elected shall proceed to re-organize the Fire Department which shall consist of not more than twenty men and shall proceed to appoint on first assistant chief [Page 232] on second assistant chief, one third assistant chief and one fourth assistant chief, and such other officers as he may deem necessary for the efficient working of the Department; and the department when so re-organized may adopt such rules and regulations for its government as may appear to them needful the same to be approved by the Chief before they shall be operative.

3rd The Chief shall have power and authority for good cause to dismiss any officer or fireman from the Department.

4th The Chief shall take charge at all fires give general directions thereat and do what may be necessary for extinguishing the fire and protection the property. In the absence of the Chief, the first assistant shall take his place and assume his authority duties and responsibilities and in his absence the second assistant and so on according to the rank of the several assistants, all of whom when actively engaged in extinguishing or superintending at fires shall be clothed with the power and authority of policemen in preserving order and protecting property and may arrest and hold in custody any person or persons violating any ordinance of the City or law of the State until he or they can be turned over to the proper authorities.

5th After the occurrence of any fire the Chief shall make full report to the Committee on Fire and Police giving particulars and incidents [Page 233] connected therewith and shall furnish to said Committee a list of the names of all members who were present and did their duty as firemen at said fire.

6th After any fire and at other times when it may be necessary the Chief may employ some person to clean up put in good condition and place in the fire house all apparatus belonging to the Fire Department upon such terms as he may think reasonable and just, which shall be paid when approved by him and the Committee on Fire and Police.

7th That all ordinances and parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

8th This ordinance shall be in force from its passage.

The ordinance of Mr Bradley requiring the election of a Chief for the Fire Department, Mr E D Cole nominated J H Robinson & Mr Myer nominated Mr E D Cole.

Mr Robinson was elected Chief, having rec'd all the votes cast save one.

The resignation of Councilman Jos Hable was read by the Clerk & accepted by the Council. Nominations being in order to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr Hable. Mr Wroten nominated J Stansbury Wallace to [Page 234] fill the unexpired term of Mr Hable, which was seconded by Mr Bradley & Griffin, then being no other nomination, a ballot was taken & Mr Wallace elected.

Mr Bradley made an application from Capt L G Gilmer asking an appropriation of \$96.00 to pay the rent for an Armory for the Garfield Light Infantry for 1895. The appropriation was opposed by Mr Cole, for the reason that he had been informed by the owner of the property that he had only been receiving \$80.00 for the rent of the property occupied as an Armory by the Garfield Light Infantry.

Mr Cole offered the following resolution.

Resolved that a committee of three be appointed by the Mayor to investigate the spending of \$96.00 appropriated for the last two years to pay the rent of an Armory for the Garfield Light Infantry and report at the next regular meeting of the Council

The Mayor appointed on this Committee Mess'rs Embrey, Knight, Gouldman.

Then the Council, on Motion, adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

W L Burruss, Clerk Pro Tem

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At a regular meeting of the City Council held on Friday March 15, 1895, there were present

[Printed text from the *Free Lance* 16 March 1895 page 3, column 2]

Mayor A P Rowe presided, and the following Councilmen were present: Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Cole, Wallace, Myer and Bradley.

Absent—Mess'rs Gouldman, Knight and Burruss. Clerk R B Berrey being sick, Mr Bradley was elected clerk *pro tem*.

Mayor Rowe announced that the resignation of Councilman Hable caused a vacancy in the different committees of the Council, and that he would appoint Councilman Wallace on all positions of committees held by Mr Hable except that of Light. Mr Wallace was placed on the Commerce and Navigation Committee in place of Mr Bradley, who was transferred to the vacancy on the Light Committee.

Mr Willis, of the Finance Committee, presented the license tax for 1895-96, it being the same as 1894-95, which was adopted.

Mr Willis also presented the following communication from A P Rowe Jr Collector of City Taxes, in relation to worthless tax bills.

Office of Collector of City Taxes.

Fredericksburg, Va, March 15th 1895

Mess'rs M G Willis, E D Cole, J M Griffin, Finance Committee

Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit herewith a recapitulation of city tax bills due by deceased delinquents who left no estate, and bills of non-resident and erroneous charges, all of which were passed on separately and collectively by your committee and pronounced worthless.

In accordance with your instructions, I will take these bills from the tax books, turn them over to the Treasurer and take his receipt for same. Very Respectfully,

A P Rowe, Jr. Collector of City Taxes

Mr Willis stated that the bills, running back as far as 1876 aggregated \$1,141.23 and were worthless. He offered this resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, that the collector be instructed to turn over all the delinquent bills named to the treasurer and take his receipt for same.

Mr Cole, of the Water Committee, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved 1. That with a view of arriving at a correct basis for charging for water used by persons for other than domestic purposes, and of making those changes equal and uniform, bearing alike on all such consumers, the Committee on Water is hereby authorized and instructed to place water meters on all supply pipes furnishing water for other than domestic purposes and charge six cents per one thousand gallons of water so used as shown by said meters, payment of such charges to be made monthly on which there should be allowed a deduction of five percent if paid on or before the 10th day of the succeeding month, and if payment is not made by said time the water shall be cut off from said delinquent.

2nd That where the building is charged with four dollars water rent in which the water is used for any purpose other than domestic, there shall be deducted from the bill, made from the meter measurement, the amount of water rent so charged on the building.

3rd That it shall be understood that all water used through said meters is surplus water, that is, not needed for domestic or fire purposes, and that the same may be cut off and stopped at any time by the Superintendent, with the consent of the Committee on Water, when the surplus is exhausted.

4th That all water meters shall be under the control of the Superintendent of Water Works, who shall have access to them at all times.

5th That these resolutions shall go into effect on and after the first day July, 1895.

Mr Cole said that at certain seasons of the year the supply of surplus water was very small, and that water for domestic uses should have preference over than used by motors &c. He said that to insure the city against a useless waste of water the committee had decided to adopt the use of meters. That it would be fair to everyone and by this plan each party using meters would only pay for what they used. The price named, 6 cents per thousand gallons, he considered was very cheap and thought it would be satisfactory to all parties.

Mr Bradley, of Ordinance Committee, stated he thought that each member of the Council felt the importance of having a city attorney and hope that it would be the pleasure of the Council to pass the ordinance he presented, to-wit:

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg, Va., that from and after April 1, 1895 there shall be an officer of the Corporation to be known as the City Attorney, whose duty it shall be to defend all suits or actions hereafter brought against the city, and to advise the Mayor and Council of the City whenever requested so to do, in regard to any matters requiring legal advice, and to prepare for the city any written contracts which it may be necessary for the city to enter into.

The term of said officer first elected shall be until the first day of July, 1896, and thereafter he shall be chosen biennially on the first day of July. The salary of the officer thus provided for shall be one hundred and fifty dollars per year, payable quarterly at the end of each quarter.

Mr Willis and Mr Cole of the Finance Committee, expressed themselves as favoring the creation of the office of City Attorney, and the ordinance was laid over under the rules until the next meeting of the Council.

Mr Wroten, of Fire Department, presented a communication from Chief J H Robinson of the Fire Department showing what had been done in reorganizing the department, with recommendation for additional apparatus and inventory of what is on hand. The report is as follows:

March 15, 1895.

To Mess'rs W L Burruss, G W Wroten and J T Knight, Committee on Fire and Police Departments of the City of Fredericksburg:

Gentlemen: I have the honor to report that upon being officially notified of my election by the City Council at its regular meeting held February 15th 1895, as Chief of the Fire Department of this City, I assumed charge of the same and proceeded to put the equipments, &c in serviceable condition and to reorganize the Department as provided for in ordinance adopted for the government of the same by the City Council at its February meeting. This has been done as far as possible to do so under present circumstances, and have to report the Department in good serviceable condition both as regards men and equipments, &c.

Your committee will be informed from time to time of the needs and workings of the Department and the Chief and his assistants will do all in their power to make and keep the same in good order.

I would specially call your attention to the want of hose. There is much valuable property in the city almost at the mercy of fire for the reason that with the present supply it would be impossible to throw but one stream, and in some cases it is almost impossible to reach the building at all.

I think that the imperative need of the Department is for at least six (600) hundred feet of new hose with a hose carriage for same. I would also recommend that the ladders and truck be overhauled and repainted, as I think they need it very badly.

I would also call your attention to the building where the equipments are kept. The walls need pointing up, the belfry is exposed to the weather which will soon cause it to be insecure.

An inspection by your committee of the building and equipment is invited and I think highly necessary to give the committee information that could hardly be given in a report of this character.

The following named persons have been appointed and enrolled as firemen:

S J Quinn, James K Mander, R L Jefferson, W H Walker, James W Williams, Geo F Rodgers, James A Stone, James W Waller, John E Mason, Frank P Leitch, George M Hunt, W C Shepherd, C A Gore, S H Kendall, W F Leacock, William Jefferson.

S J Quinn, 1st Assistant Chief; S H Kendall 2nd Assistant Chief; C A Gore 3^d Assistant Chief; Wm F Leacock 4th Assistant Chief; James H Williams foreman of Small Reel; W H Walker, Foreman of Large Reel; R L Jefferson, Foreman of Truck.

Respectfully submitted,

J H Robinson, Chief of F F D

Mr Griffin, of the Gas Committee, offered the bond of Superintendent William Fitzhugh for \$2,000 with Capt Terence McCracken as surety, which was approved and given in custody to the Mayor to be deposited in the National Bank.

Mr Tyler, of the Public Property Committee, reported that the pavement in front of the Court House, which was in a bad condition had been repaired.

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Mr Cole presented a letter from the Occoquan-Woodbridge Telephone Company asking for privilege to erect pole and wires on the streets of this city and establish a telephone system here and offered a resolution granting the company the privilege under certain restrictions. This provoked a lengthy discussion, which was participated in by Mess'rs Cole, Embrey, and Bradley, for, and Mr Willis against. The opposition of Mr Willis was not that he was opposed to a telephone system, but that he thought the matter should lay over until the next meeting and be investigated. On a recorded vote, demanded by Mr Willis, the privilege was granted—Mess'rs Griffin, Cole, Embrey, Wallace, Myer, and Bradley for, and Willis, Wroten and Tyler against. The resolution is as follows:

Resolved, that the Occoquan-Woodbridge Telephone Company be allowed the privilege of maintaining and constructing a telephone line and to erect posts, &c in the city of Fredericksburg, Va.

Sec 1. Be it resolved by the City Council of Fredericksburg, Va., that the Occoquan-Woodbridge Telephone Co be and is hereby permitted to construct and maintain a telephone line and to erect the necessary poles and supports form their telephone exchange through such streets and alleys of Fredericksburg as may be approved by the Street Committee, provided, however, that said telephone line be completed, equipped and in operation within six months after the granting of this franchise; and provided furthermore that posts shall in no case be erected when the consent of property holders along the route of said line can be obtained for the fastening of the wires to their buildings.

Sec II. The posts to be erected shall be smoothly dressed and neatly painted, and be so placed as not to cause any obstruction to the free and convenient passage of the streets, and that the said company shall repair all damages to the Streets and pavements cause by their erection, removed all surplus material and shall in no case erect posts before any house without permission of the owner thereof.

Sec. III. That the said telephone company, in consideration of the privilege granted, be required to fixe the annual rental for telephones in business houses, shops, office, &c., not more than twenty five (\$25.00) dollars per annum; in private homes not more than eighteen (\$18.00) dollars, and to furnish the city, free of charge one telephone at the Mayor's office of said city.

Mr Embrey, of the special committee to investigate the disbursing of the appropriations to the Garfield Light Infantry, reported that the contract had been made carelessly with the owner of the armory, but there had been no misappropriation of the rent money.

Mr Griffin then offered a resolution for the appropriation of the year 1895 as follows, which was adopted; Resolved that a sum not exceeding ninety-six dollars be appropriated to pay the rent of the Armory of the Garfield Light Infantry for the year beginning January 1, '95 and ending January 1, 1896.

That the money be disbursed by the Public Property Committee, the property to be rented by the month and the rent paid monthly.

Mr Tyler called attention to the condition of the Island and wanted information as to whether he should build around it a stone wall or plant willows. It was suggested that willow would do at this time, but no action taken.

Mr Bradley asked the Finance Committee if they had any report to make in regard to retiring the \$30,000 10-30 6 percent water bonds and replacing them with 5 per cent bonds.

Mr Willis reported progress. He said he had no doubt but that the 6 per cent bonds would be retired and 5 per cent bonds substituted; that negotiations were not going on, and as soon as anything definite transpired the whole subject would be laid before the Council.

The Mayor reported that the four police officers had faithfully discharged their duties during the present quarter, and their salaries were ordered to be paid on April 1st.

The Council at 10:45 adjourned.

I certify that the above printed matter is a correct record of the Council proceedings of the above day and date.

W E Bradley, Clerk Pro Tem

A P Rowe, Mayor

A called meeting of the Council held on Monday April 1st 1895.

[Printed text *The Free Lance* 2 April 1895 page 3, column 4]

Mayor Rowe presided and in the absence of Clerk R B Berrey, on account of sickness, Councilman W E Bradley was elected clerk *pro tem*.

The Councilmen present were: Mess'rs J H Myer, J T Knight, J Stansbury Wallace, E D Cole, H R Gouldman, John M Griffin, W B Tyler, G W Wroten, M G Willis, W L Burruss, W E Bradley.

Absent: Maj W S Embrey

Mr Willis of the Finance Committee presented the following letter, which explains itself:

Maryland Trust Co., Baltimore.

March 28th 1895.

Finance Committee of the City of Fredericksburg, Va.,

Gentlemen: We beg to submit the following proposition:

We will give par as of July 1st 1895 for \$30,000 of the bonds of the city of Fredericksburg, Va. (to be issued for the purpose of retiring like amount of maturing 6 per cent bonds, which maturing bonds are to be redeemed and cancelled) to be dated July 1st 1895, to run not less than 13½ years from the date, to bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent, payable semi-annually at the office of this company.

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Said bonds to be coupon bonds of the denomination of \$1,000 each to bearer, to be secured by deed of trust constituting a first lien on all the water works of said city and all the property connected therewith, of which deed of trust this company is to be trustee.

This bid is good only to April 1st 1895, inclusive, and subject to the following conditions—viz:

You are to furnish, free of cost to us documents giving full information in regard to the issue and legality, with an opinion of eminent counsel of Fredericksburg that the bonds are valid obligations of the said city and payment thereof can be legally enforced, and that they are a first lien upon said water works; all costs of preparing, examination and opinion of counsel before mentioned, including recordation of deed of trust, to be borne by said city.

Yours, very truly,

J Wilcox Brown, President

He then submitted a report signed by Mess'rs Willis, Cole and Griffin of Finance Committee.

On Motion of Mr Wallace the report of Finance Committee of this Council with the accompanying letter of the President of Maryland Trust Company, received and adopted.

On motion of Mr Gouldman the following resolution was presented and adopted unanimously:

Whereas the Finance Committee of this Council has this day made the following report to the Council, viz.

To the Common Council of Fredericksburg, Va.,

The undersigned Finance Committee of said Council beg leave to present herewith to the Council a letter bearing date at Baltimore, Md., March 28, 1895, addressed to said Committee by J Willcox Brown, President of the Maryland Trust Company

We will give par as of July 1st 1895 for \$30,000 of the bonds of the city of Fredericksburg, Va. (to be issued for the purpose of retiring like amount of maturing 6 per cent bonds, which maturing bonds are to be redeemed and cancelled) to be dated July 1st 1895, to run not less than 13½ years from the date, to bear interest at the rate of 5 per cent, payable semi-annually at the office of this company.

Said bonds to be coupon bonds of the denomination of \$1,000 each to bearer, to be secured by deed of trust constituting a first lien on all the water works of said city and all the property connected therewith, of which deed of trust this company is to be trustee.

This bid is good only to April 1st 1895, inclusive, and subject to the following conditions—viz:

You are to furnish, free of cost to us documents giving full information in regard to the issue and legality, with an opinion of eminent counsel of Fredericksburg that the bonds are valid obligations of the said city and payment thereof can be legally enforced, and that they are a first lien upon said water works; all costs

of preparing, examination and opinion of counsel before mentioned, including recordation of deed of trust, to be borne by said city.

The above recited letter refers to the Fredericksburg water bonds issued in pursuance of the Acts of the General Assembly of Virginia of date March 28, 1879, March 3, 1880, April 22, 1882, and February 25, 1884.

Under the provisions of said Acts the principal of said bonds is now payable upon the call of the city, and as the present bonds bear six per cent interest, and the above offer of the Maryland Trust Company is to lend the city the \$30,000 requisite to redeem said bonds at five per cent interest the Finance committee recommends the acceptance of said offer.

The Finance Committee has submitted the above proposition of the Maryland Trust Company to St. Geo R Fitzhugh, and he advised the committee that it was competent under the foregoing legislation, to substitute five per cent bonds in the place of the six per cent bonds now outstanding, and to call in the latter bonds by giving public notice that they must be presented for payment at the office of the City Treasurer on or before the 30 June 1895, and that all interest thereon would cease from said last mentioned date.

The committee advises that the new bonds conform in their provisions substantially to the old bonds, except that the interest coupons be made payable at the office of the Maryland Trust Company in Baltimore, as stipulated in their offer, and that said bonds recite that they are secured by deed of trust on the Water Works, as authorized by the before mentioned Act of March 28, 1879. The cost of printing the new bonds will not exceed \$75. The water bonds outstanding mature on the 1st of January 1909, hence the stipulation in the proposition of the Maryland Trust Company that the new bonds shall bear date on the 1st July, 1895, and be payable 13½ years after date, will make the date of maturity of the new bonds the same as that of the present issue.

M G Willis, E D Cole, John M Griffin—Finance Committee.

April 1st 1895

Resolved, That the recommendations of said report are approved, and the offer of the Maryland Land Trust Company, through the letter of its President, J Willcox Brown, of date March 28, 1895, therein set forth, is accepted and the Finance Committee will notify said company of said acceptance by telegram today.

Resolved further, that in pursuance of the act of the General Assembly of Virginia, approved March 28, 1879, entitled "An Act to Authorize the City of Fredericksburg to Provide for Supplying the City with Water," wherein the city is authorized to borrow money and issue and negotiate its bonds for the same, said bonds to be known and designated as Fredericksburg Water Bonds, and wherein it is expressly provided "that the principal of said bonds shall be payable thirty years after the first day of January, 1879, or upon the call of the said city at anytime after ten years from said date, the said city doth call in the bonds of face value of \$30,000 bearing date on the 1st May 1884, and payable on the 1st January 1909 issued in pursuance of said act of the General Assembly of Virginia of the 28 Mary, 1879, and the amendatory acts of March 3, 1880, April 22, 1882, and February 25, 1884, and doth require all said bonds and coupons belonging to the same to be presented for payment at the office of the City Treasurer of Fredericksburg, in Fredericksburg, Virginia, on or before the 30th day of June, 1895, as said city is fully authorized to do by the foregoing acts of the General Assembly of Virginia.

Resolved further, that the Finance Committee do publish in such newspapers as they may deem proper and at least once a week for eight successive weeks, the foregoing resolution and the same shall be attested by the signatures of the Mayor, the Clerk of the Council and the Finance Committee.

Resolved further, That the Finance Committee do have the bonds described in their above recited report printed and the deed of trust drawn—the said deed of trust to embrace all the works, rights and properties erected, built and acquired under the aforesaid acts of the General Assembly.

Resolved further, that if, under the aforesaid acts of General Assembly of Virginia any further right or privilege should exist in the city of Fredericksburg to call in and redeem the bonds to be issued hereunder before the maturity of the same of the 1st of January 1909, the said right and privilege is hereby pledged not to the attempt to exercise the same.

The Council then adjourned.

I certify that the above printed matter is a correct record of the Council proceedings of the above day and date.

W E Bradley, Clerk Pro Tem

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg, Va Friday April 19th 1895

A Regular meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber Friday night April 19th 1895 at which were present:

[Printed text *The Free Lance* 23 April 1895 page 3, column 4]

Mayor A P Rowe presiding and

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Gouldman, Griffin, Embrey, Cole, Wallace, Knight, Bradley and Myer.

Clerk R B Berrey being sick, Councilman Bradley was elected clerk *pro tem*.

Mr Willis, of Finance Committee, reported that the treasury of the city was in a depleted condition, and impressed upon the committees the importance of economy in the different departments until after July 1, 1895; that the appropriations made at the beginning of the fiscal year were all that the city would stand, and that if these amounts were exceeded, it would create a necessity for an increase of taxation, which each member of the Council wished to avoid.

Mr Gouldman asked if proper notice had been given of the calling in of the 6 per cent water bonds and the substitution of the 5 percent bonds therefore

Mr Willis stated that the proper notice would be commenced on May 1, 1895, and be continued until July 1, 1895, as required by the resolution passed by the Council at its previous meeting.

Mr Gouldman, of Public Property Committee, stated that City Sergeant C W Edrington had called his attention to the sanitary condition of the jail. He stated that something must be done at once in the interest not only of the health of the prisoners but also of the citizens living nearby. He thought a proper sewerage could be made for about \$100.

Mr Cole offered the following: Resolved, that the subject of improving the sanitary condition of the jail by sewerage to the River be referred to the Public Property Committee and that they bring to the Council an estimate of costs of same.

It was unanimously adopted.

Mr Cole of the Water Committee said the time had now arrived to make necessary improvements at the pump house. The present pump house was too small, and it was a necessity that a larger one should be built; that the Committee desire that they be instructed to bring in estimates of the cost of a building 26 x 40, the first story brick and the second story frame. This building would be large enough not only for the machinery, but for a keeper and family who would always be there in case of an accident.

On motion of Mr Knight, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Water Committee be instructed to obtain plans and specifications and cost for a building at the pump house and report the same at the next meeting of the Council.

Mr Tyler said, in view of the statement made by the Chairman of the Finance Committee, it was necessary that some steps should be taken to collect into the treasury the money that was now due the city from taxes, water rent and gas. The presented the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, that the Collector of City Taxes, Superintendent of Water Works and Superintendent of Gas Works be required to make out a full list of all parties, with names and amounts, who are delinquent in these departments of the city government, and report the same at the next meeting of the Council. That, when the list is furnished, the Finance Committee is hereby instructed to have the same published one time in the newspapers of the city.

The Mayor reported the following communication:

Fredericksburg, Va., April 18th 1895

To the Mayor and Common Council:

Gentlemen: I am instructed by the Board of Trustees of the Public Schools of Fredericksburg to inform you that there are two vacancies in the Board—one in the Upper District, occasioned by the expiration of the term of service of Mr Isaac Hirsh, and one in the Lower District, occasioned by the expiration of the term of service of Mr Wm H Hurkamp. You are requested to elect their successors, the terms to run three years from the 3rd instant.

Respectfully, S J Quinn, Clerk.

Mr Isaac Hirsh, for the Upper, and Mr W H Hurkamp for the Lower Ward, were then placed in nomination for school trustees and unanimously elected.

The Mayor also presented a communication from the National Geographic Society, as follows;

National Geographical Society

Washington, D C April 13, 1895.

Hon A P Rowe, Mayor of Fredericksburg, Va:

Sir: By the authority of a special resolution adopted by the Board of Managers of the National Geographic Society on the 11th Inst, I have the honor to extend to your and through you to the other municipal officers of the city of Fredericksburg, with ladies a cordial invitation to participate in a field meeting and basket picnic in Buckner's Grove on Hazel Run, on Saturday, May 4, next.

Should you favor our society by consenting to take part in the proceedings, you will, within a few days receive a number of printed circulars containing the program of the meeting.

I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, Your obedient servant,

W J McGee, Chairman Excursion Committee

Countersigned, Everett Hayden, Secretary.

On motion of Mr Griffin, the invitation was accepted, and Mayor Rowe requested to write the letters of acknowledgement of its acceptance.

Mr Willis asked permission of the Council to allow the Southern Foundry & Machine Works to keep a pile of lumber now on the streets in front of their foundry for a period of 30 days.

On Motion of Mr Wroten, it was.

Resolved that the Southern Foundry & Machine Works be allowed the privilege of piling lumber on C Street, in front of their foundry, five feet over the gutter for a period of thirty days from April 19, 1895

Mayor Rowe stated that at a meeting of the citizens and projectors of the Virginia, Fredericksburg & Western R R, held in the clerk's office of this city Monday night, April 15, 1895, the following resolution was passed, and he was requested to present it to the Council. It is:

Resolved, that it is the sense of this meeting that the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg shall submit to the voters of the city of Fredericksburg, the question of subscribing to the stock of the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad at an election to be held as early as possible in accordance with the provisions of law, touching such a subscription.

He stated that Senator W A Little Jr counsel for the road, was present and asked that he be allowed to speak on the subject, which was granted.

Senator Little stated that he believed the building of the proposed railroad was of vital interest to the people of Fredericksburg, and showed the advantages that would accrue to all the section through which the road will pass when built. We do not ask you to subscribe now. All we ask is that you order an election as soon as expedient and allow the people to say at the polls what disposition they will make of the matter. He then read as follows:

To the Hon A P Rose, Mayor and the Common Council of Fredericksburg:

At the request of the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company, I beg to represent to your honorable body the following:

That this company and its individual shareholders earnestly desire a railroad through the Northern Neck of Virginia and to the West Virginia line from Fredericksburg thus making Fredericksburg the division terminus of the entire line from the West to the Chesapeake Bay.

This company was first chartered as the Fredericksburg and Lancaster Railroad Company. It was duly organized by the incorporators named therein, and consolidated by the purchasers who also purchased the charter of the old Northern Neck Railroad Company under the above name of the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company.

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This company is now composed of some rich and influential men of New York and Connecticut. They have increased the capital stock of the company to \$5,000,000 because it is estimated that the entire line of road from Fredericksburg to the Chesapeake Bay and from Fredericksburg to Winchester on the West Virginia line, of some 265 miles total will cost at least \$5,000,000.

The Stock of said company has been lithographed, books opened for subscription, and over \$1,000,000 already subscribed to. The leaders have the assurance from wealthy railroad men of West Virginia that further substantial pecuniary aid will be forth coming. And the fixed intention of the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company is to build and operate the road. They are not in it for speculation—they mean business. The preliminary contract has already been made with the Inter-State Railroad and Telegraph Company—a construction company of New York City—and all that is lacking is the local support from the city and counties through which the road is to pass. No railroad men desire to lay a road through a hostile territory; they want first the earnest, active and interested support of the people among whom and through whose land the road will run.

They ask the Common Council of the city of Fredericksburg to submit to the voters of said city, as early as practicable, the question of subscribing to the stock of said Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company to an amount not exceeding \$50,000; and to order an election for that purpose, in accordance with Section 1,243 of the Code of Virginia, 1887, as soon as may be.

The amount, if furnished by the city, is merely a drop in the bucket compared with the cost of the road. And should the City Council see fit to uphold and advocate the subscription from the city and the requisite majority of votes as required by law be obtained, then the Council shall make such requirements and safeguards touching said payment of said subscription as it may see fit. Suffice it to say that the said railroad company does not think it unreasonable to ask that \$10,000 in said subscription should be deposited in bank in Fredericksburg, and said company will agree to at once put a like sum, or double said sum, if required, along with it—said sum to be paid out upon the joint order of the treasurer of said

company and the treasurer of said city as the said road is actually constructed eastwardly from Fredericksburg to the Bay; and the balance of said subscription to be paid at the rate of \$2,000 per mile as the said road is constructed and the subscription completed; so that the whole subscription would not be paid until at least 20 miles of said road is completed, at an aggregate cost of at least a half a million dollars.

In addition to this, the company, in its stockholders' meeting held here on the 16th instant, has already passed a resolution resolving to build the round-houses, shops, &c, of said company at Fredericksburg provided the city will donate the ground for the same. This, in itself, will bring a large number of people to Fredericksburg and furnish work and employment for many men. Another very important thing, in my judgment, worthy of your consideration, is the fact that the route from West Virginia and her inexhaustible coal fields, through Fredericksburg to the Bay, is the nearest by eight hours than any other route to deep water. If, as is contemplated by the parties interested in the proposed road, 20,000 car loads of coal will pass through Fredericksburg a year, the saving to the people of this city alone in the price of coal will more than pay the subscription asked for.

I am, myself, heartily in sympathy with the undertaking. And, while I know some of our good citizens are inclined to look with disfavor upon this, as well as everything that tends to lift Fredericksburg into a higher, better progress, and to condemn everything new and out of the beaten path that our city has trod so long, I, nevertheless, have an abiding faith in the future of the old town, and earnestly believe that, with the co-operation of the Council and support of the people, this railroad will be built.

In behalf of the company, I ask that the proposed election shall be ordered by your honorable body as early as possible.

Respectfully yours,

Wm A Little, Jr General Council

At the conclusion of the reading of the paper, he said he had prepared a resolution which he hoped some member of the Council would present. It is as follows:

Be it resolved, that the Sergeant of the town of Fredericksburg and the judges of election of said town, be, and they are hereby ordered to open a poll on the [blank] day of [blank] 1895, and taken the sense of the qualified voters of said town upon the question whether the Common Council of Fredericksburg shall subscribe to the capital stock of the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western R R Co, a company duly chartered under the laws of the State of Virginia, to an amount not exceeding \$50,000.

A lengthy discussion followed, which was participated in by Mess'rs Willis, Embrey, Gouldman, Tyler, Wroten, Cole, and Bradley. All of these gentlemen favored the building of the road and a subscription when it could be demonstrated that the road would be built, and work shops, round houses, &c, established at Fredericksburg.

The discussion was ended by the unanimous adoption of this resolution, offered by Mr Wroten:

It coming to the knowledge of the Common Council of Fredericksburg that one or more railroad lines are possible of construction from the great West via Fredericksburg to the Chesapeake Bay and this town being deeply interested in such a happening, it is

Resolved, that all matters relating thereto be referred to a committee consisting of the Mayor and Finance Committee and Mess'rs St George R Fitzhugh, J S Potter, and H H Wallace, who are requested to make a full investigation as to such projected road or roads and report to the Council all information they may obtain, and such suggestions as they may deem pertinent in connection therewith.

The condition of the alley adjoining the Central Hotel was called to the attention of the Mayor by Mr Griffin, who said that the police officers would see that the matter was attended to.

Mr Bradley asked what had been done by the special committee appointed for the purpose of enquiring into the feasibility of the introduction of new electric light works to be owned and operated by the city.

Mr Griffin the Chairman of the Special Committee, was glad attention had been called to his committee. He reported progress, and would have something definite in a short time to present to the Council.

Mr Cole, of the same committee, said he was heartily in favor of the city owning its electric light in connection with the gas works, and for much less money than we are now paying we could have better lights and more of them.

Mr Embrey, chairman of the Light Committee, defended the company, and did not hold them wholly responsible for the present system of lighting the streets. With a month to month contract, or no contract at all, the company were not in a position to replace poles and lamps. If the city would make a contract with the company for a stated period, we would have a better system.

Mr Cole replied by saying that the company had contracted with the city for good service, and that if they could not give good service, they should say so, and the city would at once make other arrangements. The Council then adjourned.

I certify that the above printed matter is a correct record of the Council proceedings of the above day & date

W E Bradley, Clerk Pro Tem, City Council of Fredericksburg, Virginia

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg V^a May 3rd 1895

A called meeting of the City Council of the city was held in the council chamber Friday night May 3, 1895.

[Printed matter, *The Free Lance*, 7 May 1895, page 5, column 3]

. . .for the of considering the application of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company of Virginia to grant them the privilege of erecting poles and right of way, through the city.

Mayor Rowe presided, and Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Gouldman, Cole, Wallace, Bradley, Knight and Myer—Councilmen—were present.

Councilman Bradley was elected clerk *pro tem*.

The Mayor stated that Mr W. A. Little, Jr was present with Mr Strang, a representative of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company to ask certain privileges of the city in regard to establishing a long distance telephone system here.

After Mr Little explained what the company wanted, the following ordinance was offered by Councilman Wroten, and on suspension of the rules, adopted by the Council. It is as follows:

An Ordinance

Granting permission to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company of Virginia to Erect Poles and Wires on the Public Ways of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Va, that permission be and it is hereby granted to the American Telephone and Telegraph Company of Virginia, its successors and assigns to erect, operate and maintain lines of telegraph and telephone, including the necessary poles, wires, and fixtures upon and along and over such of the public ways of the city of Fredericksburg as its business may require, provided that all poles shall be neat, symmetrical and painted, and no pole shall be less than twenty-five feet above the surface of the ground.

Section 2. All poles erected under this ordinance shall be located under the supervision and direction of the Street Committee of the Common Council, and said Company shall replace and properly relay any sidewalk which may be displaced in the location of their poles, and upon failure so to do, after ten day's notice, the city shall repair the sidewalk so displaced and collect the cost incurred from the company.

Section 3. In consideration of the rights and privileges herein granted, said company shall provide ten pin cross arms on all poles erected under this ordinance, at its own expense for the free use of the Police and Fire Alarm Telegraph System of the City of Fredericksburg.

Section 4. Said Company shall at all times be subject to the city ordinance now in existence or which may be hereafter passed, relative to the use of public streets or other public places.

Section 5. Said company shall indemnify the city of Fredericksburg against and assume all liability for damages which may arise come or occur to the city of Fredericksburg from any injury to persons or property from the doing of any work herein mentioned, or the neglect of said Company, or any of its employees, to comply with any ordinance relative to the use streets or other places, and the acceptance by the company of this ordinance shall be an agreement by it to pay to the city of Fredericksburg any sum of money for which the city may become liable from or by reason of such injury.

Section 6. Any violation or failure to comply with the provision of this ordinance within twenty days after written notice of such violation and failure shall have been given to said Company by the city of Fredericksburg shall operate as a forfeiture of all rights granted thereby, with any claim for damages against said city by reason of such forfeiture.

Section 7. Said Company shall file with the clerk of the Common Council its acceptance of this ordinance within sixty days from the date when it shall take effect.

Section 8. Nothing in this ordinance contained shall be construed so as to grant unto said Company the exclusive right, or to prevent the grant of similar privileges to other individuals or companies for like purposes on the highways of the city.

Section 9. This ordinance shall be in force from and after the date of its passage.

Mr Willis, of the Finance Committee, stated that this meeting had been called by the Finance Committee, and one of its objects was to present a resolution to advertise the calling in of the 6 percent water bonds, and substitute 5 percent bonds therefor. He said it required only two weeks advertisement for the purpose instead of eight weeks.

On Motion, Mr H R Gouldman, it was—

Resolved, that it being provided by section 1250 of the Code of Virginia what notice shall be given by any county, city or town wishing to deem any of its outstanding redeemable coupon bonds of its readiness to do so, the resolution heretofore passed by the Council at its meeting on the first day of April 1895, is hereby modified so as to conform to said section of the Code of Virginia as to the publication of the notice for once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper published in Fredericksburg, but the Finance Committee may in their discretion publish said notice in more than one paper of said city.

On motion, Mr Griffin, the Council adjourned.

I certify that the above printed matter is a correct record of the Council proceedings of the above day & date

W E Bradley, Clerk Pro Tem, City Council of Fredericksburg, Virginia

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg, Va May 10, 1895.

A call was issued by Public Property Committee on Friday May 10, 1895 for the purpose of receiving report of the Committee appointed at a previous meeting to obtain estimates for sewerage from the city jail to the river.

There was no quorum present & no business done. Besides the Mayor, councilmen Gouldman, Bradley, Wallace, Tyler, Myer & Wroten were in attendance.

W E Bradley, Clerk Pro Tem

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg, May 17 1895

The Regular meeting of the City Council was held at the Council Chamber Friday night May 17/95

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 21 May 1895 page 5, column 3]

Mayor A P Rowe presided, and the following Councilmen were present: Mess'rs Tyler, Embrey, Griffin, Gouldman, Burruss, Cole, Wallace, Bradley and Myer;

Absent, Mess'rs Wroten, Knight and Willis

Mr Bradley was elected Clerk pro tem in the absence of Clerk R B Berrey on account of sickness.

Mr Cole, of Finance Committee, presented bill of Free Lance for \$11.50, which was approved and ordered paid.

Mr Gouldman, of Public Property Committee, presented plans and specifications for building a sewer from the Court House and jail to the river. He stated that it could be done for the sum of \$200, and that it was necessary not only for the health of the inmates of the jail, but for that of the citizens living in the vicinity.

After some discussion by Mr Embrey and Mr Cole as to whether a six or ten-inch pipe should be used, Mr Embrey offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, that the sum of \$200 be placed to the credit of the Public Property Committee for the purpose of building a sewer from the Court House to the jail and thence to the river.

Mr Cole, of Water Committee, presented plans and specifications for building a new pump house on the site of the old one, at a cost of \$1,200, which plans were examined by the members of the Council.

Mr Wallace asked if this work was actually necessary at present.

Mr Cole said that it was; that the Water Committee were unanimously in favor of the work being done, and that in the present depleted condition of the city treasury, if they had not deemed it necessary, they would not have asked for the appropriation for the work; that they proposed to build the house large enough to accommodate a family who could live in it and watch over the machinery and report any accident that might occur.

Mr Bradley asked Mr Cole if the putting of a family there as a guard meant the creation of another salaried office; to which Mr Cole replied, "No," the committee had no idea of such a thing; that the purpose was to give the house free of rent to a man who would guard the property, and that there were several people who would be glad to get it on those terms.

Mr Tyler offered this resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the sum of \$1,200 be placed to the credit of the Water Committee for the purpose of building a new pump-house on the site of the present one according to the plans and specifications presented by the Water Committee to the Council.

Mr Tyler, of Commerce and Navigation, reported that he was having willow trees planted around the Island at a cost of ten or twelve dollars, and that the work would be completed in a week.

Mr Burruss, of Alms House Committee, announced the death of Mr Sanford Stone, one of the inmates.

Mr Griffin, of Gas Committee, read the contract with the Kenmore Shoe Company for the previous year, in which they agreed and had paid for gas at the rate of \$1.25 per thousand feet if they consumed over 400,000 feet, and \$1.50 per thousand if they used less than that amount. He stated that the company had not used a sufficient quantity to give them the benefit of the \$1.25 rate, and asked that the committee be instructed to make a contract with the company for the coming year at \$1.25 per thousand provided they used 300,000 feet. That the committee favored the proposition.

On motion of Mr Wallace it was

Resolved, that the Gas Committee be authorized to contract with the Kenmore Shoe Company for gas for the ensuing year, the price to be paid by them to be \$1.25 per thousand feet, provided said company use 300,000 feet. If a less quantity is used they are to pay \$1.50 per thousand feet.

Mr Cole, of Finance Committee, stated that the reports of the delinquents for taxes, water rents and gas were all made out and the officers were present with said reports, prepared to read them to the Council. He first presented a communication from Mr A P Rowe Jr, Collector of City Taxes, which was read by the clerk and is as follows:

Fredericksburg, Va May 17th 1895

Mess'rs M G Willis, E D Cole, J M Griffin, Finance Committee;

Gentlemen—I have the honor to submit herewith a list of names of all parties due the city for taxes in accordance with the resolution adopted at the last regular session of the Council.

As you will observe the list covers a period of 19 years, extending from 1876 to 1894, inclusive, aggregating the sum of of \$7,439.29.

Of this amount \$5,495.03 is due on real estate and is absolutely good and safe.

The balance of \$1,944.26 is due for capitation and on personal property. Of the latter about \$1,052.06 is worthless, being due by insolvent parties. As you are aware, no list of insolvents is made off for the city each year in order that the names and amounts may be stricken from the tax books, as is the case with the State. Therefore, the total of this list is somewhat misleading, by reason of the fact that about one seventh of it is utterly valueless, as I have already shown.

To indicate the part insolvents play in the delinquent tax list extending back over a period of 19 years, I would cite the case of a single insolvent charged with only capitation, 50 cents year year, from '76 to '94—19 years, and his bill represents \$9.50, whilst it is worth nothing. There are, of course, many such bills. Accompanying is the list.

Yours very truly

A P Rowe Jr, Collector of the City Taxes.

Collector Rowe then read the entire list of delinquent tax-payers.

Capt S J Quinn, superintendent of water works, then read the list of water delinquents. It aggregated the sum of \$2,678.

Besides the report above the superintendent had made out a complete list of subscribers who used water for other than domestic purposes, showing who used the water, for what purposes and the amounts paid by each. This was a very interesting document.

In the absence of Superintendent of Gas Fitzpatrick, Chairman Griffin presented his report. It showed that only \$9.95 was uncollected.

Mr Bradley said that the reading of these reports of the different departments of the city were very interesting and gave each member of the Council information that they had never received before; that it was shown that \$9,080.00 of good debts were due the city that can be collected; that if this was done there would be no necessity of the Finance Committee borrowing \$3,000 each year to bridge them over until October 1st, when yearly taxes were received; that their taxes were due and should be collected. He offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, that the Finance Committee of the Council is hereby instructed to proceed at once to take such legal action as may be necessary for the collection of city taxes, gas and water rents now due said city. The Finance Committee is also empowered to employ such legal counsel as they may deem necessary to accomplish this result.

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A petition signed by fourteen citizens asking that the property of Capt James P Woody be exempt from water tax now due on account of a well in the yard of same which was used by neighbors when the city water supply was cut off two years ago was referred on motion of Mr Gouldman to the Finance Committee.

Petitions were presented by the Mayor from Mrs Maggie Hudson and by Mr Tyler from Mrs Virginia Stone asking that the fines imposed on their sons for riding on trains be remitted. The Council decline to act in the matter.

Mayor Rowe presented the following letter.

Fredericksburg, Va, May 17, 1895.

To the Hon May and Gentlemen of the Council of Fredericksburg;

Sirs: The 1st Bat Colored Va Vols (consisting of three companies from Richmond and the one here) will parade the 30th day of May in this city, and do hereby ask the honor of being reviewed by you.

Should your honorable body see fit to grant us the honor of being reviewed by you, we would be pleased to pass in review before the city buildings between 11 and 11:30 am on the day mentioned.

Yours very respectfully,

Lucius G Gilmore, Capt

Jason C Grant, 1st Lieut

Chas O Thompson, 2nd Lieut of Co D 1st Bat Inf'y Va Vols and Committee of Arrangement in Fredericksburg.

On motion of Mr Wallace the invitation was accepted.

The Council then adjourned.

I certify that the above printed matter is a correct record of the Council proceedings of the above day & date

W E Bradley, Clerk Pro Tem, City Council of Fredericksburg, Virginia

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg Va June 12th 1895

At a special meeting of the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg called for the purpose of considering the matter of the redemption of the City Water Bonds, held at the Council Chamber the 12th of June 1895

Present the Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Bradley, Burruss, Gouldman, Cole, Wallace and Myer

Councilman Bradley was elected Clerk pro tem.

The Finance Committee through its Chairman, M G Willis, reported to the Council that the Maryland Trust Company had communicated to said Committee by letter, addressed to St Geo R Fitzhugh of date June 11th 1895 that said Maryland Trust Company declined to perform its contract of April 1st 1895 to purchase \$30,000 of the 5 per cent bonds of the City; and said letter was read to the Council and directed to be filed with the Clerk.

The Finance Committee further reported to the Council, with the communication that the same be accepted, the following offer of C Wister Wallace and A W Wallace to take the place of the Maryland Trust Company to acting the purchase of said new issue of 5 pr cent Bonds

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Finance Committee of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia

Gentlemen

We will take the place and carry out the annexed contract recently made with the Maryland Trust Company by the City of Fredericksburg Va for the thirty thousand dollars five percent bonds of the City of Fredericksburg, known as Water Bonds, provided that the present six per cent bonds which have been called in by advertisement by said City of Fredericksburg, amounting to \$30,000 shall be left with as unredeemed and uncanceled until such legislation is enacted by the next session of Virginia legislature as may be necessary to make the issue of said five percent bonds entirely legal and binding on said City of Fredericksburg, as a doubt thereof has been suggested by said Trust Company, and that the Common Council shall be resolution bind the City of Fredericksburg to have such legislation enacted at the next session of the General Assembly, and on failure thereof we shall have the option to return the five per cent bonds and hold the present six per cent bonds until the same are redeemed, proved also that we shall have the privilege of naming the trustee, or the trustees in the said deed of trust in the place of the Maryland Trust Company and that the principal and interest of said [Page 246] five per cent bonds be payable at the National Bank of Fredericksburg, instead of at the office of said Trust Company.

This offer to be binding on us until 12 O'clock PM on June the 14th 1895

C W Wallace

A W Wallace

We nominate St George R Fitzhugh and J S Wallace as trustees, in said Deed of Trust.

[Printed matter, probably in error from *The Free Lance* 2 April 1895, page 3 column 4; see page 246 for the complete text]

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On motion of M G Willis, it was unanimously resolved that the foregoing offer of C Wistar Wallace and A W Wallace be and the same is hereby accepted, and that the City of Fredericksburg, pledges itself in consideration of the undertakings on the part of C W and A W Wallace to obtain promptly on the meeting of the next Legislature an act of said Legislature in accordance with the requirement of the aforesaid offer of said C W and A W Wallace conferring and validating all the Maryland Council here agree to in the premises to the end that the validity of the \$30,000 of five percent bonds authorized to be issued and the deed of Trust to secure the said made ready be free from any doubt or question and the City fully empowered to waive any right it may now have under present legislation to redeem the said five per cent bonds before their maturity in 1909.

Resolved further that until the aforesaid legislation is obtained the National Bank of Fredericksburg Va as stakeholder shall hold the six per cent water bonds as collateral security for the money advanced by said C W & A W Wallace under their said offer to cash the same, and that said six per cent bonds shall be held and treated as the valid obligations of said City but bearing only five percent interest [Page 248] from the 1st of July 1895 until the new issue of five per cent bonds to be substituted in the place of said old issue is confirmed and declared valid by the aforesaid Act of the legislature to be gotten as above provided.

Resolved further, that the Finance Committee proceed to have the aforesaid five per cent bonds lithographed and executed, and the deed of trust executed and recorded and deliver the bonds to said C W and A W Wallace as they shall cash the old bonds as above provided.

Resolved further that if the City should fail to comply with its above covenant to obtain the aforesaid legislation from the next legislature then in that event it shall be optional with the said C W and A W Wallace or their assignees to return the \$30,000 of the new five per cent bonds to the City Treasurer of Fredericksburg and to receive from the National Bank of Fredericksburg the \$30,000 of six per cent bonds and to own and possess the same with the right to receive the six per cent interest on the same as called for by their coupons and subject to the right of the City to redeem the same.

I hereby certify that the above is a correct report of the Council of the date June the 12th 1895
W E Bradley, Clerk pro tem.

A P Rowe, Mayor
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Fredericksburg Va Friday June 14/95

At a called meeting of the City Council held in their chamber Friday night June 14/95
[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 18 June 1895 page 4, column 2]

Mayor Rowe stated that the meeting had been called at the request of himself and Mr W A Little Jr, counsel for the Virginia, Fredericksburg & Western Railroad, and that Mr Little desired to submit a new proposition as to the subscription of Fredericksburg to the road. He also stated that President W C Haight and Secretary and Treasurer F L Rogers were present and desired to make a statement.

There were present Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Bradley, Embrey, Gouldman, Burruss, Cole, Wallace, Knight and Myer. Mr Tyler being the only absentee. Mr Bradley was elected clerk *pro tem*.

On motion, it was unanimously agreed that Mr Little and Mr F L Rodgers, Secretary, of the railroad company, be heard.

Mr Little first asked if the commission had reported to the Council its action for the last proposition submitted to it.

Mr Willis in reply, stated no report had been made there upon Mr Wallace moved to refer the whole matter back to the commission and require a report.

Mr Little stated that the Mayor was present and chairman of the commission, and that he knew what that committee had decided, and there was no reason for any further delay, as Mr Wm C Haight, President of the railroad company, and Mr F L Rodgers, Secretary and Treasury, were present and had been here for several days trying to satisfy every reasonable demand on the part of Fredericksburg and that there was no reason why the commission should not be discharged from the further consideration of the matter entrusted to it, and the Council act for itself, as it would finally have to do so. He stated that the proposition which they were now prepared to submit on behalf of the railroad company was altogether a new one, and one which he felt assured the Council would accept. He also stated that the commission heretofore appointed was empowered to deal with the question chiefly as to what guarantee the company

could furnish of adequate means back of them to construct the proposed railroad. The railroad company, had, after consideration, determined to furnish to Fredericksburg the most complete safeguard that could be asked, namely, that they would construct this road before Fredericksburg should pay a dollar, and the company now submitted this final proposition, namely That Fredericksburg shall subscribe \$50,000 to the capital stock of said company to be paid as follows: \$25,000 when said railroad is constructed from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck, and when trains are running over said road equipped for freight and passengers service, and \$25,000 to be paid so soon as the road is built from Fredericksburg westwardly to Manassas Gap, or some point at or near the eastern base of the Blue Ridge Mountains. He further stated that the businessmen of Fredericksburg—nearly all of them—had signed a petition which he held in his hand asking the Common Council to permit the people of Fredericksburg to vote upon the question subscribing for \$50,000 when and so soon as the said road has been built to Millenbeck, and the proposition now submitted would then far more than meet with the earnest approval of tax-payers of the city.

Mr Little then presented a petition from merchants of the city as follows:

To the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg, Va:

We, the business men of Fredericksburg, Va having been informed that the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company has asked the Common Council to order an election to permit the people to vote upon the question of the city subscribing a sum not exceeding \$50,000 to the capital stock of said company, when and as soon as the said company has built its road from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck, and said road has been equipped and cars properly equipped for freight and passenger service are running each way each day. We earnestly petition your honorable body to accept said proposition and order an election for said purpose and permit the people to vote upon this matter, which they deem of vital importance to the city:

Jos McGovern	M A Gately	D H Knox	Geo Nossett	David Hirsh
H D Genter	R L Pettit	W B Goolrick	J F Brown	J W Harris
W H Hurkamp	Isaac Hirsh	Andrew Murray	E T Baker	J R Rawlings
E C Ninde	J W Masters	Smith & Coghill	H B Coghill	J W Adams Jr
Jas T Layton	J W Thomas	Henry Millhouser	J B Colbert	B Goldsmith
M M Lewis	Wm Damm	A Loewenson	E W Mills	B H Jacobs
W L Watson	W T Smith	Geo E Cole	J W Cox	T J Haydon
S Willis Howard	T N Brent	Geo Gravatt	M C Strasburger	Shepherd Brown
J W Harris	J W Colbert	W E Lang	W T Armstrong	L Cotton
Henry Dannehl	W A Hills	Richard E Estes	W L Brannan	Chas A King
J D Ray	J Hazard	W H Russell & Son	W I King & Co	R L Wood
W H Smith	Michael Long	William May	P M Woodford	R Hicks
H F Jones, Agent	J F Scott	T C Montague MD	W S Amiss	S G Wallace Jr
J C Kaufman	Wallace & Co	J F Gouldman	Hy Ulman	R England
H D Williams	E W Stearns	Geo B Pearson		

The Council took no action on the petition.

Mr Rodgers, secretary of the railroad company, followed Senator Little by saying that he intended no discourtesy to the committee in speaking before the Council, and much deplored the embarrassing position in which he was placed; that they came here in the spirit of fairness and good faith to deal with this question in a straight, square, business-like way, and that they were ready to concede to the city such terms on their subscribing to the stock of the road as would raise no question about the benefit to the city and the building of the road before one dollar of the subscription was paid.

It was the general expression of the members of the Council that no action could be taken without casting a reflection on the Commission until they had made a report to the Council. It was freely discussed by Mess'rs Willis, Cole, Embrey, Wallace, Bradley and Gouldman, and resulted in the adoption of the following resolution presented by Mr Embrey:

Resolved, that the Railroad Commission composed of the Mayor, Finance Committee of the Council and three citizens—Mess'rs St George R Fitzhugh, J S Potter and H H Wallace of this city be requested to meet Monday morning at 10 o'clock and make a report to an adjourned meeting of this Council at 8 PM Monday night.

I hereby certify that the above printed report is a correct account of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg of date June the 14th 1895

W E Bradley, Clerk pro tem.

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg Va June 17th 1895

From an adjourned meeting of the City Council Friday night June 4th 1895.

[Printed matter from *The Free Lance* 21 June 1895 page 3, column 1]

From an adjourned meeting last Friday night the Council reassembled in the Council Chamber Monday at 8 o'clock. Mayor Rowe presided. Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Wallace, Bradley, Knight, Cole and Myer were present. Mr Tyler being absent.

Mayor Rowe stated that the Council had been adjourned for the purpose of receiving the report of the Railroad Commission, which was not ready and in the hands of Mr S George R Fitzhugh, who would present it to the Council.

Mr Fitzhugh then read the following report:

The minutes of the Common Council show that on the 19th April, 1895, the Virginia, Fredericksburg & Western Railroad Company, or certain people representing themselves as being organized by law into a corporation bearing that name, appeared before the Council by Wm A Little Jr, Esq, their general counsel and represented to the Council that they proposed to build and equip a railroad from the West Virginia line to the Chesapeake Bay, making Fredericksburg the division terminus of the entire line from the West to the Bay, and to erect their shops, round-houses, etc., at Fredericksburg, Va.

They further represented that their proposed line would cover about 265 miles in length and cost about \$5,000,000, and that already about \$1,000,000 had been subscribed to their stock.

They further represented that they had assurances of wealthy West Virginia railroad men, that substantial pecuniary aid would be forthcoming, of which they have furnished no evidence. They further stated that the subscription asked of Fredericksburg would only be a drop in the bucket toward the building of the road.

They then asked of this city a subscription of \$50,000 to the capital stock of the company all of which sum was to be fully paid by the city by the time that least 20 miles of the road in the direction of the Bay was completed; and they estimated that this 20 miles of road would cost them \$500,000, or at the rate of \$25,000 a mile—thus informing our Council that the much-coveted subscription asked from this city would not construct more than two miles of this costly road through relatively level country.

The Council then passed unanimously the following resolution offered by Mr Wroten:

It coming to the knowledge of the Common Council of Fredericksburg that one or more railroad lines are possible of construction from the great West via Fredericksburg to the Chesapeake Bay, and this town being deeply interested in such happening, it is

Resolved, that all matters relating thereto be referred to a Commission consisting of the Mayor and Finance Committee and St Geo R Fitzhugh, J S Potter and H H Wallace, who are requested to make a full investigation as to such projected road or roads and report to the Council all information they may obtain and such suggestions as they may deem pertinent in connection therewith.

The above-mentioned Commission met on the 23^d April, 1895, and unanimously adopted the following resolution, which was promptly communicated to the counsel of the said company:

Resolved, that the Mayor be requested to notify the general counsel of the Virginia, Fredericksburg & Western Railroad Company that they will be glad to receive any authentic information in relation to the plans and purposes of said company and their ability to build the said road.

The Commission heard nothing from the company or its counsel until more than a month, when the counsel appeared before the Commission and invited the Commission to send two of its members to the City of New York to confer with the company, offering to pay the expense of the trip. This proposition was declined, and the company was requested to send its representatives here to confer with the Commission.

However, Hon J S Potter, a member of our Commission did on his own account visit New York and was present at a conference of said company, and upon his return reported to the Commission that he was not favorably impressed with what he saw and heard.

At the meeting of the Commission at which Mr Potter made this report, which was on the 10th June, 1895, Mr Little offered the following resolution as coming from the railroad company:

Resolved, that the Commission recommend to the Common Council of Fredericksburg the following: That an election will be held and the sense of the voters taken upon the question of subscribing \$50,000 upon the completion of the proposed railroad from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck, in Lancaster county, and when trains are running regularly over said line, equipped for freight and passenger service.

This was discussed and on a recorded vote lost. Those voting for the resolution were Hon A P Rowe and Hon J S Potter; those against it Mess'rs St Geo R Fitzhugh, M G Willis, and H H Wallace. After which on motion the Commission adjourned.

The Commission declined to recommend this proposition to the Council, and it seems unnecessary to give its reasons for so refusing, since it seems that proposition has been withdrawn and another and very different proposition has been presented, not to the Commission, but to a called meeting of the Council—called without any consultation with any member of the Commission, and without obtaining the signature of a single member of the Council to the call as far as we can learn.

This hasty convening of the Council, when it was known that the whole matter had been deliberately referred to a committee composed of the Mayor and the Finance Committee of the city and certain citizens who had given and were ready to give as much of their time as was needful, without any compensation, to the investigation of a doubtful scheme proposed by entire strangers, is not calculated to inspire confidence.

This move, taken in connection with the simultaneous appearance in an evening paper of a big advertisement for 200,000 railroad ties for a road that has not been surveyed and on which not a shovel of dirt has been thrown, indicates an uncomplimentary estimate of the capacity of the Common Council of this city by these strangers, who have persistently refused to furnish to your Commission any information or light whatsoever touching a scheme that they claim involves the outlay of \$5,000,000 and towards whose capital stock over \$1,000,000 has already been subscribed, as they allege.

To-day the president and secretary of said company, accompanied by their counsel, Wm A Little Jr, appeared before a full meeting of the Commission and presented the following proposition:

Fredericksburg, Va., June 14, 1895,

I have been directed by the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company to make the following proposition—namely, that Fredericksburg shall subscribed \$50,000 to the capital of the said

company to be paid as follows: \$25,000 when and so soon as the proposed railroad has been constructed from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck, its eastern terminal, and trains are running daily each way over said road, equipped for freight and passenger service. And the remaining \$25,000 to be paid so soon as the said railroad is built from Fredericksburg westwardly to Manassas Gap or some point at or near the eastern base of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and trains are running daily each way and equipped as aforesaid.

And I am further authorized to state that the said railroad company desires it to be understood that it is bound by the resolution passed on the 16th day of April 1895, at a meeting of its stockholders, which resolution is as follows—namely:

“Resolved, that round-houses, shops, etc, of this company shall be established at Fredericksburg in the event of the said city donating to the company suitable grounds for such purpose and by subscribing \$50,000 to the capital stock of the said company: also that Fredericksburg be the division terminus.”

And the said railroad company is now ready to agree and bind itself not to demand the \$25,000 above set forth to be paid after the construction of road westwardly until said round-houses, shops, etc., have been established in Fredericksburg in pursuance of said resolution, and actually in the occupancy of said railroad company.

Wm A Little Jr., Counsel.

The secretary of the company, Mr Rodgers, then arose and stated that they were present to furnish any information that the Commission might desire.

He was reminded that the company in its written application to the Council on April 19th had stated that the \$50,000 then asked for to be paid upon the completion of 20 miles of the road would not be a drop in the bucket, and he was asked whether the failure to furnish that drop in the bucket would cause the company to abandon an enterprise involving \$5,000,000. His reply was that he was not prepared to say whether it would or would not, but that they needed that subscription as an evidence of the friendship of the city.

He was then asked whether the charters of the Legislature, under which they proposed to construct their road from West Virginia to Millenbeck, did not in express terms require the company to build both lines, the Eastern and the Western line, to Fredericksburg or to Falmouth, and both Mr Rogers and Mr Little admitted that they were compelled subscription or no subscription, to build both ends of their proposed line from West Virginia to Millenbeck to either Fredericksburg or Falmouth.

Mr Rodgers then admitted that in his judgment no company building a road from West Virginia to the Bay would fail to pass through Fredericksburg.

He was then asked in what shape was the \$1,000,000 which they alleged was already subscribed to the stock of the company.

He replied that about \$500,000 of said subscription was in money and \$500,000 in real estate.

He was then asked whether the \$500,000 of money subscribed was deposited in any bank or institution.

He replied that it was not on deposit anywhere, but was in the hands of a construction company. He was then asked whether the construction company had this half a million dollars in their pockets, to which he made no reply.

He was then asked in what real estate the other \$500,000 was to be found, and he replied that the other \$500,000 subscribed to the stock was in a tract of land at or near Millenbeck, consisting of between eight hundred and a thousand acres.

Mr Rogers was then asked whether any, and if so, how much stock of his company was held in Fredericksburg, and by whom. He replied that he could not remember how much was held nor by whom any of it was held.

The undersigned members of the commission have given the proposition of this company a full and thorough consideration, with a sincere desire to reach a conclusion just alike to Fredericksburg and to the

company, and they now respectfully report to the Council their deliberate conclusion with some of the reasons therefore.

They deem it inexpedient for the Council to submit said proposition to a vote of the people.

They cannot in the first place divest their minds of the conviction that the proposed scheme to build a railroad from the base of the Blue Ridge to Millenbeck has no merit in it, and that there is no serious purpose on the part of the said company to build such a road.

In the second place, that the proposal to build first a road from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck, a distance of one hundred miles, at a cost of say \$20,000 a mile, \$2,000,000 seems to be so destitute of probability as to render all discussion needless, as the territory traversed by such a line has a width of not over 20 miles at its widest point and is bounded on both sides by navigable water with daily lines of steamers. Such a line, if capital could be found infatuated enough to build it, could in the nature of things on ly have one purpose and one destination, and that would be to carry everything in the way of traffic along that contracted territory to deep water at Millenbeck. It would reverse the order of traffic to make Fredericksburg the destination of such a line, all railroad lines seek to reach deep water and most of our great cities are built at deep water.

It is doubtless, this law of traffic which has induced the idle notion in the minds of the owners of 1,000 acres of poor land at Millenbeck, which they value at \$500,000, thus if they can convince the credulous that the road from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck it likely to be constructed this company would be enabled to unload its land in town lots, thus proposing a new city at Millenbeck as a competitor with Fredericksburg for the limited trade of the Northern Neck.

Fredericksburg would rejoice if the monopoly on the Rappahannock, so long held by the Weems Line, could be broke, but to her sorrow she realizes that capital has not seen its way to place steamers on the river to compete with the present line, and if this comparatively cheap mode of dividing the traffic on both sides of the river will not pay, is it possible to conceive of men being found to furnish \$2,000,000 to build a railroad to compete for the traffic on one side of said river, and that the most restricted side in point of territory?

In the third place, if the only possible reason or justification for the building of such a road would be to transport the coal of West Virginia to deep water, what explanation is possible of a purpose to build the line from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck first.

If these people can only hope to obtain the money to build the Eastern half of the line, then do they not start with the certainty that when they complete that half they will have a road whose traffic would not pay for the fuel to run a daily train six months, and thus their expenditure of \$2,000,000 would be practically lost, for foreclosure of mortgages would follow and a sacrifice of all the money thus foolishly expended.

In the fourth place, they admit that they have parted with \$500,000 of their stock for less than a 1,000 acres of land at Millenbeck worth, we presume, five dollars an acre.

Is Fredericksburg prepared to pay \$50,000 in hard cash for five hundred shares of stock which the officers of the company admit that they issued 5,000 shares for less than 1,000 acres of poor land at Millenbeck?

The entire assessed value of all the real estate in Fredericksburg, including dwelling houses, stores, warehouses, factories, mills, streets, and all other erections does not exceed \$1,250,000 and yet these people estimate 1,000 acres at Millenbeck at nearly half the value of our city of 6,000 inhabitants.

Surely they must expect to convince some people that a dangerous competitor for Fredericksburg will soon spring up at Millenbeck, and they want Fredericksburg and the counties of the Northern Neck to furnish a show of reality to this absurd pretense, and thus enable them to make a big speculation at Millenbeck. The entire conduct of this company lead to this assumption on the part of the Commission.

As we have seen they came before the Council on the 19th of April asking for a subscription of \$50,000 to be paid in full when twenty miles of their road had penetrated King George County.

Then they came before our Commission on June 10, 1895, asking for a subscription of \$50,000 to be paid when the road from Fredericksburg to Millbeck a distance of one hundred miles was completed, equipped and trains running.

Then five days thereafter they go before the Council asking a subscription of only \$25,000 to be paid when the road from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck is completed, equipped and trains running daily and shops and round houses built in Fredericksburg. Then they come before our Commission on June 17 asking for \$25,000 when the road form Fredericksburg to Millenbeck is completed, equipped and running, but the shops and round houses are not to be built here until \$50,000 is paid.

This constantly shifting of position, and the revelations made by Mr Rodgers to the Commission above referred to, and the before mentioned advertisement for ties convince the Commission that the Council is without sufficient light to justify any dealings with this company.

If the fifth place if this road is ever built the charter compels it to come to Fredericksburg or Falmouth, and they cannot get rid of that requirement, hence it will be time enough for Fredericksburg to compete with Falmouth for the shops, &c, when the time comes to erect them.

In the sixth place the resolution under which this Commission is acting directs it not to confine its investigation to the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad company, but to embrace any other company who may seek to come to Fredericksburg.

The Commission is advised that another company known as the Cheaspeake and Western Railroad company, whose purpose is to build a road from the coal fields of West Virginia to Mathias Point, on the Potomac, is desirous of a conference with the Commission, and will soon visit Fredericksburg for that purpose.

The Commission has seen letters from these new people stating that they are actually building their road, and that substantial citizens of Rockingham had subscribed \$150,000 to said company.

Should this latter company prove to be the most reliable, substantial, and its plans the more practicable, it would be unfortunate to find the city handicapped by committal to another company.

The argument that a conditional pledge of subscription will not prejudice the city if the road is not built impresses us as wanting in force, for it is as true of a city as an individual that even a conditional pledge of credit weakens that credit to two companies it would greatly impair its financial standing, and would be a constant menace of higher taxation to those thinking of investing capital here, and it would certainly inspire distrust of the business intelligence of the municipal government.

In conclusion, the Commission cannot refrain from inviting the attention of the Council to the fact that a petition numerously signed by citizens of Fredericksburg asking the Council to give them an opportunity to vote \$50,000 to this company for the building of a road from Fredericksburg to Millenbeck was presented to the Council at the same instant of time that the company was appealing to the Council to give the people an opportunity to vote them a subscription of only \$25,000, thus illustrating how ill-advised it often is for the people to seek to take out of the hands of their faithful representatives the disposal of matters about which the people at large have no information.

Respectfully submitted this June 17, 1895.

J S Potter, E D Cole, M G Willis, John M Griffin, H H Wallace, St Geo R Fitzhugh.

At the conclusion of the reading of the report. Mr Fitzhugh also read the resolution of Mr Potter recommending the expenditure of \$50,000 in improving Fredericksburg, stating that he was directed by the commission to refer said resolution to the Council without any recommendation touching the same.

Mayor Rowe then presented a minority report as follows:

To the City Council:

The Mayor deems it his duty to state to the Council the reasons he did not sign the report of the Commission, as he considers that the people should be allowed to vote on the last proposition made to the city, viz: For only one-half of the subscription to be paid (\$25,000) after both passenger and freight trains

were running to Millenbeck, by which a large amount of trade would be brought to the city: the other \$25,000 to be paid after shops, &c were erected here, and trains running both ways to the Western terminus. If no subscriptions are to be made as above stated until those conditions are fulfilled, it should not concern us how they may or shall be accomplished.

A P Rowe, Chairman.

Mr Knight then announced that Mr W A Little Jr, counsel and Mr F L Rodgers, secretary of the road were present and desired to be heard, which was unanimously accorded them by the Council.

Mr Little said that the company was in earnest in their effort to build the road at one, and that they only asked the city to give them on evidence of their good will be contributing \$50,000 to the capital stock of the company. He resented the imputations cast upon the earnestness of the company in the report to build the road, and asked that the people be allowed to vote on the question.

Mr Little also said that if the city of Fredericksburg would subscribe the \$50,000 asked for as soon as the railroad was completed to Millenbeck on the east and the Blue Ridge Mountains on the West, the company would return the amount to the city, to be used in carrying out Mr Potter's resolution to improve the city by paving and sewerage &c.

Mr Fitzhugh replied and said the report had been made with due thought and consideration, and the whole Commission, with the exception of Chairman Rowe, heartily approved it and asked its adoption.

Secretary Rodgers said the representatives of the company had felt, whenever they appeared before the commission that it was hostile to them, and that they were very much surprised, as they expected to be met in a friendly spirit. He reiterated the earnestness of the company to build the road and wanted the co-operation of the city of Fredericksburg.

On motion, Hon John L Marye was heard. He spoke in advocacy of the adoption of the report of the commission.

The minority report of Mayor Rowe, chairman of the committee, was then taken up and rejected unanimously.

Mr Wallace moved the adoption of the majority report, which was carried by the following vote:

Ayes Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Cole, Wallace, Myer

Noes Mess'rs Bradley, Gouldman, Knight.

The Council then adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above printed report is a correct record of the City Council of Fredericksburg of Monday June the 17th 1895

W E Bradley, Clerk pro tem.

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg V^a June 21st 1895

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at the Council Chamber Friday night June 21st 1895

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Mayor Rowe presiding, and the following Councilmen were present: Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Cole, Bradley, Wallace, Knight and Myer: Mr Tyler absent.

Mr Bradley was elected clerk pro tem.

Mr Willis, of Finance Committee, presented bill of *Star* for \$3, and the bill of *Free Lance* for \$11, which was ordered paid. He stated that the Finance Committee were not prepared to make a report at this time owing to the fact that there were outstanding bills which would be brought in during the next week, and that he would request a meeting of the Council next Friday night when the report would be ready.

Mr Wroten, of Street Committee, submitted the committee's report as follows:

Fredericksburg, June 21st 1895

Mayor and Common Council City of Fredericksburg:

Your Committee on Streets respectfully make the following report:

Amounts placed to their credit July 1st 1894, one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

Amount expended on street bridges &c, as per vouchers in the hands of the City Treasurer to June 15, 1895, ten hundred and five dollars and eighty-six cents (\$1,000.86).

Amount of outstanding bills to be paid, eighty-three dollars and seventy-two cents (\$83.72).

Your committee would ask that the sum of one hundred dollars be placed to their credit to pay said bills and any other up to July 1st 1895.

Respectfully, &c.

Geo W Wroten, W S Embrey, W E Bradley

The sum of one hundred dollars was appropriated to the committee.

Mr Cole, of Water Works, stated that the report of Superintendent Quinn to the committee was the report that the committee would submit to the Council, and said that the Superintendent was present and would read it to the Council. The report shows the collections larger than any previous year, \$5,437.22, and expenditures other than the salary of Superintendent and interest on bonds, \$1,306.73.

The report says:

It will thus be seen that the expenditures exceed the appropriation by \$306.73, but there should be allowed to the credit of the committee the amounts expended for meters and meter boxes amounting to \$25370, which would show that the committee had exceeded its appropriation only \$53.03. And it might be stated that in the bill of expenditures is the sum of \$422.85 for self-closing hydrants, which were purchased to take the place of the public hydrants to prevent waste of water. In addition by the present committee, there is charged against us on the Treasurer's books \$105.13 of bills approved by the former committee and should have been paid and charged up to the old committee, but as they were not presented to the Treasurer until after the final meeting of the Finance Committee of last year, they were paid by the Treasurer in June and charged up to the present committee before it came into existence. This amount added to the real shortage of the committee, shows an apparent shortage of \$111.86.

The committee asked that the sum of \$411.86 be place to the credit of the committee which was adopted.

After the reading of the report, which was very full, Mr Cole presented a statement showing the total receipts and expenditures for all purposes, to-wit:

Total collections		\$5,437.22
Running expenses	\$993.99	
Amount paid for water meters	\$257.70	
Salary of superintendent	\$900.00	
Interest on bonds	\$1,800.00	\$2,951.65
Net receipts from water		\$1,435.53

Mr Cole said that the committee had decided to take no steps towards building the pump-house at this time.

Mr Embrey, of Light Committee, The appropriation was \$2,500; of which \$2,417.60 had been expended.

Mr Knight, of Alms House Committee, presented his report but withdrew it in order to get all outstanding bills to July 1, 1895.

Mr Burruss, of Fire and Police Committee, submitted the report of Chief J H Robinson as the police report of the Committee.

June 21, 1895

To Mess'rs W L Burruss, G W Wroten and John T Knight Committee on Fire and Police Departments of the City of Fredericksburg, Va:

Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit the following report of the workings of the Police Department from the 1st of July 1894, to date:

Total number of arrests made	405
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Classified as follows:

Violation of City Ordinances	352	
Felonies committed	10	
Misdemeanors	39	
Insane persons	4	405

White males	172	
White females	3	
Colored males	158	
Colored females	72	405

Disposed of as follows

Fined and imprisoned, &c	295
Sent on to Corporation Court	10
Arrested for Orange County officers	4
Arrested for Stafford County officers	4
Arrested for Spotsylvania County officers	6
Arrested for King George County officers	1
Sent to State hospitals	4
Dismissed	81

Number of tramps arrested, locked up over night and made to leave the city next day:

White Males	493
Colored males	69
Total	562

Persons assisted by the Mayor	6
Premises and houses reported entered by thieves	27

Respectfully submitted,
J H Robinson

Mr Burruss also presented this report of Chief Robinson of the Fire Department:

June 21st 1895

To Mess'rs W L Burruss, G W Wroten and John T Knight Committee on Fire and Police Departments of the City of Fredericksburg, Va:

Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit the following report of the workings of the Fire Department since my last report:

On Tuesday morning, June 4th, 1895, about 5:25 o'clock, fire was discovered in the ice and excelsior factory of W I King on B Street, near railroad. The Fire Department was on hand in a short time and had

three lines of hose connected with the following plugs: One at the corner of B & 5th, one at B and 4th, and one at C and 4th streets, and a full head of water on, but the pressure was inadequate for the demands of the occasion. The firemen, aided by many citizens worked heroically to subdue the flames.

Willie Deshazo, an employee of the factory, who was asleep in the building at the time was burned to death.

From the best information I can obtain the fire originated in the boiler room of the factory, the flames first being seen coming out where the smoke stack went through the roof. There were totally destroyed 4 buildings, 1 badly damaged and 1 building slightly damage.

Assessed value of property lost	\$14,800
Insurance on same	15,930

The following named firemen responded to the alarm promptly: James Waller, Wm Downs, George Hunt, J N Stone, Henry Walters, George F Rodgers, W F Leacock, Wm Jefferson, R L Jefferson, S H Kendall, James H Williams, W H Walker and Wm Shepherd, all of whom worked faithfully to subdue the flames. On account of the danger that threatened the excelsior flour mills and other property I detailed the following firemen to remain at the fire all day, and keep streams of water on the smolderings: James Waller, Wm [Page 253] Downs, George Hunt, J A Stone, Henry Walters, George F Rodgers, W F Leacock, Wm Jefferson, R L Jefferson and James H Williams.

The following citizens, with others, rendered very valuable services at the fire in aiding in handling the hose &c: John T Leavell, Valentine Dannehl, Horace Toombs, W S Johnson, T E McCracken, J B Danson, Jasper Cox, James Cash, J P Walker, Steve Connelly, Eddie Hicks, B J Marshall and R W Wright.

On account of the condition of the ruins at night I left the reels and hose at the fire in charge of a detail of firemen.

Thursday night I kept a watchman at the ruins.

Friday evening I took a reel and a line of hose and flooded the smolderings.

The wear and tear of the hose and nozzles at the fire was very great. I would recommend the purchase of about 400 feet of hose in addition to the 600 feet already recommended. The department is in need of another "shut off" nozzle.

On Monday June 10th instant, at the request of the Water Committee, we made a test of the pressure of the water at different points of the city. We placed three streams on the ruins where the fire occurred, using the plugs used on that occasion. The first stream seemed to be stronger than the first on Tuesday morning. When the hydrants, &c were shut off the pressure increased. We then tested 4-inch pipe on Main street, having one line of hose at corner of B and 4th streets and one at B and 3rd streets. This showed that one stream weakened the other to such an extent as to render ineffective for three story buildings. The same test was applied at B and 2nd streets, and with the lower plug on Main Street with the same results.

Changing the hose from B and 2nd streets to the corner of C and 2nd streets, we had two effective streams. We then tested the two plugs highest up on the Boulevard, and found them too weak for effective use with the size nozzles we use, the smallest being $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch. The plug at Mayor Rowe's lot, on a 3-inch pipe was then tried with 500 feet of hose on Mr John T Leavell's residence. We were unable to throw the stream over the house with this plug. The plug at the corner of Washington avenue and Fauquier street on a 3-inch pipe, is also too week for effective work with a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch nozzle. The next test was at the corner of Charles and Pitt streets, on a 3-inch pipe. Here we got a good stream, and when used in connection with the plug at Pitt and Princess Anne streets, it was reduced but little. These streams are effective. The last test was made at Hall's corner, on Main Street, on a 6-inch pipe. We attached two lines of hose to the one plug and got two strong streams throwing them on the roof of the Opera House, although all the motors were running on Commerce Street and a strong breeze blowing.

Thus we tested, with strong points all the weak points of the works, with the results above stated.

Respectfully submitted,

J H Robinson, Chief F F D

Mr Wallace of Bridge Committee, Reported expenditures \$36.25 out of appropriation of \$100.

Mr Wroten offered the following which, after discussion was adopted:

Resolved, That the City Council accepts, as streets, the land dedicated for that purpose by the Fredericksburg Development Company, on the tract of land in the City limits known as the Doswell tract and designated on the map and plat of said property, filed in the Clerk's Office of Fredericksburg, as Canby, 480 feet long and 60 wide; Hupfel, 750 feet long and 60 wide, and Cromwell Streets, 750 feet long and 60 wide.

A bill of \$10 for services of firemen at the King fire was ordered to be paid.

The Mayor stated that the police officers had discharged their duties faithfully and their salaries for the present quarter were ordered to be paid.

Mr Bradley presented the resolution of Mr Joseph S Potter offered to the commission which recommends \$50,000 for paving, sewerage, &c, by the city, which was submitted to the Finance Committee for consideration.

[inserted printed material from a previous issue of *The Free Lance*, not identified]

Whereas, the municipality of Fredericksburg has been informed by the representatives of a corporation known as the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company that said corporation intended to construct a railroad the line of which has been established and now being surveyed, from Winchester, in the state of Virginia, to a terminus point on Chesapeake Bay between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers, and that city of Fredericksburg has been requested to subscribe conditionally, the sum of \$50,000 for stock to be issued by said corporation and

Whereas, This commission, in its official capacity, desires to encourage, in a prudent and practical business way, the construction of said proposed railroad, and having carefully considered the question as to the most efficient method of so doing, and, also, realizing the fact that the prosperity of the proposed road and security for the bondholders will be wholly dependent upon permanent and growing sources of business, believe the \$50,000 asked for as a stock subscription can be used to the far greater mutual advantage of the city and the proposed road, by expending the said sum of \$50,000 in general city improvements, namely:

By the construction of a system of sewerage which will render the sanitary condition of the city perfect and permanent:

By grading, paving, or macadamizing its streets, and

By insuring such other modern practical improvements as will attract to the city a rapidly increasing population, new industries, an enlarged commerce, trade, traffic and travel. Therefore

Resolved, that this commission recommend to the honorable Council the passage of an act, to be submitted to the voters of the city of Fredericksburg for approval, appropriating the sum of \$50,000, to be raised by an issue of bonds to be designated Fredericksburg City Improvement Bonds, the said sum to be expended under expert supervision, in accordance with plans approved by the Honorable Mayor and Council.

Resolved, that this commission further recommend to the favorable consideration of the honorable Council, and agreement to provide said railroad corporation a suitable site upon which to construct a depot, machine shops, turntables and round-house, the conveyance of land for such site, and the commencement of the city improvements before named, to take place whenever twenty-five miles of said proposed railroad shall be completely graded from Fredericksburg East or West.

Mr Knight offered the following resolution which was seconded by Mr Myer:

Resolved, That the Common Council of Fredericksburg shall submit to the qualified voters of said town the question whether the said Council shall subscribe \$50,000 to the capital stock of the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company to be paid only and after said proposed road is constructed from Millenbeck through Fredericksburg westwardly to the eastern base of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and trains are running daily each way over said road equipped for freight and passenger service.

And provided also that the said subscription is not to be paid until the aforesaid line is completed as aforesaid, but not until shops, round-houses, etc., are constructed by the company at Fredericksburg, and occupied by the said company in accordance with a resolution of the stockholders of said company heretofore set forth.

Said resolutions pledge the company to erect its workshops, round-houses, &c, in Fredericksburg.

Mr Cole moved to lay the resolution on the table, which after some discussion was done by the following vote:

Ayes Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Burruss, Cole and Wallace.

Noes Mess'rs Embrey, Gouldman, Knight, Myer and Bradley.

The Council then adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above printed report is a correct account of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg of date June the 21st 1895

W E Bradley, Clerk pro tem.

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg Va June 28, 1895

An adjourned meeting of the City Council was held at the Council Chamber on Friday evening June 28th 1895

Present Mayor A P Rowe

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Embrey, Gouldman, Cole, Wallace, Knight and Myer.

In the absence of the Clerk on motion of Mr Willis, John M Griffin was requested to act as Clerk pro tem.

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 2 July 1895 page 5 column 3; the Finance Committee report on page 2 column 2]

At the suggestion of Mr Willis the Finance Committee's report was passed by temporarily, and the other committees allowed to report first.

Mr Gouldman, for the Public Property Committee, reported, showing the expenditures of this committee to have been \$475.76, an excess over the amount appropriated of \$75.76, which, on motion, was ordered appropriated and paid.

Mr Knight, of the Alms House Committee, reported that his committee had exceeded the amount appropriated by \$411.14, and explained that the excess was owing to the payment of a balance due and unpaid by the committee last year and for necessary improvements made Alms House. The amount expended was \$1,817.14, amount appropriated \$1,406. An appropriation was made to cover the deficit and the same ordered to be paid.

Mr Myer reported that the Park Committee had kept within its appropriation and had a small balance on hand.

Mr Wroten reported the amount appropriated for the Fire and Police Committee to be \$150, and the amount expended \$148.45, leaving a balance of \$1.55.

For the Gas Committee, Mr Griffin reported the receipts from all sources to be \$7,946.56, and the expenditures \$7,460.56, net balance \$486. The report states:

In the expenditures as shown is included the repairs made to buildings at Gas Works consisting of almost an entirely new slate roof on retort house, a new shingle roof on coal shed, new floors in both retort house and coal shed, the erection of a coke shed, putting in new floors and timbers in office building, enclosing premises with suitable fences and painting buildings and guttering same at a cost of \$837.47.

There has been expended for the erection of two new benches of retorts, including retorts, fire brick, clay, new over work and labor of putting up same, \$1,830.02.

There has also been paid out \$695.94 in settlement of bills contracted by preceding committee.

There has been laid during the year 833½ feet of service pipe, and it is the intention of the committee to supplement the old service pipe with new as rapidly as possible, believing that a large portion of the leakage can be traced to the service pipe, much of which has been in use from 30 to 40 years.

The Committee believes that the works are now in condition to become a source of some revenue to the city.

Vouchers for expenditures made by the committee are in the Treasurer's hands.

Respectfully submitted, John M Griffin, E D Cole, Committee on Gas

In moving that the report be adopted Mr Willis said that it was a source of congratulations to the people of the town that the gas works had been so managed as to show a balance when so much had been expended in improvements and under the control of the present committee even better results are to be expected another year.

Mr Willis presented the report of the Finance Committee, embodying the annual reports of the City Treasurer, R T Knox and City Collector A P Rowe Jr and the rate of taxation for 1895-6. Mr Willis requested permission for Collector Rowe to read his report, as he could do so more satisfactorily than one not so familiar with it as he. He also said that Mr Rowe would be glad to answer any question in relation to his office the Council might wish to ask. Mr Rowe then read his report in full. The report was adopted by the Finance Committee and will be found in the full report of the committee published in another column.

Mr Willis said that the sum of about \$4,500 had been overdrawn and was due the Treasurer, and in view of there being no available sources of revenue from which the city could draw until next October, asked that the Finance Committee be authorized to borrow that amount, or so much of it as would be necessary to meet the immediate indebtedness of the city.

On motion of Mr Wroten, the Finance Committee was authorized to negotiate a loan of \$4,500, or so much thereof as may be necessary to meet the immediate demands of the Corporation and it was adopted.

Mr Willis also offered an ordinance making the appropriations for the year 1895-6 as follows:

Annual Appropriations

Mr Knox also presented the following appropriation ordinance which was adopted:

1st Be it ordained by the City Council of Fredericksburg, that the following appropriations be made for the year ending Jun 30th 1896:

Interest and sinking fund, 7 per cent Bonds	\$10,000
Interest and sinking fund, 6 per cent Water Bonds	1,800
Interest and sinking fund, 6 per cent Bridge Bonds	1,750

Interest and sinking fund, 6 per cent Gas Bonds	1,750
Alms House	1,200
Salaries	4,500
Police	1,440
Repairs of Public Property	400
Streets	1,000
Light	1,500
Park	150
Public Schools	2,400
Water	1,000
Gas	1,000
Commerce and Navigation	50
Contingencies	1,300
Fire Department and Police	150
Bridge	110
	\$31.500

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 on him until further appropriations are made to meet them.

Mr Embrey desired to know why the appropriation for light had been so reduced and Mr Willis explained that the committee in charge of the matter hoped by the new year to have a fully equipped light system owned by the city, and thought the amount named would be sufficient to pay for all lights up to that time.

A communication from City Treasurer R T Knox was read, saying he had in his possession some unsigned bonds and coupons of the Corporation which had been delivered to him by Mr A K Phillips, Jr as being some of the papers of ex-Treasurer R W Adams. Mr Knox desired to know what he should do with them.

Mr Knight moved that the Finance Committee take charge of them and destroy them at once, which was carried.

A communication was received from the insurance agents of the city relative to the inadequacy of water at the recent fire in the city, and was referred to the Water Committee with instructions to reply to same.

Mr Rowe presented and had read a telegram from Mr E C Machen of the Chesapeake & Western R R. Harrisonburg, Va., June 25, 1895.

Hon A P Rowe, Mayor:

One of our engineers has crossed the Blue Ridge surveying eastward. We will make you a proposition as soon as able to do so intelligently, which will be in the near future. Trust it will suit your to hear us before ordering vote.

E C Machen.

Collector's Report

Fredericksburg, Va, June 20th 1895

To Mess'rs M G Willis, E D Cole and J M Griffin, Finance Committee

Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit herewith my annual report of collections of revenue for the fiscal year ending June 20th 1895.

I am pleased to state that notwithstanding the dull times the collections have exceeded those of last year by \$1,013.15.

Considerable talk has been indulged in with reference to the amount of the delinquent city taxes. I beg to state that the delinquent list is smaller now than at any time within the past ten years and it is \$2,000 less than it was when the tax books were placed in my hands, notwithstanding the addition of a new tax book each year since that time. When it is borne in mind that the list runs back to 1876, covering a period of nineteen years, the amount \$698.29 is extremely small, though I shall use every effort, legal and otherwise in accordance with your recent instructions, to collect, without delay, the bills still delinquent.

Of the total delinquent list about \$1,000 is worthless, being due for capitations, &c by insolvent parties. Of the remainder about \$32.00 is represented by twenty bills on unsettled estates &c as I pointed out to you at the meeting of your committee Monday night. It is designed, I presume, that a public sale of this, as well as other delinquent property, will be ordered at an early day by the Council.

I would state that I have been garnishing in the cases of delinquent parties who have employment, when I could not get a prompt settlement otherwise, and I shall continue to prosecute this plan of collecting with diligence.

Following is an itemized statement for each year together with a recapitulation of each:

City taxes collected for the year ending June 20 th 1895		
On Assessment of 1894	\$16,960.74	
Less 5 percent discount	848.04	\$16,112.70
On assessment of 1894 after Oct 15 th	1,005.42	
Add penalty and interest	63.37	\$1,068.79
		\$17,181.49
General licenses fr Jun 16 '94 to Jun 20 '95	321.32	
Rent of hay scales, market stall &c	44.00	
Dray licenses for 1-'94-'95	80.00	
Licenses for Opera House exhibitions	12.50	457.82
On general licenses for 1895-'96	6,089.30	
Less 5 percent discount	304.46	5,781.84
On general licenses for 1895 '96 after May 15 th		14.58
On dray licenses for 1895-'96	92.00	
Less 5 percent discount	4.60	87.40
On dray licenses for 1895-'96, after May 15 th		20.00
Total collections for 1894		\$23,546.13
On Assessment of 1893	842.51	
Add penalty and interest	81.52	925.08
On Assessment of 1892	396.43	
Add penalty and interest	61.42	457.85
On Assessment of 1891	145.51	
Add penalty and interest	30.11	175.82
On Assessment of 1890	54.21	
Add penalty and interest	14.19	68.40
On Assessment of 1889	38.26	
Add penalty and interest	13.93	52.19
On Assessment of 1888	32.58	
Add penalty and interest	13.48	46.06
On Assessment of 1887	139.52	
Add penalty and interest	65.07	204.59
On Assessment of 1886	54.65	

Add penalty and interest	7.63	82.30
On Assessment of 1885	112.39	
Add penalty and interest	63.02	175.41
On Assessment of 1884	22.34	
Add penalty and interest	14.41	36.75
On Assessment of 1883	26.73	
Add penalty and interest	26.91	53.64
On Assessment of 1882	17.44	
Add penalty and interest	14.28	31.72
On Assessment of 1880	7.43	
Add penalty and interest	6.36	13.79
On Assessment of 1879	7.33	
Add penalty and interest	7.06	14.39
On Assessment of 1878	1.50	
Add penalty and interest	1.54	3.04
On Assessment of 1877	2.17	
Add penalty and interest	2.38	4.56
Total collections from all sources		\$25,871.46

The following amounts are due the city of Fredericksburg, Va by delinquents for the years 1876 to 1894 inclusive

To am't on books of 1894		\$19,487.61
By collections to Oct 15 '94	\$16,112.70	
Add 5 per cent deducted	848.04	\$16,960.74
By collections after Oct 15 '94	1,068.79	
Deduct penalty and interest	63.37	1,005.42
By bills returned to Treasurer		31.82
Am't delinquent		17,997.26
To am't on books of 1893		1,489.63
By collections	\$925.03	\$1,932.47
Deduct penalty and interest	81.52	842.51
By bills returned to Treasurer		54.16
Am't delinquent		897.17
To am't on books of 1892		1,004.30
By collections	\$457.85	\$1,134.47
Deduct penalty and interest	61.12	396.43
By bills returned to Treasurer		78.03
Am't delinquent		474.46
To am't on books of 1891		660.01
By collections	\$175.62	\$632.53
Deduct penalty and interest	30.11	145.51
By bills returned to Treasurer		91.84
Am't delinquent		237.35
To am't on books of 1890		395.18
By collections	\$68.40	\$526.49
Deduct penalty and interest	14.19	54.21
By bills returned to Treasurer		86.87
Am't delinquent		141.08
To am't on books of 1889		383.41
By collections	\$52.19	\$474.18

Deduct penalty and interest	13.93	38.26	
By bills returned to Treasurer		76.85	115.11
Am't delinquent			359.07
To am't on books of 1888			\$407.60
By collections	\$46.06		
Deduct penalty and interest	13.48	32.58	
By bills returned to Treasurer		63.45	96.03
Am't delinquent			311.57
To am't on books of 1887			\$483.77
By collections	\$204.59		
Deduct penalty and interest	65.07	139.52	
By bills returned to Treasurer		60.28	199.80
Am't delinquent			283.97
To am't on books of 1886			\$373.70
By collections	\$62.30		
Deduct penalty and interest	7.65	54.65	
By bills returned to Treasurer		49.61	104.26
Am't delinquent			269.44
To am't on books of 1885			\$348.04
By collections	\$175.41		
Deduct penalty and interest	62.02	112.39	
By bills returned to Treasurer		47.19	159.58
Am't delinquent			189.36
To am't on books of 1884			\$325.23
By collections	\$36.75		
Deduct penalty and interest	14.41	22.34	
By bills returned to Treasurer		65.53	87.87
Am't delinquent			287.36
To am't on books of 1883			\$308.58
By collections	\$53.64		
Deduct penalty and interest	26.91	26.73	
By bills returned to Treasurer		79.44	106.17
Am't delinquent			202.41
To am't on books of 1882			\$267.69
By collections	\$31.72		
Deduct penalty and interest	14.28	17.44	
By bills returned to Treasurer		61.75	79.19
Am't delinquent			188.50
To am't on books of 1881			\$171.98
By bills returned to Treasurer			57.29
Am't delinquent			114.69
To am't on books of 1880			\$213.77
By collections	\$13.79		
Deduct penalty and interest	6.36	7.43	
By bills returned to Treasurer		47.57	55.00
Am't delinquent			158.77
To am't on books of 1879			\$202.19
By collections	\$14.39		
Deduct penalty and interest	7.06	7.33	

By bills returned to Treasurer		54.01	61.34
Am't delinquent			140.85
To am't on books of 1878			\$278.40
By collections	\$3.04		
Deduct penalty and interest	1.54	1.50	
By bills returned to Treasurer		50.80	52.30
Am't delinquent			226.10
To am't on books of 1877			\$185.58
By collections	\$4.55		
Deduct penalty and interest	2.38	2.17	
By bills returned to Treasurer		51.12	53.29
Am't delinquent			136.56
To am't on books of 1876			\$146.75
By bills returned to Treasurer			33.52
Am't delinquent			113.23

Accompanying is a full list of all delinquents. Respectfully submitted,
A P Rowe Jr Collector of City Taxes

Recapitulation of Collections

On Books of 1894, Rents, Licenses, &c	\$23,546.13
On Books of 1893, Rents, Licenses, &c	924.08
On Books of 1892, Rents, Licenses, &c	457.85
On Books of 1891, Rents, Licenses, &c	175.62
On Books of 1890, Rents, Licenses, &c	68.40
On Books of 1889, Rents, Licenses, &c	52.19
On Books of 1888, Rents, Licenses, &c	46.06
On Books of 1887, Rents, Licenses, &c	204.59
On Books of 1886, Rents, Licenses, &c	62.30
On Books of 1885, Rents, Licenses, &c	175.41
On Books of 1884, Rents, Licenses, &c	36.75
On Books of 1883, Rents, Licenses, &c	53.64
On Books of 1882, Rents, Licenses, &c	31.72
On Books of 1880, Rents, Licenses, &c	13.79
On Books of 1879, Rents, Licenses, &c	14.39
On Books of 1878, Rents, Licenses, &c	3.04
On Books of 1877, Rents, Licenses, &c	4.55
	\$25,871.46

Recapitulation of Bills Due

On Books of 1894	\$1,480.63
On Books of 1893	1,034.80
On Books of 1892	660.01
On Books of 1891	395.18
On Books of 1890	385.41
On Books of 1889	359.07
On Books of 1888	311.57
On Books of 1887	283.97
On Books of 1886	269.44
On Books of 1885	188.36
On Books of 1884	237.36

On Books of 1883	202.41
On Books of 1882	188.50
On Books of 1881	114.69
On Books of 1880	158.77
On Books of 1879	140.85
On Books of 1878	226.10
On Books of 1877	136.56
On Books of 1877	113.23
	\$6,896.91

A P Rowe Jr, Collector of Taxes

You will observe that the collections for the year just ending exceed those of the preceding year more than one thousand dollars, and from the activity of our most worthy and efficient collector we believe the results will be even better the coming year. The total amount of delinquent and uncollected taxes from 1876 to 1894 inclusive, amounts to \$6,896.91.

The accounts of R T Knox, Treasurer have been examined and found correct and supported by proper vouchers, and we herewith submit his statement of receipts and expenditures as a part of this report. Receipts from all sources by Corporation of Fredericksburg received by Robert T Knox, Treasurer, from June 21, 1894 to Jun 24, 1895:

Receipts from S J Quinn, sup't from water			\$5,437.22	
Receipts from Wm Fitzpatrick from gas			\$7,948.56	
Receipts from licenses from A P Rowe Jr Collector				
From old licenses, 1894 and 1895	\$321.32			
Less 2½ percent comm	3.03	318.29		
Dray licenses 1894 and 1895	80.00			
Less 2½ percent	2.00	78.00		
1895				
June 1 fr general licenses, 1895 and 1896	6,089.30			
Less 5 percent for prompt payment	304.46	5,764.84		
June 1 general licenses 1895 and '96		14.58		
		5,798.42		
Less 2½ percent for collecting		114.98	5,534.44	
June 1, dray licenses 1895 and 1896		92.00		
Less 5 percent for prompt payment		4.60		
		87.40		
Less 2½ percent comm		2.18	85.22	
June 1 Opera House licenses		12.50	85.22	
Less 2½ percent comm		.31	12.19	6,162.64
Apr 15 rec'ts fr fines fr Mayor A P Rowe				219.00
Apr 15 rec'ts fr dog tax fr Mayor A P Rowe				226.60
Apr 16 rec'ts from rent of field at Alms House				60.00
Receipts from old tax bills for following years				
1877		4.55		
1878		3.04		
1879		14.39		
1880		13.79		
1882		31.72		
1883		53.64		
1884		36.75		

1885		175.41	
1886		62.80	
1887		204.59	
1888		46.06	
1889		52.19	
1890		68.40	
1891		175.62	
1892		457.85	
1893		924.08	
		2,325.33	
Less 5 per cent		116.28	2,209.05
Receipts fr taxes Oct 15 1894	16,960.74		
Less 5 per cent for prompt payment	848.04		
	16,112.70		
Less 5 per cent	402.81	15,709.89	
Taxes for 1894 since Oct 15	1,068.79		
Less 5 per cent for collecting	53.44	1,015.35	16,725.24
Receipts fr hay scales \$40, market stalls \$40	44.00		
Less 2½ per cent for collecting	1.10		42.90
Receipts fr Treasurer & Finance Comm note @ sixty days, May 15			1,500.00
Total receipts			40,495.21
To amount expended for Corporation by Treasurer Knox			43,423.63
Balance due Treasurer Knox			2,928.42

Amount of expenditures of Corporation of Fredericksburg by Robert T Knox, Treasurer from June 21, 1894 to June 21, 1895;

1894-June 21			
To balance due Treasurer		1,553.13	
To amount paid pr orders Water Committee		1,411.86	
To amount paid per order Gas Committee		7,410.56	
To amount paid per order Street Committee		1,079.93	
To amount paid per orders Public Property Committee		488.02	
To amount paid interest on bridge bonds, 6 per cent	1,500.00		
To amount paid interest on gas bonds, 6 per cent	1,500.00		
To amount paid interest on water bonds, 6 per cent	1,746.00		
1894-Dec 26			
Interest pd on 7 pr ct coupon bonds, but due previous Nov '94	647.59		
To interest pd on 7 pr ct coupon bonds due Nov 1 '94	3,818.50	4,466.00	
To int pd on 7 pr ct c'pon bonds since Nov 1 '94 due pr 1May'95	296.50		
To int pd on 7 pr ct bonds due May 1, 1895	3,727.50	4,018.00	
		8,484.00	13,230.00
To amount appropriated to Public Schools			2,600.00
To amount paid judge's salary including July 1	700.00		
To amount paid Commonwealth Att'y including July 1 st	400.00		
To amount paid Mayor's salary including July 1	400.00		
To amount paid Treasurer's salary including July 1 st	300.00		
To amount paid Superintendent of Water incl July 1 st	900.00		
To amount paid Superintendent of Gas incl July 1 st	600.00		

To amount paid Superintendent Alms House	99.66	
To amount paid 4 policemen, incl 1 st July	1,440.00	
To amount pd Clerk of Court incl 1 st July	400.00	
To amount pd Clerk of Council incl 1 st July	75.00	
To amount pd Clerk of Market incl 1 st July	75.00	
To amount pd Sergeant Corporation incl 1 st July	350.00	5,689.66
To amount pd pr order Finance Comm		205.00
To amount pd pr order electric lights for streets		2,417.10
To amount pd gas lights for streets		1,407.10
To amount pd orders court juries &c		491.34
To amount pd orders Mayor		200.74
To amount pd Fire and Police orders		146.45
To amount pd Free Bridge Committee orders		36.25
To amount pd pr order Commerce and Navigation Comm		4.00
To amount pd per order Park Comm		113.05
To amount pd site for Kenmore Shoe Company		750.00
To amount pd new top for gasometer		900.00
To amount paid Council		1,665.76
To amount pd orders Alms House Comm		1,573.00
Total amount expenditures to 1 st July		\$43,423.63
Total amount receipts		40,495.21
Balance due		2,928.42

Of this \$2,928.42, \$1,022.50 is salaries of officers not due until July 1, 1895.

Of the \$2,600 appropriated to Public Schools, \$450 unexpended yet.

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The Treasurer has embraced in his statement the salaries of our officers due July 1st, which shows a balance due him of \$2,928.42. The interest on the water, gas and bridge bonds will also be due July 1st, which will necessitate the making of a temporary loan sufficient to meet immediate needs, and we would respectfully request that you direct us so to do.

We feel fully assured that the committees of the Council and the Board of Public School trustees will heartily cooperate with the Finance Committee in endeavoring to economize in every legitimate way, and do therefore recommend that the tax rate be laid as before, \$1.20 on the hundred dollars.

The city has been able after July 1st 1895 to float her \$30,000 water debt at 5 instead of 6 per cent, as heretofore. This implicated a most healthy financial condition and with prudent management in the future we believe we shall be able to fund all our indebtedness as it shall mature at the same or a lower rate of interest.

The bonded debt of the city remains as last reported.

7 per cent Bonds due 1906	\$17,920	
6 per cent Water Bonds	\$30,000	
6 per cent Bridge Bonds	\$25,000	
6 per cent Gas Bonds	\$25,000	\$117,920

The sinking fund remains as last reported namely \$8,873.57, which we hope to add to during the coming year.

We would call your special attention to the fact that our financial condition is better than a casual glance at the Treasurer's report would indicate.

It is known by you that at the death of our late Treasurer, Capt R W Adams, there was due by him to the City \$4,601.73, which amount embraced the funds to be used for the improvement of our gas works. The money not having been collected, the Committee on Gas were instructed to put the works in order and to that end appropriations amounting to about \$4,000 were made during this fiscal year. We have also paid the purchase money for the lot furnished the Kenmore Shoe Co amounting to \$750. You will observe that these two items alone more than cover the excess of expenditures over receipts; besides this, we started the year July 1st 1894 with a balance due the Treasurer of over fifteen hundred dollars; all of which is respectfully submitted.

M G Willis, E D Cole, John M Griffin

Tax Bill for the City of Fredericksburg for the Year 1895-1896

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 1895-96 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 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 per cent bonds of the City due on 1st November next (without rebate), in pursuance of the ordinance on that subject.

On motion, the Council adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above printed report is a correct account of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg of date June the 28th 1895

John M Griffin, Clerk pro tem.

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg July 1/95

A called meeting of the City Council of Fredericksburg Va was held in the Council Chamber on Monday July 1/95 at 4 o'clock for the purpose of electing officers from July 1/95 to July 1/96

Mayor Rowe presided & Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Bradley, Cole, Wallace, Knight & Myer were present

Absent: Councilman Tyler.

Mr Bradley was elected clerk pro tem.

Mr Willis stated that in view of the signing of the \$30,000 5% Water Bonds it was necessary to elect a clerk that could perform that duty. That owing to the illness of the former clerk he was unable to sign the bonds & made a motion that Mr Bradley be elected clerk for the ensuing year with the understanding that

Mr Bradley would resign when Mr Berrey, the former clerk, was well enough to perform the duties of his office.

It was the sense of the Council that Mr Berrey should be re-elected if it was legal that the bonds could be signed by a clerk pro tem; counsel was consulted & it was stated that the Bond purchasers desired the signature of a regular elected clerk.

Mr Griffin offered the following which was adopted:

Resolved that a Committee of Mess'rs Willis & Knight be requested to call on Mr R B Berrey & explain the situation the Council is placed in as to the signing of the \$30,000 Water Bonds in the election of Clerk of the Council.

The committee soon returned & said that Mr Berrey appreciated the position of the Council & also felt grateful for the considerate action in sending the Committee to call on him

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On motion of Mr Willis the Clerks salary was fixed at (\$75) seventy five dollars for the year.

Mr Bradley was then nominated and unanimously elected.

The salary of the Collector of Taxes was on motion of Mr Willis made the same as last year.

Mr A P Rowe Jr was nominated & unanimously elected Collector of City Taxes from July 1/95 to July 1/96.

On motion, the election of City Surveyor was passed by.

The Salary of Clerk of Market was the same as last year (\$75.00)

The applications of Mess'rs Samuel Fitzhugh & Geo A Mills were read & balloted resulted in the election of Mr Samuel Fitzhugh, he receiving 8 votes; Mr Geo A Mills 2 & Mr Charles Shepherd 1.

The election for Weigher of Coal &c for the present year resulted as follows:

A Patton 7 votes

W L Brannan 4 votes

Salary same as last year;

Mr Patton was elected Measurer & Inspector of Lumber.

Mr Albert Hooton was elected Supt of Alms House; he received 9 votes & Mr T J McGhee 2 votes.

Applications for the office of Scavenger for the Upper Ward from Geo W Mills & H H Jackson were presented; result Mills 6 votes, Jackson 5 votes. Geo W Mills was declared elected.

There being no opposition for Scavenger of Lower Ward, J Stewart was unanimously elected.

The salaries of the Police officers was fixed at thirty dollars per month; a motion was made by Mr Bradley to reduce the number of police officer to three which was lost by the following vote:

Ayes Mess'rs Griffin, Cole, Wallace & Bradley

Noes Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Knight & Myer

The number was fixed at four & the following officers re-elected; C A Gore 11 votes; J H Robinson 11 votes; J T Leavell 10 votes; John Larkin 11 votes.

On motion the Council adjourned

W D Bradley, Clerk

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Fredericksburg July 19/95

The Regular July meeting of the City Council was called for Friday July 19/95.

Present Mayor Rowe

Councilmen Knight, Tyler, Myer & Bradley.

There being no quorum the Mayor announced no quorum present & there was no meeting council.

A P Rowe, Mayor

W E Bradley, Clerk

Fredericksburg July 20th 1895

Mayor A P Rowe received the following request for a called meeting of the City Council on Saturday July 20th 1895

Fredericksburg Va July 20, 1895

Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

The undersigned would respectfully request that you call a special meeting of the City Council tonight at 8 o'clock to receive the protest and petition of Merchants & Manufacturers of this city in regard to Va Fredericksburg & Western Railroad.

John T Knight, J H Myer, H R Gouldman

In compliance to above request Mayor Rowe issued a call for a meeting of the Council at 8 o'clock Saturday night July 20th 1895. There were present Mayor Rowe & Councilmen Knight, Myer, Gouldman, Embrey, Tyler & Bradley.

No quorum being present, Mayor Rowe announced that no business could be transacted.

W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg Aug 16, 1895

The Regular meeting of the City Council for the month of August was held in the Council Chamber Friday night Aug 16 at 8 o'clock. There were present

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 20 August 1895 page 5, column 4]

Mayor A P Rowe

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Cole, Wallace, Knight, Myer, and Bradley.

The minutes of the previous meeting and the called meetings when there was no quorum present were read and approved.

Mr Willis of Finance Committee, reported that the \$30,000 of 6 per cent water bonds had been taken in and the 5 per cent bonds issued therefor, and the old bonds had been placed in the National Bank for safe keeping until the act of the Legislature could be obtained in regard to the new bonds. He also presented the following bills that were ordered to be paid:

Bill for tax on the amount named in deed of trust to secure water bonds, and the clerk's fee for recording same, amounting to \$34.75; bill of costs in the suit of the city against O D Foster, certified from the Circuit Court, amounting to \$71.79, and a printing bill from the *Free Lance* for \$2.70.

The Ordinance Committee was requested to bring in an ordinance governing the erection of buildings in the city. Mr Bradley, chairman of the committee, stated that the ordinance would have been presented for consideration at this time, but the committee desired to so perfect it as to make it meet the views of all members; that it would be presented at the next meeting of the Council.

Mr Burruss, of Fire and Police, said that a recommendation had been presented some time since to the Council from the Chief of Fire Department for the purchase of 1,000 feet of hose, and it was important that the department should be supplied with all necessary apparatus for fire purposes; he hoped some action could be taken.

Mr Griffin offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee on fire and Police be instructed to obtain an estimate of cost for hose, etc. needed by the Fire Department, and report at the next meeting of the Council.

Mr Cole of Water Works Committee reported collections for the first half of the year better than ever before.

Mr Knight, of Alms House Committee, reported two deaths during the last month at Alms House—Adams Tibbs and Grace Turner; also a substantial new fence put upon around the buildings.

Mr Griffin of Gas Committee, reported the extension of gas mains on 8th and 12th streets and on Washington avenue.

Mr Wroten presented an ordinance reviving the franchise of the street railway. The rules were suspended and the ordinance was immediately taken up. After a free discussion of the subject the reading of the former franchise was called for, and it was seen on comparison that there was a marked difference between the one now asked for and that formerly granted by the Council.

Mr Knight moved that the ordinance be referred to the committee, with instructions to report at a regular or called meeting of the Council.

Adopted.

Mr Knight offered and filed the following petition of merchants and citizens, saying that it could not be otherwise acted on, as the railroad people had withdrawn all the propositions formerly made to the Council.

To the Mayor and Councilmen of Fredericksburg:

The undersigned petitioners respectfully represent to your honorable body that they are informed that, as merchants and citizens of Fredericksburg, their business is now being injured by representations made to the people of the Northern Neck that we are opposed to the contemplated railroad. To correct this erroneous impression we desire that our names shall be known to the public as favoring said railroad, and earnestly desiring that the legal voters of Fredericksburg may have an opportunity at an early date of expressing their will by ballot, in this matter, we, therefore, as a matter of right and justice, earnestly petition your honorable body to reconsider your recent action, and grant our reasonable request that a speedy election may at once be ordered.

Most respectfully,

H B Coghill, Jas T Layton, L O Magrath, L Perry, H Millhouser, B Goldsmith, Michael Long, W L Brannan, Isaac Hirsh, J W Adams Jr, Smith & Coghill, H J Eckenrode, H F Jones, F Brulle, W E Lang, A Loewenson, H D Genter, J F Gouldman, Lee Gung, George C Ball, B H Jacobs, Wm Damm, B J Marshal, L Cotton, Chas A King, W H Smith, R Hicks, George Nossett, Wm Littrell, S Willis Howard, A B Donahoe, W B Goolrick, L W Cox, M M Lewis, E W Mills, Jos McGovern, J H Myer Jr, W H Russell & Son, R L Wood, Richard England, A R Howard, J W Masters, Ves Chancellor, J W Harris, W L Watson, J D Ray, Andrew Murray, W S Honey, T F Stonebraker, D H Knox, David Ennis, S A Keene, H Ulman, Chas E Hunter.

June 16, 1895

On motion of Mr Knight, Officer J H Robinson was paid a bill of ten dollars—expenses incurred in the detection and arrest of Frank Phillips.

On motion of Mr Griffin, a committee was appointed to draft resolutions commemorative of the late Clerk of the Council, Robert B Berry. Mayor Rowe named Mess'rs Griffin, Tyler and Knight as the committee.

Mayor Rowe presented a letter from W A Little Jr, counsel of the Virginia, Fredericksburg and Western Railroad Company bearing date July 2nd, withdrawing all propositions to the city of Fredericksburg.

Mr Cole, of the committee appointed to confer with Bridge Commissioners of Stafford as to the free use of the Stafford bridge to the citizens of Fredericksburg, presented the following letter as his report.

Falmouth, Va July 31, 1895.

Mr E D Cole, Chairman, &c:

Dear Sir: The Bridge Commissioners of the county of Stafford have maturely considered the proposition made to them by your honorable committee in your communication of July 10th 1895 and do not consider that it is proper for them to accept the same.

The Bridge Commissioners will, however, agree to make the Stafford bridge free to all citizens of Fredericksburg, provided Fredericksburg will make her bridge free to citizens of Stafford and Fredericksburg ONLY, and charge to all other persons the same tolls that Stafford charges on her bridge to outsiders.

F H Bryan, Secretary

Mr C L Kalmbach being present and desiring to make a request of the Council, Mr Griffin asked that he be heard which was granted.

Mr Kalmbach said that he had in contemplation the erection of an ice plant and desired to utilize the waste water of the Gunnery Spring in his establishment, and proposed, with the permission of the city, to arrange the spring, by walling and cementing it, as to save the water, so that there would be an abundance for the needs of the people and for his use also. He said that the capacity of the spring was about 22,000 gallons every twenty-four hours and that his ice plant would require about 5,000 gallons during the same length of time.

Mr Cole said he was in favor of granting Mr Kalmbach the privilege, but though the Council should be very careful that all the rights and privileges of the people to a free and unlimited supply of water from the spring should be properly guarded, and that Mr Kalmbach be required to make any and all propositions in writing. The question was referred to the street committee who will make their report to the Council.

Mr Griffin asked if there was not sufficient law in the ordinance book to prevent the tramp nuisance. If so, he asked that it be rigidly enforced. It was the general expression of the Council that all tramps found in the city limits be placed in jail at night and worked on the streets during the day for a period of thirty days.

A petition from citizens in the vicinity of the Silk and Woolen Mills, asking the opening of a street above the Silk Mill, was presented and referred to the Street Committee.

The Council then adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above printed report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its meeting Aug 16th 1895

A P Rowe, Mayor

W E Bradley, Clerk

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Fredericksburg Sept 20 1895

The Regular meeting of the City Council for the month of September was held in the Council Chamber Friday night Sept 20th

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 24 September 1895 page 5, column 4]

Present Mayor A P Rowe, presiding

Councilmen M G Willis, George W Wroten, Walter B Tyler, John M Griffin, W L Burruss, H R Gouldman, J Stansbury Wallace, John T Knight, and J H Myer

The absent members were Mess'rs Embrey, Cole and Bradley.

On motion of Mr Knight, Mr Griffin was unanimously elected clerk pro tem, in the absence of Clerk Bradley.

On the call of the committees, Mr Willis, of the Finance Committee, presented bill of *Star* for four dollars and fifty cents & of *Free Lance* for nine dollars & fifty cents for printing.

On his motion the salary of Commissioner of the Revenue A B Bowering, amounting to \$250, was ordered to be paid. Mr Bowering having completed the assessment books of 1895 and placed them in the hands of the Treasurer and City Collector. Mr Willis further moved that the order restraining the payment of the matured coupons on the bonds recently in liquidation between O D Foster and the city be withdrawn, the court having decided that the bonds are legal, which was adopted.

Mr Tyler, of the Public Property Committee, called attention to the condition of the roof of the Fire Department building, and said it needed repairs. There was, he said some conflict of opinion as to whether this work should be done by the Public Property Committee or the Committee on Fire and Police. It was decided that the work came under the duty of the Property Committee.

Mr Wroten, of the Street Committee reported favorably on the application of Mr Kalmbach for the privilege of using Gunnery Spring water for the new ice plant, Mr Kalmbach to keep the spring in order, pay a rental of \$25 per annum to the city and guarantee not to interfere with the use of the water by citizens. The report was adopted.

On motion, of Mr Wroten, the request of the holders of the street railway charter for a renewal for one year of the old franchise requiring the commencement of work in three months and the completion of the line in twelve months was granted.

Mr Knight introduced an ordinance bearing on the erection and removal of buildings and requiring the authority of the Street Committee. On motion of Mr Wroten the rules were suspended and the ordinance passed.

It is as follows:

To add to Chapter XXI Section 4th; It shall not be lawful hereafter for any person to erect in this corporation any new building or to remove any building from one place to another or to enlarge or add to the height of any building without first obtaining the consent and authority of the Street Committee under a penalty not exceeding ten dollars.

Mr Burruss, of the Fire and Police Committee, presented a full and comprehensive report from Chief Robinson, relating to the several fires which have recently occurred. The report was no motion of Mr Knight received and filed and that portion which recommended the purchase of new gum coats for the fireman was on motion of Mr Willis referred to the Fire and Police Committee, with instructions to report at next meeting.

Mr Burruss also presented a communication from the Fire Department asking for the release of back taxes for certain of its members, which was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr Burruss then stated that in compliance with a resolution passed at a former meeting of the Council, instructing his committee to enquire into the cost of 1,000 feet of hose, he had obtained the information and submitted samples of hose, which he said, would cost \$600 for 1,000 feet. Mr Burruss asked for an appropriation of that sum but an amendment offered by Mr Willis fixing the amount at \$300 for 500 feet of hose was adopted.

Mr Wallace of Bridge Committee asked for an appropriation of \$250.00 to have bridge painted which was granted.

Mr Griffin, of the Special Committee named at the last meeting presented a set of resolutions on the death of the late R B Berrey, which was received and ordered to be spread on the minutes.

They are as follows:

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God in his infinite wisdom to remove from our midst R B Berrey who for nearly four years faithfully discharged his duties as Clerk of this body, Therefore be it

Resolved that in the death of R B Berrey this Council has lost a faithful and efficient officer & the community a good citizen.

Resolved that these resolutions be spread upon the record of the Council, a copy sent to the family of the deceased and the city papers be requested to publish same.

Signed, J M Griffin, W B Tyler, J T Knight.

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Mr Tyler stated that last spring a special committee was appointed to enquire into the feasibility of adopting some plan for street improvements in Fredericksburg. He said the committee brought in a report but for some reason action was deferred. He said times are now getting better, people are coming South looking for farms and home, railroads are building, and he thought it high time that Fredericksburg should bestir herself and endeavor to secure her portion of the tide of prosperity. With that view he offered the following resolution.

Whereas, It has been earnestly suggested to this Council that the people of Fredericksburg desired that the city should be supplied with a complete sewerage system and that the principal streets and thoroughfares should be paved or macadamized, and whereas further the money necessary for such purposes can only be obtained by the issue of bonds of the Corporation, and the authority for such issue of bonds can only be obtained by means of an act of the General Assembly of Virginia—now be it

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Mayor and Common Council when petitioned by fifty voters of the city of Fredericksburg, one half of whom shall be freeholders, to cause a vote of the said city to be taken at the next general election for members of the House of Delegates, in the month of November next or upon notice not exceeding 30 days, advertised by publication once a week, in the “Fredericksburg Star” and the “Fredericksburg Free Lance,” upon the question of authorizing the Common Council of the city of Fredericksburg to adopt and put into operation an effective sewerage system in said city, and to pave or macadamize the principal streets and thoroughfares of said city. The entire cost of such work shall not exceed one hundred 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 public improvement” or “Against the subscription” as provided by said section. If it shall appear that a majority of the qualified voters voting at the election which shall include a majority of free-holders so voting are in favor “The public improvement” then the Common Council shall, through the Senator and Delegate for this district, secure the passage of an act of the General Assembly to authorize the Mayor and Common Council of the city of Fredericksburg to issue

coupon bonds of the said city to an amount not exceeding \$100,000 and negotiate the same in order to obtain the money for the purposes aforesaid.

The interest shall not exceed 5 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, and the said bonds shall run for 30 years, redeemable in fifteen years.

The act shall contain all necessary provisions of law touching the power to levy taxes to meet interest and whatever may be required to carry out the wishes of the people and to make the law effective and the bonds binding and useful.

The resolution was seconded by Mr Knight.

Hon J S Potter, who was present was then introduced. He thanked the Council for the courtesy of the floor to participate in the discussion of the important question which was then engaging the attention of the Council. He said he disliked to use manuscript notes in a public address, but as he desired his remarks to be on record so that reference could be made to them if necessary, he had written them out.

He then proceeded to deliver his address, which occupied about 30 minutes, and received the closest attention of the Council.

Mr Tyler said he cordially approved of all that Mr Potter had said, and hoped the resolution he (Tyler) had offered would be adopted.

Mr Willis said he felt a deep interest in the future of the city, and he had given much thought to the subject of sewerage. He said he was in favor of sewerage and believed a majority of the citizens would be, but he thought it best to get all the light on the subject possible before submitting it to a vote of the people. He, therefore, moved to refer the whole subject to the special committee of which Mr Tyler is chairman, to devise some plans and show the cost, etc. He thought that property along the line should bear its portion of expense for both sewerage and paving.

Mr Tyler stated that a report similar to the one asked for by Mr Willis had been brought in by his committee some months ago, and that the object of the present resolution was to obtain authority from the Legislature to issue bonds in the event it should be determined to have the improvements made.

Mr Knight said that if Mr Potter had portrayed a true picture Fredericksburg cannot act too soon. He said the cost of the work could be ascertained at any time and that the adoption of the resolution would be one step in the line of progress.

Mr Gouldman favored holding an election after authority is first obtained from the Legislature.

Mr Wallace seconded Mr Willis' amendment, and it was adopted.

A ye and nay vote being called for resulted in the following:

Yeas Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Wallace, Gouldman, Myer

Noes Mess'rs Tyler, Burruss, Knight, and Griffin.

The Council then adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its meeting Sept 20th 1895

A P Rowe, Mayor

W E Bradley, Clerk

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Fredericksburg Oct 2, 1895

A Special meeting of the City council was held in the Council Chamber Wednesday afternoon Oct 2nd at 4 o'clock. Present

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 4 October 1895 page 5, column 3; Proclamation page 2, column 2]

Mayor A P Rowe

Councilmen, J T Knight, E D Cole, W L Burruss, J H Myer, W S Embrey, J Stansbury Wallace and J M Griffin

Mayor Rowe stated that the object of the meeting was to take steps to receive in a suitable manner the Liberty Bell on its arrival here en-route to the Atlanta Exposition

Mr Knight made appropriate remarks to the effect that it was an historic relic honoring an historic town with its presence for fully three-quarters of an hour, and it was only proper that the City Council should receive it with due ceremony. He then submitted the following resolutions, which were read by Mr Griffin, who acted in the absence of Clerk Bradley

Whereas, The city of Fredericksburg has been notified through its official that the Liberty Bell, with its official escort from the city of Philadelphia will pass through the city of Fredericksburg on Friday afternoon next, and

Whereas, The city of Fredericksburg will hail with delight the opportunity of inspecting this memorial of America's greatest past, and

Whereas, The venerable relic is one of the most inspiring of the heirlooms that a preceding age has bequeathed to the American people, teaching, as it does, though voiceless, now the greatest and grandest lessons of wisdom and patriotism, and

Whereas, Fredericksburg is most inseparably connected with that past, whose advent was proclaimed by this sacred Liberty Bell and shared its glories and its benefits, be it therefore

Resolved, That the grand old confederation of Fredericksburg will greet with hearty welcome and appropriate ceremonies this glorious relic.

2nd That the Mayor and Common Council will proceed to the depot in a body to meet the train bearing the Liberty Bell.

3rd That it will be received with appropriate ceremonies and an address of welcome on the part of the city to be delivered by the Hon Mayor.

4th That the freedom of the city be tendered the honored escort of the Liberty Bell.

5th That the Council requests all the bells of the town be run as the train bearing the Liberty Bell approaches the city.

6th That the Mayor issue his proclamation, requesting all stores, factories and places of business to close from 3:30 to 5 o'clock, during the stay of the bell, in order that all our citizens may have an opportunity to see the Liberty Bell.

Mr Embrey expressed himself as opposed to the resolution.

Mr Cole spoke in favor of the Council taking proper action for the official reception of the old relic that sounded the news of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and then by unanimous vote the resolutions were adopted and a committee composed of Mess'rs Knight, Cole and Wallace appointed to see that they were duly carried out.

The Council then adjourned

I hereby certify that the above report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its meeting Oct 2nd 1895

A P Rowe, Mayor

W E Bradley, Clerk

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Fredericksburg Oct 18, 1895

The Regular meeting of the City Council for the month of October was held in the Council Chamber Friday night Oct 18th. There were

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 22 October 1895 page 5, column 3]

Present Mayor Rowe presiding

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Gouldman, Cole, Wallace, Knight, Myer and Bradley

Absent, Councilman Burruss

Mr Willis of Finance Committee, presented the bills of Hon W A Little Jr, for service as counsel in the case of the City against O D Foster, amounting to \$135; *Free Lance* \$9.50, and *Star* \$5; which were ordered paid.

Her also reported that the committee had not acted on the petition of the members of the Fire Department for a remission of taxes past due on account of service rendered by the department and that the matter would be reported at next meeting.

Mr Embrey of Light Committee, reported the water in the river so low that there could not be obtained sufficient power to run the machinery of the electric light plant, and consequently the city was in darkness. He said the drought was a visitation from high heaven on the croackers who were opposed to the electric light.

The provoked a discussion which ended in Mr Coles offering the following resolution which was seconded by Mr Wallace.

Resolved that the present contract with the electric light company for lighting the streets of this city be not renewed.

This resolution was adopted by a recorded vote:

Ayes Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Griffin, Cole, Wallace, Myer, Bradley 8

Noes Mess'rs Embrey, Gouldman, Knight 3

Mr Knight of Fire and Police Committee, reported that the hose had been ordered and would be here in a few days.

Mr Griffin, of Gas Committee, reported a large number of new subscribers and new mains being laid.

Mr Knight, of Liberty Bell Committee asked for an appropriation of \$19.50 to defray expense incurred in the reception of bell as it passed through the city.

Adopted.

Mr Wallace presented the following ordinance and asked unanimously consent that the rules be suspended to consider it.

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Commonalty of the City of Fredericksburg,

That the ordinance of the Council, designating the streets of the city by alphabetical and numerical names is hereby repealed, and the ancient names, existing prior to that ordinance, are hereby restored.

All ordinances and parts of ordinances are hereby repealed.

The motion to suspend was lost by a vote of 8 to 3 and Mr Wallace then asked that it be referred to the ordinance committee which was unanimously granted.

The Mayor reported the police officers had performed their duty faithfully during the past quarter and their salaries were ordered paid.

Mr Embrey presented request from R F & P R R that it be allowed the use of gas free for a lamp at the corner of C Street near depot. Referred to Gas Committee.

The report of the special committee to whom was referred the resolution in regard to the paving of the streets and sewerage the city through Mr Bradley announced they were ready to report, but at the request of Mr Tyler, one of the committee, who desired to present a minority report and who was not ready to do so, the report was postponed until next meeting.

Mr Griffin announced his intention to have prepared an ordinance, if there was not one now operative, that would free the city from the tramp nuisance.

The Council then adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its meeting Oct 18th 1895

W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg Nov 15, 1895

The Regular meeting of the City Council for the month of November was held in the Council Chamber Friday night Nov 15th at 7:30 o'clock

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 19 November 1895 page 3, column 2]

Mayor Rowe presided, and the following Councilmen were present:

Mess'rs Wroten, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Gouldman, Wallace, Cole, Burruss, Knight, Myer and Bradley

Absent: Councilman Willis.

Mr Cole, of Finance, presented bill of *Star* for \$6.56, which was ordered paid.

Mr Burruss, of Fire and Police, presented the following.

Fredericksburg, Va Nov 15th 1895

Mess'rs W L Burruss, John T Knight and G W Wroten, Committee on Fire and Police Department

Gentlemen: I have the honor to report the following alarms of the fire responded to by the Fire Department since my last communication.

On Saturday, October 26th 1895 about 12 o'clock M, the department was called out by the burning of grass some fencing on the premises of Mr Charles J Green, but did not go into service as it was soon under control.

On the 13th instant, at 10:20 o'clock AM the department was called out by the discovery of fire in the Shiloh Baptist church (old site). The department was promptly on hand and soon extinguished the flames. The fire caught from the furnace flue.

The following firemen responded to the alarm and worked faithfully: G F Rodgers, Casper Cox, Geo M Hunt, J W Waller, W H Walker, S J Quinn, C A Gore and Valentine Dannehl.

Respectfully submitted, J H Robinson, Chief F F D

Mr Burruss asked for an appropriation of \$125 for providing boots, gum coats and hats for our volunteer fire company, which on motion of Mr Wallace was granted.
A resolution was offered by Mr Cole and adopted providing that the usual fees be paid to the judges and clerks who served during the election for member of Legislature.

Mr Cole also enquired as to the time that the bridge had been made free to travel by the Council and announced his purpose to offer a proposition at that time in regard to it, looking to tolls as a revenue to the city.

Mr Embrey of Light presented a proposition from the Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Co of Fredericksburg, to light the streets of the city for a period of three years from December 1, 1895, to wit:

Fredericksburg, Va Nov 13th '95

To the Honorable Mayor and Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg:

Gentlemen: We respectfully submit the following proposition for lighting your streets to your honorable body, and trust that you will give it your careful consideration and award us the contract on the terms set forth, viz:

We will furnish 40 arc lamps of 1200 candle power each, at such points of the streets of your city at such heights and in the positions as now located and hereafter to be designated by your Committee on Light, and to light such lamps at early candle lighting, keeping the same lighted until carbons are exhausted—about 2 A M—each night, except those nights when the moon affords sufficient light, for the sum of \$200 per month, payable monthly, and which contract shall run from the first day of December 1895, until the first day of December 1898, a period of three years.

All additional lamps to be lighted at the rate of \$5 each per month.

The Council Chamber, City Tax Collector's Office, and Office of the City Water Works, we will still continue to light free and have done so ever since the first of the month.

If it is your pleasure to give use the contract we will light the present lamps until the forty (40) are in position at the rates of \$5 each per month.

Hoping for your favorable consideration and the award of the contract at this very low offer, we are
Yours very respectfully,

The Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Company.

J B Ficklen, Gen'l Manager.

The committee favored the proposition.

Mr Knight offered the following:

Resolved, That the proposition of the Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Company of Fredericksburg be referred to the Light Committee, with power to act.

Mr Wallace spoke in opposition to the proposition. He was in favor of making a contract for a period of six months, but not longer; was also in favor of the city buying and operating a plant of its own. Here offered a resolution as below which was seconded by Mr Myer:

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed by the Mayor to enquire and report to the Council at a called meeting of the probable cost of establishing a plant for furnishing the city of Fredericksburg with electric light, using steam or water as the motive power, and the length of time it will take to establish the same and

2nd, That the words "one year" be inserted for "three years" where these latter words occur in the resolution.

A very lengthy discussion followed which was participated in by Mess'rs Embrey, Knight, Bradley, Cole, and Tyler in advocacy of the original proposition.

The sentiment of the entire Council was in favor of electric light, but the difference in time of the life of the contract was the dividing issue.

Mr St George R Fitzhugh, who represented the stock of Judge Souther's estate in the Electric Light Company, with which the city had its former contract, was present, and was asked to make a statement in reference to that company. He stated that at a late meeting of the company after the contract with the city ceased, it had resolved to suspend business because it had continuously lost money, and that Mr J B Ficklen, manager, had obtained an option on a controlling interest in the stock for thirty days.

The resolution of Mr Wallace was defeated by the Council as follows:

Noes Mess'rs Tyler, Embrey, Burruss, Cole, Knight and Bradley.

Ayes Mess'rs Wroten, Griffin, Wallace, Gouldman, Myer.

After the vote was announced, Mr Wallace moved that Mr Knight's motion be laid on the table, which was seconded by Mr Wroten. It was defeated:

Noes Mess'rs Tyler, Embrey, Burruss, Cole, Knight, Bradley

Yeas Mess'rs Wroten, Gouldman, Wallace, Myer, Griffin.

The original motion of Mr Knight then came up and was carried.

Ayes Mess'rs Wroten, Tyler, Embrey, Burruss, Cole, Knight, Bradley

Noes Mess'rs Griffin, Wallace, Gouldman, Myer

Mr Bradley presented a report signed by the special committee in reference to the resolution offered by Mr Tyler at a previous meeting in regard to the appropriation of \$100,000 for sewerage and paving the city to-wit:

Fredericksburg, November 15, 1895

To the Mayor and City Council:

The undersigned committee to whom was referred the question of the advisability of an application to the Legislature for authority to issue bonds to the extent of one hundred thousand dollars wherewith to sewer and pave the streets of the city, beg leave respectfully to report that after the maturest consideration they feel constrained to recommend that the legislation be not asked for at the present time, and that the whole subject be postponed indefinitely.

Respectfully, W E Bradley, E D Cole

Mr Tyler, Chairman, regretted the action of the majority of the committee. He wanted a proper paving and sewerage system, and said if the city would devote the same amount to internal improvements that it had spent on outside enterprises it could be made one of the most attractive places in the country. He cited the amounts spent and from whom he said only small benefits have been received amounting to over \$250,000. He concluded his remarks by offering this resolution:

To the Honorable Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg:

Whereas it is the sense of the Common Council of Fredericksburg that there is much needed public improvement within the limits of the town and that the said Council has no power to make the expenditure necessary for such necessary public improvements.

Be it resolved by the said Common Council that the Senator and delegate from this District be requested to obtain from the next General Assembly the passage of an act to permit the said Common Council of Fredericksburg, when requested by fifty voters of said city, one half of whom shall be free-holders to order the polls to be opened and the sense of the qualified voters taken upon the question of authorizing the said Common Council to borrow \$50,000 and to issue the coupon bonds of said city, for said sum bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent for the public improvement of said city and said sum to

be expended for the public improvement of said city by and under the direction of the said Common Council.

Said act of Assembly shall contain all and every provision necessary to make the said bonds the binding obligations of the said city, and to fully and effectually accomplish the purpose herein indicated.

Mr Wroten made a motion to refer the resolution to the special committee for consideration. It was lost.

Noes Mess'rs Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Knight, Bradley

Ayes Mess'rs Wroten, Cole, Wallace and Myer.

The resolution was then adopted.

Ayes Mess'rs Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Knight, Bradley

Noes Mess'rs Wroten, Cole, Wallace, Myer

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The following communication was read by the Clerk of the Council:

Clerk's Office

Circuit and Corporation Courts,

Fredericksburg, Va Nov 15, '95

To the Honorable City Council, Fredericksburg, Virginia:

I herewith transmit extract from the record of a Corporation Court this day held for the consideration of your honorable body.

Respectfully, Jas. P Corbin, Clerk.

Virginia—At a Corporation Court for the City of Fredericksburg on Friday, the 15th day of November 1895

Pursuant to adjournment the Grand Jury this day returned into court and presented the following:

To his Honor, Judge A W Wallace, Judge of the Corporation Court, Fredericksburg, Va

The Grand Jury respectfully report that they have been unable to fully determine the remedy to be applied for the proper drainage of the lots adjacent to the mill race conveying water to the "Excelsior" Flour and Grist Mill. We have had some filling in done on Charlotte Street, near the lot of Mr A B Bowering, but find no visible change in the condition of the lots of Mr Bowering and Mr Hirsh. We find that there is apparently a large volume of water in the mills race and may be necessary to turn off the water at the pump house for a day or longer with a view of better determining whether the grievance complained of is not caused by the caving or filling-in of the race, and we therefore respectfully refer the matter to the City Council and request that honorable body to take such action as they may deem best to afford relief to those whose lots and others are affected by this inlet of water.

G W Shepherd, Foreman

A copy—teste

Jas. P. Corbin, Clerk

I hereby certify that the above printed report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its regular meeting Nov 15th 1895

W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

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Fredericksburg Dec 2/95

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 6 December 1895 page 4, column 1]

By request of the Health Committee of which Councilman J Stansbury Wallace is chairman, a special meeting of the City Council was called on Monday night December 2nd to act upon the report submitted by that committee in reference to the condition of the meadows lying along the little canal from the old paper mill site to the P F & P R R now covered with water backed from said canal and which if not properly drained may seriously affect the health of that portion of the city living adjacent thereto.

Mayor Rowe presided and the following Councilmen were present:
Wroten, Tyler, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman, Wallace, Cole, Myer, Bradley.

After Mayor Rowe had stated the object of the meeting, Chairman Wallace presented his report, and said his committee had gone over the grounds along the line of the canal and carefully noted the existing condition, which was bad, and that immediate steps should be taken to have the lands properly drained. He submitted the following report.

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council of Fredericksburg, Va:

The undersigned Health Committee to whom the communication of the Grand Jury with reference to the accumulated water on the lots along the line of the canal in rear of the city, was referred respectfully report.

That they have visited the lots in question and that they consider such accumulation of water a “nuisance” and “dangerous” to the public health.

It is in the opinion of the Committee that some of the lots now under water, it will be impossible to drain by the canal; they will either have to be drained by secret ditch or filled in.

The Committee would call the attention of the Mayor and Council to the followings ordinance, viz: “Every person owning or occupying a lot on which there may be a sunken place holding stagnant water neglecting to fill up or drain the same within three (3) days after notice so to do by a police officer shall forfeit and pay two dollars for every day after the three days the he shall neglect to fill up such place or drain the same.”

The Committee would also call attention to the law Sections 1728 and 1729 of the Code of Virginia, which provides that on complaint of the health officer of the city, any justice of the peace may direct the Sergeant of the city, to remove such nuisance at the expense of the owners of the lot, under the supervision of the Health Officer.”

As the city of Fredericksburg has not Health Office, your Committee therefore recommend the following resolution.

Resolved, that the Mayor of this city be declared and appointed the Health Officer of the City and be directed pursuant to law to take action at once to remove the nuisance complained of.

J S Wallace, H R Gouldman, Walter B Tyler.

After a lengthy discussion Mr Cole offered the following which was adopted:

Resolved, That the report of the Health Committee in regard to the overflow of water on the lands along the line of the canal leading from the paper mill site to the P F & P Railroad be referred back to the Health Committee with instructions to obtain legal advice and employ a competent engineer to find out where the responsibility of the overflow lies and report to this Council as soon as this information can be obtained.

Mr Bradley asked for a suspension of the rules to consider other questions of importance—granted

Mr Embrey submitted for consideration the proposed contract with the Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Company for lighting the streets of the city.

Mr Bradley, of the committee, stated that the Council at its previous meeting had clothed the committee with power to act in the matter but on consultation with Council it was found that the action of the committee must be ratified by the Council and in order to make the contract binding it should be signed by the Mayor and clerk of the Council. He asked that the following contract be approved and the Mayor and clerk be ordered to sign it.

This agreement made this 30th day of November 1895; by and between the Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Company of Fredericksburg, Virginia part of the first part, and the Mayor and Commonalty of Fredericksburg, Virginia party of the second part, witnesseth that the part of the first part in consideration of the undertaking of the party of the second part hereinafter contained hereby agrees and binds itself for the period of three years next ensuing from and after the first day of December 1895 to furnish for the lighting of the streets of the city of Fredericksburg, forty arc lamps (Thompson-Houston system) of twelve hundred candle power each, thirty five of said lamps to be located at the points on streets of said city where the present arc lamps are now located and to be suspended at an elevation not less than the greatest height of the present arc lamps, and the remained five of said forty arc lamps to be located at such points in said city as the City Council may indicate, and at the prevailing height under this contract. And the said party of the first part agrees and binds itself for the aforesaid period of three years to furnish for the lighting of the streets at the intersection of Main and Commerce streets in Fredericksburg an arc lamp of twelve hundred candle power, located in the same manner and at same elevation as is hereinbefore stipulated for the aforesaid forty arc lamps without any cost or charge to the party of the second part, and the said party of the first part further agrees and binds itself for the aforesaid period of three years to light the Council Chamber, City Tax Collector's Office, and office of the City Water Works in said city with incandescent lights, when said lights may be needed or desired by the Council without any cost or charge to the said party of the second part.

And the said party of the first part further agrees and binds itself for the aforesaid period of three years to furnish all poles, wire, power machinery and appliances needful to enable the party of the first part to perform its contract herein set forth, and the said party of the first part further agrees and binds itself for the aforesaid period of three years to light said arc lamps and to keep the same lighted every day in the year from early candle lighting until about two o'clock AM each night except on those nights when the moon afford sufficient light, and the light from said lamps shall not be needed.

And the said party of the first part further agrees and binds itself to furnish and erect any additional lamps that said party of the second part may require and order at such points in said city as the party of the second part may designate within said period of three years for the price of five dollars per arc light per month payable at the end of each calendar month.

And the said party of the second part in consideration of the engagements hereinbefore entered into by the party of the first part doth hereby agree and bind itself to pay to the said party of the first part for the erection and keeping lighted the aforesaid forty arc lamps on the streets of said city during the continuance of this contract the sum of five dollars per arc lamp per month, payable at the end of each calendar month.

It is further agreed between the parties of the first and second parts to this contract that if during the continuance of this contract the aforesaid lamps or any of them shall fail to furnish light as agreed herein on any night or nights when they should be lighted the party of the second part may deduct therefor a proportionate sum for each lamp so failing to give the requisite light from the month of payments aforesaid.

It is further distinctly agreed between the parties hereto that for any failure on the part of the party of the first part to keep and perform any or all of the foregoing stipulation on its part, except in the case of unavoidable accident, or act of God, or of stoppage occasioned by floods, it shall be optional with the City Council of Fredericksburg to vacate this contract at any time before the same shall expire by limitation and in case of such accident or in case of temporary failure of light service for any cause, the party of the

first part agrees to exercise reasonable diligence in making the necessary repairs and in renewing such service to the extent provided for in this contract.

In Witness Whereof, Philip Carpenter, the President of the Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Company of Fredericksburg, Va and Joseph B Ficklen, the Secretary of said Company, being thereto duly authorized by said Company, and A P Rowe, the Mayor of Fredericksburg, and Wm E Bradley, the Clerk of the City Council, being thereto duly authorized, have herewith subscribed their names as such officers and affixed the Corporate seals of said company and of the city.

On motion of Mr Cole it was—

Resolved, That the Mayor and clerk of Council be directed to sign the contract as read to the Council between the city of Fredericksburg and the Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Company for lighting the streets of Fredericksburg for a period of three years from December 1st 1895 to December 1st 1898.

Mr Bradley offered the following resolution:

Whereas, Our Legislature only hold biennial sessions, and within that period it may be expedient that the Council should be clothed with ample power to make such internal improvements and to assist such enterprises of a public and beneficial nature to the city as the citizens may approve; be it

Resolved, That the resolution adopted at the last meeting of the Council be and the same is modified to the extent that in lieu of the act of the Legislature therein provided for, it is now directed that the Finance Committee of the Council proceed without delay to have a proper act drawn, and to submit the same to this Council for its approval before the same is presented to the Legislature for adoption.

He stated that the resolution passed at the last meeting authorizing the Council to obtain proper legislation to authorize the city of Fredericksburg to borrow \$50,000 for the purpose of making necessary public improvements was so limited in its scope that it confined the city of Fredericksburg solely to the making of improvements within the city when it was possible that it might be to the interest of the city of Fredericksburg to use a portion of said \$50,000 to assist enterprises of a public and beneficial nature, and hence thought it would be better to give the Council such authority by a proper act to be prepared by the Finance Committee.

Mr Tyler, who was the author of the original resolution referred to, opposed the adoption of the resolution, alleging as his reason that it looked like a scheme to divert the money, which was intended for streets and sewer purposes, to other uses.

This brought about another discussion participated in by Mess'rs Embrey and Tyler against and Mess'rs Wroten and Bradley for, when Mr Wallace moved for a reconsideration of the whole resolution on the subject passed at the last meeting of the Council. This was seconded by Mr Cole, and was defeated as follows:

Ayes Mess'rs Wroten, Wallace, Cole, and Myer.

Noes Mess'rs Tyler, Embrey, Burruss, Gouldman and Bradley.

The resolution of Mr Bradley, seconded by Mr Cole, was then passed.

Ayes Mess'rs Wroten, Gouldman, Wallace, Cole, Myer, Bradley.

Noes Mess'rs Tyler, Embrey, Burruss.

The council then adjourned

I hereby certify that the appended printed report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its called meeting Dec 2nd 1895

W E Bradley, Clerk

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The Regular meeting of the City Council for December was called for Friday night Dec 20th.
There was no quorum present & no meeting held. Mayor Rowe & Councilmen, Tyler, Embrey, Myer & Bradley were in attendance.
W E Bradley, Clerk