

Fredericksburg City Council Minutes 1852

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

W Allen, H Scott, J Sanford, J Pritchard, L J Huffman, F Slaughter—Common Councilmen

The Mayor informed the Council that they had been convened for the purpose of examining the proof impressions from the plate ordered to be engraved by Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co of Philadelphia, under resolutions of the Council of the 19 December 1851, which being inspected it was,

Resolved that said proof impression is approved and the Clerk of the Council is requested to direct Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co to strike off the 3000 impressions heretofore ordered and forward the same with dispatch at the same time requesting them to retain the plate subject to the order of the Council.

The following accounts were passed and ordered to be paid, viz;

B Cole, J Timberlake & G J Hunt for guarding prisoners in Jail, amounting to nine dollars

Hugh Scott for ½ ton coal, three dollars & twenty five cents.

On motion it was,

Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to look after the various interests of the Corporation before the Legislature of the State, particularly, the subjects of the location of the District Court, Rapid Ann River improvement, Southern [Page 9] Female Institute &c and that said Committee be authorized to adopt such steps as they may deem most expedient for the advancement of the interests of Fredericksburg, the expenses thereby to be incurred to be paid by the Corporation.

On motion the Mayor was appointed one of the said Committee and he was authorized to appoint the remaining two members thereof, time being give him to make said appointments.

The following resolution presented by Mr Pritchard was read and referred to a committee consisting of Mess'rs J Pritchard and F Slaughter to report thereon to the next Council, viz;

Resolved that a poll be opened at the next election of the Mayor and Common Councilmen to ascertain the sense of the people in regard to the establishment of free schools in this town, as laid down in the new Code.

Mr Slaughter moved the adoption of the following resolutions, viz;

1a Resolved that at its next meeting the Council will proceed to the election of a Principal Engineer and four Fire Wardens, to compose with the Commanders of the Union and Hope Fire Companies, the fire department of this Corporation—adopted

2a Resolved that said Fire Department when appointed and organized shall have full power to make bye-laws to promote its objects, consistent with the laws of the State and the ordinances of this Council, in accordance with the provisions of the 55<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the Revised Code—Adopted

3a Resolved that the sum of two hundred dollars be appropriated to the Union Fire Company and a like sum for the Hope Fire Company, for the purpose of repairing and keeping their apparatus in order, payable in Corporation scrip for which the Recorder moved as a substitute the following, viz;

Resolved, that the said fire Department when appointed and organized report to the Council an estimate of the money necessary to put the apparatus of the Hope and Union Fire Companies in good working order;

And the substitute was adopted by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, H Scott, L J Huffman, B S Herndon, J Sanford, J Pritchard 5

Noes, F Slaughter, Wm Allen 2

The Clerk of the Council was directed to omit the resolution appointing a committee to look after the [Page 10] interests of the Corporation before the Legislature, in preparing the proceedings of the meeting for publication.

On motion the Council adjourned

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 14 Feb'y 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

Wm Allen, J Pritchard, L J Huffman, C C Wellford, J Minor, J Sanford, J J Berrey, F Slaughter—  
Common Councilmen

The Clerk of the Council laid before the Board a sealed package of Corporation notes received from Danforth, Bald & Co of Philadelphia, which being opened in their presence and counted was found to contain 2000 sheets, leaving the amount of 1000 sheets yet to be received from said engravers and the question as to the mode of issuing said notes having arisen and being debated, Mr F Slaughter offered the following resolutions which were adopted, viz;

Resolved that \$15,000 of the scrip of the Corporation be issued as follows, viz;

\$1500 redeemable in	2 years	numbered from	1 to 1200
\$1500 redeemable in	3 years	numbered from	1201 to 2400
\$1500 redeemable in	4 years	numbered from	2401 to 3600
\$1500 redeemable in	5 years	numbered from	3601 to 4800
\$1500 redeemable in	6 years	numbered from	4801 to 6000
\$1500 redeemable in	7 years	numbered from	6001 to 7200
\$1500 redeemable in	8 years	numbered from	7201 to 8400
\$1500 redeemable in	9 years	numbered from	8401 to 9600
\$1500 redeemable in	10 years	numbered from	9601 to 10,800
\$1500 redeemable in	11 years	numbered from	10,801 to 12,000
\$15,000			

Bearing dates on days of issue, to be signed by the Mayor and payable to the order of such creditors as may receive them from the Chamberlain of the Corporation.

Resolved that the Clerk of the Council be instructed to keep a registry of each note issued, to whom payable and when redeemable.

C C Wellford Esq, Chairman of the Public Property Committee made a verbal report in relation to the claim of John Coakley to a portion of the ground leased to William T Williams on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 1843, stating that said piece [Page 11] of ground they have ascertained to be included in the lease held by said

Coakley and transferred by him to Ficklen & Howison; also a report in relation to the lives now in existence in the leasehold property of the Corporation which reports were received.

Absent, John Minor, Councilman

The Committee appointed at the last meeting on the subject of the free school system offered the following resolutions which were adopted, viz;

Resolved that a poll be opened at the election of voters on the question of establishing free schools.

Resolved that the Editors of the Town be requested to publish in their papers for the information of the voters the law of the State relating to the Common or Free School System.

The following resolution offered by J J Berrey was adopted, viz;

Resolved that the voters of the town are requested to place on their tickets, at the annual election of the 15<sup>th</sup> March, the names of persons they prefer for all officers of the Corporation.

Mr C C Wellford presented a memorial of Mess'rs Ficklen & Howison in relation to the sale of fish from carts, in the streets, which being read it was;

Ordered that the Clerk prepare an ordinance in conformity with said memorial to be submitted to the next meeting of the Council.

The Council then proceeded to the election of a chief engineer and four fire wardens for the town when the following persons were elected, viz;

George Grotz                      Chief Engineer

C B Waite                         Fire Warden

J W Sener                         Fire Warden

W M Baggett                      Fire Warden

W S Chesley                      Fire Warden

On motion the Council then adjourned

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening the 18 February 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

C C Wellford, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, D H Gordon, J Sanford, F Slaughter, J J Berrey, Hugh Scott—  
Common Councilmen

On motion it was Resolved that the Chamberlain of the Corporation be instructed to pay out of the first funds received and not otherwise appropriated the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> installments due the Plank Road Company amounting to \$8,000.

Robert W Hart, Esq was employed to fill up and endorse the Corporation script of the denomination of one and two dollars, and the Clerk of the Council was directed to deliver said scrip to Mr Hart in sums not exceeding \$1500, in amount at any one time.

Ordered that the sum of fifty dollars be allowed Mr Hart, as compensation in full for his services in filling up and endorsing said scrip and cutting the sheets for use.

Ordered that so much of the order passed at the last meeting of the Council as required said scrip to be dated on the days of issue, be and the same is hereby rescinded and the \$10,000 thereof be dated on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 1852

Ordered that an advance of \$2,000 on his contract for building the Court House be made to Wm M Baggett, said sum to be paid in scrip of the Corporation.

An appropriation of ten dollars was made to the Fredericksburg Guards to cover the expenses of firing the Cannon on the 22 Inst

The Mayor and the Clerk of the Council were appointed a committee to count the sheets of one and two dollar notes contained in a sealed package received on Monday last from the engravers, by Adams & Co Express line

On motion the Council adjourned

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 21 Feb'y 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

B S Herndon, Recorder

J Pritchard, Thos F Knox, Wm Allen, L J Huffman, C C Wellford, F Slaughter, J Minor—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated the Council had been convened at the instance of our Delegate, Major O M Crutchfield, for the purpose of taking such steps as were deemed necessary towards a successful accomplishment of the various petitions now before the Legislature in relation to the affairs of the Corporation, particularly the defining the limits or bounds of the Town; and Major Crutchfield being present and having suggested the course of action usual in such applications, it was,

Resolved that the Council apply to the Legislature to define the limits of the Town as laid down by the map of Wm Slaughter and that our Delegate, Mayor O M Crutchfield be requested to carry out before the Legislature the wishes of the Council

On motion it was,

Resolved that a Committee of five be appointed, the members of which shall not be confined to the Council whose duty it shall be to remodel the Charter of the Corporation and securing the passage by the Legislature and when it shall have been passed by that body to be then submitted to the voters of the town for ratification or rejection.

The following committee were appointed by the Council, viz; John S Caldwell, Doct B R Wellford, John J Chew, John Minor and John L Marye, Jr

The following ordinance was passed, viz;

An ordinance regulating the sale of fresh fish and crabs in the Town

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that from and after the first day of March 1852, it shall not be lawful to take a stand for a longer time than thirty minutes for the sale of fresh fish or crabs, in any street or place within the limited of the Town aforesaid, other than the Market space which is hereby declared to be the fish Market.

Be it further ordained that if any person shall offend herein, he, she or they shall be subject to a fine of not less than one or more than five dollars at the discretion [Page 14] of the Justice of the Peace imposing the same. Said fine to be recovered by warrant, with costs before any Justice of the Peace for the Town aforesaid.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 1852

The Chamberlain communicated to the Board the fact that [he?] had as the fiscal officer of the Corporation declined paying out the scrip of the Corporation of the denomination of \$1 & \$2 giving his reasons therefore and tendering his resignation of the office; said resignation to take effect from the settlement of his accounts for which object he asked the appointment of a committee; Whereupon the following resolution was submitted by Mr Pritchard, viz;

Resolved that Mr Goodwin's resignation be received

And adopted by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, F Slaughter, John Pritchard, C C Wellford, John Minor 4

Noes, B S Herndon, L J Huffman, T F Knox, Wm Allen 4

The Mayor giving the casting vote in the affirmative.

Mess'rs Thos F Knox, F Slaughter and C C Wellford were appointed a committee to settle the Chamberlain's accounts, also to report what compensation he is entitled for extra services rendered as such; and what for preparing a synopsis of the proceedings of the Council for publication under the order of the Board of the 1<sup>st</sup> April last.

The Council then proceeded to the election of a Chamberlain to fill the officer from the date of the resignation of the present incumbent when John L Marye Jr was unanimously elected; and it was ordered that upon the Certificate of the Mayor to that effect that Mr Marye had entered into Bond with satisfactory security in the penalty of five thousand dollars for the faithful discharge of the duties of the office; the Clerk of the Council is directed to deliver him the scrip of the Corporation of the denomination of one and two dollars.

The Council were informed that of the \$1500 of said scrip ordered to be redeemable in 2 years, \$300 had been, by mistake filled up for one year, and it was ordered to remain so, and that said sum be in redeemable in one year.

The Council then adjourned.

R B Semple, Mayor

A Goodwin, CC

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Friday evening the 5<sup>th</sup> of March 1852

Present, B S Herndon

C C Wellford, Wm Allen, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, J Sanford, F Slaughter, Thos F Knox, John Minor—  
Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed to settle the account of the Chamberlain submitted the following report which was approved and ordered to be entered on the minutes, viz;

The undersigned Committee appointed to settle the account of A Goodwin, Chamberlain, respectfully report that they have discharged that duty and find that the debits therein are supported by proper vouchers and the credits in said accounts for taxes &c received from the Collector of Taxes and for sales of Corporation Stock to correspond with his receipts to the Collector, credits for fine &c received and for monies borrowed under orders of Council. They find also to be correctly entered in said account, and that there is a balance in his hands of ninety two 08/100 dollars as per foregoing account.

As witness our hands this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 1852

Signed, Charles C Wellford, Thomas F Knox, F Slaughter, Committee  
Fredericksburg

And it was ordered that the balance in his hands of \$92.08 be paid over to John L Marye Jr Esq, his successor in office.

The same Committee made a report upon the subject of extra compensation to the Chamberlain for additional services as such, also what as Clerk of the Council he is entitled to, for publishing the proceedings of the Council and recommended an allowance of one hundred and twenty five dollars, which on motion was adopted and said sum allowed him and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

The Clerk of the Council submitted to the Board a receipt of John L Marye Jr, Chamberlain for the sheets of notes of the denomination of \$1 & \$2 in his possession, also of the receipt of R W Hart for those in his hands, and receipts of sundry persons to R B Semple, Mayor for those paid out by him, the whole amounting to fifteen thousand dollars, which sum was ordered to be credited the Corporation in said Chamberlain's account.

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Absent, C C Wellford, Councilman

An application of Mess'rs English & Spindle for permission to make a vault opposite each of their cellar windows & cover said vaults with iron bars to form a grating in the walk way in the alley leading to the Market house; also to raid the pavement so as to throw the water into the street, was granted, provided no obstacle be thereby caused to a fire passage along said street or footway.

The chief engineer and Fire Wardens submitted a report on the subject of the condition of the fire engines and apparatus under a resolution of the Council of the 19<sup>th</sup> January; Whereupon it was Ordered that the apparatus of the Union and Hope Fire Companies be put in good working order under the direction and supervision of the Fire Department.

An account of Doctor James Thornley for visit to Poor House and post mortem examination in a case of suicide, amounting to five dollars was presented and on motion referred to the overseers of the Poor

On motion the Council adjourned  
B S Herndon, Recorder

A Goodwin, CC

At a Council of claims held at the Council Chamber on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

J Sanford, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, Wm Allen, C C Wellford, F Slaughter, J Minor—Councilmen'

The following accounts were passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain, viz;

William Allen's for sundries	\$10.01
George Pickett's for glazing	\$2.
R B Semple's for wood for Mayor's office	\$11.25
Waite & Sener for sundries	\$4.54
J H Myers for dog collars	\$8.50
Virginia Herald for printing	\$17.88
B Cole's for killing dogs &c	\$9.25
John Timberlake's for killing dogs	\$9.
Knox, Hart & Hayes for sundries	.75
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J Sanford's for opening drain from depot &c &c	\$60.50
E McDowell's for stationary &c	\$13.78
Jack Davis for cleaning Mayor's office for the year	\$9
J M English, tax refunded	\$2
Wm Warren tax refunded on dray	\$6.25
R B Semple's for wood furnished the poor during winter	\$15
Doctor James Thornley for visit &c to Poor House	\$5

Sundry accounts of John M Foster and others to expenses incurred in the matter of the location of the District Court, amounting to \$94.50 were referred to the Committee under an order of the Council 19 January last, to make report thereon to the next meeting of the Council.

The Mayor rendered an account shewing a balance in his hands of twenty four dollars for dog tax, which was ordered to be paid to the Chamberlain and passed to the credit of the Corporation

Upon the Mayor's report in writing it was, ordered that the salaries of the Police Officers and the quarterly allowance to the Freds'burg Guards be paid by the Chamberlain.

Mess'rs Thos F Knox, C C Wellford and F Slaughter were appointed a committee to settle the Collectors and Chamberlains account and report to the Council on Monday morning next

An account of W C J Rothrock for Baton and trimming the same in Feb'y 1850 amounting to .87½ cents was rejected.

On motion ordered that the Bond of Daniel Bradford for the rent of the Hay Scales for the current year be credited by the sum of \$37.87 in consideration of the removal of the scales from their location when rented by him

The Clerk of the Council was authorized to procure an order book and draw on the Chamberlain for the cost of the same.

On motion the Council adjourned till Monday Morning next at 9 O'clock  
R B Semple, Mayor  
A Goodwin, CC  
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At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday morning the 15 March 1852  
Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
C C Wellford, W Allen, J Pritchard, F Slaughter, Thos F Knox, J Sanford—Common Councilmen

There being no quorum for the dispatch of other business the members present ordered the polls to be opened for the election of twelve Council men, this being the day fixed by law for that purpose; also a poll to take the sense of the voters on the free School system as directed by an order of the Council of the 14 Feb'y 1852; and the voters having cast their ballots, it was found upon counting the same that the votes were as follows, viz;

J McGuire	266
A K Phillips	246
W F Cheek	241
J Pritchard	223
B S Herndon	209
J J Berrey	206
L J Huffman	202
Geo W Eve	187
Thomas A Ball	186
John F Scott	182
D H Gordon	181
John Minor	175
C C Wellford	174

The first named twelve of whom were declared duly elected

The vote on the question of the Free School System stood;  
For it 378  
Against 27  
Majority in favor 351

Adjourned till tomorrow evening at 4 o'clock  
R B Semple, Mayor  
A Goodwin, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 16 March 1852  
Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
C C Wellford, F Slaughter, J Pritchard, J Sanford, L J Huffman, T F Knox, J Minor—Common Councilmen

The Clerk of the Council asked and obtained leave of absence and J S Caldwell acted as Clerk pro tem;



F Slaughter on behalf of the Committee appointed the 19 Jan'y 1852 to whom was referred sundry accounts of Mr Forbes and others made the following report, viz;

The undersigned committee to whom was referred sundry bills of Mess'rs Forbes, Barton & Conway, beg leave to report that they have examined the same and are satisfied they are [Page 19] correct. These bills amount to the sum of ninety four dollars and fifty cents and are for expenses incurred by the claimants in securing the location of the District Court at Fredericksburg, under the sanction of the Common Council by an order passed 19 January last. We therefore recommend that the said bills be paid by the Chamberlain,

Signed, R B Semple, F Slaughter  
Fredericksburg, 12 March 1852

Which report was adopted by the following vote;

Ayes, F Slaughter, J Sanford, L J Huffman, T F Knox, J Minor & C C Wellford 6  
Noes, J Pritchard

A bill of R B Semple against the Corporation amounting to fifteen dollars for expenses to Richmond to attend to matters of the Corporation before the Legislature, under an order of the Committee appointed by the Council on the 19 January last, was passed and ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

F Slaughter submitted a motion that the sum of forty dollars be allowed John Metcalfe, the Commissioner of the Revenue for extra services as such Commissioner, which was lost by vote of 4 to 3.

A Motion was then made by F Slaughter that the sum of thirty dollars be allowed to Mr Metcalfe as Commissioner of the Revenue for extra services which was carried by a vote of 4 ayes to 3 noes.

The following accounts were presented and passed, viz;

The Freds'burg News Office	\$16.51
William Brannin's	\$1.50
B Cole & G J Hunt	\$3.
James Southards	\$1.50

On motion of F Slaughter it was resolved that the thanks of this Council be and they are hereby tendered to the Building Committee composed of Mess'rs T B Barton, B R Wellford, Wm Allen, J Minor and John James Chew for the gratuitous services rendered by them in superintending the erection of the new Court House.

The Committee appointed to examine the accounts of John S Caldwell as Collector of Taxes made the following report, viz;

The undersigned a Committee appointed by the Council to examine the accounts of John S Caldwell as Collector of Taxes, Report that they have performed that duty, and that they find the account correctly stated that the credits are supported by proper vouchers [Page 20] and receipts and that the said accounts is truly balanced.

Given under our hands this 16<sup>th</sup> March 1852

Signed, Charles C Wellford, Thos F Knox, F Slaughter

The Collector returned a list of insolvent whites and removals of whites amounting to three hundred and fifteen dollars and twenty four cents; also a list of insolvent blacks and removals, amounting to eighty five

dollars & 78 cents. He also returned a list of persons who had not paid their taxes for 1851 amounting to ninety five dollars and twenty cents.

The Committee to examine the account of John L Marye Jr as Chamberlain reported that his account as Chamberlain had been settled by them, shewing a balance in his hands, including the scrip, notes of the Corporation of Eight Thousand, two hundred and twenty two dollars and seventy four cents.

And then the Council adjourned  
R B Semple, Mayor  
Signed, teste, Jno S Caldwell, clerk pro tem

Council Chamber March 16<sup>th</sup> 1852  
James McGuire, John F Scott, Geo W Eve, A K Phillips, Wm F Cheek, Brodie S Herndon, T A Ball, John Pritchard, L J Huffman—members elect of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg met at the Council Chamber and were severally qualified before the Mayor.

On motion the salary of the Mayor was fixed at the sum of four hundred dollars per annum

The Council proceeded to the election of a Mayor when R B Semple, Esq, was re-elected & took the several before B R Wellford, a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

James McGuire, Esq, was elected Recorder of the Corporation & took the oath of Office before B R Wellford, a Justice of the Peace for the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

On motion the salaries of the following officers were fixed at the following sums per annum, viz;

Clerk of the Council	\$50.00
Chamberlain of the Corporation	\$100.00
Commissioner of the Revenue	\$75.00
Jailer	\$50
Clerk of the Market	\$100.00

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John Minor, member elect appeared & was qualified before the Mayor

The number of the Police Officers for the present year, was ordered to be two, and their salaries fixed at \$200 each per annum

The Council then proceeded to the election of Officers, for the current years, when Mr Geo F Chew was elected Clerk of the Council and Chamberlain of the Corporation and having qualified before the Mayor entered at once upon the discharge of his duties

John Metcalfe was elected Commissioner of the Revenue  
Jas N Campbell, Clerk of the Market  
The fixing of the Compensation of the Collector of taxes is postponed  
John S Caldwell was elected Collector of taxes & rents  
John Minor, Surveyor  
Jas B Anderson, Measurer of Coal, Grain &c

R W Hart, Mesurer of lumber, wood &c  
Bernard Cole & John Timberlake, Police officers

A motion to reconsider the order reducing the number of Police Officers to two was made and rejected

On motion, Resolved that a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the subject of creating a sinking fund with a view to the payment of the debt now hanging over the Corporation

On motion the Mayor appointed John F Scott, A K Phillips, W F Cheek, a committee under the foregoing order.

On motion, Resolved that no member of the Common Council during their deliberations be permitted to speak at any one time more ten minutes, & not more than twice on the same subject, except by the unanimous consent of the members present

Absent, John Minor

L J Huffman, James McGuire, Geo W Eve, were appointed a committee to take into consideration the subject of taxation & report to the Council.

On motion ordered that the Mayor appoint the standing Committees for the current year, whereupon the following were appointed;

On Pumps, L J Huffman, B S Herndon, Thos A Ball, Douglas H Gordon

On Streets, Jas McGuire, Geo W Eve, John F Scott, John J Berrey

On Public Property, A K Phillips, John Pritchard, Wm F Cheek, Jno Minor

Ordered that the penalty of the bond to be given by the Chamberlain be fixed at \$5000.

Ordered that Jno L Marye Jr, late Chamberlain do pay over to the present Chamberlain, the sum of \$8222.74 being the balance in his hands upon the settlement of his accounts, to be placed by him to the credit of this Corporation.

On motion, ordered that the Editors of Newspapers in this Corp'n be requested to publish the proceedings of this board, at its different sessions and that the Clerk furnish a transcript of said proceedings [Page 22] to said Editors for publication

On motion the following tax on licenses for the present year was passed, viz;

On drays & carts for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> Apr \$6.00

On drays & carts for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> Nov to 1<sup>st</sup> Apr \$4.00

On drays & carts for one year from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan'y to 1<sup>st</sup> Apr \$2.00

And that the tax on Wagons in the same proportion at rate per year of \$10.00

No license to issue for any term for less than \$2.00 The tax to be collection by the Collector of Taxes & the licenses to be issued b y the Chamberlain, for which he shall be entitled to received a fee of 25¢ on each case.

On motion the Council adjourned

R B Semple, Mayor

Geo F Chew, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Tuesday evening the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

Jas McGuire, Recorder

A K Phillips, John Pritchard, B S Herndon, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, John F Scott, Wm F Cheek—  
Common Councilmen

The official bonds of the Chamberlain and the Collector of taxes and rents in the penalty of \$5000 each were submitted to the Board, read, approved, & ordered to be filed by the Mayor

An account of C C Wellford for blankets & sheeting furnished for the Jail of this Corporation amounting to \$7.75 was presented & ordered to be paid.

Ordered that the Chamberlain inform Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co in reply to theirs of the 29<sup>th</sup> Mar 1852 that they can draw on him at sight for the Amount of their bill, say \$605.75 for engraving Corp'n scrip.

Ordered that an advance of one thousand dollars in his contract for building the Court house be made to William M Baggett, said sum to be paid in scrip of the Corporation

On motion of Mr James McGuire, ordered that the 7<sup>th</sup> Installment called for in the Stock of the Corporation in the Fred'g and Valley Plank Road amounting to \$4000 be paid by the Chamberlain of the Corp'n out of any monies in his hands derived from the ordinary revenues of the Corp'n or in Corp'n scrip

On motion of Mr John Pritchard, ordered that the Chamberlain request Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co to furnish 1000 impressions from the steel plate now in their possession of scrip of the Corp'n of the denomination of one & two dollars.

On motion, ordered that the Committee on Public Property [Page 23] be instructed to enquire as to the expediency of purchasing the present Clerk's Office and Engine house from Wm M Baggett & report to the Council.

On motion of Mr James McGuire, ordered that Miss Elvira M Samuel be exempted from the payment of taxes on her servant woman, Charlotte.

An application from Dr M A Blankman, for permission to build a stone wall with the fence of his lot on Sophia Street was granted, provided it be done under the supervision of the Street Committee & that the said Blankman remove the same where required by the Council so to do.

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain furnish to the Council at its next meeting a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Corporation during the year ending the 15 of March last

Ordered that Geo F Chew, Chamberlain receive from John L Marye, Jr, late Chamberlain, two receipts of James McGuire, Treasurer of the Fred'g & Valley Plank Road Co for scrip notes of the Corporation amounting to \$1500 in part liquidation of the Amount directed by the order of Council dated the 16<sup>th</sup> of March last, to be paid over by said Marye to said Chew; the above mentioned receipts of said McGuire

not having been charged against the Corporation in the Account with the Corp'n rendered & settled by said Marye on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March last.

John S Caldwell, Collector of taxes informed the Council that in the settlement of his Account as said Collector on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March last, for the year ending on that day, by the Committee appointed for that purpose, there was discovered by himself since that settlement a mistake in his favor of one hundred & twelve dollars & fifty cents, which sum he proposed to pay into the hands of the Chamberlain, and said sum be accordingly paid over to said officer, in presence of the Council.

On motion ordered that the petition of the Union Fire Comp'y which has been read to the Council be laid on the table to be taken up at the next meeting.

On motion the Council adjourned till Monday evening next at ½ past 7 o'clock  
James McGuire, Recorder  
Geo F Chew, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fred'sburg on Monday evening the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

William F Cheek, John Pritchard, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, Thomas A Ball, John F Scott—Common Councilmen

Mr William F Cheek, one of the Committee on Public Property who were instructed to enquire as to the expediency of purchasing the present [Page 24] Clerks Office & Engine house from W M Baggett stated they were not prepared to report at this time, the Chairman of the said Committee being absent.

A motion to postpone the consideration of the Petition of the Union Fire Company indefinitely was rejected and thereupon on motion of Mr Geo W Eve, it was ordered that the Said Petition be referred to the Committee on Public Property, who are directed to report thereon.

A petition signed by many Citizens of the Town praying that an additional Police Officer be appointed was read to the Council and received, and thereupon John F Scott moved that a third police officer be appointed according to the prayer of the petition, which motion was rejected.

An account of the Hazle River Navigation Company was presented to the Council and thereupon Mr Geo W Eve moved that the same be paid, which motion was rejected unanimously

The Chamberlain laid before the Council a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Corporation during the fiscal year ending the 17<sup>th</sup> March 1852. Whereupon it is ordered that the same be published in the papers that publish the proceedings of the Council.

The Mayor desired to be informed where as the Presiding officer of this Board, he had a right to be heard and to discuss questions before it; on consideration whereof, and on motion it is ordered that the Mayor be considered as a member of this board and as such that he is entitled to all the privileges of any other member of the Board.

A motion to appoint a Committee of three to digest and report upon the free school system, that the Mayor act as the Chairman thereof & appoint said Committee was carried, and thereupon the Mayor asked for further time to select said Committee

A motion to defer the appointment of Overseers of the Poor until the next meeting of the Council was carried.

A motion to leave all matters relating to the Corporation now pending before the Legislature to our Delegate O M Crutchfield Esq was made and carried.

Mr John Pritchard offered the following resolution, Resolved that the Market regulation, known as the Market law, be and are hereby suspended was submitted to the board & laid on the Table.

On motion, ordered that R Fish be notified that the Council require him to remove the fence crossing Hawke Street & open said street from Prince Edward Street to the lands of William K Gordon.  
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On motion the Council adjourned till Monday Evening next at ½ past 7 o'clock.  
R B Semple, Mayor  
G F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Wednesday evening the 21<sup>st</sup> of April 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, Thomas A Ball, John F Scott, Alex K Phillips—  
Common Councilmen

The Mayor informed the Board that they had been convened for the purpose of taking into consideration the present condition of the Canal from damages sustained by it, by reason of the recent freshet in the Rappahannock River, and to take some action therein; Whereupon on motion of John F Scott, Resolved that this being a matter of public interest, that any citizen present be heard upon the subject, and on further motion it was resolved that a Committee of three be appointed whose duty it shall be to confer as to what measures it would be expedient to adopt in the present emergency and make report thereof to the Council for further action to be had thereon.

The Chair appointed R B Semple, L J Huffman, John F Scott the Committee under the foregoing resolution.

And then the Council adjourned  
James McGuire, Recorder  
G F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, Alex K Phillips, John Pritchard, L J Huffman, George W Eve, Thomas A Ball, John F Scott—Common Councilmen

Douglas H Gordon, member elect of the Council appeared was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board

Mr John F Scott, on the part of a majority of the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Council made a report in the following words, viz;

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of the Rappahannock Canal offers the following report, viz;

That in their opinion no appropriation should be made by the Council towards the repair of the Canal but they deem it of the utmost importance some action should be had by our town in reference [Page 26] to a bill now before the Legislature, for the purpose of converting the State debt due by the Rappahannock Canal Co into Stock.

In order to protect the interests of the Corporation it is considered advisable said bill now pending should be so amended that should the Canal Company fail at any time to keep the Canal in good order for the space of three month, or fail to use every means during said time to repair damages then the entire work shall revert to the State

Resolved, therefore that [blank] be requested to go to Richmond and adopt such means as he may deem best to amend said bill in the manner indicated above.

Signed, John F Scott, L J Huffman

The Mayor, R B Semple, having called the Recorder to the Chair, presented a minority report (see report on file) which reports having been read to the Council, a motion was made to postpone the subject indefinitely, which motion being put to the vote was carried.

The Mayor resumed the Chair

Mr Alex K Phillips, the Chairman of the Committee on Public Property who were instructed to enquire as to the expediency of purchasing the Clerk's Office and Engine house from Wm M Baggett, made a report (see report on file); Whereupon a motion was made to lay the report on the table which motion being put to the vote was carried.

Mr John F Scott, on behalf of the Committee heretofore appointed to take into consideration the subject of creating a sinking fund made a report (see report on file) which report being read was on motion ordered to be laid on the table; and in further motion it was ordered that the said report be published in the papers of the Town that publish the proceedings of the Council

On motion, ordered that the Overseers of the Poor to be elected be exempted from the payment of Poll Tax

The Council then proceeded to elect Overseers of the Poor when John S Caldwell, Joseph Sanford, Geo W Eve, Peter Goolrick, John Buck and George Rowe were duly elected.

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation be and he is hereby authorized to borrow the sum of \$608.74, the amt so raised to be paid over the Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co for engraving Corporation scrip.

And then the Council adjourned  
R B Semple, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C  
[Page 27]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, B S Herndon, John J Berrey, Geo W Eve, John F Scott, Thomas A Ball, L J Huffman, Jno Minor—Common Councilmen

John J Berrey, member elect of the Council appeared, was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board.

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Robert W Hart, the sum of fifty dollars as compensation in full for filling up, endorsing and cutting the sheets ready for use of \$15,000 of Corp'n scrip

The Clerk laid before the Board a sealed package of Corp'n Scrip received from Danforth, Bald & Co of Philadelphia, which being opened in their presence and counted was found to contain one thousand sheet or \$5000. And Thereupon, on motion, Resolved, that \$5000 of the scrip of the Corp'n be issued as follows, viz; \$2000 redeemable in 12 years numbered from 12001 to 13600; \$1500 redeemable in 13 years No'd from 13600 to 14800; & \$1500 in 14 years No'd from 14801 to 16000. & that \$1500 thereof bear date of the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the present month, and \$500 thereof at the discretion of the Chamberlain to be signed by the Mayor, and filled up and endorsed by the Chamberlain

Mr John Minor, one of the Committee appointed to report upon the subject of the site erection &c of a new Court house presented a report, which report having been read and the ayes and noes taken therein was indefinitely postponed by the following vote;

Ayes, William F Cheek, James McGuire, B S Herndon, J J Berrey, Geo W Eve, Thomas A Ball 6  
Noes, R B Semple, Jno Minor, John F Scott, L J Huffman 4

On motion, ordered that the Committee on Public Property be authorized to have insurance effected on the City Hall, to the amt of \$10,000 and that said Insurance be made in the Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co the sum of \$34.25, the amt of their a/c for striking off 1000 impressions of Corp'n scrip

And then the Council adjourned  
R B Semple, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
James McGuire, Recorder



William F Cheek, John Pritchard, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, John F Scott [Page 28] John Minor, B S Herndon—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of considering various matters of business amongst which he would call their attention to the subject of the new charter of the Corp'n

On motion of Mr John Pritchard, ordered that a Committee of three be appointed by the Mayor to superintend & contract for the publication of the new Charter of the Corp'n and thereupon the Mayor appointed Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard & L J Huffman said Committee.

Absent John Minor

On motion, Resolved that John S Caldwell, John F Scott and Wm F Cheek be and they are hereby appointed Commissioners any two of whom may Act to open a poll book at the Town Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in this month under the Act of the General Assembly of Virginia entitled "An Act authorizing the people of the Town of Fredericksburg to elect a Mayor and other Officers and prescribing regulations for the Government of the Town," passed on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1852.

John Metcalfe, Esq by note in writing resigned his office of Commissioner of the Revenue in and for this Corporation.

The Council proceeded to the appointment of a Commissioner of the Revenue in & for this Corporation, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of John Metcalfe; Whereupon Robert W Hart having received the unanimous vote of the Council was duly elected Commissioner of the Revenue in & for this Corp'n. And thereupon the said Robert W Hart being present qualified before the Mayor.

On motion ordered that three proxies be appointed to represent the Stock of the Corp'n at the annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Freds'burg & Valley Plank Road Company, to be held on tomorrow; Whereupon the following gentlemen were elected on the first ballot, viz;  
Alex K Phillips, Wm F Cheek & Geo W Eve, Esquires.

On motion of Mr Wm F Cheek, resolved that the proxies of the Corp'n in the meeting of the Stockholders of the Fred'g & Valley Plank Road Company be instructed to vote against a larger salary than \$500 being given to the President of the Company; and the Ayes and Noes being taken thereon it was adopted by the following vote;

Ayes, R B Semple, Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, John F Scott, Geo W Eve, Jas McGuire 6  
Noes, L J Huffman, B S Herndon 2

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to L J Rothrock the sum of \$3.00 being the amount of his bill for printing 60 Nos for drays.

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain be authorized to fill up for circulation, one thousand dollars of the [Page 29] scrip of the Corp'n to bear date on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 1852 & payable in 13 years from the date.

And then the Council adjourned

R B Semple, Mayor  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 1st day of June 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, B S Herndon, John J Berrey, Geo W Eve, John Minor, D H Gordon, Thos A Ball—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened at the instance of Mr Geo Ficklen to take into consideration what may be necessary to be done in the present condition of the Hazle River improvement from damages sustained by it during the recent freshet and Mr Ficklen being present and having by leave of the Council expressed his views upon the subject, the following resolution was offered by Mr John J Berrey, viz;

Resolved that application be made to the Legislature for permission to lend to the Hazle River Navigation Company a sum not exceeding \$10,000 to repair damages by the recent freshet, to said in bonds of the Corporation when the vote of the people shall have been taken and a majority have decided in favor of such loan”

And the Ayes and noes being taken thereon it was adopted by the following vote;

Ayes, R B Semple, Thos A Ball, Wm F Cheek, John J Berrey, D H Gordon 5

Noes, John Minor, Brodie S Herndon, John Pritchard [?only 3 listed] 4

The Committee appointed to report upon the subject of taxation made a report, which on motion was laid on the table.

On motion, Resolved that the Mayor be requested to sign a Declaration for the insurance of the City Hall to the Amount of \$10,000 in the Office of the Mutual Assurance Society of Virginia and that the seal of the Corporation be affixed to said Declaration.

On motion, ordered that Jesse White be credited in his account with the Corp'n for rent, by the sum of \$10, amount of his account for printing the new Charter of the Corporation.

An Account of Jesse White for lighting the Town Hall amounting to 50¢ is allowed & ordered to be paid by the Chamberlain.

Ordered that the Commissioner of the Revenue be required to list all property subject to taxation within the limits of the Town as held by the Owner or Owners thereof on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February last, which is hereby made the beginning of the present fiscal year.

Mr Marcus Cooper is appointed the Proxy to represent the [Page 30] Corporation at the meeting of the Stockholders of the Hazle River Navigation Company on Friday next the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant

And then the Council adjourned

R B Semple, Mayor

Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 11<sup>th</sup> of June 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

William F Cheek, Landon J Huffman, Geo W Eve, John F Scott, John Pritchard, Thomas A Ball, John J Berrey—Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed to report upon the subject of the site, erection &c of a new Court house made a report which having been read, on motion, ordered that a Committee be appointed to take the subjects embraced in the said Report, into consideration and to report to the Council, and that the Mayor appoint said Committee.

The Mayor appointed Thomas A Ball, L J Huffman, John J Berrey the Committee under the foregoing order.

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain pay to James Renwick Esq, the sum of \$300 on account of his compensation as architect of the new Court house

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Scott & Herndon the sum of \$153.13 being the amount of their account for iron door, shutters &c to the vault of the New Clerks Office.

John S Caldwell, John F Scott & Wm F Cheek Esqrs the Council appointed to open a poll book at the Town Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in May last under the Act of the General Assembly entitled “An Act authorizing the people of the Town of Fred’g to elect a Mayor and other officers & prescribing regulations for the Government of the Town” passed on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1852, reported that a poll was opened by them according to the Act aforesaid, & at the place mentioned in said Act, and that the whole number of votes polled were 327, of which 203 votes were given against said Act, and 124 votes were given in favor of sd Act.

On the motion of Mr W F Cheek, Resolved that should the meeting which is to be called to night deem it advisable to appoint an agent to go upon & examine the Hazle River improvement, and report upon its present state & condition that the Council will defray the expenses of such agent; and the Ayes & Noes being taken thereon, it was adopted by the following vote;

Ayes, R B Semple, Wm F Cheek, John F Scott, Thos A Ball, Jno Minor	5
Noes, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, Jno Pritchard, J J Berrey	4

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On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain be authorized to fill up for circulation the scrip of the Corporation, now in his possession to be used as occasion may require to bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1852 & to be made payable fourteen years after date.

On motion, Ordered that James M Campbell, Sealer of Weights & Measures of the Town of Fred’g be authorized to order from the Superintendent of Weights & Measures, the standards as required by law.

On motion, ordered that the Clerk of the Market, do sell at public auction, the weights and measures now in his possession and return an account of sales to the Council.

And then, on motion, the Council adjourned.  
G F Chew, Clk

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 12th day of June 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Thomas A Ball, Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, Landon J Huffman, Geo W Eve, John J Berrey, John F Scott—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of electing an agent or agents to visit the Hazle River improvement in obedience to the wishes of a meeting of the Citizens held on last evening and to report upon its present condition &c &c

Brodie S Herndon, Esq, by vote in writing resigned his office as Councilman, which resignation was on motion received.

The Council proceeded to the election of a Common Councilman to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of B S Herndon and thereupon Thomas F Knox having received a majority of the votes of the Board was declared duly elected.

Thomas F Knox, Esq, member of the Council elect, appeared, was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board.

The Mayor having made a favourable report, it is ordered that the Salaries of the Police Officers for the present quarter be paid by the Chamberlain.

The Council proceeded to elect two agents to visit the Hazle River improvement; Whereupon Wellington Gordon and John M Whittemore were duly elected; and the said agents are directed to examine into the character of the work already built, whether it is durable, its power to furnish good and sufficient Navigation, the extent of damage done by the late freshet, the probable cost of repairing these damages, the road connecting with Sperryville and Culpeper Court House Turnpike, its length, its probable cost; the character of the Country over which it passes and the kind of road most proper to be built whether plank or macadamized; to examine [Page 32] the books and papers of the Company; the amount expended and the judiciousness of such expenditures; they shall further ascertain what monies are in the hands of the Company, whether more can be gotten from the citizens in that region and what probable amount; they shall further report their views of the probable value of this improvement, to Fred'g, what trade it will probably bring here and in what way it will compete with the Alexandria Rail road, together with any other matters relating to said improvement that they may deem pertinent.

And then, on motion, the Council adjourned

Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 1852

Present, James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, Thomas A Ball, John J Berrey, John F Scott, Alex K Phillips, John Minor—Common Councilmen

The Recorder stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of laying before it a communication from the Rappahannock Company; and the said Communication having been read by the

Clerk; On motion of Mr J J Berrey, ordered that 500 copies of the said communication be printed in hand bill form for circulation amongst the Citizens of the Town.

On motion of Mr A K Phillips, Resolved that the Proposal of the Rappahannock Canal Company laid before the Council this evening be submitted to the Town meeting to be held next Friday night and looking to the continuation of said Canal as a matter of vital importance to the trade of the Town, would ask the Town meeting to give the subject that consideration which in the opinion of the Council, its importance would seem to require.

The following Resolution offered by Mr J Pritchard, viz;

“Resolved that the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to each of the Fire Companies for the purpose of keeping the apparatus of said Companies in order and paying their debts, provided however that they agree to occupy the rooms fitted up for them in the Court house” was on motion laid on the table, to be taken up at some subsequent meeting of the Council.

And then, on motion, the Council adjourned

James McGuire, Recorder

Geo F Chew, C C

[Page 33]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 21 day of June 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, Alex K Phillips, John J Berrey, L J Huffman, J Pritchard, Geo W Eve, John Minor—  
Common Councilmen

The account of Jesse White amounting to \$3.50 is allowed and ordered to be credited in his account with the Corporation.

The Account of Jesse White amounting to \$1.50 for lighting the Town Hall is allowed & the Chamberlain is directed to pay the same.

The Account of Henry Lucas amt'g to 50¢ is allowed & ord'd to be paid

On motion of Mr Wm F Cheek, ordered that the Mayor be authorized to make some provision for the reception of the filth of the Town and any reasonable & necessary expense incurred thereby be paid by the Council.

In pursuance of the Resolutions of the Citizens' meeting held on Monday evening the 18<sup>th</sup> Inst at the Town Hall in this Town, the Council propose to enter into the following arrangements with the Rappahannock Company to secure the active operation of said work for the present, viz;

1<sup>st</sup> That in and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1852 the Secretary & Treasurer of the Rappahannock Company shall for a period not longer than 12 months be appointed by the Common Council of Fredericksburg. He shall perform his duties and make disbursements as their agent and shall render his accounts at the end of each month for their inspection and approval.

2<sup>nd</sup> That the said Agent shall be authorized to superintend the whole work and the expenditures thereon & to collect and receive the tolls & revenues thereof, and shall at the end of every three months furnish a statement to the said Council exhibiting the profits and expenses of the work for said period; and any balance above the profits found due by the work, shall there be paid by the order of the Council and any surplus of profits above the expenses shall be retained by their said agent to meet the expenses for the ensuing quarter. Provided, that said payments by the Corporation, through the Council shall not exceed the sum of twenty five hundred dollars during the said period of 12 months; and Provided that if at the end of said period of 12 months a surplus of profits shall remain in the hands of the said agent, said surplus shall be paid into the Treasury of this Corporation, to reimburse said expenditures.

3<sup>rd</sup> That the said agent may at any time suspend operations on the Rappahannock Canal, when in the judgment of the Council to whom the matter shall be referred by him the interests of this Corporation require that further expenditures by as agent as aforesaid [Page 34] upon this improvement shall be discontinued.

4<sup>th</sup> that the expenditures above referred to, shall be held to mean the ordinary and necessary expenses, to secure the continued & successful operation of the work, and do not refer to permanent repairs or improvements thereon.

Resolved by the Mayor & Common Council, that a poll be opened on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> June 1852 at the Town Hall in Fredericksburg, to submit to the voters of the Corporation the propriety of entering into the foregoing arrangement with the Rappahannock Company; and that Alex K Phillips, W F Cheek & Geo W Eve, any two of whom may act, be and they are hereby appointed a committee to superintend the said Poll.

And that this statement and proceedings be published at the expense of the Council in the Papers of the Town until said vote to be taken.

In pursuance of the Resolutions adopted at a meeting of the Citizens of Fredericksburg upon the evening of Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> of the present month. It is Resolved by the Mayor & Common Council of Fred'g that a poll be opened at the Town Hall in Fred'g on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> Instant to submit to the voters of the Corporation the propriety of a further subscription of \$15,000 on the part of the Corporation to the Capital stock of the Fred'g & Valley Plank Road Company, to insure the completion of said work to its terminus at Liberty Mills, in the County of Orange; and also the propriety of appointing a suitable agent on the part of the Corporation to solicit subscriptions from the citizens of that region in aid of the construction of a branch of said road to the Raccoon Ford in Culpeper County.

2<sup>nd</sup> Resolved, that Alex K Phillips, Wm F Cheek & Geo W Eve, any two of whom may act, be and they are appointed a committee to superintend said Poll and that this statement and proceedings be published at the expense of the Council in the Papers of the Town until said vote is taken.

On motion of Mr A K Phillips, ordered that 500 copies of the foregoing resolutions be printed for circulation amongst the voters of the Town.

On motion, Resolved that the Rappahannock Canal Company be requested to furnish the Council with a list of the Tolls on said Canal, also with a list of the quantity of goods, flour, wheat, corn &c that has been transported up and down the Canal for the past year.

On motion the Report of the Committee on Taxation was taken up, and thereupon it was resolved that the first clause [Page 35] in said Report, viz;

That real estate be taxed according to its fee simple value be adopted.

On motion the Council adjourned  
C F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 2<sup>d</sup> day of July 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Thomas A Ball, Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, Thomas F Knox, Geo W Eve, D H Gordon, Alex K Phillips, Landon J Huffman, John Minor—Common Councilmen

The Committee appointed to superintend the Poll for a further subscription of \$15,000 on the part of the Corporation to the Capital Stock of the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road, and of the propriety of entering into the arrangement proposed by the Rappahannock Company reported that the vote polled as follows

For subscription to the Plank road	190
Against it	29
Majority	161

For entering into the arrangement proposed by the Rappahannock Company	161
Against it	52
Majority	109

The subject of entering into the arrangement proposed to the Corporation by the Rappahannock Company as authorized by the vote of the 28<sup>th</sup> June last was called to the notice of the Board by the Mayor. And thereupon a motion was made that said arrangement be entered into which motion put to the vote was carried.

On motion of Mr A K Phillips, Resolved that a Committee be appointed to enter into and consummate the contract with the Rappahannock Canal Company and to report their proceedings to the next meeting of the Council; and thereupon A K Phillips, Thos A Ball & Wm F Cheek were appointed said Committee.

On motion, ordered that Mr M H Crump be appointed the temporary agent of the Council to receive the tolls and superintend the operations on the Rappahannock Canal.

The subject of the subscription by the Corporation to the Fred'g & Valley Plank Road was on motion laid on the table

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Mr Thomas A Ball, one of the Committee appointed to take the subject embraced in the Report of the Committee upon the site, erection &c of a new Court house into consideration made a Report which having been read, and the vote taken upon it was negatived

On motion, of Mr A K Phillips, it was Resolved that the Building Committee be requested to ascertain the cost of building a stone or brick wall of sufficient strength on the Alley in the read of the Court House and also the costs of furnishing the Court Room, Jury rooms and Clerks Office, and to report to the Council as early as practicable.

On motion ordered that the Building Committee be requested to report to the Council what amount is due to Wm M Baggett on his contract for building the Court house and the mode in which it is to be paid.

The following accounts were read, passed & ord'd to be paid

Jesse White for tolling bell	\$3.00
Geo Semple for tolling the bell	\$2.00
Henry Lucas, for circulating hand bills	.50
Adams & Co for freight on scrip	.75

An account of Jesse White for printing hand bills amounting to \$3.50 is allowed & ordered to be paid to his credit in a/c with the Corporation.

Ordered that the Chamberlain pay to John F Ficklen \$4.00 as compensation for his services in keeping the Poll, upon the adoption or rejection of the new Charter of the Corp'n &c

On motion, the Council adjourned

R B S

Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Alex'r K Phillip, Geo W Eve, Landon J Huffman, Thomas F Knox, John Pritchard, Wm F Cheek, Thos A Ball, John F Scott, John Minor—Common Councilman

Mr Alex'r K Phillips, Chairman of the Committee appointed to enter into and consummate the contract with the Rappahannock Company reported a contract drawn and ready for execution and thereupon it was ordered that the whole subject be laid on the table

Thomas B Barton, Esq, Chairman of the Committee on [Page 37] on the erection &c of the new Court House made a report which having been read the following resolution offered by Mr A K Phillips, viz; Resolved that the Building Committee have power to enclose the Court House lot in the manner reported with stone & iron railing, also to furnish the Court Room, Jury Rooms & Clerks Office proved the whole cost of the same shall not exceed the sum of one thousand dollars was adopted by the following vote, viz; Ayes, R B Semple, Landon J Huffman, John F Scott, Thomas A Ball, Thos F Knox, A K Phillips, John Minor 7

Noes, Jas McGuire, W F Cheek, Geo W Eve, John J Berrey 4

On motion, ordered that 300 copies of the Report made by the Agents appointed to visit the Hazle River improvement be printed

On motion Ordered that Jas N Campbell, Sealer of weights and measures be authorized to procure a suitable room in which to keep the standard of weights & measures until the further order of the Council.

An appropriation of ten dollars was made to the Fred'g Guards to cover the expense of firing the cannon on the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant



On motion the Council adjourned to meet on Friday next at 8 o'clock PM  
R B S[emple]  
Geo F Chew C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 1852  
Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
James McGuire, Recorder  
Wm F Cheek, John J Berrey, A K Phillips, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, John F Scott, John Minor, Thomas F Knox, John Pritchard—Common Councilmen

Mr R B Semple, the Chairman of the Committee appointed to digest and report upon the free school system made a report the reading of which report on motion of Mr John F Scott was postponed.

On motion the Contract between the Corporation and the Rappahannock Company was approved and confirmed and it was ordered that the Mayor as evidence of such approval and confirmation do sign the said Contract and cause the Corporation Seal to be affixed thereto and that the Clerk of the Council do file and preserve the same among the papers of the Corporation.

On motion, ordered that the Salary of the President & Treasurer [Page 38] of the Rappahannock Canal Company to be fixed at the rate of two hundred and fifty dollars per annum

The Council then proceeded to the election of the President & Treasurer of the Rappahannock Canal Company for one year when Alex K Phillips Esq was elected

A Motion was made that the salary of the Superintendent of the Rappahannock Canal be fixed at the rate of seven hundred and fifty collars, which motion was carried by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, R B Semple, John F Scott, Jno J Berrey, Thos F Knox, A K Phillips, John Minor	6
Noes, Wm F Cheek, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, John Pritchard, Jas McGuire	5

An account of Jesse White, amounting to \$5.50 for printing the report of the agents appointed to visit the Hazle River improvement was allowed and \$3 thereof directed to be placed to the credit of Mr White in his account with the Corp'n and \$2.50 to be paid him.

The following accounts were read, passed and ordered to be paid, viz;

Thos B Coates for removing dead dogs	75¢
Buddy Taylor for removing dead dogs	75¢

On motion the Council adjourned till Monday evening next at 8 o'clock PM  
R B S  
Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on Monday evening the 13<sup>th</sup> day of July 1852  
Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
John Minor, John J Berrey, Wm F Cheek, Thomas F Knox, John Pritchard, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve—  
Common Councilman

On motion, the Report of the Committee on the Free School System was taken up and the said report having been read it was ordered that 500 copies thereof be printed in hand bill form.

On motion of Mr Geo W Eve, ordered that the publisher of the *Fred's News* be employed to print the Report of the Committee on Free Schools and cause the same to be generally circulated.

On the motion of Mr John Minor, Resolved that a Committee of three be appointed to take into consideration & report the best method of carrying out the plan to establish free schools in the Town according to the Act of Assembly in such case made and provided which plan was this day generally & favorably reported upon by another committee.

Mess'rs John Minor, Landon J Huffman & G W Eve were [Page 39] appointed the Committee under the foregoing resolution

Present Jas McGuire, Recorder, Absent, John Minor

Ordered that an advance of one thousand on his contract for building the new Court house be made to Wm M Baggett said sum to be paid in Corp'n Scrip

Ordered that the Chamberlain request Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co to furnish 400 sheets amounting to \$2000 of the scrip of the Corp'n of the denomination of 1 & \$2 from the steel plate now in their possession

On motion of Mr Geo W Eve, the report of the Committee in taxation was taken up and adopted

On motion the Council adjourned

R B S

Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

John J Berrey, John Pritchard, Alex K Phillips, Geo W Eve, Thos F Knox, Thomas A Ball—Common Councilmen

Douglas H Gordon Esq by note in writing resigned his office as Councilman, which resignation was on motion received.

The Council proceeded to the election of a Common Councilman to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Douglas H Gordon; and thereupon Wm A Little Esq having received a majority of the votes of the board was duly elected

Wm A Little, Esq member of the Council elect appeared was qualified before the Mayor and took his seat at the Board.

The Clerk laid before the board a sealed package of Corporation scrip, received from Danforth, Bald & Co which having been opened in their presence and counted was found to contain 400 sheet or \$2000. On the motion of Mr A K Phillips, resolved that \$2000 of the scrip of the Corp'n be issued by the Chamberlain, the said scrip to bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 1852 and \$1000 thereof to be redeemable in nine years \$1000 in ten years

Wm A Little & Thomas F Knox were appointed member of the Committee on Pumps

On Motion ordered that the account of Danforth, Bald & Co against the Corp'n for 1400 impressions of scrip, amounting to \$50.75 which sum includes \$36.25 heretofore allowed them, be paid by the Chamberlain.

A Petition signed by sundry citizens residing ion and near the head of Commerce Street praying to have a pump at the intersection of Commerce & Liberty Street re-opened and fitted up, was [Page 40] presented to the Board and read, and thereupon on motion, Resolved that the Pump Committee be instructed to enquire into the propriety of opening the well at the corner of Commerce & Liberty Street; also the repairing the pump at the intersection of Prince Edward and Lewis Street; also the repairing the Pump upon Samuel Alsop's lot on Princess Ann Street near the residence of Mr Hogan, provided said Alsop will convey said well and pump to the Corp'n of Fred'g; also the propriety of bring the water from the Christie Spring in Knox's lot to the head of Caroline Street by means of a water ram, and the expense per year of hiring such a ram & keeping it in order; and also a pump above Geo Rowe's on that part of the town; And that sd committee make report to the Council.

On motion the Council Adjourned

R B S

Geo F Chew C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Geo W Eve, Thos A Ball, Landon J Huffman, Wm A Little, John Pritchard, Thomas F Knox, John J Berrey—Common Councilman

A motion was made by Jas McGuire to Petition Congress for twenty five thousand dollars to be appropriated towards the improvement of the Navigation of the Rappahannock River which motion being put to the vote was carried.

A Motion of Mr Geo W Eve that our Senators in Congress be written to upon the subject embraced in the foregoing motion was put to the vote & lost

On motion of Mr L J Huffman, it was ordered that a Committee of two be appointed whose duty it should be to repair to Washington City and use their best endeavors to obtain an appropriation of \$25,000 by Congress to be used in the opening of the Rappahannock River.

And R B Semple Esq & Dr B R Wellford were appointed the said Committee.

An account of R T Thom Esq for rent of house for the Cannon amounting to \$22, was on motion laid on the table.

On motion, Ordered that the Cannon belonging to the Corp'n be place for safe keeping in one of the Engine Rooms of the new Court House.

The Mayor here stated that the Council convened at the instance of Mr George Ficklen who wished some steps taken in relation to the Hazle River improvement, and Mr [Page 41] Ficklen being present, and having made a verbal statement, the following preamble & resolution offered by Mr Wm A Little, viz; The Citizens of Fred'g having requested the Council to appoint a Committee to examine the condition of the work of the Hazle River Navigation Comp'y and to estimate what amount would be necessary to put the work in good navigable order, and to build an improved road between the head of navigation and a point on the Sperryville and Culpeper Court House turnpike, and a Committee having been appointed for the said purpose which Committee has reported to the Council and their report having been printed and circulated among the Citizens of the Town, Therefore, Resolved that a poll be opened on Thursday the 12<sup>th</sup> Inst, to take the sense of the Citizens of Fredericksburg upon the question whether the aid asked for the said Company shall be extended by the Council, that is to say, whether the Council shall lend to said Company the bonds of this Company, the sum of \$1500 in order to obtain the unpaid State subscription which sums thus loaned and subscribed are to be applied to the repairs and liabilities of said navigation but it is not to be use by said Company until the sum of \$8000 is obtained by said Company from sources other than Fred'g, to be applied to said repairs and liabilities. And whether the Council shall subscribe to the Stock of the Castleton & Lebanon Turnpike Company the sum of \$500 to build in conjunction with the other private subscriptions of \$1400 and a sum of \$9,600; subscribed by the State, the improved road aforesaid. Was adopted by the following vote, viz;

R B Semple, James McGuire, Geo W Eve, Thomas A Ball, Landon J Huffman, Wm A Little, Thomas F Knox, John J Berrey 8  
No, John Pritchard

On motion, Resolved that Thomas A Ball, Wm A Little & John J Berrey any two of whom may act, be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to superintend said Poll, and that these Resolutions be published in the papers of the Town until said vote is taken.

The following Resolution offered by Mr John J Berrey, viz;  
Resolved that it is the sense of the Council that the aid requested by the Hazle River navigation Company at the hands of Fred'g in order to restore a good navigation upon said river and to build an improved road &c should be extended by its citizens inasmuch as a valuable trade now in jeopardy may be retained to this town, by such a restoration of navigation, while said Town may thereby be place in successful competition for a new and valuable trade, and in view of the determination declared by said Citizens to sustain the navigation upon the main stream of the Rappahannock Canal, it is the sense of the Council that [Page 42] the aid above mentioned should be promptly extended to said Company in order to prevent the evils which must result both to the said work and to the trade of the Town, by a neglect & postponement of the repairs of said work; also to enable said Town to present greater inducements to the Legislature to aid in a further improvement of the Rappahannock Canal; and lastly but not least to prevent the loss of the State subscription to said improved road, from Castleton to Lebanon which will occur unless the private subscriptions to the Stock of said road shall be made before the ensuing winter." Was rejected by the following vote, viz;

Ayes, Thomas F Knox, John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball, Wm A Little 4

An account of Geo F Chew for filling up script &c amounting to fifty five dollars was read, passed & ordered to be paid.

On motion the Council then adjourned  
R B S  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 1852

Present, James McGuire, Recorder  
Wm F Cheek, L J Huffman, John F Scott, John Pritchard, Wm A Little, Thomas F Knox—Common Councilmen

The Recorder stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of appointing proxies to represent the Stock of the Corporation at the meeting of the Stockholders of the Fred'g & Valley Plank Road Company to be held tonight; Whereupon it was ordered that three proxies be appointed and the following gentlemen were elected in the first ballot, viz;  
Thomas F Knox, L J Huffman, & Wm F Cheek, Esq.

Mr John F Scott tendered his resignation as a Common Councilman, which resignation was on motion received

On motion the Council then adjourned  
James McGuire, Recorder  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor  
James McGuire, Recorder  
Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, Geo W Eve, Thomas A Ball, John J Berrey [Page 43] Thomas F Knox, John Minor—Common Councilmen

The Mayor reported to the board verbally the result of the visit of Dr B R Wellford & himself to the City of Washington, for the purpose of obtaining an appropriation by the General Government to improve the Navigation of the Rappahannock river, stating the obstacle in the way of obtaining such appropriation at this time to be the want of a survey of the said river, when survey had been recommended by a Committee of the United States Senate and that there was no doubt, he thought, that after such survey an appropriation would be made for that object.

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain pay to R B Semple Esq the sum of \$25 & to Dr B R Wellford \$19.50 expenses incurred by them in going to Washington City on the subject of the improvement of the Navigation of the Rappahannock River.

The Council proceeded to the election of a Common Councilman to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of John F Scott, & thereupon John J Young having received a majority of the votes of the board was duly elected.

John J Young, member of the Council elect, appeared was qualified before the Mayor took his seat at the board.

The Committee upon the site, erection &c of the new Court house made a report accompanied by sundry documents, which report and accompanying documents having been read were on motion laid on the table for the present.

On motion the foregoing reports were again taken upon and thereupon, on motion of Mr Wm F Cheek it was ordered that a Committee of three be appointed whose duty it should be to inspect the new Court house and grounds and to report to the Council whether or not Mr Wm M Baggett has complied with his contract for building the said Court house &c

Mess'rs Thomas F Knox, Wm F Cheek and Thomas A Ball were appointed the said Committee

On motion, ordered that Wm M Baggett be instructed to remove the old Clerk's office agreeably to his contract.

An application of Dr M A Blankman, for permission to conduct the water thro' pipes across Amelia Street to his bath house lot was granted provided no obstruction be thereby caused to a free passage along said street.

A Communication from A Goodwin, Esq, Cashier of the Farmer's Bank calling the attention of the Council to the curtail of 10 pr cent heretofore ordered by the Board of Directors of said Bank in the Corporation debt, was laid before the board and read; whereupon on motion it was ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation do pay said curtail at the time specified on said communication [Page 44]

An ordinance amendatory of an ordinance for the better preservation of the quiet and good order of the Town was passed & is in the following words, viz;

1<sup>st</sup> Be it ordained by the Mayor and Chamberlain of the Town of Fredericksburg, that hereafter if any slave be found on the Streets of the Town r absent from the lot or premises of his or her master, after ten O'clock at night, without a pass, or some token shewing that said slave is on business for his or her master or owner it shall be and is hereby made the duty of the Police Officers to arrest said slave, and confine him or her in the Jail of the Corporation until the morning following such arrest and then to carry him or her before the Mayor of the Town or some other Justice of the Peace, who shall order such slave to receive not less than five or more than thirty lashes at the Public whipping post, provided always that the infliction of the lashes may be remitted at the discretion of the Justice of the Peace before whom such slave may be taken upon the payment by the Master or Owner of such Slave of a fine not exceeding two dollars and the costs.

2<sup>d</sup> Be it further ordained that hereafter if any free Negro or Mulatto be found in the Streets of the Town, or absent from his or he lot or tenement after the house named in the preceding section of this ordinance unless upon urgent business (to be judged of by the officer arresting him or her, it shall be the duty of the Police Officers to arrest such free Negro or Mulatto and confine him or her in the Jail of the Corporation until the morning following such arrest, and then to carry him or her before the Mayor of the Town or some other Justice of the Peace who shall order such free Negro or Mulatto to receive not less than five,

nor more than thirty lashes at the Public Whipping Post; Provided always that the infliction of the lashes may be limited at the discretion of the Justice of the Peace before whom such free Negro or Mulatto may be taken upon the payment by him or her of a fine not exceeding two dollars and the cost of arrest.  
3<sup>d</sup> And be it further ordained that all fines received for violation of this ordinance shall be paid over to the Justice of the Peace, receiving them as follows, viz;

One half to the Chamberlain, for the use of the Corporation and the other half to the officer making the arrest.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 1852

A motion was made by Mr James McGuire that an ordinance be prepared by the Clerk prohibiting Negroes from [Page 45] coming into the Town on the Sabbath for the purposes of trade, and that all offenders be subject to be taken up and confined in the Jail of the Corporation 'till Monday morning then to be dealt with according to law; and that it should be the duty of the Police Officers to see that said Ordinance be enforced. And the Ayes and Noes having been taken thereon it was rejected by the following vote;

Ayes, James McGuire, Thomas F Knox, John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball, John J Young     5  
Noes, R B Semple, Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, Geo W Eve, John Minor             5

On motion the Council then adjourned till Monday next at ½ past 7 o'clock PM  
Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 23<sup>d</sup> of August 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, Jno J Berrey, Thomas A Ball, John Pritchard, Geo W Eve, John J Young, John Minor, Thos F Knox—Common Councilmen

An account of Reuben T Thom amounting to \$22 for rent of a house for the Cannon was read, passed and ordered to be paid

The Committee appointed to inspect the new Court House & grounds and to report whether or not the contractor, Wm M Baggett, had complied with his contract for building sd Court House &c made a report which having been read was, on motion laid on the table.

A motion was made by Mr Geo W Ever, that the report and accompanying documents which was made to the last Council by the Committee upon the site, erection &c of the new Court House be referred back to said Committee; and the vote being taken thereon by Ayes & Noes, was follows, viz;

Ayes, R B Semple, James McGuire, John Pritchard, Thomas F Knox, Geo W Eve, John J Young, John Minor             7

Noes, Wm F Cheek, John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball             3

On motion the Council then adjourned till tomorrow night at 8 o'clock

R B S

Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, Jno Pritchard, John J Berrey, Thos A Ball, John J Young, Geo W Eve—Common Councilmen

The Chamberlain submitted the estimates of the receipts and expenditures of the Corporation for the year ending the [Page 46] 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March 1852, Whereupon after some time spent in laying the taxes, on motion, the Council adjourned till Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> Inst at 8 o'clock PM

R B S

Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

John Pritchard, Landon J Huffman, Wm A Little, John J Berrey, Geo W Eve, Alex K Phillips, Thomas A Ball, Wm F Cheek, John Minor—Common Councilmen

Mr John Minor, Chairman of the Committee on Free Schools made a report, which having been read was on motion laid on the table for the present.

On motion the estimates of the receipts and expenditures of the Corporation for the year 1852, submitted by the Chamberlain on Tuesday last, was taken up and after an amendment thereto, the tax bill was passed as follows, viz;

Be it ordained by the Mayor and the Common Council for the Town of Fredericksburg that there shall be levied and collected on the persons, property and other subjects in the Town of Fredericksburg to defray the expenses of the Corporation, for the year ending the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in March 1853, the taxes following to wit;

On Real Estate, fifty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof agreeably to the Commissioner's books.

On each white male above twenty one years of age, two dollars

On each slave above sixteen years of age, two dollars & fifty cents

On each slave between twelve & sixteen years of age, two dollars

On each free color'd male above twenty one years of age, two dollars

On all personal property, other than slaves, fifty cents on every hundred dollars value thereof, agreeably to the Commissioner's books

On moneys in hand, in deposit or loaned without written memorial, shipping and other vessels used in Navigation, eighteen cents on every hundred dollars

On all solvent bonds and other securities, such as notes, deeds of trust, or mortgages, eighteen cents on every hundred dollars.

On all capital invested or used in any manufacturing business or invested, used or employed in any trade or business for which no license is required by the State, as ascertained by the Commissioner of the Revenue, under the laws of the State, fifty cents on every hundred dollars.

[Page 47]

On so much of the interest or profits which may have been received by an person or converted into principal so as to become an interest bearing subject, or otherwise appropriated, with the year ending



February 1<sup>st</sup> 1852, arising from bonds and certificates of debt, in this or any other state or Country, or any public Corporation erected by this, or any other state, three per cent  
 On so much of the salary, income or fees of every person as ascertained by the Commissioner of the Revenue under the laws of the State, as exceeds two hundred and fifty dollars, one per cent  
 On Bagatelle tables, ten dollars  
 On Ten Pin Alleys, ten dollars  
 On billiard tables, ten dollars  
 On Hawkers & Pedlars, or others vending articles on the Streets whether of Foreign or domestic growth and manufacture, five dollars for each carrier  
 On every lawyer license, ten dollars  
 On every Physicians license, seven dollars and fifty cents  
 On every Dentists license, seven dollars and fifty cents  
 On every license to an Insurance Agent or sub-agent commencing business, ten dollars and for continuing the business after the same has been carried for the year ending the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1852, one per cent on the amount of premiums received for the year ending the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1852.  
 On any license granted by the State to keep an ordinary in the Town aforesaid, twenty per cent of the State Tax  
 On the proprietor or occupier of any Public room fitted for public exhibitions & used for such purpose, forty dollars  
 On every public exhibition other than at a room fitted for public exhibitions, except lectures on literary or scientific subjects and musical concerts, five dollars for every twenty four hours.  
 On every merchant and auctioneer's license, granted by the state, twenty per cent on the state tax  
 On every license to the occupied of a Daguerian room or gallery, five dollars  
 On every Toll bridge, fifteen dollars  
 On every ferry, five dollars  
 And be it further ordained that the Commissioner of the Revenue do extend in the provided for the purpose the amount due from each person under the provisions of this ordinance.  
 And be it further ordained that all persons who shall call on the Collector, at the Mayor's office and pay him the taxes due by them under this ordinance by the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October next shall be entitled to a deduction of five per cent from the amount of their respective accounts. [Copy of the tax list clipped from the newspaper interleaved, with page, not transcribed.]  
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On motion ordered that the Compensation of the Collector of taxes and rents be fixed at 5 pr cent Commission on the amount of taxes received by him on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October next, and ten pr cent on all received by him thereafter.

On motion of Mr Geo W Eve, the report of the Committee on Free Schools was taken up and on his further motion it was ordered that the town be laid off into three wards and that a Committee of three be appointed for that purpose.

Mess'rs A K Phillips, Jno J Berrey, & Wm F Cheek were appointed the said committee. And the said Committee forthwith reported that from the Northern boundary of the Town to Amelia Street (from the River to the back line of the Town be the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward; from Amelia to Wolfe Street be the Second and from Wolfe Street to the Southern boundary of the town be the 3<sup>d</sup> Ward

An application of Mess'rs Thompson and Owens for permission to open a quarry at or near the Terminus of Hawke Street near the river, was referred to the Committee on Streets.

On motion the Council adjourned till Tuesday evening next at ½ past 7 O'clock

R B S

Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 31<sup>st</sup> of Aug't 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball, Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, Landon J Huffman, Thomas F Knox, Geo W Eve, Alex'r K Phillips—Common Councilmen

A communication in writing from Mr William Warrant asking the Council to rescind the order heretofore entered granting permission to Dr M A Blankman to conduct the water thro' pipes across Amelia Street to his Bath house lot, and to allow him the said Warrant to retain the privilege and use of the said water, which flows from and adjoins to his premises for his own use was laid before the board and read, and on motion of Mr L J Huffman, the same was referred to the Committee on Streets.

An account of Mr Wellington Gordon, for six day service in examining Hazle River and estimating the costs of repairing the same & for the hire of a rodman one day, amounting to \$31 was read passed and ordered to be paid.

An account of John M Whittemore for horse and buggy hire travelling expenses & six days service in examining Hazle River, amounting to \$50 was presented to the board & read & \$30 thereof ordered to be paid.

[Page 49]

On motion of Mr L J Huffman the report of the Committee on Free Schools was taken up and thereupon on motion of Mr Eve, the Council proceeded to elect three Commissioners one for each District of the Town, when J J Berrey was elected Comm'r for the 1<sup>st</sup> District; R B Semple, Esq for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District; and Dr James Cooke for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District.

On motion ordered that the vote taken on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Ulto upon the recommitment of the report of the Building Committee to said Committee be rescinded.

A motion was made by Mr John Pritchard, that Mr Wm M Baggett be paid the sum of \$4000 on his contract for building the new Court House, leaving the sum of \$86 still claimed by him for future adjustment; to which motion Mr Cheek offered as an amendment, that the sum of \$4086 be paid him, in full of his contract. And the vote being taken upon the amendment by ayes & noes, it was rejected;

Ayes, W F Cheek, John J Berrey, Thos A Ball, Alex K Phillips 4

Noes, R B Semple, Jas McGuire, John Pritchard, Geo W Eve, L J Huffman, Thos F Knox 6

And the vote recurring on the motion of Mr Pritchard, it was also rejected;

Ayes, John Pritchard, Geo W Ever, T A Ball, Thos F Knox 4

Noes, R B Semple, James McGuire, W F Cheek, J J Berrey, Alex'r K Phillips, L J Huffman 6

On motion of the Mr Thomas F Knox, ordered that when the Council adjourns, it adjourn to meet on Friday evening next at ½ past seven o'clock in order to a final settlement with Mr Baggett of his contract for building the new Court House and that the Building Committee be notified of this order

The subject of the subscription to the Fredericksburg and Valley Plank Road, as authorized by the vote taken on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 1852, having been called to the notice of the Board, it was resolved that the Mayor be and he is hereby directed to subscribe at this time for 80 shares (or \$4000 worth) of the stock of said improvement.

On motion, ordered that the Chamberlain request Mess'rs Danforth, Bald & Co to furnish 4000 sheets amounting to \$20,000 of the scrip of the Corp'n of the denomination of 1 & \$2 from the steel plate now in their possession.

On motion the Council adjourned till Friday next at ½ past 7 o'clock PM

R B S

G F Chew, C C

[Page 50]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of Sept 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, G W Eve, L J Huffman, John J Berrey, T A Ball, Jno Pritchard—Common Councilmen

The following resolution was offered by Mr Eve; Resolved that the ordinance passed on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 1852 relating to the Court House be amended in this, that the Court house, when it shall have been received, shall be used for the purposes of all public meetings of the Citizens of the Town upon application therefore to the Mayor, except for military drills and private associations, and the vote being taken thereon by Ayes & Notes it was adopted;

Ayes R B Semple, James McGuire, W T Cheek, Geo W Eve, L J Huffman, John J Berrey, T A Ball, John Pritchard

Noes, None

And the on motion the Council adjourned

Geo F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 3<sup>d</sup> day of September 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, Thomas A Ball, L J Huffman, John J Berrey, John Pritchard, Geo W Eve—Common Councilmen

John J Berrey Esq & Dr James Cooke, who were heretofore elected School Commissioners for the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Districts of the Town, tendered their resignations, which resignations were on motion received.

On motion the Council adjourned to Tuesday evening next at ½ past 7 O'clock  
G F Chew, C C

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheeki, John J Berrey, Wm A Little, Thomas A Ball, Geo W Eve, A K Phillips, Thomas F Knox, John Pritchard, Landon J Huffman—Common Councilmen

Ordered that R B Semple Esq be paid the sum of \$75 for signing \$22,000 worth of Corporation scrip

The Council proceeded to elect two Commissioners, one for the [Page 51] 1<sup>st</sup> & the other for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District of the Town in the room and stead of John J Berrey Esq & Dr. James Cooke, resigned when John S Caldwell Esq was duly elected Commissioner for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District and Wm Slaughter for the 1<sup>st</sup> District of the Town

The Building Committee made reports which having been read, the following resolution offered by Mr Wm A Little was adopted, viz; Resolved that the reports of the Building Committee be received with the exception of their resignations therein tendered and that the Council respectfully request the said Committee to withdraw their said resignations and to continue in the performance of their said duties as members of said Committee and that the Council hereby tender to said Committee the expression of their confidence in the fidelity with which said duties have heretofore been and will continue to be performed by them; and that the Council respectfully suggest to said Committee to correspond with Mr Renwick, the architect and request him to come to Fred'g examine the whole matters in dispute and decide finally thereon.

Ordered that an advance of \$3500 on his contract for building the Court House be made to Wm M Baggett, said sum to be paid in bonds or scrip of the Corp'n as the said Baggett may designate

Ordered that the Clark of the Council prepare an ordinance prohibiting slaves four coming into the Town on Sunday with articles for sale or trade &c and submit the same to the Council at its next meeting

On motion the Council then adjourned  
Geo F Chew, Clerk C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 27 day of Sept 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

John J Berrey, Wm F Cheek, L J Huffman, Geo W Eve, Jno J Young, Thos A Ball, John Minor—Common Councilmen

The Clerk of the Council submitted to the board an ordinance prohibiting slaves & free negroes from coming into the Town on Sunday with articles for sale or trade &c prepared in conformity with an order of the Council at the last meeting which having been read and amended was passed in the words & figures following, to wit;

“An ordinance prohibiting slaves and free negroes from selling or bartering or bringing into the Town for the purpose of selling [Page 52] or bartering articles of any description of the Sabbath day.”

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg, that no slave or free Negro shall sell or barter or bring into the Town for the purpose of selling or bartering, articles of any description on the Sabbath day.

2<sup>nd</sup> Be it further ordained that any slave or free Negro violating this ordinance shall be liable to arrest and confinement in the Jail until released therefrom, by the order of a Justice and upon the payment of the fee for the arrest and the Jail fees.

3a Be it further ordained that it shall be the duty of the Police Officer to execute the foregoing ordinance and for every arrest made, they shall be entitled to a fee of not less than \$1 nor more than \$3 at the discretion of the Justice one half of which fee shall go to the officer making the arrest and the other half to the Chamberlain of the Corporation to be appropriated towards employing additional police if necessary the said fees to be receivable by warrant in case of a slave from his or her master and in case of a free Negro to be punished by stripes not exceeding ten, at the discretion of the Justice.

This ordinance shall be in force from and after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October next

William Slaughter, Esq heretofore election a School Commissioner for the 1<sup>st</sup> District tendered his resignation as such Commissioner which on motion was received

The Council proceeded to elect a Commissioner for the 1<sup>st</sup> District of the Town in the room of Wm Slaughter, resigned, when Joseph Sanford was duly elected on the first ballot

On motion the Council proceeded to elect three Proxies to represent the Stock of the Corporation at a meeting of the Stockholders of the Freds’burg and Valley Plank Road Company to be held tomorrow, when John J Berrey, John J Young & Thomas A Ball were duly elected on the first ballots

Marcus Cooper Esq is appointed the Proxy to represent the Corporation in the meeting the of the Stockholders of the Hazle river Company next to be holden

The Mayor making a favourable report in writing it is ordered that the salaries of the police officers for the last quarter be paid by the Chamberlain

The following account were read, passed and ordered to be paid, viz;

R W Hart, Comm’r of the Revenue	\$75.00
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W K Gordon for rent of room for Cannon	\$4.00
Melvay Coates for removing dead dogs	.25
Buddy Taylor for removing dead dogs	.50
Jardin for hauling cannon & putting it in Engine house	.50

Mr James McGuire, Chairman of the Street Committee reported verbally that the difference existing between Dr. M A Blankman’s & Mr William Warren, in regard to the right of conducting the water from Amelia Street, into their respective lots had been adjusted satisfactorily to both parties

On motion ordered that the Mayor be, and he is hereby directed to open a correspondence with the Topographic Department at Washington City, urging that a Survey of the Rappahannock River, as directed by a Act of the last Congress be made as expeditiously as possible.

The Council having been informed that the lots on Market Square held as leasehold property had been valued by the Commissioner of the Revenue as lots held in fee simple, which is manifestly erroneous, and for remedy whereof, it is ordered that the Commissioner deduct from the value of each lot such an amount as at six per cent would yield the annual reserved by the deed of lease on each lot & correct his land book accordingly.

On motion the Council then adjourned  
Geo F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball, Wm A Little, Wm F Cheek, Thos F Knox, George W Eve, John J Young, Alex K Phillips—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of purchasing the term yet to come in a lot forming a part of the Market Square belonging to the Estate of John Hart dec'd, and to be sold on today; Whereupon on motion of Mr George W Eve, it was ordered that an agent be appointed to purchase the said property provided it does not sell for more than \$250

On motion, Mr Jno S Caldwell was appointed the agent to carry to foregoing order into effect.

On motion of Mr Wm A Little, it is ordered that Thomas [Page 54] B Barton Esq be instructed to institute legal proceeding for recovering possession of the house & lot in Market Square now occupied by Miss Ann Smock.

The Council having been informed by the President of the Board of Overseers of the Poor, that it was necessary to provide a poor house for the Town, the one now used as such being not longer fit for the purpose, it was ordered that the overseers, provide a proper house and lot for the use of the Poor of the Town.

On application of Mr Hugh Scott, it is ordered that the Chamberlain deliver to the said Scott the Amount of one thousand dollars in scrip of the denomination of \$1 & \$2 upon his surrendering to said officer to be cancelled three certificates or bonds of this Corporation, heretofore issued to him for that amount, dated the 8<sup>th</sup> of Jan'y 1852, & payable twenty years after date, two for four hundred dollars each & one for two hundred dollars, and upon the condition that the said Scott, take one thousand dollars more of said scrip and pay therefore in bankable funds.

On motion ordered that the Committee on Public Property do enquire and report to the Council for what a suitable safe can be procured for the use of the Chamberlain for the safe keeping of the Corporation funds.

On motion the Council adjourned until Tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock  
James McGuire, Recorder  
Geo F Chew, CC

At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October 1852

Present, James McGuire, Recorder

John J Berrey, Wm F Cheek, Geo W Eve, John Pritchard, Wm A Little, L J Huffman, John Minor, Thos A Ball, John J Young, Thomas F Knox—Common Councilmen

The Recorder stated that this was an adjourned meeting of the Council for the purpose of receiving a report from the Building Committee and Thomas B Barton, Esq, Chairman of the said Committee having been called upon by the board, stated that the Committee arising from unavoidable circumstances had not prepared a report, in readiness to submit at this time, but that he saw no objection to the Council paying to Mr Wm M Baggett, the balance due upon his contract for [Page 55] building the Court House, after retaining a sufficiency therefrom to defray the expense of putting a cornice around the Tower of said Court House, in the event that the said Baggett should decline or refuse to do so. And thereupon, on motion of Mr Wm M Little, it is ordered that the Chamberlain pay to Wm M Baggett in Corporation scrip the sum of \$486, the balance left due on his contract for building the Court House, after retaining \$100 thereof to await the report of the Building Committee hereafter to be made and any action that the Council may take thereon.

The application of Mr Wm U Short to be appointed Agent to collect funds for the completion of the Washington Monument was read & on motion, laid on the table.

The following resolution offered by Mr John Mercer was adopted, viz;

Resolved that a loan of six hundred dollars be made to the Union Fire Company in order that they may relieve their apparatus from the lien of a deed of trust now upon it, provided that the said company give a lien on the said apparatus to secure the said loan of \$600 (said lien to be submitted to Mr Wm A Little for his approval) and provided moreover that no other lien upon the said apparatus be give by the Company without the consent of the Common Council.

The Clerk laid before the board, sealed packages of Corporation scrip received from Danforth, Bald & Co of Phil<sup>a</sup> which being opened in their presence & counted was found to contain 4000 sheets; and the question as to the mode of issuing said scrip having arisen, Mr Jno J Berrey offered to the following resolution which was adopted viz; Resolved that \$10,000 of the scrip of the Corporation be issued as follows, viz;

\$1000	redeemable in 7 years
\$750	redeemable in 8 years
\$1250	redeemable in 9 years
\$1000	redeemable in 11 years
\$1000	redeemable in 13 years
\$2000	redeemable in 15 years
\$2000	redeemable in 16 years
\$1000	redeemable in 17 years

\$3000 of which amount shall bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Nov 1852 and \$7000 thereof shall bear date the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1853, to be signed by the Mayor & filled up & endorsed by the Chamberlain

Ordered that the sum of \$25 be allowed to the Mayor for his services in signing \$20,000 of the scrip of the Corporation

And that the sum of \$6.25 per thousand be allowed to the Chamberlain for filling upon and endorsing said scrip  
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The following accounts were presented, passed & ordered to be paid

Wm M Baggett for rubbish from the old Court house site to mend the Streets	\$10.00
Jas P Chartters for rent of house for fire engines	\$20.00
Danforth, Bald & Co for printing 4000 sheets Corp'n Scrip	\$145.00

On motion ordered that the Union Engines be place in one of the Engine rooms of the new Court House

On Motion the Council then adjourned  
R B S  
G F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball, Wm F Cheek, Geo W Eve, Thos F Knox, John Pritchard, Alex'r K Phillips, Landon J Huffman—Common Councilmen

The Mayor stated that the Council had been convened for the purpose of appointing a Proxy to represent the Stock of the Corporation at the adjourned meeting of the Stockholders of the Hazle River navigation Company to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of the present month; and thereupon Mr Charles Scott was elected the said Proxy on the 1<sup>st</sup> ballot.

On motion ordered that the order entered on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of Sept 1852 appointing Mr Marcus Cooper the Proxy to represent the Corporation in the meeting of the Stockholders of the Hazle River Navigation Company then next to be holden be revoked and annulled

On motion the Council then adjourned  
R B S  
G F Chew, C C

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball, Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, L J Huffman, G W Eve, John J Berry, John Minor, Wm A Little—Common Councilmen

The Council proceeded to elect a school Commissioner for the 1<sup>st</sup> District of the Town in the room of Joseph Sanford, resigned, when Peter Goolrick was duly elected.

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Ordered that the north room of the upper story of the Town Hall be used for the safe keeping of the weights and measures and that the superintendant cause the same to be removed to said room.

The following accounts were passed & ordered to be paid

Chas S Scott for expenses incurred in attending adj'd meeting of the Hazle River Co as proxy	\$10.00
Jesse White for tolling the bells	\$5.00
J N Campbell for expenses incurred in procuring weights & measures	\$16.50

Ordered that the Account of Mess'rs Thompson & Owens, amt'g to \$5.50 be referred to the building Committee

The following resolutions were adopted, viz;

Resolved that the Building Committee be requested to contract for and cause the Jail to be so altered as will remedy the dampness in the walls of the lower story &c

Resolved that the said Committee be requested to have all leak in the Jail and Court House stopped, also to have the Tower finished according to the contract with William M Baggett and to have the flues opened &c; and that the said Committee be authorized to draw on the Chamberlain of the Corp'n for all necessary expenditures and to ascertain & report to the Council such portion of the expenses as should be charged to the Contractor, Wm M Baggett.

Resolved that the said Committee be requested to contract for the heating the Court Room, Jury Rooms and Clerks Officer & to draw on the Chamberlain for the necessary expenses attending the same.

On motion ordered that the Chamberlain pay to James Renwick Jr the sum of \$420 the balance remaining due to him for his services as architect of the new court house

The following resolution viz; "Resolved that the Town Clock be removed from the steeple of the Episcopal Church to the Tower of the new Court house, was offered and the vote thereon being taken by Ayes and noes resulted as follows

Ayes, R B Semple, John Pritchard, Thomas A Ball, John Minor, Wm A Little 5

Noes, Jas McGuire, W F Cheek, G W Eve, Jno J Berrey, L J Huffman 5

So the resolution was rejected.

On motion of Mr John Minor, ordered that except in cases of emergency, all called meetings of the Council be held hereafter on Monday nights.

On motion ordered that the vendors of milk be exempted from the penalties of the ordinance heretofore passed prohibiting [Page 58] the sale & traffic in articles on the Sabbath day.

The following resolution offered by Mr Geo W Eve was adopted viz;

Resolved that it be recommended to the owners of houses in the Town to cause the same to be numbered and that a committee be appointed whose duty it should be to procure the necessary numbers & furnish them charging the proprietor of each house with the cost of such number

Mess'rs Geo W Eve, J J Berrey, & Wm A Little, were appointed the Committee under the foregoing resolution

On motion the Council then adjourned  
R B S  
G F Chew, Clk

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Wm F Cheek, John Pritchard, Thos A Ball, John J Berry, Geo W Eve, Thomas F Knox—Common Councilmen

On motion ordered that the order entered at the last meeting of the Council directing that all called meetings of the Council except in cases of necessity be held on Monday nights be rescinded

On motion of Mr John J Berrey, the Council proceeded to elect a proxy to represent the Corporation in a meeting of the Stockholders of the Hazle Run Navigation Company, to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> December next, when Wm P Newby was elected on the 1<sup>st</sup> ballot

On motion of Mr Jno J Berrey, ordered that William P Newby, the Proxy of the Corporation be instructed to vote for William H Browning Esq (in the meeting of the Stockholders of the Hazle River Company to be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Dec next) as the President of the said Company

A report was received from the building Committee, recommending the payment to Mr Renwick the sum of \$20 for expenses incurred by him in coming to Fred'g to settle the difference existing between the said Committee & Wm M Baggett, which having been read a motion was made to lay the same on the table, and the Ayes and Noes being called for and taken, the motion was carried;

Ayes, Jas McGuire, Wm F Cheek, G W Ever, Jno J Berrey, Thos A Ball, Thos F Knox 6

Noes, R B Semple, John Pritchard 2

An account of R B Semple amounting to \$14 was passed and ordered to be paid.

An a/c of John J Rollow & Co amt'g to \$45 was presented and on motion, laid on the table  
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An a/c of Dr Wm Brown & Son for services rendered in examining the dead body of a child was presented and on motion rejected.

A motion was made by Mr Geo W Eve that the Committee of Public Property do ascertain whether the room in the Court House intended as the Mayors Office and Council Chamber could be rented out and for what sum after previously ascertaining from the Committee on building if it can be done; and report to the Council and the vote having been taken thereon resulted as follows

Ayes, Jas McGuire, G W Eve, Thomas F Knox, John Minor 5

Noes, R B Semple, W F Cheek, John Pritchard, John J Berrey, Thomas A Ball 5

So the motion was lost

On motion the Council then adjourned  
G F Chew, Cle

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Geo W Eve, John Pritchard, Alex K Phillips, L J Huffman, Wm A Little, Wm F Cheek, Thomas A Ball, John J Berrey, John J Young—Common Councilmen

A report accompanied by three several memorials to the Legislature of Virginia was received from the Committee appointed by the Resolution of the [blank] day of June 1852, Whereupon on motion the said report and memorials therein referred to were severally adopted and the Clerk directed to have sent said memorials to our Delegate, Maj O M Crutchfield, with a request that he would present them to the House of Delegates at the earliest period.

On motion, ordered that 200 copies of each of the memorials adopted tonight be printed for distribution among the members of the Legislature and that the printing be executed at the *News* Office.

On motion, resolved that the Clerk of the Council be instructed to correspond with our Delegate and request him to procure from the Legislature the passage of an Act establishing a Tobacco inspection at Fred'g

A report from the President and Treasurer of the Rappahannock Company was presented & read & on motion received & ordered to be filed.

On motion, resolved that the report of the Committee of ten citizens be received and that the said Committee be authorized to expend a sum not exceeding \$250 for the purposes expressed in the said report.

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On motion made and seconded, ordered that the Town Hall be placed at the disposal of the School Commissioners for the use of the schools proposed to be established; and that the Council hereafter hold its sessions in the new Council Chamber

On motion ordered that the Public Property Committee be authorized to fit up the new Mayor's office and Council Chamber.

The a/c of John J Rollow & Co which was laid on the table at the last meeting was called up; whereupon on motion made and seconded it is ordered that the said account amounting to \$45 be paid.

On motion, the Council then adjourned

James McGuire, Recorder

G F Chew, CC

At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of December 1852

Present, James McGuire, Recorder

John Pritchard, Geo W Eve, Wm A Little, Thomas A Ball, Landon J Huffman, Thomas F Knox, John Minor—Common Councilmen

The Recorder stated that the Council had been convened at the instance of the Plank Road Company for the purpose of making a requisition on behalf of said Company on the Corporation for \$4000, the amount directed to be subscribed by the Mayor, by an order of the Council bearing date the 31 day of Aug't 1852, to the increased capital stock of said Company; And whereupon on motion of Mr Geo W Eve, it is ordered that the Chamberlain of the Corporation pay to the Secretary and Treasurer of the Fred'g and Valley Plank Road Company, the sum of \$4000 being the amount subscribed by the Corporation to the increased capital stock of sd Company

The following accounts were passed and ordered to be paid, viz;

Dr Wm Brown for a post mortem examination	\$10.00
The Fred'g Guards, bal of Appropriation	\$12.22
Bernard Cole, for fuel &c	\$55.62

On motion of Mr John Minor, it is ordered that a Committee of three be appointed by the Chair whose duty it shall be to enquire into ascertain and report to the Council the practicability, expense &c of lighting the principal streets of the Town with Gas, or otherwise.

Mess'rs Thos F Knox, Geo W Eve, Wm A Little were appointed the Committee under the foregoing order

On motion of Mr Eve, Ordered that Mr Jno Minor be added to the Committee heretofore appointed to number the houses in the Town.

On motion the Council then adjourned

James McGuire, Recorder

G F Chew, C C

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At a meeting of the Common Council of the Town of Fredericksburg at the Council Chamber on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of December 1852

Present, R B Semple, Mayor

James McGuire, Recorder

Geo W Eve, L J Huffman, T A Ball, John Pritchard, Wm F Cheek, John J Young, John Minor—Common Councilmen

On motion of Mr Eve, ordered that the order entered at the last meeting of the Council allowing the a/c of Bernard Cole, for coal &c furnished for the Court Room &c be and the same is hereby reconsidered

On Motion of Mr Jas McGuire ordered that a committee of three be appointed whose duty it shall be to take into consideration whether or not it is necessary for the preservation of the Records &c that a fire be kept in the large room of the Clerk's Office, and the said Committee are directed to report &c

Mess'rs Jas McGuire, Wm F Cheek, Geo W Eve were appointed the Committee under the foregoing order.

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Council that Miss Jane Johnston has been improperly charged in the Commr's books with \$225 Interest at 3 per cent amounting to \$6.75 and that she has paid the same to the Collector, it is ordered that the said amount be refunded to her by the Chamberlain of the Corporation.

The Bank of Virginia, having ordered a curtail of \$1000 upon the debt of the Corp to said Bank, on motion of Mr Wm F Cheek, it is ordered that the Chamberlain curtail the debt due to the Bank of Virginia \$2000 and the debt due to the Farmers Bank of Virginia \$900

A report was received from the Building Committee which on motion was laid on the table

On motion, the Council then adjourned  
James McGuire, Recorder  
G F Chew, Clk