

Fredericksburg Council Minutes 1896

[Page 270]

Fredericksburg January 17th 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 21 January 1896 page 3, column 3]

The City Council met in its regular session for the month of January at the Council Chamber Friday night, January 17th

Mayor Rowe presided and the following members were present:

Mess'rs Willis, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Burruss, Wallace, Cole, Knight, Myer and Bradley.

Absent: Mess'rs Wroten and Gouldman.

This was the first meeting that Mr Willis had attended for some months, having been prevented by sickness and he was heartily welcomed by his associates.

Mr Cole, representing Mr Willis as chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the following letter signed by Mess'rs C W Wallace and A W Wallace, which explains itself:

Fredericksburg, Va. December 20 '95

To the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg:

Gentlemen: As a law has been enacted satisfactory to us; satisfying and confirming the issue of the \$30,000 of five percent water bonds issued by the city of Fredericksburg on the first day of July last, there is no occasion for the original \$30,000 6 per cent water bonds held by the National Bank of Fredericksburg to remain un-cancelled.

We therefore suggest that you take the necessary action to accomplish the object above indicated.

Very respectfully,

C W Wallace

A W Wallace.

Mr Cole then offered the following which was seconded by Mr Knight and unanimously adopted.

Whereas The Common Council of Fredericksburg has been informed by a communication this day received from C W Wallace and A W Wallace that a satisfactory law has been enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia ratifying and confirming the issue of thirty thousand dollars of five per cent water bonds issued by the city of Fredericksburg on the first day of July 1895 be it

Resolved, That the treasurer of this city be authorized to receive from the National Bank of Fredericksburg the thirty thousand dollars of six per cent water bonds deposited with said bank un-cancelled until such legislation was obtained as has been enacted and that said Treasurer be hereby directed to destroy said six per cent bonds in the presence of the cashier of the National Bank and one or more members of the Finance Committee of the Common Council and make and return to this body a record and report of the same.

Mr E D Cole from the Finance Committee reported that there was a large amount of real estate in the city delinquent for non-payment of taxes for many years; indeed, ever since 1876, and that the committee could not determine from the law whether the said taxes could not be collected and if so by what method and hence had referred the matter to Mr St Geo R Fitzhugh, who was present at the request of the committee and would explain the difficulties to the Council.

Mr Fitzhugh then stated to the Council that there has been no sale of real estate in Fredericksburg for delinquent Corporation taxes since the war, and in that long period of time important changes had been made by the Legislature in the general laws relating to both the collection of taxes and the sale of real estate for delinquent taxes; that the Code of 1887 provided that city taxes and levies should be collected by the City Treasurer, whereas our city taxes have always been collected by an officer known as "collector."

The Code also provides that the lien on real estate for taxes shall only continue for five years; but the Code in the opinion of Mr Fitzhugh, did not repeal an act of the Legislature passed January 30, 1858, which authorized the Council of this city to authorize the sale of real estate for delinquent taxes, and to make such regulations for collecting such taxes as it deemed expedient and also declared that if no sale be authorized or required by the Council, the taxes assessed thereon for the benefit of the city should remain a lien thereon bearing 10 per cent interest until the same was paid.

Mr Fitzhugh said that he found that there was an ordinance providing the method of selling real estate returned delinquent by the Collector, but that no sale had been required under the same, and that, in his judgment, it would be better to let the sale be made by the City Treasurer when he sold for delinquent State Taxes, as a sale by the Treasurer for State taxes and another sale by the Collector of same lot for city taxes was apt to be attended with confusion.

He therefore suggested that an act be obtained authorizing the City Treasurer to sell for delinquent city taxes as well as State taxes, and Mr Fitzhugh was requested to prepare such an act, and the Finance Committee was instructed to have the same passed to the Legislature.

Mr Fitzhugh also stated that he would have the act prepared for the Finance Committee in reference to the proposed issue of \$50,000 of bonds for public improvements of the city by Friday night and asked the Council after it had transacted its business for the evening to adjourn until next Friday night to receive and consider the provisions of that act.

Mr Fitzhugh also said he representing the city as counsel had a talk with Mess'rs J B Sener and W S White, who represented the Sorrell heirs in a piece of property in this city on which there was due delinquent taxes. That these gentlemen offered to pay the taxes from 1884 to the present time and he had promised a reply at the earliest time possible.

On motion of Mr Wallace the whole matter was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr Wallace, of Public Property Committee, presented a bill of Mr John C Willis amounting to \$8, which was rent on Armory of Garfield Light Infantry for month of December, 1895. It was ordered paid.

Mr Embrey, of Light Committee, reported that the contract between the Rappahannock Electric Light and Power Company and the city had been duly executed by the proper parties and was in the possession of the Mayor for sale keeping.

Mr Wallace, of Health Committee, presented letters from Mess'rs W F Gordon and J B Mosby, civil engineers of Richmond, on the subject of the much vexed canal question. The letters were in reference to the costs that would result from an examination by these gentlemen. Mr Wallace said that these charges would amount to five or six hundred dollars, without any work for cleaning out the bed of the canal, and that it would be economy to spend the money cleaning out the canal instead of paying it out to engineers who might probably tell us nothing that we did not already know;

Mr Griffin moved that the whole matter be referred back to the Health Committee for action, which was done.

Mr Burruss presented the report of Chief Robinson, of the Fire Department, showing three fires for the month of December. He asked for an appropriation of \$25 to the department which was granted.

Mr Wallace, of Bridge Committee, reported the cost of painting bridge \$205.12.

Mr Griffin, of Gas Committee, reported receipts for December, \$961.50, and expenditures \$491.35.

A petition of citizens to place an electric light at corner of Main and Hanover streets was presented and referred to the Light Committee.

A bill of \$50 was presented from Simon Levin & Bro as expenses incurred in defending their interests when an attempt was made by the city authorities to close up their business. They asked that it be paid at once, otherwise they would institute suite against the city. Referred to Finance Committee.

The election of Superintendent of Water Works was then taken up. The sale was fixed at \$900 per annum, and Capt S J Quinn was unanimously re-elected.

The Superintendent of Gas Works was also elected. The salary was fixed at \$600 and Mr Wm Fitzpatrick was unanimously re-elected.

Mr Griffin presented a petition from the Kenmore Shoe Company for increased facilities in supplying it with gas to run their engine. Mr Green one of the proprietors, was present, and on motion was heard. He asked that a larger pipe be laid from Main Street to their works.

The opinion of the Superintendent of Gas, Mr Fitzpatrick, was quoted to the effect that with the present size of the mains on Main Street, if a larger pipe were laid to the factory, it would materially interfere with the supply of gas in other portions of the city.

Looking to the increased supply of gas, Mr Bradley offered the following which was adopted:

Resolved. That the Gas Committee be requested to find out at once the cost of laying a 12 inch main along Main Street from the Gas Works to Amelia Street and report at the next meeting of the Council.

Mr Knight presented the following resolution:

Whereas the roadway built by the United States Government from this city to the National Cemetery, known as the National Boulevard has gotten into an unsightly and bad condition from lack of proper work and repairs until the same has become a discredit to the National Government and the city of Fredericksburg.

Resolved. That the attention of the Honorable Secretary of War for the United States be called to the bad condition of this roadway, and that he be requested by the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg to direct that the said roadway be put in order.

Resolved 2nd. That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the Hon Secretary of War by the Clerk of the Council.

On motion the resolution was amended by Mr Bradley that Mess'rs Knight and Embrey be appointed a committee to convey the same to Washington and present it in person to Secretary Lamont.

Adopted.

The police salaries for last quarter were ordered paid.

The Council then adjourned to meet next Friday night.

I certify that the above printed report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its meeting held Jan 17th 1896

A P Rowe, Mayor

W E Bradley, Clerk

[Page 271]

Fredericksburg Jan 24, 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 28 January 1896 page 4, column 3]

An adjourned meeting of the City Council was held in the Council chamber Friday night, January 24, 1895[6]. Mayor Rowe presided and all the members of the Council were present except Mess'rs Embrey and Burruss.

Mr Willis, of Finance Committee presented a bill as instructed by the Council, asking the Legislature of Virginia to authorize the City Council of Fredericksburg to issue its coupon or registered bonds for the purpose of constructing sewers and improving streets and for other purposes of internal improvement and benefit to the city. The sum not to exceed \$50,000. He said the bill had been carefully prepared by Mr St George R Fitzhugh, who would read it to the Council.

After the bill had been read on motion of Mr Knight, it was

Resolved. That the bill entitled "an act to authorize the City Council of Fredericksburg to issue its coupon or registered bonds for the purpose of constructing sewers and improving streets and for other purposes of internal improvement and benefit to the city" be placed in the hands of the Finance Committee of the Council with instructions to request our Senator and Delegate to have it passed by the Legislature at the earliest possible moment.

Mr Willis also presented another bill prepared by Mr Fitzhugh entitled an act to authorized the collector of city taxes and levies for the city of Fredericksburg to furnish a list of real estate delinquent for the non-payment of such taxes to the city treasurer for sale of such taxes, and to authorize such collector to otherwise enforce the collection of city taxes and levies in the same manner as the collection of State taxes is enforced by the treasurer of said city.

The act provides for a public sale each year of all property delinquent for city taxes as is done by the State.

This also, on motion of Mr Knight was ordered placed in the hands of the Finance Committee with instructions to request our Senator and Delegate to have it passed by the Legislature at once.

Mr Wallace had read by the clerk a letter from Mr Thomas J Moncure, and engineer, stating he would examine into the causes of the water standing on the meadows adjacent to the canal and make a report of same to Health Committee, and that his charge for same would be \$5 per day and board. On motion of Mr Cole, the Health Committee was instructed to employ Mr Moncure at once to do the work.

The report of City Treasurer R T Knox was presented read and received by the Council in which he stated that acting under instructions of the City Council, her had, in the presence of Mr Willis, chairman of the Finance Committee, and Mr. J Arthur Taylor, cashier of the National Bank, caused to be burned the 100 old 6 percent water bonds, value \$30,000.

The bond of S J Quinn, as Superintendent of Water Works, was presented by Mr Willis for approval but the homestead waiver clause was omitted, and it was withdrawn for correction. Mess'rs M B Rowe and E D Cole were sureties.

Mr Griffin, of Gas Committee, said the bond of Supt Fitzpatrick was ready and would be handed in at the next meeting.

Mr Wroten presented a request from the Southern Foundry and Machine Works to be allowed the privilege of laying a railroad track from the R F & P R R to their works. Referred to Street Committee with instructions to make investigations and report to Council.

Mr Wroten called the attention of the Council to the dangerous condition of certain cellar doors in the city. He had read by the clerk the city ordinance governing the same.

The subject was referred to the Mayor.

Mr Bradley said that a bill was now before the Legislature authorizing the building of a separate State institute for the blind. He cited the fact that there was not a better place in Virginia for the location of such an institution and that an effort should be made to have it located here. He offered the following which was adopted.

Whereas, The State of Virginia is about to erect a new Institute for the blind; and Whereas a bill providing for such an institute has been offered in the Legislature of Virginia naming Ashland as the place; and whereas, at the suggestion of the Hon E W Smith representing this city in the Legislature, the said bill was amended to read that said institute so proposed should be established at Ashland, "unless some more suitable place and greater inducements are offered by some other place;" and, whereas it is desirable to locate such an institution in this city.

Resolved. That a committee of two be appointed to confer with our Senator and Delegate about this matter and to ascertain and report what inducements are necessary, if any, to obtain the location of the said institute at this city, and to report whether it is possible and proper for the city of Fredericksburg to offer any such inducements.

Mess'rs Bradley and Tyler were appointed by the Mayor the committee to look after the matter. A bill of J P Corbin for typewriting copies of the bills to be submitted to the Legislature amounting to \$3 was ordered to be paid.

Mr Bradley stated that Rev Dr A P Saunders was present and desired to be heard on a question of vital importance to the future prosperity of this city, and moved that Dr. Saunders be accorded that permission. Adopted.

Mr Fitzhugh arising asked that he be allowed to make a statement before Dr. Saunders addressed the Council. He said at the request of Dr. Saunders he had prepared an act to be submitted to the Legislature and also the following resolution which he read and hoped some member would move its adoption.

Whereas, The Assembly Home and School at Fredericksburg, Va., a corporation created, organized and operating under an act of the General Assembly approved December 16th, 1893, has founded a seminary of learning in this city, called the Fredericksburg Collegiate Institute, with ample buildings and grounds, in which a full corps of teachers is employed in imparting instruction in the ancient and modern languages, mathematics, physical science, history and literature, equal in grade to the instruction given in the colleges of this country.

And Whereas said Collegiate Institute has thus supplied an urgent need of this city, and contributes largely to the growth and prosperity of Fredericksburg in furnishing its citizens at moderate cost the full advantage of higher education for their youth in bringing into the city an increasing number of most desirable citizens and tax-payers, in stimulating trade and furnishing employment to labor.

And Whereas considerable expense has been necessarily incurred in providing a suitable college building and grounds, and other accommodation for the pupils gathered from many states, as well as from this City.

And Whereas the Assembly Home and School has appealed to the Council to aid said corporation in meeting a part of said expense, and in the enlargement of the efficiency and usefulness of the Collegiate Institute, and has proposed to the Council that in consideration of such aid, the Assembly Home and School would bind itself to furnish instruction annually in said Collegiate Institute in all branches of Collegiate education taught therein, for ten of the proficient pupils from the free schools of Fredericksburg, such pupils to be chosen and designated for such instruction in said Institute by said Council, and to receive instruction in said Institute for such time as the Council may prescribe.

And Whereas, in the opinion of the Council such arrangement would greatly increase the efficiency and promote the interests of the public free schools of the city, and supply the place in large measure of a high school.

Resolved. That the Council, fully appreciating the great value of the Collegiate Institute in the development of the city, and deeming it just and proper that an institution which has already attained such phenomenal growth and prosperity, should be assisted in meeting the necessary expenses and outlays incident to its establishment in Fredericksburg; and to secure the advantages offered to meritorious pupils of the free schools by the aforesaid proposal of the Assembly Home and School, doth agree to issue and deliver to said Assembly Home and School so soon as an act authorizing the same is procured from the General Assembly the coupon or registered bonds of the city of the par value of \$10,000, bearing interest at the rate of five per centum per annum, to be applied by said corporation to the payment of the money expended for the land and buildings of said Collegiate Institute and for the furniture and equipment of said Institute, and for no other purpose; upon the condition that the Assembly Home and School shall execute and deliver to the said Council an agreement in writing under its corporate seal satisfactory in its provisions to the Council, providing the said corporation for the money expended by said corporation for the land and buildings of said Collegiate Institute, and for the furniture and equipment of same, and for no other purpose, and further binding the said corporation, in consideration of said bonds delivered to it, to provide instruction annually in said Institute in all the branches of Collegiate education taught therein for ten of the proficient pupils from the free schools of Fredericksburg, such pupils to be chosen and designated for instruction in said Institute in such manner as the Council shall prescribe, and such pupils to receive instruction in said Institute for such time as said Council shall prescribe, so that not more than ten of such pupils be entitled to said instruction in said Institute during any one session thereof. Mr Knight presented the resolutions to the Council, and, after speaking in advocacy of them, moved their adoption, which received a second from Mr Myer.

Mr Willis said he was opposed to the resolutions and could not vote for them. He further said that it would be unwise and unheard of action to railroad a measure involving \$10,000 through without mature consideration. That while he had heard before that this request would be made of the Council, he did not suppose it would be brought up so soon.

Mr Cole said he was not prepared to vote on the resolutions at the time and hoped it would be the pleasure of the Council to defer action. He knew of the matter, but did not think action would be taken so soon.

Mr Wroten also wanted more time for consideration and moved a postponement until the February meeting of the Council.

Dr. Saunders and Mr Fitzhugh said for important reasons it was necessary that the Council should decide the question at once, either for, or against, and it was resolved on motion of Mr Wallace, that the Council adjourn until Tuesday night, when the whole subject will be discussed.

[Page 272]

Fredericksburg Jan 28, 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 30 January 1896 page 3, column 3]

An adjourned meeting of the City Council was held Tuesday night Jan 28/ '96 Mayor Rowe presided and every member was present. The principal subject presented to it was whether the city should donate to the Fredericksburg Collegiate Institute \$10,000 subject to the conditions as set forth in the resolution presented to the Council at its meeting Friday Jan 24th.

The Council was called to meet at 7:30 PM.

The first business transacted was the presentation by Mr Willis, of Finance Committee, of the bond of Superintendent S J Quinn, of Water Works which was in due form and approved.

Mr Griffin, of Gas Committee, stated that the bond of Superintendent of Gas had been prepared with Capt T McCracken as surety, but that he had forgotten it and left it at home. It would be presented at the next meeting of the Council.

The \$10,000 Appropriation

Mr Knight then made a motion which received a second from Mr Bradley that the Council adopt the resolutions offered by him Friday night to issue \$10,000 of bonds to the Fredericksburg Collegiate Institute.

Mr Bradley stated that Rev Dr. A P Saunders was present and desired to be heard during the evening and permission was accorded him to address the Council.

Mr Tyler arose and said he was a friend of the institution, realized its benefits to the city of Fredericksburg, was in favor of progress of every kind, wanted to see this city made one of the most attractive in Virginia, was for paving streets, sewerage and every measure that would benefit Fredericksburg, but that the people were sovereign, that they created the Council and they should say whether the appropriation should be made, and offered this amendment to Mr Knight's resolution, which Mr Cole seconded:

Resolved 2nd: That no bonds shall be issued under the act to be obtained, until the question of issuing the same shall have been submitted to a vote of the qualified voters of this Corporation and approved by them in accordance with section 1243, 1244 and 1245 of the Code of Virginia of 1877, and that the election be held ten days from date of passage of bill by the State Legislature.

Mr Cole, Mr Wallace, and Mr Willis adopted Mr Tyler's resolution, while Mess'rs Knight and Embrey opposed it.

Before the vote was taken, Mr Fitzhugh requested permission to be heard, and it was granted. He explained the circumstances under which he had drawn the act and resolutions to be submitted to the Council; that Mr Saunders had come to him and stated that he had interviewed the members of the Council on the subject, that with three exceptions they were heartily in accord with the subject. On that assurance he had prepared the papers.

Mr Fitzhugh spoke with great earnestness.

A recorded vote was taken on the amendment which was lost:

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

Ayes Mess'rs Willis, Tyler, Burruss, Cole and Wallace.

The original resolution was then passed by the following vote:

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

Mr Knight offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved. That the Clerk of the Council deliver to our Senator and Delegate the act which has been drawn and reported by Mr St George R Fitzhugh to the Council relating to the Assembly Home and School, with directions to obtain and enactment of same into a law at the earliest possible moment.

The application of the Southern Foundry and Machine Works to lay a railroad track to their works was reported adversely by the Street Committee and the report adopted:

Mr Knight offered the following which was adopted:

Whereas there is a considerable interest among New England manufacturers in the South; and whereas, many large New England cotton mills are investigating many sections of the South with a view to locating cotton mills among us; and whereas, there is no better place in the South for the location of such an enterprise than the city of Fredericksburg;

Resolved. That the committee of the Common Council be appointed to ascertain the names and addresses of such parties seeking location in the South, confer with them by letter and ascertain whether they will consider this city as a place for establishing manufacturing enterprises, and what inducements, if any, are needed to bring such enterprises here, and also to induce such parties, if possible, to visit and inspect this locality.

The Mayor appointed Mess'rs Knight, Griffin and Wallace as the Committee.

The Council then adjourned

[Page 273]

Fredericksburg Feb 21st 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 25 February 1896 page 3, column 3]

The regular meeting of the City Council for the month of February was held in the Council Chamber Friday night Feb'y 21st.

Mayor Rowe presiding and the following Councilmen present:

Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Cole, Embrey, Gouldman, Wallace, Knight, Myer and Bradley.

Mess'rs Tyler and Burruss were absent.

Mr Willis, of the Finance Committee, presented a bill of \$39.70, which he said was erroneously assessed on the estate of W H Revere for wharf property which had not existed for years, caused by diking work of the U S Government in front of it, thereby destroying the property as a wharf. The taxes having been paid on the assessment, the committee recommended that the claim be allowed, and the City Tax Collector was authorized to credit the tax bills of the estate with that amount. Adopted.

Mr Willis presented also bills of The Free Lance for	\$1.50
J P Corbin	\$2.50
W E Bradley	\$2.20

Which were ordered paid.

He said his committee could not report favorably the petition of certain members of the Fire Department for a remission of taxes due, because it would be unjust to the members of the department who had paid their taxes, unless the Council should return them the amount they had paid, and put all on the same footing. The report was adopted.

Mr Cole, of Water Committee, presented an amendment to the ordinance regulating the price per thousand gallons of water to be paid by the newspapers of the city, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr Wallace, of Health Committee, presented the report of Engineer Moncure who had made a careful examination of the water along the banks of the canal, its causes and what should be done to remedy it. A large map accompanied the report, which was explained by Mr St Geo R Fitzhugh at the request of the Council, and also certain legal points bearing on the subject.

The report states that the water on the Hirsh and Bowering lots is higher by two inches than the water in the canal, and consequently the accumulation cannot come from the canal, as water seeks its own level; that the water is the result of surface water from the hills around, and cannot find an outlet into the canal. The ponds on Hirsh's lot, below the street, are the result of the land having been plowed into beds, which have left deep furrows extending out from the banks, with high ground in the middle. The elevated ground next to the canal bank and the high ground between the furrows hold the water. This can be remedied, says the report, by following the natural drainage along the canal banks. It recommends that a ditch—four feet wide and two feet deep—be dug on the side next to Prince Edward street, through Hirsh's, Keene's and other lots, and that the ditch on the south side be thoroughly cleaned and extended to the wasteway,

and the water let out under it. The water on Hirsh's upper lot and Bowering's lot can be let out by a wooden trunk under the street into the ditch which is to be dug on the lower side. It also says there are several leaks in the canal bank which should be mended at once, and that there is no leakage on the banks where they are high—the only place the water can get out being where the banks are broken.

Mr Fitzhugh stated that the report showed that the damming of the water on Bowering's and Hirsh's lots above was caused by the raising of the street that crossed the canal on Seventh Street, and if it was so, it was the duty of the city to make an outlet there for this water. If raising the street was not the cause then the property owners were the responsible parties. He said that if a culvert was built under the street, it would drain the lots, but the city had not right to turn the accumulated water on another man's property, although it might be the natural course the water would take if not diverted. He said that the city was not responsible in any way for the ponds below the street, but advised that a consultation be had with the lot owners as to the drainage.

Mr Willis offered the following which was adopted:

Resolved. That the report of the Health Committee in reference to the water lying along the lines of the canal and causes therefor be referred to the street committee with instructions to confer with the property owners and obtain cost of properly draining same and to employ an engineer if necessary and report to this Council.

A bill of \$21.70 incurred by the Health Committee in this work was ordered paid.

The bond of Superintendent of Gas Works, William Fitzpatrick, for \$2,000, with Capt Terence McCracken as surety, was received and approved and placed in the possession of Mayor Rowe.

Mr Griffin, of Gas Committee, said his committee had not made an estimate of the whole cost of laying a 12 inch gas main from the gas works to corner of 9th and Main, but that they had received estimates as to the cost of the pipe, which was \$3,570. The matter was referred back to the committee with the request that they get estimates for the cost of the whole work.

Mr Cole asked permission to plant trees and otherwise beautify Washington Avenue, the work to be done under the supervision of the Street Committee. He said police protection was inadequate in that section, and asked that he be given police authority to protect the improvements which he and others intended making. The right to make the improvements was granted but no action was taken on the second request.

Mr A W Embrey, of the Kenmore Shoe Company, asked to be heard, which request was granted. He advocated the furnishing of a better supply of gas for running the machinery at the Kenmore Factory. The matter was referred to the Gas Committee.

An additional electric light was ordered to be placed at the corner of Main and Hanover streets, on the Exchange Hotel corner.

On motion of Mr Knight, Hon J S Potter and Mr W Seymour White were added to the committee of the Council to encourage the investment of Northern capital in this section.

Mr Knight in a strong speech—in which he gave good reasons why a National Park should be established near Fredericksburg—offered the following which was adopted:

Whereas, In the language of the Honorable John W Daniel, United States Senator from Virginia “More men have fallen in the one county of Spotsylvania in Virginia than have fallen in the British Army in a hundred years;” and

Whereas, More battles have been fought with a radius of ten miles from the city of Fredericksburg than have been fought on any other spot of ground of equal size in the world; and

Whereas, The great battle of first and second Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania Court House, Chancellorsville and the Wilderness are inseparably connected with the monumental struggle for the preservation of the United States of America as a Nation; and

Whereas, It was in this historic section that Ulysses S Grant began the ever memorable campaign which culminated at Appomattox; and

Whereas, It has become the settled policy of this Government to define, preserve and perpetuate in National parks the places that were the scenes of the culmination of each epoch of our late Civil war; and

Whereas, In the judgment of the Common Council of the city of Fredericksburg no spot is more worthy of such preservation than this great battle-ground;

Resolved, 1st, That the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg does hereby earnestly request the Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States to use all proper and lawful means to have established at, or near Fredericksburg, a National Park, such as has been established at Gettysburg and other places:

2nd, That a committee, consisting of three members of the City Council and three representative citizens be appointed by the Mayor to present to the representative of Virginia in Congress these resolutions and use such other efforts as may seem proper to secure concerted action in this matter on the part of the said representatives.

The Mayor appointed Mess’rs J T Knight, Geo W Wroten, and J S Wallace, on behalf of the Council, and Hon H F Crismond, Maj J Horace Lacy, and Col R B Merchant as the citizens committee.

Mr Fitzhugh presented the contract between the city and the Assembly’s Home and School in regard to the issue of \$10,000 in bonds.

When Mr Knight offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted by the Council [Page 274]

Whereas, The act of the General Assembly of Virginia entitled, “An Act to authorized the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg to execute and deliver the bonds of the said City for Ten Thousand dollars to the Assembly’s Home and School at Fredericksburg, Virginia, and to authorize that Corporation in consideration thereof to provide instruction to certain pupils of the Free Schools of said City” which this Council at its meeting on the 28 January 1896 directed to be obtained from the Legislature has become a law enabling the Council to carry in to effect the Resolution of said Council in relation to the Assembly’s Home and School at Fredericksburg, Va., which was adopted at said meeting.

And Whereas, The following contract between the City of Fredericksburg and said Assembly’s Home and School at Fredericksburg Va., contemplated by the aforesaid resolution and said Act of the Legislature is satisfactory in its premises to the Council, viz;

[Page 275 inserted typewriter text]

Now, Therefore, the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg, in pursuance of said resolution and of said Act of the Legislature, doth covenant and agree to and with the Assembly’s Home and School at Fredericksburg Virginia do issue and deliver to said Corporation the coupon Bonds of the City of Fredericksburg of the par value of Ten Thousand dollars bearing five per centum interest payable semi-annually, the principal of said bonds to be payable in thirty years from their date or upon the call of said Common Council at any time after ten years from their date. Said bonds to be exempt from municipal taxation and to be issued and delivered so soon as they can be lithographed and executed in behalf of said

City, but the said bonds are to be put in the custody of the National Bank of Fredericksburg in escrow for the period and for the purpose hereinafter set forth—

And the Assembly's Home and School at Fredericksburg Virginia doth on its part covenant and agree to and with the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg that said Corporation will apply said bonds to the payment of the money expended by said Corporation for the Land and Buildings of the Collegiate Institute of said Corporation and for the furniture and equipment of said Institute and for no other purpose and that said Corporation will in consideration of said Bonds and so long as said Corporation shall exist, provide instruction annually in said Institute in all the branches of Collegiate education taught therein for ten of the proficient pupils from the Public Free Schools of Fredericksburg, such pupils to be chosen and designated for such instruction in said Institute in such manner as said Common Council shall prescribe and to receive said instruction in said Institute for such time as said Council shall prescribe but not more than ten of such pupils to be entitled to such instruction in said Institute during any one session thereof—

And the Assembly's Home and School at Fredericksburg Virginia doth further covenant and agree to and with the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Fredericksburg that in the event that said Corporation shall at any time in the future cease to be located and to conduct its operations in Fredericksburg to return and pay back to the City of Fredericksburg the aforesaid sum of Ten Thousand Dollars and to pay back said money to said City before the removal of said Home and School from Fredericksburg.

And it is hereby covenanted and agreed by the said parties to this deed that so soon as said Bonds are prepared and executed by the City of Fredericksburg the same shall be deposited in escrow in the National Bank of Fredericksburg until the debt amounting to Ten Thousand Dollars owing by the Assembly's Home and School at Fredericksburg Virginia for the moneys borrowed by it to acquire the Land and Buildings and equipment of said Collegiate Institute shall become due and payable and that the said Bonds shall be applied to the payment and extinguishment of said debt and to the Release of the Land and Buildings of said Collegiate Institute and of the Cottage built on said land for the liens thereon by deeds of trust given to secure said debt which are recorded in the Clerk's office of the Corporation Court of Fredericksburg: and that until said Debt and Liens given to secure it can be paid off and extinguished the semi-annual interest accruing upon said Bonds shall be appropriated and applied to the payment of the interest accruing upon said debt during said interval of time and to that end the Treasurer of said City shall be allowed by the said National Bank to cut off the coupons from said Bonds as the same mature and to deliver them to the Treasurer of the Assembly's Home and School at Fredericksburg Virginia. And it is further covenanted and agreed by and between said Parties that wherever the aforesaid principal of said debt of \$10,000 or any part of the same can be paid off and extinguished, the National Bank of Fredericksburg is authorized upon the joint order of the Treasurers above mentioned to deliver to said two Treasurers jointly the amount of the said Bonds necessary for said purpose which said Bonds or their proceeds of sale shall be applied by said two treasurers to the satisfaction and extinguishment of said indebtedness—

In Witness whereof Moses D Hoge, the President and J N Barney, Jr, the Treasurer and Recording Secretary of the Assembly's Home and School at Fredericksburg Virginia being thereto duly empowered and direct by the Board of Trustees of that Corporation have affixed the Corporate seal of the that Corporation to this deed and subscribed their names as such officers thereto, and A P Rowe the Mayor of the City of Fredericksburg and William E Bradley the Clerk of said Common Council being thereto duly empowered and directed by said Common Council have affixed the Corporate seal of said City to this deed and subscribed their names as such officers thereto the day and year first herein above written.

Resolved that the Council doth accept said contract and doth authorize and direct the Mayor of this City and the Clerk of this Council to execute said contract for and on behalf of the City of Fredericksburg and to attach the seal of said Corporation thereto; and to execute said contract in duplicate and so soon as the said contract is executed in duplicate by the Assembly's Home and School of Fredericksburg Va. The

Mayor shall deliver one copy of said contract [Page 276] to said last mentioned Corporation and shall file the other amongst the archives of this City.

Resolved further. That the Finance Committee of this Council proceed without delay to have the Bonds referred to in said Act of the Legislature lithographed, said Bonds to be Coupon Bonds, of the style of those recently lithographed and known as Water bonds, twenty five hundred dollars of said bonds being in denomination of one hundred dollars and the remaining seven thousand and five hundred dollars being in the denomination of five hundred dollars. Said bonds reciting on their face the date & title of the aforesaid Act and that they are not taxable.

Resolved further. That so soon as said bonds are lithographed they shall be executed by the Mayor and Treasurer of this City and collected by the Clerk of the Council and the seal of said Corporation attached thereto and the coupons shall be signed by the Treasurer of this City and the said Mayor Treasurer & Clerk of the Council shall in pursuance of the premises of the aforesaid contract if the same shall have been duly executed by the Assembly's Home and School at Fredericksburg V^a deposit the same with the National Bank of Fredericksburg for the purposes set for in said Contract.

[Page 277]

Mr Cole, of Water Committee, offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted. Whereas the newspaper proprietors have complained to the Committee on Water of the high rates charged them for water to run their presses, and Whereas these complaints have been investigated by said Committee and the rates charged is believed to be excessive & should be reduced, Therefore, Resolved. That from and after Feb 1st 1896 the rates on the *Free Lance & Star* newspapers shall be four cents per thousand gallons, meter measurement, the bills to be subject to a discount of five percent if paid by the 10th of the month, in which the bills are rendered, provided the gross bills shall not be less than ten dollars per month, and provided further, that it be understood that all rate used for said purpose is surplus water, not needed for fire or domestic 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.

The report of Chief J H Robinson, of the Fire department was received. Only one fire was reported for the month.

Mr Griffin offered the following which was adopted.

Resolved. "That the Street Committee be and are hereby directed to employ a suitable engineer for the purpose of ascertaining the cost of properly macadamizing Main and Commerce streets, of this city and report to this Council at as early date as possible."

The application of the Southern Foundry and Machine Works for the privilege of buildings a railroad from the R F & P R R which was adversely reported at the last meeting, was, on motion of Mr Knight, recommitted to Street committee for consideration.

A petition from David Ennis asking for relief to his property from a ditch running through it was referred to the Street Committee
The Council then adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above report is a true record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its meeting for the month of February 1896
W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

[Page 278]

Fredericksburg March 20th 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 24 March 1896 page 3, column 3]

The City Council of Fredericksburg met in the Council Chamber Friday evening, March 20th

The members present were Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Embrey, Burruss, Wallace, Cole, Knight, Myer and Bradley. Absent: Mess'rs Griffin and Gouldman.

Mayor Rowe presided.

Mr Willis, of the Finance Committee, submitted the following license tax for the years 1896-97. The tax is the same as that of 1895-96 with the two following exceptions:

Sec 58. Each and every person, in order to be licensed as a common crier shall pay ten dollars.

Sect 59. On every telephone company having an office in the city, twenty-five dollars.

The report was adopted.

Mr Willis presented a bill of the *Star* for \$1.05, which was ordered paid.

Mr Wroten, of the Street Committee, presented a communication from Mrs J A Perry asking to have cut down certain trees on Water street, which the communication said "are dangerous in wind storms and when in leaf, as the roots have been loosened in order to level the pavements, portions having been chopped off." Mr Wroten said it was his opinion that the trees should be taken down, and asked for authority to do so. Referred to the Street Committee with power to act.

Mr Wroten also presented the report on the petition of David Ennis for relief from an overflow of water through his lot. The report stated that relief could be obtained by running an 18 inch terra cotta pipe a distance of 310 feet at a cost of \$170, and recommended that the work be done. Mr Wroten said the property owners along the line were willing to bear a portion of the expense.

After some discussion Mr Willis moved that it be referred back to the Street Committee with reference to draining the lands along the canal, as follows:

At the last monthly meeting of the Council the report of the Health Committee in reference to the water lying along the lines of the canal was referred to the Street Committee with instruction to confer with the property owners and obtain cost of properly draining same, and employ an engineer if necessary. Your committee performed that duty and without employing an engineer have accomplished the work so far as draining Hirsh's, Bowering's and Kaufman's lots, and as soon as certain obstruction of stone across the Boulevard has been removed then Capt Keene's, Shepherd's and Brent's lots will be free of water.

Mr Wroten submitted the report of Engineer Thomas J Moncure as to cost of paving Main and Commerce streets, which the Street Committee were instructed to obtain at the last meeting of the Council. It is as follows

Falmouth, V^a., March 20th 1896.

Mr G W Wroten, Chairman Street Committee, Fredericksburg, V^a:

Dear Sir: Under your instructions to enquire into what would be the probable cost of macadamizing Main and Commerce streets in Fredericksburg, I beg to report that I have conferred with Col Cutshaw, the city engineer of Richmond, Va., and have gotten the report of the engineer commissioner of Washington D C embracing contracts and specifications for such work as you propose to have done, with bids of contractors at which the work was let. From the information mentioned above I give the following bill of probable cost. This bill includes the cost of preparing the road bed for receiving the macadam and the paving. Additional curbing will also be necessary in places perhaps 6x20 granite curbing in place in Washington costs \$1.00 per linear foot. If this work is let to contract to the lowest responsible bidder it is

likely that it would be taken at figures somewhat less than those in the bill and would save the cost of buying a stone breaker and roller. Col Cutshaw paid for 1.15 tone roller, \$5,889.40, and one stone breaker \$1,375.50 in 1872.

This bill is based on the macadam being 9 inches thick, to be applied in two courses, with the bottom course to contain the coarser stone, and the next of finer stone and to be covered with a binder on top composed of the granolithic chips and dust which result from crushing the stone, all to be properly rolled after the application of each course and three foot gutters each side made of spall or rubble.

[Main street, from New street to First street, 6,281 feet in length.]

Paving gutters 4,187 square yards at 90¢	\$ 3,768.00
Macadam 27,916 square yards at 75¢	20,937.00
Culverts, or gutter crossings (brick) at \$88, each 16	1,408.00
Capstones or castings for ends of culverts \$12 each 32	384.00
[Commerce St from Water Street to Washington Street, inclusive 2,358 feet in length]	
Paving gutters 1,572 square yards at 90¢	\$ 1,415.00
Macadam 10,480 square yards at 75¢	7,860.00
Culverts, or gutter crossings \$88, each 7	616.00
Capstones or castings for ends of culverts \$12 each 14	168.00
	436,556.00
Add one transit, \$125, one level tripod and rod \$90	215.00
Add cost of engineering	

In the above bill I have estimated for one brick culver at each street crossing as you directed. There will probably not be as many culverts as estimated for, but that cannot be ascertained till proper surveys are made to determine proper location and the specific number. A good class of terra cotta pipe might be used in the place of the culverts, which would greatly reduce the cost.

I am respectfully,
Thos J Moncure.

Mr Bradley read a letter from President E T D Myers of the R F & P R R addressed to Mr St George R Fitzhugh, which stated that the Macadam could be done for 60cts per square yard and 80cts for spall or rubble.

Mr Tyler said he was much surprised at the prices named in the estimate. He had some time ago looked into the cost of the work, and the information obtained then was showed a much smaller price; that the best way to get the information desired was to make out plans and specifications of the work and invite bids.

Mr Cole was opposed to inviting bids as the Council could not accept the bids before the people gave the authority, which could not be done until the spring elections and that under the circumstances no reputable contractor would submit a bid.

Mr Bradley said the expenditure of such a large amount of money as this improvement would require was a matter of great importance to the tax-payers of the city, and the Council should consider well its action that the people should have all the light possible on the subject so that they can vote intelligently when the proposition is submitted. He suggested a commission of businessmen, outside of the Council, be appointed to get estimates of costs of each street both of macadam and spall rubble and submit these estimates to the Council. The Council could then select the kind of paving it preferred and the people would know what they were voting on. He said Mr Fitzhugh, who was present would like to be heard and moved that he be allowed to speak on the subject.

Permission being accorded Mr Fitzhugh, he said the matter was one of grave importance and the Council should go slowly and comply fully with the law regulating the matter; that no bids could be legally received until the people had voted in favor of making the improvement; that the Council had only meager information in the matter but it could be obtained from engineers like Col Cutshaw, Maj Myers, and Mr Moncure; that a carefully devised plan of improvements should be laid before the Council with the cost thereof and presented to the people before they voted on the proposition; that the present Council was equal to any the city had ever had, but that lately there had been "manufactured distrust" of the body, and it would be well to have a commission of businessmen of the city outside of the Council to get plans, specifications and costs of different modes of paving; that there was a growing sentiment in favor of improvements among the people and if the course he suggested was adopted they would have more confidence in the information obtained that way.

Mr Cole opposed the suggestion of Mr Fitzhugh. He considered it a reflection on the business ability of the members of the Council; that the members of the Council from a business standpoint, would compare favorably with any commission that could be appointed outside of the body; that they were elected to attend to the business of the city and they should do it. The Street Committee were clear-headed business men and were equal to the situation in this matter, and if they were willing to do the work, they alone should do it.

Mr Bradley and Mr Embrey favored the suggestion of Mr Fitzhugh. Mess'rs Willis, Wallace, Knight, and Wroten opposed it.

Mr Wallace said the Council was elected to attend to all the business of the city that came before it, and if they could not do it, they should resign at once.

After much discussion, it was

Resolved. That the subject of paving the streets of the city of Fredericksburg be referred to the Street Committee with instructions to report to this Council all information they can obtain as to the cost and best methods of paving the streets of the city as early as practicable.

[Page 279]

Mess'rs Embrey and Wroten of Street Committee presented a majority report against allowing the Southern Foundry and Machine Works to build a switch from the R F & P R R depot to their works.

Mr Bradley offered a substitute granting the R F & P R R the privilege of laying a switch along Princess Anne Street from the depot to the Southern Foundry & Machine Works, the cars to be drawn by other than steam power and under such restrictions as to prevent impeding travel or blocking the streets.

The substitute was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes Mess'rs Willis, Tyler, Burruss, Cole, Knight, Myer and Bradley.

Noes Mess'rs Wroten, Embrey, Wallace

Mr Bradley, of Ordinance, offered a resolution, which was adopted, restoring the old names of the streets to the city & which is as follows:

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 be alphabetical & numerical names is hereby repealed, and the ancient names existing prior to that ordinance, are hereby restored.

All ordinances and part of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Mr Embrey asked that an electric light be placed at the Corner of Princess Anne and George streets. Referred to light committee.

Mess'rs Tyler and Embrey called attention to the way the work of dredging the river has been done and it was resolved that the Committee on Commerce and Navigation called the attention of Hon W A Jones, our member of Congress at Washington, to the subject.

Mr Meyer presented a petition from the J G Hurkamp Co, asking permission to run a railroad track across certain streets of the city from the R F & P R R to their sumac and bark mills, which was referred to the Street Committee with request to examine into and, if necessary call a meeting of Council and report.

A petition from citizens on Commerce Street was presented by Mr Embrey asking that the sides of the embankment on the street opposite the City Cemetery be walled up "to prevent caving and the street be otherwise improved." Referred to Street Committee with power to act.

Mayor Rowe reported 365 tramps put in lock-up at night since January 2nd and each given a loaf of bread next morning and marched out of town by police. Cost of bread \$10.95.
The salaries of police officers for the quarter ending April 1st were ordered paid.

Mr Knight stated that the National Battle Field Park Committee had added to its committees Hon A P Rowe and made him chairman, Councilmen Willis and Embrey, Judge J B Sener, Hon J S Potter and Major T E Morris, and asked the Council to sanction their action which was done.

On motion of Mr Knight, Councilman W B Tyler was elected to fill the vacancy on the committee to induce manufacturing plants to locate here, created by the declination of Hon J S Potter to serve.
The Council then adjourned.

I hereby certify that the above printed and written report is a correct record of the City Council of Fredericksburg at its regular meeting held March 20th 1896
W E Bradley, Clerk
[Page 280]

Fredericksburg March 26th 1896
[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 28 March 1896 page 3, column 3]

The city Council was called Thursday night, March 26th 1896 by request of Councilman Knight, Wallace and Myer to consider the subject of the bill introduced in Congress by Hon W A Jones for the building at Fredericksburg of a monument to President James Monroe [Monroe] at a cost of \$50,000. All the members were present except Mess'rs Tyler, Embrey, and Griffin. Mayor Rowe presided. Mr Knight in a speech replete with patriotic sentiment and high eulogy of the author of the famous Monroe Doctrine which is now playing so important a part in diplomatic circles of the great countries of the world introduced the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas. The Honorable Wm A Jones has introduced into the Congress of the United States a bill to provide for the erection of a monument to the memory of President James Monroe in the City of Fredericksburg—

And Whereas. The memory of this, one of the greatest of American statesmen and Presidents, is inseparably connected with Fredericksburg, which was, for so many years, his home—

And Whereas. The people of Fredericksburg are in thorough sympathy with this movement—

And Whereas. It is proper that the city of Fredericksburg in its corporate capacity should co-operate earnestly in this most worthy effort to honor the memory of a patriot, statesman, and soldier who for fifty years served his people in every position in which they honored him.

Resolved. That the city of Fredericksburg most cordially endorses the introduction of this bill, and urges upon the Congress its speedy passage.

Resolved 2nd. That the representatives of the State of Virginia are earnestly urged to take concerted action to insure the speedy passage of this most meritorious measure.

Resolved 3rd. That a joint committee of three members of the City Council, and three citizens, of which the Mayor shall be ex-officio chairman, be appointed by the Mayor to take such action as it may deem proper to aid in securing the passage of the bill to erect a monument to James Monroe in the city of Fredericksburg, introduced in the House of Representatives recently by the Honorable Wm A Jones.

Mayor Rowe appointed the committee as follows: Councilman John T Knight, W E Bradley, John M Griffin and Judge A W Wallace, Hon H F Crismond and Capt James S Knox.

A resolution was passed inviting Judge James B Sener to co-operate with the committee and assist them.

On motion of Mr Willis the rules were suspended and the Hurkamp Company railroad application was taken up.

The Street Committee made a report favorable to allowing the Hurkamp Company to cross certain streets with a rail road extension from the R F & P R R to their factory.

On motion of Mr Willis it was resolved that the John G Hurkamp Company be given the privilege of crossing certain streets of the city with a railroad track under restrictions to be prescribed by the Street Committee and approved by the Council.

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 a called meeting Thursday night March 26th 1896

W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

[Page 281]

Fredericksburg April 17th 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 21 April 1896 page 3, column 3]

The regular meeting of the City Council was held at the council chamber Friday evening, April 17th.

Mayor Rowe presided and the following councilmen were present:

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

Mr Willis, of Finance Committee presented two bills, one of *Free Lane* for \$14.50 and one of *Star* for \$3.75, which were ordered paid.

Mr Willis also presented amendments to the ordinance for issuing liquor licenses to dealers in this city. He said their necessary in order to conform to the changes made by the last Legislature in the liquor license law of Virginia.

On Motion of Mr Knight the amendment were adopted.

They are as follows:

Section 32. On every person selling by wholesale, wines, ardent spirits, malt liquors, or any mixture thereof, one hundred and sixty dollars (\$160.00).

But where a person sell only malt liquors by wholesale the tax shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)
Sec. 33 On every person selling by retail wines, ardent spirits, malt liquors, or any mixture thereof, one hundred and twenty dollars (\$120.00)

But where a person sells only malt liquors by retail the tax shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00)
A License to sell by retail shall include only the privilege of selling in quantities not exceeding five gallons at any time to any individual, which shall include both the privilege of selling to be delivered to the purchasers in bottles, Jugs demijohns or other vessels and the privilege of being drunk at the place sold.

Sec. 34 On every person distilling or manufacturing ardent spirits, twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), and manufacturing malt liquors ten dollars (\$10.00).

Sec. 35 A Wholesale liquor dealer desiring to sell liquor by retail, may do so by paying one-half the specific tax as a retail liquor license.

Sec 37. On every rectifier twenty five dollars (\$25.00).

Mr Bradley of Light Committee, reported that the Light Committee had unanimously agreed to place an electric light at the Court house corner of George and Princess Anne street.

The clerk read a communication from Capt S J Quinn, clerk of the City School Board, stating that the terms of service of Mess'rs A B Bowering of the Lower Ward, and C L Cole of the Upper Ward as school trustees had expired on April 4th.

On motion of Mr Willis, they were both re-nominated and unanimously elected. Mr Willis, in a short speech paid each of the gentlemen a high compliment as being faithful and efficient officers.

Mr Cole asked permission for himself and other property owners to run a ten inch sewer pipe from Washington Avenue along Fauquier Street to the river.

On motion of Mr Willis it was referred to the Street Committee to make investigation and report to the Council.

The Council then adjourned.

I certify that the above printed and written report is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg at the regular meeting April 17th 1896

W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

[Page 282]

Fredericksburg May 15th 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 19 May 1896 page 3, column 4]

The May meeting of the City Council was held at the Council Chamber Friday night, May 15th
Mayor Rowe presided and the Councilmen present were Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Gouldman, Wallace, Knight, Myer and Bradley: Absent Mess'rs Burruss and Cole.

Mr Willis, of Finance reported two bills—one of *Star* for \$2.50, and one of Hoen & Co of Richmond for \$48.50—cost of printing the \$10,000 of bonds issued the Fredericksburg College by the city.

Mr Wroten, of Street Committee, presented the following ordinance, which was unanimously signed by the committee and recommended its adoption:

Whereas. The John G Hurkamp Company for the purpose of developing their business, propose to build a track leading from some point on the R F & P R R between Princess Ann and Caroline, or Main streets northwesterly, across Princess Ann street and the National Boulevard, thence along or adjacent to the raceway of C H Pettit, and across Prince Edward, Charlotte and Hanover streets, and Commerce Street, extended to the factory of the John G Hurkamp Company, to be operated by steam locomotives, and—
Whereas. It is regarded as to the interest of the city of Fredericksburg that such a track shall be constructed and such operation encouraged—

Be it ordained. That permission is granted and authority given the John G Hurkamp Company to construct such track within the limits of the city crossing the streets named within the jurisdiction of said city at grade with such reasonable modification of the surface of such streets as may be necessary and to operate the same with steam locomotive of the ordinary type, or of special type, at the option of said John G Hurkamp Company, for drawing trains of construction cars, freight cars, or such other cars as may be necessary for the purpose of the said company.

The permission is given for the period of 20 years, from the passage of this ordinance, and thereafter until by vote of two (2) successive Councils of the city of Fredericksburg the use of said track shall be prohibited.

The said company shall be required to plank every street crossing and keep the same in good order, also all other places necessary.

The speed over such track shall be same as is now allowed the R F & P R R Company in crossing the streets of Fredericksburg, Va.

The said track may be abandoned by said company or any company operating it under the said company at any time, in which case it shall be the duty of said company to restore the streets at the points of crossing to the condition as good as at the present time.

On motion of Mr Tyler, the rules were suspended and the ordinance adopted.

Mr Knight, of the special committee appointed by Council to go to Washington, if necessary and represent to the War Department the condition of the Boulevard, said that it had not been necessary for the committee to visit Washington, owing to prompt efforts of Hon W A Jones and Judge J B Sener, who had succeeded in having the matter attended to and the contract for repairing given out. That, upon consultation with authorities at Washington, it was deemed inexpedient to press the question of widening the avenue to its original intended width as it would require a special appropriation from Congress to make the change, and that Senator Daniel and Hon W A Jones advised that it lay over until next session when it will be brought up.

Mr Bradley read the following communication, which had been sent him with the request that he present it to the Council.

Fredericksburg, Va., May 15, 1896.

To the Honorable Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Va.:

Gentlemen—We desire to call your attention to the matter of our taxes. The City Collector has called upon us once or twice in regard to same, and he tells us he has no instructions in regard to the matter until instructed by yourselves. We respectfully call your attention to the agreement made by yourselves, which was that, while we were at all times to comply with the law yet, if we paid our taxes they were to be refunded upon receipt of payment, or a like amount would be paid us by your treasurer. This agreement was to be in force for a period of ten years. We respectfully ask that you dispose of the matter according to your promise.

Yours very respectfully,

Kenmore Shoe Co.,

Chas J Green, President.

After some discussion on motion of Mr Wallace the communication was laid on the table.

Mr Griffin said he thought it would be a good thing to have a census taken of the city's population, and that he had a plan to offer which would require but little, if any, cost. It was to have the day police do the work. This had been done in other cities and had proven satisfactory. He offered the following resolution, which was passed unanimously:

Be it resolved. That an enumeration of the city be taken beginning on Monday next, May 18th of all the inhabitants and that for this purpose the Mayor be requested to assign the work to the day police—one to the Upper Ward and the other to the Lower Ward—directing them to do the work by a house-to-house canvass, but to avoid counting the same person twice and further directing them merely to take numbers by houses and not names, and to finish the work, if possible by Saturday night, the 23rd inst.

The Council then adjourned.

I certify that the above written & printed report is a true record of the proceedings of the Council at it's meeting held May 16th 1896

W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

[Page 283]

Fredericksburg June 19th 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 23 June 1896 page 3, column 3]

The last regular meeting of the City Council before the end of the fiscal year was held at the Council Chamber Friday night Jun 19th..

All the members were present except Mess'rs Gouldman & Myer.

Mayor Rowe, presiding call the meeting to order.

Mr Willis of the finance committee presented bills of the *Lance*, *Star* and Mr J W Adams, amounting to \$10.75, \$1.50 and \$5.52, respectively, which were ordered paid.

Mr Willis also presented Gas bill for the reading room of the Washington Guards amounting to \$6.00 which was ordered paid.

Mr Willis presented the following resolution which was adopted: Resolved that the gas bills of the Washington Guards for their reading room be paid until further ordered when properly attested by Capt M B Rowe & the Gas Committee.

Mr Cole of the water committee, submitted the report of Capt S J Quinn, superintendent of water works, and requested that the superintendent be allowed to read the same, which was granted. It shows receipts, expenditures and unexpended balance as follows:

Receipts, \$5,449.03; Expenditures, \$3,739.08; balance on hand \$1,709.95.

The items of expense are as follows: Extension of mains, \$215.50; putting in meters, \$13.32; repairs to street pumps, \$88.90; running expenses, \$971.86; interest on water bonds, \$1,500; superintendent's salary, \$900.

Mr Cole reported a bill of \$30.40, cost incurred in obtaining sundry judgments against parties for non-payment of water rent. He said these costs would be paid by the defendants in the final settlement of the matter. The bill was ordered paid.

A request of the Battlefield Park commission asking that the council increase the membership of the commission by adding to it Hons A P Rowe and W Seymour White, was presented through Mr Knight and the request granted.

Mr Knight also presented and they were ordered paid bills amounting to \$16.20, for expenses incurred in connection with the mass-meeting held here a short time ago to further the movement in behalf of the Battlefield Park.

Mr Burruss, chairman of the police and fire committee, reported as follows: total expenditures for year \$614.00, leaving \$14.90 due, which was ordered placed to the credit of the committee.

Mr Wallace, chairman bridge committee, reported total expenditures \$323.70; amount of appropriation \$333.66; balance to credit of committee, \$9.96.

Mr Embrey, chairman of light committee, reported that the amount expended on account of electric lights was \$2,000.79, out of \$2,520 appropriated, leaving a balance unexpended of \$519.21.

Mr Knight offered a resolution that the Secretary of War be requested to place two or more electric lights on the National Boulevard. In discussing the matter he said that he had been informed that the government was granting such requests in other places. The resolution was adopted.

A communication from Capt Quinn, clerk of the School Board, announcing a vacancy in that body occasioned by the death of Mr C L Cole, was presented by Mayor Rowe.

Mr Wallace referred to the loss the city had sustained in the death of Mr C L Cole, who had been a most faithful official and place in nomination as his successor, Mr D C Cole, a brother of the deceased, who was unanimously elected.

On motion of Mr Willis the council adjourned to meet on Tuesday and Friday nights following.
[Page 284]

Fredericksburg June 23, 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 26 June 1896 page 3, column 3]

An adjourned meeting of the City Council was held at the Council Chamber Tuesday night June 23rd. Mayor Rowe presided and Councilmen Willis, Tyler, Griffin, Wroten, Burruss, Gouldman, Cole, Wallace, Knight, Myer, and Bradley were present. Mr Embrey was absent.

Mr Wroten of Street Committee handed in his report. The report shows the amount expended by the committee to be \$1,309.66. Of this \$298.39 was for extra work outside the regular appropriation, which was \$1,000. There was received from A B Bowering \$7.25 for his portion of the costs in draining the canal. The amount expended for regular work was \$1,018.52, or \$18.52 in excess of appropriation. He asked that \$309.36 be placed to the credit of the committee, which on motion of Mr Willis was done.

Mr Tyler, of Commerce and Navigation, reported only \$4.50 expended by his committee, leaving a balance to credit of \$20.50, the appropriation being \$25.

Mr Myer, of Park Committee, reported expenditures during the year of \$77.70; appropriation \$150. Balance unexpended, \$72.20.

Mr Knight, of Alms House Committee, presented an itemized report showing \$1,293.70 as the cost of running the Alms House to July 1, 1896. This covers all outstanding bills, which will be paid before July 1. The appropriation was \$1,200, and on motion of Mr Willis, the sum of \$93.70 was placed to the credit of the Committee.

Mr Griffin, of Gas Committee. This report showed receipts from the Gas Works for the year \$8,424.01; expenditures, \$5,604.28, leaving a net balance of \$2,819.73.

Mr Gouldman, of Public Property Committee, reported the amount expended \$412.47; appropriation \$400; excess of expenditures over appropriation \$12.47, which, on motion of Mr Willis was placed to the credit of the committee.

On motion of Mr Griffin, it was ordered that Police Officer Robinson and Gore be paid \$10 each for work in taking the census of the city, as ordered by the Council.

Mayor Rowe reported the police officers had faithfully performed their duties during the present quarter, and their salaries were ordered to be paid at the end of the quarter.

A communication was received from W H Richards, General Manager of the P F & P R R, as follows:
Fredericksburg, V^a, June 20th 1896.

A P Rowe, Esq. Mayor and the Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Va.;

Dear Sirs—Finding this morning that the contractor, Mr H H George, Jr constructing the Hurkamp siding and some employees of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company have torn up the Boulevard, I herewith notify you that such use of the Boulevard was not contemplated or asked for when the right to use our land was asked for; that we gave the right solely for a boulevard, and that we reserved all other rights, and that that under the circumstances, we enter our protest against any other use of the land acquired from us; that we cannot recognize any right of Council to so dispose of our reserved rights, and we ask that so much of the ground as was thus acquired for a boulevard be restored to us that we may enjoy our former rights in the same.

Very respectfully,

W H Richards,

General Manager of Potomac, Fredericksburg and Piedmont Railroad Co.

On Motion of Mr Cole, it was referred to the Street Committee for investigation as to the rights of the city in the matter.

The council then adjourned as previously resolved upon to meet on Friday night following.

[Page 285]

Fredericksburg, June 26th 1896

[Printed matter *The Free Lance* 30 June 1896 page 3, column 3 & Finance Committee Report 7 July 1896 page 4 column 2]

An adjourned meeting of the City Council was held on Friday night June 26/96

Mayor Rowe presided, and Councilmen, Willis, Wroten, Cole, Tyler, Griffin, Embrey, Wallace, Gouldman, Knight, Myer and Bradley were present. Mr Burruss was the only absentee.

Mr Willis presented the report of the Finance Committee.

Fredericksburg, V^a, June 26, 1896

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

Gentlemen: Your Committee on Finance respectfully submit the following report, embracing settlements of account of City Collector and Treasurer respectfully:

The accounts of City Collector, Mr A P Rowe Jr, having been carefully examined by us and found to be correct and to correspond in every particular with the Treasurer's books, is adopted and made a part of this report, as is also the report of City Treasurer.

Collector's Report

Fredericksburg, V^a, June 23rd 1896

Mess'rs M G Willis, E D Cole and John M Griffin, Finance Committee:

Gentlemen: I have the honor to hand you herewith my report of collections for the fiscal year, ending Jun 17th 1896.

Very Respectfully,

A P Rowe Jr, Collector of City Taxes

City taxes collected for the year ending June 17th 1896:

On assessment of 1895	\$17,032.49		
Less 5 percent discount	851.62	\$16,180.87	
On assessment of 1895 after Oct 15 th	1,283.46		
Add penalty and interests	75.99	1,359.45	\$17,540.32
General licenses from June 20 th 1895 to June 17 th 1896	322.09		
Rent hay scales, market stalls &c	55.00		
Dray licenses for 1895-96	66.00		
Licenses for opera house exhibitions	27.50		
Amt collected from parties for ditching lots	7.25	477.84	
On general licenses for 1896-'97	6,138.22		
Less 5 percent discount	306.91	5,831.31	
On general licenses for 1896-'97 after May 15		32.08	
On dray licenses 1896-'97	112.00		
Less 5 percent discount	5.60	106.40	
Total Collections for 1895		23,987.95	
On assessment of 1894	719.08		
Add penalty and interest	76.03	795.11	
On assessment of 1893	446.66		
Add penalty and interest	78.33	524.99	
On assessment of 1892	224.96		
Add penalty and interest	47.56	272.52	
On assessment of 1891	114.10		
Add penalty and interest	30.28	144.38	
On assessment of 1890	44.62		
Add penalty and interest	14.88	59.50	
On assessment of 1889	35.68		
Add penalty and interest	12.15	47.83	
On assessment of 1888	21.16		
Add penalty and interest	9.13	30.29	
On assessment of 1887	17.27		
Add penalty and interest	8.57	25.84	
On assessment of 1886	17.54		
Add penalty and interest	9.68	27.22	
On assessment of 1885	20.71		
Add penalty and interest	12.67	33.38	

On assessment of 1884		20.47	
Add penalty and interest		13.32	33.79
On assessment of 1883		22.63	
Add penalty and interest		16.12	38.75
On assessment of 1882		11.17	
Add penalty and interest		9.77	20.94
On assessment of 1880		7.34	
Add penalty and interest		6.85	14.19
On assessment of 1879		5.13	
Add penalty and interest		5.12	10.25
On assessment of 1878		2.22	
Add penalty and interest		2.12	4.34
On assessment of 1877		1.00	
Add penalty and interest		1.75	3.35
On assessment of 1876		1.10	
Add penalty and interest		1.27	2.37
Total collections from all sources			\$26,076.99
The following amounts are due to the city of Fredericksburg, V ^a by delinquents for the years 1876 to 1895 inclusive:			
To am't on books of 1895			19,905.10
By collections to Oct 15, '95	16,180.87		
Add 5 per cent deducted	851.02	17,002.49	
By collections after Oct 15, '95	1,339.45		
Deduct penalty and interest	75.99	1,283.46	18,315.95
Amt delinquent			1,589.15
To am't on books of 1894			1,489.63
By collections		795.11	
Deduct penalty and interest		76.03	719.08
Amt delinquent			770.55
To am't on books of 1893			1,489.63
By collections		524.99	
Deduct penalty and interest		78.33	446.66
Amt delinquent			588.14
To am't on books of 1892			660.01
By collections		272.52	
Deduct penalty and interest		47.56	224.96
Amt delinquent			435.05
To am't on books of 1891			395.18
By collections		144.38	
Deduct penalty and interest		30.28	114.10
Amt delinquent			281.08
To am't on books of 1890			385.41
By collections		59.50	
Deduct penalty and interest		14.88	44.62
Amt delinquent			340.79
To am't on books of 1889			369.07
By collections		47.83	
Deduct penalty and interest		12.15	35.68
Amt delinquent			323.39

To am't on books of 1888		311.57
By collections	30.29	
Deduct penalty and interest	9.13	21.16
Amt delinquent		290.41
To am't on books of 1887		283.97
By collections	25.84	
Deduct penalty and interest	8.57	17.27
Amt delinquent		266.70
To am't on books of 1886		269.44
By collections	27.22	
Deduct penalty and interest	9.68	17.54
Amt delinquent		251.90
To am't on books of 1885		189.36
By collections	33.36	
Deduct penalty and interest	12.67	20.71
Amt delinquent		168.65
To am't on books of 1884		237.36
By collections	38.79	
Deduct penalty and interest	18.32	20.47
Amt delinquent		216.39
To am't on books of 1883		202.41
By collections	38.75	
Deduct penalty and interest	16.12	22.68
Amt delinquent		179.78
To am't on books of 1882		202.41
By collections	20.94	
Deduct penalty and interest	9.77	11.17
Amt delinquent		177.38
To am't on books of 1881		114.69
To am't on books of 1880		158.77
By collections	14.19	
Deduct penalty and interest	6.35	7.34
Amt delinquent		151.43
To am't on books of 1879		140.85
By collections	10.25	
Deduct penalty and interest	5.12	5.13
Amt delinquent		135.72
To am't on books of 1878		226.10
By collections	4.34	
Deduct penalty and interest	2.12	2.22
Amt delinquent		223.88
To am't on books of 1877		136.56
By collections	3.35	
Deduct penalty and interest	1.75	1.60
Amt delinquent		134.96
To am't on books of 1877		113.23
By collections	2.37	
Deduct penalty and interest	1.27	1.10
Amt delinquent		112.13

Recapitulation of Collections

On books of 1895, rents, licenses &c	23,987.95
On books of 1894	795.11
On books of 1893	524.99
On books of 1892	272.52
On books of 1891	144.38
On books of 1890	59.50
On books of 1889	47.83
On books of 1888	30.29
On books of 1887	25.84
On books of 1886	27.22
On books of 1885	33.38
On books of 1884	33.79
On books of 1883	38.75
On books of 1882	20.94
On books of 1880	14.19
On books of 1879	10.25
On books of 1878	4.34
On books of 1877	3.35
On books of 1876	2.37
Total collections	\$26,076.99

Recapitulation of Bills Due

On books of 1895	1,589.15
On books of 1894	770.55
On books of 1893	588.14
On books of 1892	435.05
On books of 1891	281.08
On books of 1890	340.79
On books of 1889	323.39
On books of 1888	290.41
On books of 1887	266.70
On books of 1886	251.90
On books of 1885	168.65
On books of 1884	216.89
On books of 1883	179.78
On books of 1882	177.33
On books of 1881	114.69
On books of 1880	151.43
On books of 1879	135.72
On books of 1878	223.88
On books of 1877	134.96
On books of 1877	112.13
Total collections	\$6,752.62

Respectfully submitted,
A P Rowe Jr

Collector of City Taxes

It will be seen from the above report that this year's collections are more than \$200 in excess of those of last year, and in consequence of a recent act of the Legislature, with reference to the collections of taxes

in this city, still better collections may be expected for the ensuing year. The total amount of delinquent and uncollected taxes from 1876 to 1895, inclusive is \$6,752.62.

The accounts of R T Knox, Treasurer, having been examined and found correct and supported by proper vouchers, his statement of receipts and expenditures, which has been verified by us, is submitted as a part of this report.

Treasurer's Report.

Amounts of receipts from all sources by Corporation of Fredericksburg, received by Robert T Knox, Treasurer, from June 24th 1895 to June 23rd 1896:

1896

June 23, By am't rec'd fr Capt S J Quinn, Supt Water Works	\$5,449.03		
June 23, By am't rec'd fr Wm J Fitzpatrick, Supt Gas Works	\$8,424.01		
June 23, By am't rec'd fr Mayor A P Rowe, for fines July 1 '95	\$57.50		
By am't rec'd fr Mayor A P Rowe, for fines Oct 1 '95	122.55		
By am't rec'd fr Mayor A P Rowe, for fines Dec 31 '95	73.50		
By am't rec'd fr Mayor A P Rowe, for fines Apr 1 '96	65.50	319.05	
By am't rec'd from Mr George Freeman, rent of Alms House lot		30.00	
By am't rec'd fr M'r A P Rowe, dog license Dec 31 '95 238 dogs	249.50		
Less 15cts, Mayor;s commission on warrant	35.70	213.80	
July 1 By am't temporary loan borrowed from National Bank at 4 months, July 1, per order of Council		3,500.00	
Aug 17, by am't temporary loan \$1,500 note, renewed per order Council		1,500.00	
Oct 1, by am't temporary loan \$1,000 note 29, 60 days pr order Council		1,000.00	
Dec 6, by am't rec'd fr Mayor A P Rowe, forfeited bail party never came		21.50	
Dec 6 By am't rec'd fr sundry persons for ditching lot	7.25		
Less 5 per cent	.36	6.89	
Jun 6, by am't rec'd fr rent of public scales	55.00		
Less A P Rowe Jr's commission 5 pr cent	2.76	52.24	
June 5, by am't rec'd fr dray lic, '95 & '96 AP Rowe Jr	66.00		
Less A P Rowe Jr's 2½ com	1.65	64.35	
June 6 by am't rec'd fr Opera House lic A P Rowe Jr	27.50		
Less 5 pr ct commission A P Rowe Jr	1.37	26.13	
June 6 by am't gen license '95-'96 A P Rowe Jr	6.25		
Less 2½ pr ct commission A P Rowe Jr	.15	6.10	
June 6 by am't fr gen license '95,'96 A P Rowe Jr	315.84		
Less 2½ pr cent	7.90	307.94	
June 18, by am't rec'd gen lic '95,'96 A P Rowe Jr	6,136.22		
Less 5 pr cent for prompt payment	306.91		
	5,831.31		
Less collector's commission 2½ pr cent	145.78	5,685.53	
June 23, by am't rec'd fr gen lic 1896 & '97	32.08		
Less 2½ pr cent A P Rowe Jr	.80	31.28	5,716.81
June 23, by am't rec'd fr dray lic 1896 & '97	112.00		
Less 5 pr cent for prompt payment	5.60		
	106.40		
Less 2½ pr cent collector's commission	2.66		103.74
1896			
Jan 7, by am't temp loan at 30 days Jan 7 National bank per order Council			2,000.00
Mar 12 by am't temp loan at 60 days National Bank per order Council			1,000.00
Mar 31, by am't temp loan at 60 days, National Bank per order Council			1,500.00

June 2 by am't temp loan 30 days National Bank, only note out now 1895-Nov 16		1,500.00
By am't rec'd for taxes fr A B Rowe Jr coll for '95	17,062.49	
Less 5 pr cent off for prompt payment	851.62	
	16,180.87	
Less 2½ per cent Collector's comm	404.52	15,776.35
Amt rec'd fr tax 1895		
Jan 2 1896 177.26 penalty &c 8.01	186.19	
Feb 5 1896 310.52 penalty &c 17.67	323.19	
Mar 12 1896 214.77 penalty &c 12.98	227.75	
Apr 28 1896 282.61 penalty &c 15.00	297.61	
Jun 6 1896 298.28 penalty &c 21.43	319.71	
Amount received from tax 1894		
Aug 22, 1895 134.36 penalty &c 9.06	143.42	
Feb 5, 1896 141.20, penalty &c 10.71	151.01	
Mar 12 126.48, penalty &c 18.07	144.55	
Jun 6 317.04, penalty &c 38.19	355.23	
Amount received from tax 1893		
Aug 22, 1895 96.80 penalty &c 15.60	113.40	
Feb 5, 1896 140.20, penalty &c 22.95	163.05	
Apr 28 154.94, penalty &c 29.83	184.77	
Jun 23 54.82, penalty &c 9.95	64.77	
Amount received from tax 1892		
Mar 12,1896 184.23, penalty &c 37.08	221.31	
Jun 23 40.73, penalty &c 10.48	51.21	
Amount received from tax 1891		
Mar 12,1896 108.19, penalty &c 28.49	136.68	
Jun 23 5.91, penalty &c 1.79	7.70	
Amount received from tax 1890		
Jun 23 44.62, penalty &c 14.88	59.50	
Amount received from tax 1889		
Jun 23 35.68, penalty &c 12.15	47.83	
Amount received from tax 1888		
Jun 23 21.16, penalty &c 9.13	30.29	
Amount received from tax 1887		
Jun 23 17.27, penalty &c 8.58	25.84	
Amount received from tax 1886		
Jun 23 17.54, penalty &c 9.68	27.22	
Amount received from tax 1885		
Jun 23 20.71, penalty &c 12.67	33.38	
Amount received from tax 1884		
Jun 23 20.47, penalty &c 13.32	33.79	
Amount received from tax 1883		
Jun 23 22.63, penalty &c 16.12	38.75	
Amount received from tax 1882		
Jun 23 11.17, penalty &c 9.77	20.94	
Amount received from tax 1880		
Jun 23 7.34, penalty &c 6.85	14.19	
Amount received from tax 1879		

Jun 23 5.13, penalty &c 5.12	10.25		
Amount received from tax 1878			
Jun 23 2.22, penalty &c 2.12	4.34		
Amount received from tax 1877			
Jun 13 1.60, penalty &c 1.75	3.35		
Amount received from tax 1876			
Jun 23 1.16, penalty &c 1.27	2.37		
	3,448.49		
Less A P Rowe Jr 5 pr ct commission	172.38	3,276.11	19,052.46
			\$51,794.05
Amount of expenditures of Corporation of Fredericksburg, Virginia by Robert T Knox Treasurer, from			
June 24 th 1895 to June 23 rd 1896			
To bal due per last statement		2,928.42	
1896—June 23			
To amt paid by orders Water Comm		1,330.08	
To amt paid by orders Gas Comm		5,880.63	
To amt paid by orders of Street Comm		1,129.47	
To amt paid by orders of Public Property Committee			
Orders of last yr not presented until new fiscal year began	43.47		
Special appropriation for jail sewer &c	228.00		
Amt orders this year	412.48	683.94	
To amt paid by orders Alms House Comm		1,101.22	
To amt paid bridge coupons due 1 Jul '95	750.00		
To amt paid bridge coupons due 1 Jan '96	750.00		
	1,500.00		
To amt paid gas coupons due 1 Jul '95	672.00		
To amt paid gas coupons due 1 Jan '96	828.00		
	1,500.00		
To amt paid water coupons due 1 Jul '95	1,008.00		
To amt paid water coupons due 1 Jan '96	750.00		
	1,758.00		
To amt pd 7 per cent coupons which have been presented and paid during the year as follows			
Coupons for May and Nov '93	70.00		
Coupons for May '94	84.00		
Coupons for May '95	430.50		
Coupons for Nov '94	122.50		
Coupons for Nov '95	4,137.00		
Coupons for May '96	3,790.50		
	8,634.50	13,392.50	
To amt appropriated to public schools by Council		2,400.00	
To amt judge's salary	700.00		
To amt mayor's salary	400.00		
To amt Commonwealth Att'y salary	400.00		
To amt Treasurer's salary	300.00		
To amt sup't water salary	900.00		
To amt sup't gas salary	600.00		
To amt sup't alms house salary	100.00		
To amt pd 4 policemen \$360 ea	1,400.00		

To amt clerk of council salary	75.00	
To amt sergeant of Corporation salary	300.00	5,690.01
To amt paid orders of Council		13,226.96
To amt paid orders of Finance Committee		22.90
To amt paid orders of Mayor		83.14
To amt paid gas for street lamps		1,276.20
To amt paid orders court, juries &c		324.33
To amt paid for electric light		2,000.79
To amt paid orders Bridge Committee		313.16
To amt paid orders Park Committee		54.00
To amt paid orders Fire & Police Committee		637.80
		\$52,484.55
By am't receipts		51,794.05
To balance due Treasurer		\$690.50

Rob't T Knox, Treasurer

Fredericksburg, June 23, 1896

The Treasurer's report embraces the salaries of our officers due July 1st, 1896, and show a balance due him of \$6990.50. Last years report showed a balance due Treasurer of \$2,928.42, which amount has been reduced this year \$2,237.92.

Interest on the water, gas and bridge bonds will also be due July 1st, and it is recommended that the Treasurer and Finance Committee be instructed to make a temporary loan sufficient to meet immediate needs.

Believing that the committees of the Council and the Board of Public School Trustees will heartily co-operate with the Finance Committee in making the running expenses as economical as possible, we therefore recommend that the tax rate be laid as before, \$1.20 on the \$100.

The bonded debt of the city has been increased \$11,500, viz \$1,500 of 7 per cent bonds, which after having been unsuccessfully contested in court were ordered by the Council to be placed on the bond books, and \$10,000 of 5 per cent bonds issued by the Council this year for the Assembly's Home and School, making the total bonded indebtedness:

7 per cent bonds due 1906	\$119,420
5 per cent water bonds	30,000
6 per cent bridge bonds	25,000
6 per cent gas bonds	25,000
5 per cent school bonds	10,000
Total	\$209,420

The Sinking Fund remains as last reported, viz: \$8,873.57. And while this fund has not been increased, as had been hoped, yet it will be observed that the amount due the Treasurer has been reduced more than \$2,200, and it is known at the death of our late treasurer, Capt R W Adams, there was due him to the City \$3,604.72. This amount, when collected would be a considerable addition to the Sinking Fund

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 1896-1897

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 1896-97 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.

It was unanimously received and filed.

Mr Willis presented an ordinance making the levy for the coming year \$1.25 on the \$100 of taxable property. This is the same rate as now existing. He also presented an ordinance fixing the appropriations of the different committees of the Council for the next year. Both were unanimously adopted.

The report of City Collector A P Rowe Jr was read by the collector. The report of the Treasurer was read by Clerk Bradley.

On motion of Mr Bradley it was—

Resolved. That the Treasurer and Finance Committee are hereby authorized to negotiate a temporary loan for \$4,500, or so much thereof as may be necessary to meet the immediate demands of the city.

Mr Willis asked that this be done in order to meet the July interest on bonds, as the available funds for that purpose would not come into the treasury before the latter part of July.

In the discussion of the Finance report the fact was brought out that the Committee, in order to raise funds for immediate use at any time, have to give their personal obligations in order to get the money for the city. This is due to the fact that bonds cannot be issued or money borrowed by the city without an act of the Legislature.

Mr Tyler advocated the publishing of an itemized report of all the committees' reports, but after some discussion it was considered too costly to have done, and it was ordered that the sum of \$30 be appropriated to publish the Finance Committee's report. It will appear in our next issue.

The clerk of the Council read a communication which had been handed the Mayor, signed "Executive Committee of Reform Party," asking that the report of the chairman of the Street Committee be reconsidered for reasons stated in the communication. No names being signed to the paper, it was, on motion of Mr Cole laid on the table. This completed the regular business of the evening.

Mr Knight arose and in a few appropriate remarks presented to the Mayor A P Rowe, the retiring chief magistrate of this city, a handsome silver cup, given him by the members of the Council as a slight testimonial of the respect and esteem they bear for him. Mayor Rowe was taken by surprise, and deeply moved by this evidence of esteem on the part of the Council and in a voice tremulous with emotion thanked the Council for the token. He said he could not find words to express his gratitude for the sentiments of the Council as expressed through Mr Knight, and he would treasure the cup not for its

intrinsic value so much, but for the manner in which it was given and the sentiments it represented; that he would treasure it all through his life and hand it down to his family as an heirloom.

Mayor Rowe then said that before retiring he desired to make a few remarks to the Council, as it would be his last official communication with them. He had suggestions to make which he thought would be for the benefit of the city. On motion of Mr Willis, the address of Mayor Rowe was ordered to be place on the records of the Council.

When Mayor Rowe had concluded his remarks, he extended an invitation to the council, the newspaper me and the city officers to partake of refreshments at Brulle's which, on motion of Mr Knight was accepted.

The Council then adjourned sine die.

I certify that the above printed & written report is a correct record of the proceedings of the Council of Fredericksburg at its meeting ending June 26th 1896

W E Bradley, Clerk

A P Rowe, Mayor

[Page 286]

Fredericksburg July 1st 1896

The City Council of Fredericksburg met in the Council Chamber on Wednesday July 1/96

Present Mayor W S White

Councilmen, Willis, Wroten, Chancellor, Griffin, Embrey, Rowe, Gouldman, Wallace, Howard, McCracken and Bradley.

When the Council was called to order Mayor White delivered the following admirable address:

Gentlemen of the Common Council:

I am sure I will be pardoned any feeling of pride I may have this morning in entering upon the duties of Mayor of the city of Fredericksburg and presiding officer of your honorable body.

Born and reared in the city of Fredericksburg, where my people have lived for more than three-quarters of a century, I cannot but feel that whatever the fortune of the future may have in store for me, it can hold no higher honor than to be elected Mayor of my native city by the people who have been cognizant of all my faults from earliest youth. I am sure I thoroughly appreciate this honor and trust I shall not misuse it.

It is quite natural that I should feel some diffidence in assuming an office which has been held for so many years by your oldest and best citizens, to whom lengthened years have brought ripened wisdom, and especially as I succeed one whose many merits and virtues so endear him to this people that his tenure of this office was only terminated by his own desire, and contrary to the wish of his fellow-citizens.

Our city is rich in memories with the glow of a prosperous present. I desire to see the city progress on safe, sound and conservative lines, in a manner that will give substantial evidences of the wisdom of our Council and prosperity to our people.

It is my belief that this can be done in a modern manner by care and prudence without the increase in taxation, so that Fredericksburg may be known in a short period of time as a city of model government and successful management. Many important questions confront you on the threshold of your assumption of office.

The last Council obtained from the Legislature, in response to a strong public sentiment, the authority to expend upon public improvements the sum of \$50,000. Should it become necessary to expend this sum, it will be your duty under that law to first present the matter to the people for ratification, and to execute the wishes of the people thereafter. This sum will carry you almost to the limit of the debt you are allowed by law to contract. No graver responsibility has rested upon any Council in many years. Not one cent of this sum should be expended with the consent of this Council except after the most mature deliberation for improvements of the most permanent and substantial character, such as will so add to the taxable value of

the city as to bring a return of two dollars for every one spent and at the same time render Fredericksburg four-fold more attractive to capital seeking investment and population looking for homes.

Our present flourishing manufacturing enterprises should be fostered and encouraged in any legitimate manner, and new ones encouraged to come here by any legal and proper methods. But no dollar of public money should be spent without full warrant of law and after the gravest consideration. It will rest largely with you whether the Government of the United States will establish here a National Battlefield Park, and erect to the memory of James Monroe a handsome monument, both of which are matters of great public interest, and should command your earnest support.

A careful and thorough revision of the City Ordinances would be a work of great importance, and I should suggest the passage of an ordinance this morning rearranging your committee upon a different basis, so as to make them less numerous and more effective.

There is a vacancy in this body caused by the failure of one of our number recently elected to qualify. A prudent business man, a good citizen, a zealous, cautious and conservative Councilman, earnest and faithful in the performance of all public duties, he will be missed both by the Council and the public. It is your duty to fill that vacancy, and that you will do it conscientiously and well no one doubts.

It will be my earnest endeavor to aid, assist and co-operate with you in every proper way without interfering or trespassing upon your prerogatives as fixed by our charter. I trust to receive at your hands patience and forbearance with the many mistakes I shall doubtless make in an office of so many and untried responsibilities. Should I win your approbation and good will, I shall feel that I have at least been successful as the presiding officer of so honorable a body as the Common Council of this city.

Councilman Bradley was the elected Clerk of the Council and salary fixed at \$75 per year.

The Mayor announced that a vacancy existed in the Council, occasioned by the voluntary retirement of Mr J H Myer who had been elected in May. Mr Griffin nominated Mr E D Cole for the vacancy and he was unanimously elected. A committee of two consisting of Mess'rs Griffin and Wallace were appointed to notify Mr Cole of his election and escort him to the Chamber. In a few minutes Mr Cole appeared and took the oath, and in a few remarks thanked the Council for their evidence of confidence in electing him. For recorder H R Gouldman, John M Griffin, W S Embrey and M S Chancellor were nominated. Mr Chancellor promptly declined. After three ballots H R Gouldman was chosen, receiving seven votes: Griffin four votes and one blank. Mr Embrey received one vote on the first ballot and two on the second ballot.

Mr McCracken offered the following resolution, Recorder Gouldman in the chair, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolve, that this Council has heard with peculiar pleasure the address just submitted by his Honor Mayor White, and thank him for his very thoughtful and proper suggestions, and the Council promises here and now its cordial co-operation with the Mayor in all efforts to advance the interests and welfare of the city. Mayor White returned his acknowledgments.

On Motion of Mr Willis, the salary of the Mayor was fixed at \$400 per annum. The salary of Collector of City Taxes was made the same as last year—a percentage. Mr A P Rowe Jr, was nominated and unanimously elected.

For City Scavenger there were seven applicants, to-wit—James Shelton, G W Mills, E W Jones, W A Jefferson, J A Stone, R L Carneal, Robert Howe. The election resulted in the selection of J A Stone, Upper Ward, who received seven votes and James Shelton for the Lower Ward, seven votes.

The Clerk of Market's salary was made \$75 per year, and Mr Samuel Fitzhugh received eleven votes and was declared elected.

Mr A Patton was elected weigher and measurer of coal, salt and grain and inspector of lumber receiving twelve votes.

There were two applicants for the position of Superintendent of Alms House—Mess'rs A Hooten and Henry McGhee. The salary was fixed at \$100 and Mr Hooten elected, receiving nine votes; Mr McGhee, three.

No City Surveyor was elected. The Council decided to recognize the surveys made by Capt J M Smith of the county.

The salaries of the police officers were made the same as last year; also the number of officers. There were eight applicants—B P Crump, R L Jefferson, C A Gore, J B Larkin, W N Tansill, J H Robinson, J T DeAtley and J T Leavell. The election resulted: Leavell, 12; Robinson, 12; Gore, 11; Tansill, 7; DeAtley, 4; Larkin, 1; Jefferson, 1. Mess'rs Robinson, Gore, Leavell & Tansill were elected.

A communication was read by Clerk Bradley from Collector A P Rowe Jr., in regard to providing for the disposition of unpaid tax bills on personal property, which was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr Bradley offered the following ordinance:

Be it ordered that hereafter the standing committees of the City Council of Fredericksburg shall be as follows to-wit: [Page 287]

Finance, Public Property, Streets, Water, Ordinance, Public Interest, Light, Alms & Alms House, Health & Police, Schools, Fire Department, Auditing & Claims—to consist of three members each to be appointed by the Mayor at the first meeting of the Council after elections. All vacancies on said committee shall be filled by the Mayor as they occur.

2nd All other committees as heretofore constituted not included in the above Committees are abolished.

3rd All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

On motion of Mr Willis the rules were suspended & the ordinance adopted.

Mayor White then announced the committees for the next two years as follows:

Finance—Willis, Cole and Griffin

Public Property—Wroten, Gouldman and Wallace

Streets—Embrey, Bradley and Cole

Water—Cole, Willis and Wroten

Ordinances—Howard, Griffin and McCracken

Public Interests—McCracken, Embrey and Bradley

Light—Griffin, Gouldman and Rowe

Alms and Alms House—Bradley, Embrey and Rowe

Health and Police—Gouldman, Howard and Chancellor

Schools—Rowe, Willis and Wallace

Fire Department—Chancellor, Wroten and McCracken

Auditing and Claims—Wallace, Howard, and Chancellor

On motion of Mr Griffin the council then adjourned.

[Page 288]

Fredericksburg, July 17, 1896

The City Council of Fredericksburg met in the Council Chamber Friday night July 17th 1896 it being its first regular meeting for the present fiscal year.

Mayor White presided

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Chancellor, Embrey, Rowe, Gouldman, Wallace, Cole, Howard, McCracken & Bradley were present.

Mr Willis of Finance presented bills of Star for \$29 & Free Lance for \$24.40 which were ordered paid. He also presented bond of A P Rowe Jr as City Tax Collector for (\$10,000) Ten Thousand Dollars with M B Rowe & E D Cole as sureties which was accepted & place in hands of Mayor White for safe keeping.

Chairman Rowe of Public Schools Committee, called the attention of the Council to the ten scholarships that the City is entitled to for the Fredericksburg College under the late contract with that institution & asked for instructions.

On motion of Mr Willis, the committee were instructed to report a plan at as early a date as possible, to be submitted to the Council for allotting these scholarships to the children of the Public Schools.

Mr Wallace offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted.

Resolved. That the Finance Committee be instructed to pay the properly certified bills of the Battlefield Park Commission for expenses incurred in the effort to have a National Battle Field Park established here not to exceed two hundred and fifty dollars.

[Page 289]

On motion of Mr Cole, Hon H F Crismond who was present was invited to be heard on the subject of the Battle Field Park & made a short speech setting forth the benefit that would accrue if the Park is established here.

Mr Cole presented a request from Gen'l Manager W H Richards of the P F & P R R asking that the reserved rights of his company on the Boulevard be restored to it. Referred to Street Committee for examination & a report.

The Clerk read a report from the War Department declining to erect two electric lights near the National Cemetery as requested by the City Council for the reason that no lights were needed as the law required National Cemeteries to close at sundown. The report was received and filed.

Mr Wallace offered the following which was afterwards withdrawn.

Resolved that hereafter, Rule 1 of the Council be amended and changed so as to read as follows; The Council shall meet on the first Thursday in each & every month of each year unless that day falls on July 1st in which event, said first of July in each and every year shall be a regular meeting day of this Council—In all other respects rule No. 1 as now written shall stand & be enforced.

On Motion of Mr Cole, Mr Charles J Green was accorded permission to address the Council on the subject of remitting taxes of the Kenmore Shoe Co. Mr A W Embrey was also heard on the same subject. The request [Page 290] to remit their taxes was referred to the Finance Committee.

On motion of Mr Cole, the Clerk was ordered to purchase a new book & write out the minutes of the council hereafter.

Mr Embrey moved that the ordinances of the City be reprinted but on being informed by Chairman Howard of the Ordinance Committee that steps were now being taken looking to that object, withdrew his motion.

The Council then adjourned.

I certify that the above is a correct record of the minutes of the City Council at its meeting held July 17/96.

W E Bradley, Clerk

[Page 291 is an incomplete page of Fredericksburg Council Minutes, Volume 15, and is completely reproduced on the first page of minutes (page 39) of Volume 16 of the Fredericksburg Council Minutes, 1896-1902]

Fredericksburg, Aug 14th 1896

A called meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber Friday night Aug 14th at 8 PM to receive the report of the Committee on Schools as to the disposition of the ten scholarships of the Fredericksburg College that are owned by the City of Fredericksburg.

Present Mayor White

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Chancellor, Embrey, Rowe, Wallace, Howard, Cole & McCracken

Absent: Gouldman, Griffin & Bradley.

On motion of Mr Cole, Mr Howard was appointed clerk pro tem.

Chairman Rowe of the Committee on Schools stated that his Committee instead of recommending a report, had a plan to submit as follows;

To the Mayor & Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, V^a.

The undersigned Committee in pursuance of the resolution of the Council at its last meeting have considered the contract between the City of Fredericksburg and the Assembly Home & School of Fredericksburg V^a under which the latter covenants "to provide instruction annually in the Institute in all the branches of Collegiate education taught therein for ten of the proficient pupils from the Free Schools of Fredericksburg, such pupils to be chosen & designated for such instruction in said Institute in such manner as said Common Council shall prescribe, & to receive such instruction in said Institute for such time as said Common Council shall prescribe; but no more than ten of such pupils shall be entitled to such instruction in said Institute during any one session thereof"

Your Committee have conferred with a number of citizens amongst them Dr T R Sampson, the president of the College, and without making any recommendation, the committee report the following suggestion for an ordinance to carry out the aforesaid contract on the part of the Common Council, viz;

1st The proficient pupils to be selected from the scholars who have completed the highest grade of the Grammar School.

2nd All pupils who complete the highest grade of the Grammar School to have the privilege of competing.

3rd The Board to conduct the competitive examination to consist of the Superintendent of the Public Schools of the city; one member of the School Board of the City to be selected by the Board; on professor of the College to be selected by the faculty; and two citizens to be selected by the Council, one from each ward.

4th the said examination to take place not later than the 15th of June in each year, except that the examination for the present year to take place not later than August 31st 1896.

5th The Board to select then proficient pupils from those who at the close of the last session of the Public Schools completed the highest grade of the Grammar School, to enter the college at its session commencing in September 1896, the said ten pupils [Page 40] to continue in the College until the close of the session of 1896-97.

6th At the close of the session of 1896-97 of said College, five of the foregoing ten pupils shall be dropped, the five who remain in the College being those who have obtained the highest standard of excellence in their studies during the preceding session, as determined by the faculty of the College.

7th The proficient pupils to take the places of those who have been dropped under the preceding section to be selected in the same manner as the foregoing ten pupils were selected, and the selection to be made from those who at the close of the last preceding session of the Public Schools completed the highest grade of the Grammar School.

8th At the close of the session of 1897-98 of the said College four of the five pupils who have been in said College two sessions shall be dropped, and the other one shall be advanced to the Collegiate Department, and the places of the four pupils dropped shall be filled as provided in Section 7. The pupil advanced to the Collegiate Department being the one who has attained the highest standard of excellence in his studies during the two preceding sessions, as determined by the faculty of said College.

9th At the end of each ensuing year one of the two year pupils (to be determined as above provided) to be advanced to the Collegiate Department of said College, and enough added to the Preparatory Department to bring the number up to ten pupils for each session. The pupils thus added to be selected as herein before provided.

10th Any vacancies otherwise occurring than as herein provided to be filled as may hereafter be determined by the Council.

J P Rowe

J S Wallace

Mr Wallace moved that the above plan be adopted

Mr McCracken moved as an amendment to postpone action until next regular meeting of the council; after discussion a call for Ayes & Noes was ordered by Mr McCracken.

Ayes Willis, Wroten, Chancellor, Embrey, Gouldman, McCracken 6

Noes Rowe, Wallace, Cole, Howard 4

Mr McCracken's motion to postpone was carried.

On Motion of Mr Wallace, the rules were suspended & Mr Cole asked if children living on the suburbs who had been attending the Public School were eligible to scholarship.

Mr McCracken called the attention of the Committee on Alms & Alms House to the case of Mrs King, an inmate of the Alms House & yet a United States Pensioner.

The Council then adjourned.

W E Bradley, Clerk of Council

Certified

W S White, Mayor

[Page 41]

Fredericksburg, Aug 21st 1896

The regular meeting of the City Council for the month of August was held in the Council Chamber Friday night Aug 21st at 8 PM

Present Mayor White

Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Chancellor, Griffin, Embrey, Rowe, Gouldman, Howard, Cole, McCracken & Bradley.

Absent: Mr Wallace

Mayor White asked that a safe be furnished the office of the Mayor to be used for keeping valuable records of the office.

On motion the Finance Committee were ordered to purchase a safe for the purpose named.

Mr Willis of Finance Committee presented a bill of Mess'rs Marye & Fitzhugh for (\$220) Two Hundred and Twenty Dollars for legal services to the city which was ordered paid.

Mr Embrey of Street Committee reported much work done on streets but more was necessary; that the appropriation was running low & if the contemplated work is done the Committee would have to ask for more money to carry out the contemplated plans of the Committee.

Mr Cole of Water Committee reported the collections for water rent larger than any preceding half year.

Mr Griffin of Light Committee reported the building of a new retort at the Gas House.

Mr Bradley of Alms House Committee made a report of the existing conditions of the Alms House.

Mr Rowe of Public Schools stated that the suggestions of his Committee in regard to the ten scholarships at the Fredericksburg College which were submitted to the Council at a called meeting were in the hands of the Council for its action.

Mr Cole said he had a substitute to offer for the suggestions previously made by the Committee as follows;

Resolved 1st That the ten proficient pupils to receive the scholarships in the Fredericksburg Collegiate Institute under the contract made by the City of Fredericksburg with that Institute shall be selected by competitive examination.

2nd The proficient pupils to be selected from the scholars who have completed the highest grade of the Grammar School.

3rd All pupils who complete the highest grade of the Grammar School to have the privilege of competing.

4th That the board to conduct the examination shall consist of the Superintendent of the Public Schools of the City, one member of the School Board of the City, to be selected by said board & one member of the City Council to be selected by the Council.

5th The said examination to take place not later than the 15th June in each year, except that the examination of the present year shall take place not later than [blank] [Page 42]

6th The Board shall select ten proficient pupils from those standing the examination to enter college at its session commencing in September 1896.

7th At the competitive examination to be held this year all pupils who completed the highest grade of the Grammar School at the sessions of 1895-96 shall have the privilege of competing.

8th That at the competitive examination to be held in the year 1897 and each year thereafter in addition to the scholars who have completed the highest grade of the Grammar School the ten scholars who were at the Institute the previous session shall be permitted to enter the examination.

9th That no pupil shall hold a scholarship any year unless he shall successfully passed the competitive examination held for that year.

10th Those scholars standing highest in the competitive examination each year shall be selected for the scholarships in the Collegiate Institute the following year.

11th The superintendent of the Public Schools shall at all times look after the rights & interests of pupils holding the scholarships.

Mr McCracken offered as an amendment, the report of the committee submitted on the Friday night previous.

This brought on a discussion when Mr Gouldman offered the following;

In view of the fact that the proposed examination of pupils from the Public Schools for admission to the College has been deferred to so late a period of time; Therefore be it

Resolved that for the session of 1896-97 such pupils be selected from those who have completed the work of Grammar Grade No 1 as have obtained the highest standard of excellence in their studies to be determined by the record of their standing at the final examination at the close of the last session.

If it shall hereafter be deemed necessary to hold the examination as suggested by the Committee in their report their suggestion shall be regarded as the basis of the condition on which the pupils shall in future be admitted into the college subject to any change which may be considered advisable.

Mr McCracken then moved that Dr S R Sampson, President of the College who was present be heard on the subject & suggested that he might be able to make some suggestions that would give more light to the Council.

Dr Sampson addressed the Council. When he had concluded Mr Howard offered the following as a substitute for the whole which was unanimously adopted. [Page 43]

[side note] (Pupils at Fredericksburg College)

1st Be it resolved that ten pupils, citizens of the city who have during the sessions of 1894-95 and 1895-96 completed the highest grade of the grammar school & who have not since attended any other school shall be entered at the Fredericksburg College for the session of 1896-97 to be graded according to the judgment of the faculty of the College.

2nd That all pupils, citizens of the City who have either in 1894-5 & 1895-6 completed the highest grade of the Grammar School & who have not since attended any other school shall be eligible.

3rd That the competitive examination be conducted by a board of three consisting of Mrs A L Magrath, The Supt of Public School and one member of the City Council.

4th That the said examination shall be held before Aug 31/96 & that every pupil eligible be notified as soon as possible.

5th that the disposition of the scholarships for the succeeding session shall at a future time and after more mature deliberation decided upon by this Council.

6th That any vacancy shall be filled by the board in such manner as they deem expedient.

On motion of Mr Cole, Mr Howard was unanimously elected the member of the board from the City Council.

Mr Embrey of Street Committee reported that in the matter of the controversy of renewed rights between the John G Hurkamp Co & the P F & P R R, the City had no interest as the controversy concerned only the two companies. The report was received.

Mr Griffin offered the following which was adopted.

Resolved that the Ordinance Committee be and is hereby directed to formulate and present to the Council at its next meeting a plan looking to the establishment of a chain gang in the city.

The Council then adjourned.

Certified to by W E Bradley, Clerk of Council

Certified to by W S White, Mayor.

[Page 44]

Fredericksburg Sept 2nd 1896

A Called meeting of the City Council was held in the Council Chamber Wednesday night Sept 2nd at 8 o'clock for the purpose of receiving the report of the Committee appointed to award the ten scholarships owned by the city in the Fredericksburg College.

In the absence of Mayor White, Recorder, H R Gouldman presided:

The councilmen present were Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Embrey, Cole, Wallace, Howard & Bradley.

Absent: Mess'rs McCracken, Rowe & Chancellor

Mr Howard presented the report as follows:

To the Mayor & Common Council of Fredericksburg V^a

Your committee appointed Aug 22, 1896 to conduct a competitive examination for scholarship in the Fredericksburg College respectfully report: That at an examination held pursuant to notice under auspices of Mrs Magrath on Aug 27-28 the following ten pupils attained the highest proficiency and are therefore entitled to the scholarships in said Institution

John F Gouldman Jr	92-2
Louise Aldridge	95-2
Mabel Bozel	95-2
Sallie Colbert	94-4
Virginia Musselman	90-4
Jilian Montague	91-2
Emma Owens	98-4
Bertha Lee Scott	93
Alice Turner	92-8

Respectfully submitted

A L Magrath, B P Willis, A Randolph Howard—Ex Committee

Aug 31, 1896

Mr Howard in presenting the report stated that the credit of the examination was due to Mrs A L Magrath who had given much time & labor to it and that the award had given much satisfaction.

On motion of Mr Cole the report was received and adopted.

Mr Howard also offered the following resolutions which were adopted

Be it resolved 1st That this council fully recognizing and appreciating the inestimable kindness of Mrs A L Magrath in so cheerfully undertaking and so ably performing the arduous task of conducting the competitive examination for the ten scholarships [Page 45] in the Fredericksburg College, do hereby tender to Mrs A L Magrath the sincerest thanks of this Council.

2nd That a copy of these resolutions properly attested by the Mayor and the Clerk of the Council be presented to Mrs A L Magrath.

On Motion of Mr Griffin, it was resolved that the Clerk of the Council be directed to notify the proper authorities of the Fredericksburg College of the names of the successful candidates for the ten scholarships in the College

The bills of the *Free Lance* for \$3.80, *Star* \$2.00 & A R Howard for postage 48¢ were ordered paid.

On Motion of Mr Wroten, the rules were suspended to consider application of citizen for sewerage, but Mr Cole who requested that it be done had left the application at his office & the matter was not taken up.

The Council then adjourned.
Certified to by W E Bradley, Clerk of Council
Certified to by W S White, Mayor
[Page 46]

Fredericksburg Sept 28th 1896
A called meeting of the City Council was held at the Council Chamber Monday night Sept 28th 1896.
There were present Mayor White
Councilmen Willis, Wroten, Chancellor, Griffin, Embrey, Rowe, Gouldman, Cole, Bradley & McCracken
Absent: Mess'rs Wallace & Howard

Upon the report of the Finance Committee bills of the *Star* for \$5.50, *Free Lance* \$17.50, Committee on Schools \$3.50 & H. Millhouser \$33.75 safe for Mayor's office, were on Motion of Mr Willis ordered paid.

The Finance Committee also submitted the following report which was accepted:
The Finance Committee respectfully report that the Council has no right to remit the taxes of the Kenmore Shoe Co.
A communication was read from the Kenmore Shoe Co asking that a donation of \$80 per year for 10 years be given them.

Mr Willis moved that the communication be referred to a committee of three members of the Council who were not members of the Finance Committee & that they be appointed by the Mayor.

Mr McCracken moved as a substitute that the communication be laid on the table. On a recorded vote the substitute was lost as follows:
Ayes Gouldman, McCracken & Bradley
Noes Willis, Wroten, Chancellor, Griffin, Rowe, Embrey & Cole

The original motion was then adopted unanimously & Mayor White appointed Mess'rs Chancellor, Rowe & Howard as the Committee

Mr Cole through Supt Quinn made a report of the needs of the Water Committee; the report was referred to the Water Committee with power to act.

(Dogs)

Mr Griffin of Ordinance Committee reported the following amendment to Chapter 31 Section 1 of the City Ordinances of Fredericksburg V^a be amended to make the transgression thereof punishable by a fine of not less than \$1.00 or more than \$5.00. Adopted.

(Hogs & Hog Pens)

Mr Griffin also presented an amendment to the ordinance in regard to hogs & hog pens:
Be it ordained that Chapter 35 Section 5 of the City Ordinances of Fredericksburg V^a be amended to make the transgression thereof punishable by a fine of not less than \$1.00 or more than \$5.00. Adopted
(Chain Gang)

Mr Griffin submitted a report from the Ordinance Committee relative to a chain gang in the city as follows:

1st All male persons over sixteen years of age confined in the jail for any misdemeanor or breach of City Ordinances, shall be required to work on the Streets or other public work of the City.

2nd The Sergeant of the City shall deliver on the warrant [Page 47] of the Mayor to such person as may be designated by the Council as the Superintendent of the Chain Gang, all prisoners such as are described in

the first section as liable to work on the public works of the City, and said prisoners shall do such work as may be directed by the Street Committee.

They shall be guarded at the expense of the City and in all cases shall be returned to jail at night for safety. The warrant shall specify the names of the prisoners wanted & the number of days they are to work on said public Works.

Should anyone be appointed to superintend such prisoners other than a regular policeman, he shall have all the powers of such policeman in the discharge of said duty, and in case of emergency may call on the bystanders to aid him in preserving order and subordination, and when necessary he shall be supplied by the mayor with all necessary balls, chains, and other articles to prevent said prisoners from escaping. Order shall be enforced among the prisoners while in the custody of the Superintendent; and they shall be fed by the Sergeant as usual.

3rd Any member of the Chain Gang who shall be found guilty of disorderly behavior shall be punished by the judgment of the Mayor ordering solitary confinement in the jail.

On motion of Mr Cole the ordinance was adopted.

(National Battle Field Park)

Mr McCracken offered the following resolution at the request of the National Battlefield Park Commission which was unanimously adopted.

Whereas the citizens of the counties of Stafford, Orange, Spotsylvania & the City of Fredericksburg have organized a movement looking to the establishment of a National Battlefield Park at, or near the City of Fredericksburg, and

Whereas, this movement has received the approval and endorsement of the Grand Army of the Republic and the United Confederate Veterans at their annual meetings at Minneapolis & Richmond.

And Whereas many Grand Army Posts and Camps of Confederate Veterans have also endorsed the movement,

Resolved by the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg that the Honorable Charles T O'Ferrall, Governor of Virginia, be and he is hereby requested to give the movement to establish a National Battlefield Park on the great Battle fields of Chancellorsville, Spotsylvania CH, Wilderness and Fredericksburg, his official endorsement & approval in such manner & form as may seem to him proper.

2nd That a copy of these resolutions properly [Page 48] attested by the Mayor & Clerk of the Council be sent to the Governor.

3rd That a committee of one member of the Council be appointed by the Mayor to present these resolutions to the Governor in person.

Mr McCracken was appointed by the Mayor as the committee.

On motion of Mr McCracken it was ordered that the salaries of the Police Officers of this City be hereafter paid monthly, upon the report of the Mayor at the monthly meetings of the Council.

A petition from keepers of Wagon Yards in the city praying that the Market House lot be closed as a public Wagon Yard was referred to the Public Property Committee.

Mr Wroten presented petitions from residents on Hanover St & Mr Cole from residents on Prince Edward, Fauquier, & Lewis Streets asking for permission to build sewers down said streets to the river, which were referred to the Street Committee with power to act

The Salaries of the Police officers were ordered paid for the quarter ending Oct 1/96

The Council then on motion of Mr Cole adjourned.

I certify that the above is a correct record of the proceedings of the City Council of Fredericksburg V^a at a called meeting held Monday night Sept 28th '96
W E Bradley, Clerk
W S White, Mayor

Fredericksburg V^a Oct 16, 1896

The regular meeting of the City Council for October was called for Friday night Oct 16, 1896.

Present Mayor White

Councilmen Howard & Bradley.

There being no quorum, no meeting was held.

W E Bradley, Clerk of Council

W S White, Mayor

[Page 49]

Fredericksburg Nov 21st 1896

The City Council of Fredericksburg V^a held its regular November meeting at the Council Chamber Friday night November 21st at 8 o'clock.

Mayor White presided

Councilmen Mess'rs Willis, Wroten, Griffin, Embrey, Rowe, Gouldman, Howard, Cole, McCracken, Bradley & Chancellor

Absent: Mr Wallace

Mr Willis presented bills of Star for \$21.45 & Lance \$7.25 which were ordered paid.

Mr Willis also presented petition of Misses Hart asking for return of taxes paid on bonds that are non-taxable by the city. On motion of Mr McCracken the petition was referred to Finance Committee.

Mr Bradley offered the following:

It is resolved that the Finance Committee direct the Treasurer R T Knox not to sell the lot at the corner of Main & Hawke Street, known as the Sorrell lot and the said Committee to settle the Corporation taxes in arrears on said read estate on the best terms they can procure for the City. Adopted.

At the request of Chairman Embrey of the Street Committee & on motion of Mr Howard, an appropriation of two hundred and fifty dollars was granted the Committee for further work on the streets.

On motion of Mr Howard of Ordinance Committee & under suspension of the rules, the following ordinance was presented and passed.

(Scavengers)

Be it resolved; That the ordinance relating to the duties of Scavengers be amended so far as pertain to cleansing out vaults or sinks, allowing for cleansing each well or sink of four feet or less in diameter a compensation of one dollar & fifty cents (\$1.50) for each perpendicular foot removed, & for each well or sink of over four feet in diameter a compensation of two dollars (\$2.00) for each perpendicular foot of soil so removed.

A majority report was presented by Mess'rs Chancellor & Rowe of Special Committee on the request of the Kenmore Shoe Co to donate them \$80 pr year for ten years, recommending that the request not be granted.

Mr Howard of same committee submitted a minority report favoring the donation.

On motion of Mr Gouldman both reports were tabled until next meeting of the Council.

A petition from Mrs James Polk Gammon was presented by Mr Willis, which asked that \$58.71 be returned to her claiming that it was an erroneous assessment on income. The request was rejected on grounds that the Council had no jurisdiction in the matter.

[Page 50]

Mr Wroten presented a petition from citizens living along the raceway between the P F & P R R & Hazel Run asking that they be given proper protection to property from overflow or waste water.

The petition was referred to the Committee on Public Interest

Mayor White reported \$237.00 collected for Dog licenses. On motion of Mr Willis, the Mayor was allowed (15¢) fifteen cents compensation on each dog license paid.

The Clerk of the Council, on motion Mr Howard was directed to purchase a book to be known as the Ordinance Book in which is to be kept the Ordinances of the City as they are passed by the Council.

The Council then adjourned.

W E Bradley, Clerk

W S White, Mayor

[Page 51]