

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1835

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At a meeting of the Common Council at the Council Chamber Jan'y 31 1835

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

John H Wallace, Recorder

Fayette Johnston, George Rothrock, George Cox, S J Blaydes, William Warren, Will Allen—Councilmen

J H Wallace offered a resolution declaring it expedient to purchase a new set of Hay scales which was rejected.

On motion of William Warren

Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to examine and test the hay scales and their correctness and make report to the next meeting of the Council

Will Warren, Geo Rothrock & Jas Williams were appointed the Committee

Tho H Lipscomb was appointed police officer in place of Jno S Baggott resigned

The Council adjourned to meet at ½ past 6 o'clock PM on Monday

Chs Goodwin CC

At a meeting of the Common Council at the Council Chamber February 2nd 1835

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

S J Blaydes, Geo Rothrock, Wm Allen, C C Wellford, Geo Cox, F Johnston, J Williams—Councilmen

J Williams on the part of the Committee to examine the hay scales reported that they tested the scale by several drafts of Bu weights and submitted the following as the result of the examination.

For the first draft of 60 lbs it required 9 lbs to brake or turn the beam

On the second draft of 136 lbs it required 34 lbs

On the third draft of 186 lbs, 32 lbs, on the 4th draft of 240, 38 lbs

On the 5th draft of 360 lbs, 32 lbs

On the 6th draft of 542, 42 lbs

On the 7th draft of 676, 48 lbs

On the 8th draft of 1571, 129 lbs

Or a draft of 1571 would go to 1720 lbs or weigh only 1442 which report was received.

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On motion of J Williams it was unanimously resolved that it is expedient to procure a new sett of scales for the use of the Corporation

Mr E A Hibbard proposed to erect one of his best improved hay scales for the sum of one hundred and sixty dollars the sum of \$110 to be paid on the completion of the scale, provided it proved accurate and fifty dollars in three months whereafter provided it proved accurate and permanent, or to erect the scale & scale house for the sum of \$200 and the old scale and the old scale & building with permission to work in such of the lumber as may prove sound on the following terms to wit; the payment of \$150 when completed and the further sum of \$50 in three month provided it proved accurate, the iron of the old scale to be retained until the last payment.

Mr C C Wellfrod moved to accept Mr Hibbard's proposition to erect a scale house & scale to weight from one pound to 9800 lbs for the sum of \$200 and the old house & scales. \$150 to be paid on the completion of the work and \$50 in three months thereafter at which time the old scale & irons should be given over to Mr Hibbard provided the scale proved accurate, he guaranteeing the accuracy of the scale and permanency of the work for twelve months, and the question being taken thereon it was unanimously adopted, Mr Hibbard being present.

Dr J W Wallace tendered his resignation as Recorder & member of the Council, which was ordered to lie on the table.

A motion to reconsider the vote laying Dr Wallace's resignation on the table was carried in the affirmative and on motion the resignation was not accepted.

Ordered that the Clerk notify Dr Wallace of the non acceptance of his resignation.

The council then adjourned,

Chs Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of Fred'g at the Council Chamber Feb 25, 1835

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

Jno H Wallace, Recorder

S J Blaydes, William Allen, George Rothrock, Fay'e Johnston, Will Warren, James Williams, A K Phillips—Councilmen

The mayor stated that he had convened the Council in consequence of the receipt of a copy of the bill authorizing the Corporation to borrow money for certain purposes.

Present: C C Wellford, B R Wellford, Jno Goolrick

The bill having been read,

Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to negotiate a loan of not more than \$20,000 for 30 years to bear an interest of not more than 5 pr cts pr annum according to the provisions of an act of the Virginia Legislature passed 12 Feb 1835

Dr Wellford, Dr Wallace & Mr Allen were appointed said Committee

Ordered that the pump committee be authorized to fill up the well at B N Barnett's corner should they deem it expedient

The Council then adjourned

Chs Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council at the Council Chamber March 11th 1835

Present Thomas Goodwin Mayor

B R Wellford, Charles C Wellford, J H Wallace, S J Blaydes, Wm Allen, J Williams, G Rothrock—Councilmen

The following accounts were ordered to be paid, viz

Of J J Rollow amounting to	\$17.52
Of Richard Williams	.68
Of Robert Ellis	\$24.85
Of James D Harrow	\$12.83
Of Anthony Buck	\$3.75
Of Wm M Blackford	\$8.50
Of Tho H Lipscomb	\$1.50

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Present John Goolrick

John S Caldwell account amounting to \$366.50 & \$17.63 was passed

Ordered that the sergeant in the collection of Richard Williams bond for rent of the hay scales be authorized to credit said bond by the sum of thirty dollars

John S Caldwell a/c account as Committee of Richard Johnston for rent of the Academy as a small pox hospital was filed with the sum of fifty dollars and passed.

William Allen, C C Wellford & James Williams were appointed a committee to settle the a/c of the Sergeant & Chamberlain

And the Council adjourned to Monday at 9 AM
Chs Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber Mar 16, 1835

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor
J H Wallace, Recorder

William Warren, J Williams, C C Wellford, F Johnston, S J Blaydes—Councilmen

J S Caldwell a/c amounting to \$32 & Pullen's amt'g to \$8.50 were passed

C C Wellford & J Williams of the Committee appointed to settle the a/c of the Chamberlain & Serg't of the Corporation made the following reports.

We the undersigned have examined the with a/c of John S Caldwell, Serg't of the Corporation and find the same properly & correctly stated and that there is a balance of eighty nine dollars & sixty four cents due him by the Corporation of Fredericksburg this 16th day of March 1835

(Signed) James Williams, Charles C Wellford

In pursuance of an order of Council made on the 12th day of March Inst we the undersigned a committee appointed for the purpose of settling the account of Charles Goodwin, Chamberlain for the Corporation of Fredericksburg do hereby certify that we have [Page 72] minutely examined the same & find it supported by proper vouchers leaving a balance in his hands of forty one dollars and sixty cents.

(Signed) Charles C Wellford, James Williams

Which reports were on motion received and ordered to be recorded.

Ordered that the poll be now opened for the election of twelve common councilmen to serve for the ensuing year.

This being the day appointed by law for the election of twelve men to serve as councilmen until the third Monday in March 1836 and till others shall be elected in their stead a poll was opened for that purpose; and the Freeholders & housekeepers of the Town having been duly notified of such election met at the Council Chamber and deposited their ballots and upon counting the same the largest number of votes were found to be given for the following persons, viz.,

Tho Goodwin	122
J H Wallace	119
Fayette Johnston	100
Wm Allen	99
Charles A Pearson	98
B R Wellford	97
A K Phillips	95
C C Wellford	88
George Cox	86
William Warren	78
W D Green	73
James Williams	61

Who were declared duly elected Common Councilmen of the Corporation of Fredericksburg
Chs Goodwin, CC

March 18, 1835

Will D Green, William Allen, Chs A Pearson, Jno H Wallace, Fay'e Johnston, James Williams & William Warren met at the Council Chamber & took the oath of a Common Councilman before the Mayor

Geogre Cox, Bev'r R Wellford & C C Wellford councilmen elect qualified before the Mayor

Ordered that the salary of the Mayor for the ensuing year be fixed at four hundred dollars
The Council proceeded to the election of a Mayor when Thomas Goodwin was unanimously elected

S J Blaydes was elected a member of the Council to supply the vacancy occasioned by the election of Tho Goodwin to the Mayoralty who being notified of his election by the messenger of the Council appeared and was qualified before A M Patton a Justice of the Peace for Spotsylvania County
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John H Wallace was elected Recorder

Thomas Goodwin & J H Wallace took the oaths of their respective offices before A M Patton

The following resolutions were offered by Mr Johnston and unanimously adopted
Resolved that a committee be appointed on the part of the Council to make report at an early day of the state of Corporation and to confer with the Hustings Court or a Committee of the Court on the best mode of so administering affairs of the Corporation as may tend to the benefit of the Community at large.

Resolved that no appointment of officers be made until said report is received

Resolved that the present officers be continued in office until an election is had

Dr Wallace moved that the Committee consist of three and be appointed by the Mayor which was carried and F Johnston, B R Wellford & Wm Warren were appointed.

The following resolution submitted by B R Wellford was unanimously adopted.

Resolved that the member of the Husting Court be requested to hold a meeting to take into consideration the preceding resolutions and appoint a Committee on their part to confer with the Committee of the Council.

The following standing committees were appointed by the Mayor

On Public Property J H Wallace, Wm Allen & Wm D Green

On Streets S J Blaydes, B R Wellford, C A Pearson & C C Wellford

On Pumps Geo Cox, Will Warren, Jas Williams & A K Phillips

On motion the Council adjourned

Chs Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corpo of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber April 8, 1835

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

John H Wallace, Recorder

S J Blaydes, B R Wellford, Wm Allen, Jas Williams, Fayette Johnston—Councilmen

A K Phillips, Councilman elect appeared, was qualified and took his seat.

Present C A Pearson

The Mayor stated that he had convened the Council at the request of the Committee appointed to confer with a Committee of the Hustings Court, when Dr Wellford on the part of the said Committee submitted [a report] which was read

Present, W Warren & W D Green

On motion of Dr Wallace the report of the Committee was received

C A Pearson submitted the following resolution which was unanimously adopted

Resolved that a committee be appointed to prepare or cause to be prepared an entire new charter which may be found of the greatest practicable good and most conducive to the welfare of the greatest number & that they be authorized to employ counsel and compensate the same.

Mess'rs Johnston, B R Wellford & Warren were appointed said Committee

The following salaries of officers were fixed viz.,

Of the clerk of the Council, fifty dollars

Of the Chamberlain, one hundred dollars

Of the Commissioner of the Revenue, sixty dollars

Mr Warren submitted the following preamble & resolution

Whereas it is by an ordinance of the Corporation, the duty of the Police officer to act as messenger to the Council and whereas it has been for some years the custom to allow an extra compensation of two dollars for each Council summoned by the said officer therefore

Resolved that in future no extra compensation for acting as messenger to the Council be allowed.

Which was carried by the casting vote of the Mayor

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The salary of the Police Officer & messenger of the Council was fixed at one hundred and fifty dollars

Of the Clerk of the Market at one hundred dollars

Of the Bellman fifty dollars

Of the Constables to act as assistant police officers one hundred & fifty dollars each

Mr Johnston submitted the following resolutions

Resolved that all officers appointed by the Council shall vacate their situations on a vote of the Council and their salaries shall cease and determine at the will and pleasure of the Council for the time being.

Resolved that the Clerk of the Council furnish each officer of the Corporation with a list of his duties and inform him that he will be required to discharge them rigidly or his office will under the above resolution be declared vacant, which were unanimously adopted.

The Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the current year

Charles Goodwin was unanimously elected Clerk of the Council and Chamberlain of the Corporation

John Metcalfe, Commissioner of the Revenue

John S Caldwell, police officer, messenger of the Council and Collector of the Taxes and rents

Will T Williams, clerk of the Market

Jesse White, Bellman

John Goolrick, Surveyor & Geographer

William Baggott, inspector & measurer of wood and lumber at the wharf

Bernard Cole, Inspector and measurer of wood & lumber at the Basin

Robert Parrott, guager

Lindsay Pullen, measurer of salt, grain &c

Charles Goodwin, Jno S Caldwell, Will T Williams, Lindsay Pullen & Tho H Lipscomb severally took the oaths of their respective offices before the Mayor

Jno M Whittemore, James McGuire, Michael Ames & James L Ege, a committee from the Union Fire Company applied to the Council for an appropriation of four hundred dollars.

A motion to lay the memorial on the table was lost and the question being taken on a motion to appropriate the sum of four hundred to the Union Fire Company by ayes & noes, those who voted in the affirmative were

C A Pearson, A K Phillips, W Allen, W D Green & James Williams 5

Those who voted in the negative were S J Blaydes [Page 76] F Johnston, J H Wallace, B R Wellford, & W Warren 5

The Mayor gave the casting vote in the negative

Robert Parrott, William Baggott & Bernard Cole took the oaths of their respective offices

A Memorial from sundry merchants praying a modification of the ordinance prohibiting them from putting plaister and goods on the footways was read and on motion indefinitely postponed

Mr F Johnston moved that the Mechanics Association be allowed the use of the northern wing of the Market House and the question being taken by ayes & noes those who voted in the affirmative were C A Pearson, F Johnston, A K Phillips, W D Green, J Williams 5
Those who voted in the negative were S J Blaydes, J H Wallace, Wm Allen, B R Wellford & Wm Warren
The mayor decided the question in the negative.

Geo DeBaptiste account amounting to thirty four dollars & seventy five cents for attendance at the smallpox hospital was passed

The minutes were read & confirmed and the Council adj'd
Chs Goodwin, CC

Tuesday May 12th 1835

Pursuant to notice from the Mayor the Council convened in the Council Chamber at 4 o'clock PM

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

John H Wallace, Recorder

W D Green, C C Wellford, C A Pearson, S J Blaydes, George Cox, Fayette Johnston, James Williams, & Will Warrant—Councilmen

An address from the mayor was read

The following accounts were passed viz

Jno Metcalfe, Comm'r	\$5
Lindsay Pullen	\$3.15
Thomas Colverts am'tg to	\$5.46 for wood furnished R Braxton, a smallpox pauper
J H Wallace's medical services rendered at the hospital amt'g to	\$60.01

The Chamberlain estimate of the receipts and expenditures for the current year was read.

On Motion of Mr Fayette Johnston it was ordered that the sum of Five hundred dollars be appropriated to be divided equally between the two fire companies provided the Mutual Ass Society appropriate an equal amount to be in like manner divided.

On motion of Dr Wallace the tax for the current year was fixed as 49 pr ct on Rents, two dollars on persons and personal property, two dollars on Gigs, carriages, Caroles &c under the value of \$100 and two per cent whenever the value of one hundred dollars. The question on the passage of the motion being taken by ayes & notes those who voted in the affirmative were

George Cox, J H Wallace, C C Wellford, W D Green, F Johnston, James Williams & C A Pearson 7

Those who voted in the negative were Stephen J Blaydes, William Warren 2

Ordered that the sum of thirty dollars be appropriated for the purpose of draining the ditch and repairing the bridge at the west end of Commerce Street

John Goolrick the Surveyor of the Corporation submitted the following ordinance supplemental to an ordinance passed June 23rd 1829; which being read was adopted.

Be it ordained by the Mayor & Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg to the more effectually to carry the ordinance passed June 23rd 1829 respecting the erection of buildings &c in the Town of Fredericksburg into force the following supplement be thereunto added;

That if any person or persons shall hereafter erect any new building, remove or extend an old one, or enclose any unimproved lot or square within the boundary area of the Town of Fredericksburg and shall fail to call on the Surveyor of the Town to have the line or lines [Page 78] of the street marked and designated by him in the manner printed out in the first and second sections of the ordinance above mentioned, it shall be the duty of the surveyor to mark and designate the line or lines of the street or streets where such buildings or enclosure may have been erected and he shall be entitled to the same fees as if he were called upon by the party or parties to perform the same, as is prescribed in the ordinance; to be recovered by warrant with cost before a Justice of the Peace of the Corporation; and if in making such survey if he shall find any of the buildings or enclosures so erected to encroach upon any of the streets of the Town, it shall be furthermore his duty to report the same to the Police officer of the Corporation without delay.

Mr Warren offered a resolution ordering a publication of the *Herald & Arena* of the Chamberlains estimate of the receipts and expenditures of the Corpo for the current year, together with the ordinance fixing the rule of taxation with the ayes & noes upon the adoption of the ordinance which was unanimously adopted.

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

Chs Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber July 21st 1835

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

Jno H Wallace, Recorder

Fayette Johnston, Steven J Blaydes, William Allen, William Warren, James Williams and Charles C Wellford—Councilmen

The mayor stated the object of conveying the Council

James W Newby presented an account against the Corporation for a Bed, bedding & sundry articles used at the hospital during the prevalence of the Small Pox amounting to \$33.00

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Present William D Green, George Cox and Alexander K Phillips—Councilmen

James W Newby's account was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain

A further account of John Metcalfe as Coroner amounting to \$5.00 was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain

Charles Goodwin read a letter from Jas Rawlings, the principal agent of the Mutual Assurance Society, informing the Council that the M A Society had appropriated the sum of five hundred dollars, and on motion it is ordered that the sum of five hundred dollars be appropriated by this Board to be divided equally between the two fire Companies of the Corporation.

Edward DeBaptiste account amounting to thirty dollars was passed and ordered to be paid.

Ordered that the sum of fifty dollars be appropriated to be paid for rent of the Academy as a hospital
Present: Beverley R Wellford—councilman

Charles Goodwin resigned the office of Chamberlain and requested the appointment of a Committee to settle his account, and Fayette Johnston, William Allen and George Cox were appointed said Committee, who proceeded to examine his account before the Council and submitted the following report.

“In pursuance of an order of Council of this date we have proceeded to examine the account of Charles Goodwin, Chamberlain and find it correctly stated and supported by proper vouchers, leaving a balance in his hands of sixty five dollars and forty two cents

July 21st 1835

Signed: Fayette Johnston, William Allen, George Cox

Which was received and ordered to be recorded

Charles Goodwin resigned the office of Clerk of the Council and was requested to officiate as Clerk for the remainder of the Session.

Doctor John H Wallace submitted the following resolution

Resolved that it is inexpedient at this time to appoint a Chamberlain to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of [Page 80] Charles Goodwin, and that the duties of said office of Chamberlain be henceforth performed by the Sergeant of the Corporation without remuneration, and the question being taken by Ayes and Noes those who voted in the affirmative were

A K Phillips, George Cox, Jno H Wallace, William Warren, and William D Green 5

Those voting in the negative were Fayette Johnston, William Allen, Stephen J Blaydes, Beverley R Wellford, Charles C Wellford and James Williams 6

So the resolution was rejected.

The Council proceeded to the election of a Clerk and Chamberlain when Arthur Goodwin was elected, who qualified and commenced the duties of his office, by receiving the balance of sixty five dollars and forty two cents from the late chamberlain for which he gave his receipt.

Ordered that Charles Goodwin, the acting clerk of this Council and Archibald Hart of the City of Baltimore be authorized to negotiate the loan of \$20,000 to bear an interest of 5 pr cent authorized by an Act of Legislature of Virginia passed the 12th February 1835 provided; the negotiation of said loan of \$20,000 be made in 30 days from the date.

Ordered that the remuneration to the said Charles Goodwin and Archibald Hart, be, any premium they may obtain on said loan.

And the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

C Goodwin, Clk pro tem

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber Aug 14th 1835, convened by a call from the Mayor

Present Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

George Cox, Beverley R Wellford, Fayette Johnston, Wm D Green, Charles C Wellford and James Williams—Common Councilmen

The Chamberlains bond in the penalty of \$5,000 with Reuben T Thom and John Coakley as securities was submitted, approved and ordered to be filed.

Present: Stephen J Blaydes and Wm Warren—councilmen

The Mayor having stated that he had convened the Council at the request of several citizens, for the purpose of taking measures for preserving the peace and quiet of the Town, considerable excitement being said to prevail, it was on motion

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Resolved that the Mayor be requested to have the Town patrolled by a sufficient guard, for the purpose of preserving the peace and quiet of the Town. Whereupon, John S Caldwell, the Sergeant of the Corporation was directed to summon a guard, for tonight of 20 men, and Sam'l Phillips and C L Stevenson were appointed Captains for Saturday night, Robert Dickey and Wm Warren, Captains for Sunday night.

On Motion the Council adjourned

(signed)

Thomas Goodwin, Mayor

Teste, Arthur Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Corporation of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber December 21st 1835, pursuant to notice from the Recorder

Present John H Wallace, Recorder

Fayette Johnston, Charles A Pearson, Stephen J Blaydes, William D Green, William Allen, William Warren, and George Cox—Councilmen

The following accounts were presented, passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz William M Blackford account amounting to five dollars and seventeen cents

Lindsay Pullen's account amounting to seven dollars

Ordered that the sum of Twenty seven dollars and fifty cents be paid by the Chamberlain to Samuel Gordon, being the amount of his account for repairs to Bridge and draining ditch at west end of Commerce Street.

On motion ordered that Bernard H Cole be appointed Police Officer and that his salary commence from the date of his appointment as Constable by the Hustings Court, and that it be paid quarterly.

A project of amendments to the Charter of the Corporation was presented by the Recorder, which being read by the Clerk, Mr Cox moved that it be laid on the table and be printed, which was rejected.

On motion of Fayette Johnston it was

Resolved that it be referred to the Committee appointed at a former Council to take into consideration the subject of the amendment of the Charter of the Corporation with directions to report to the Council on the tenth day of January next.

On motion the Council adjourned

(Signed)

Jno H Wallace, Recorder

Teste, Arthur Goodwin, CC

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