

## Fredericksburg Council Minutes 1900

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At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 1900 at 7:30 o'clock P.M.

There were present Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

M G Willis, Recorder

Councilmen Geo W Wroten, William E Bradley, J P Rowe, E D Cole, D H Hurkamp, John T Knight and Harry B Lane

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the minutes of the last regular meeting and of the called meeting were read and approved.

Mr Willis, Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented the following bills which on motion were ordered to be paid. Bill of J Willard Adams, general supplies \$6.25; bill of same for supplies furnished Judges of Election \$1.51; bill of *Fredericksburg Star* \$2.25; bill of the *Free Lance* \$1.00.

Mr Willis stated that the Finance Committee had sold the \$25,000.00 of four percent Gas Bonds at a premium of \$2.50 per thousand; that all of the old issues of 5% Gas Bonds have not yet been turned in for redemption, but [Page 303] presumed they soon would be as said bonds did not bear interest after January 1<sup>st</sup> 1900.

Mr Willis further stated that six (6) extra 4% bonds had been sent by the printer and that the printer had asked that two (2) of said bonds if not needed be returned to him to be used as samples.

Whereupon, on motion, the said six (6) extra 4% bonds were disposed of as follows, to wit; three (3) of them were burned in the presence of the Council, and the Treasurer of the City was directed to return two of said bonds to the said printer and to keep one in his office as a true copy of the City's obligations as to said issue of \$25,000.00 4% Gas bonds, neither of said mentioned three bonds having been signed or executed in any way.

Mr Willis further stated that the Finance Committee had directed the Treasurer to pay to the Fredericksburg College \$100.00 being the amount due for the second quarter tuition of ten scholars, due in November last.

Whereupon, Mr Bradley, moved that the action of the Finance Committee in directly the payment of said \$100.00 to said College be approved, which motion was adopted.

Mr Lane, Chairman of the Committee on Ordinances stated, that said Committee would at the next meeting of the Council submit an ordinance relating to sidewalks.

On motion it was decided to go into the election of a Superintendent of City Water for the present year.

Col Cole moved that the salary of said office be fixed at the same as last year, which was adopted.

A communication from Capt S J Quinn asking re-election to said office was read.

A ballot was had and Capt S J Quinn was unanimously elected Superintendent of the City Water for this year.

On motion it was decided to go into the election of a Superintendent of the City Gas Works.

Mr Bradley moved that the salary of the said office be fixed at \$750.00 the same as last year.

Mr Hurkamp moved that the salary be fixed at \$800.00. The question came up on Mr Hurkamp's substitute and a recorded vote being called for was had, as follows;

Ayes Messrs Hurkamp and Lane (20

Noes Messrs Willis, Wroten, Bradley, Cole, Rowe and Knight (6) and the substitute was lost.

Whereupon the vote was taken on Mr Bradley's motion that the salary be fixed at the same as last year which was adopted.

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A letter from Mr Fitzpatrick the present Superintendent of the City Gas Works was read asking for re-election and a ballot being had he was unanimously elected Superintendent of the City Gas Works for the year 1900.

Col Cole called attention to the careless manner in which the raising and lowering of the flags on the School and other buildings was attended to, and on motion of Mr Willis the matter was referred to Mr Hurkamp who is a member of the School Board as well as of this body.

Mr Bradley moved that the Clerk of the Council be allowed the sum of \$25.00 for extra work done in transcribing the new ordinance which involved much work. The motion was adopted with dissent.

Mr Cole on behalf of the Fredericksburg and adjacent National Battlefield Memorial Park Association asked the Council to donate the sum of \$250.00 for the uses of said Association, and in motion said sum was ordered to be as donated.

Hon Alvin T Embrey, member of the House of Delegates from this City who was present was on motion of Mr Knight accorded the privilege of the floor and Mr Embrey stated that all legislation concerning the city which had been placed in his hands had been enacted by the General Assembly as proposed by the City, save that a proviso had been added to the Bill regulating the collection of delinquent City levies holding the State harmless in the execution thereof.

The Mayor reported that "the four police officers have faithfully discharged their respective duties during the past three months, as far as he knows or can learn."

And reported fines collected for November 1899 \$39.00

Fines collected for December 1899 \$35.50

And on motion the Council adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

James P. Corbin, Clerk

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At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM

There were present, Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

M G Willis, Recorder

Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E D Cole, J T Knight, H B Lane and T McCracken

The meeting was called to order and the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved

Mr Willis, Chairman of the Finance Committee, presented a bill of the Free Lance amounting to \$2.25 and a bill of the Fredericksburg Star amounting to \$6.50, which bills on motion were ordered to be paid.

Mr Willis presented the official bond of S J Quinn, Supt of City Water Works in the penalty of \$2000 with the Fidelity and Deposit Co of Md as surety, which was approved and place in the hands of the Mayor for deposit in the National Bank of Fredericksburg for safe keeping.

Mr Willis also presented the official bond of Wm Fitzpatrick as Supt of the City Gas Works in the penalty of \$2000 with T McCracken as his surety, which accepted (when the same shall have been dated and the year 1899 changed to 1900) and placed in the hands of the Mayor for deposit in the said Bank for safe keeping.

Mr Willis further stated that about \$11,000 of the old 6% Gas bond had not yet been presented for redemption but that the interest on same ceased on January 1, 1900.

Mr Rowe, Chairman of Committee on Schools presented bills of Dr Ramsay, President of Fredericksburg College for third quarter amounting to \$100, which on motion was ordered to be paid.

Mr. Willis, Chairman of the Committee on the Meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac here in 1900, stated that the Committee would report at a called meeting of the Council.

Captain McCracken presented a resolution requesting our Senator & Delegate in the Legislature of Virginia to use all their influence to defeat the bill to incorporate the Va Telephone and Telegraph Co, known as Senate Bill #320; the resolution was adopted & the Clerk requested to send a copy thereof to said Delegate and Senator.

A petition of S Sydney Bradford asking to be allowed under certain conditions set forth in the petition to remove a portion of the stone steps at the north end of the Town Hall [Page 306] leading from Princess Anne Street to the "Market Place" was read and ordered to be referred to the Committee on Public Property with full power to act.

The Mayor reported fines collected for January 1900                      \$6.00  
On motion the Council adjourned  
A P Rowe, Mayor  
James P. Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Va held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 1900 at 11:00 AM  
There were present Hon A P Rowe, Mayor  
M G Willis, Recorder  
Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, J P Rowe, E D Cole, Jno T Knight, M S Chancellor and T McCracken  
The meeting was called to order.

Mr Willis, Chairman of the Committee to consider and suggestion steps looking to the reception of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, made the following report.  
To the Hon Mayor & Council  
Gentlemen  
Your Committee appointed to suggest such steps as should be taken by the Council looking to a proper reception of the Society of the Army of the Potomac respectfully recommend that a Committee of fifteen consisting of five members of this body and ten from the citizens be appointed by the Mayor, who shall have charge of all arrangements incident to the proper reception of that body and report to the Council from time to time.  
Respectfully,  
M G Willis, John T Knight, E D Cole

Captain McCracken moved that the report be adopted and spoke in favor of it as did Mr Knight, which motion prevailed. It was understood that the Mayor name the Committee next week.

Mr Willis stated that he had received a letter from Gen Horatio C King saying that Friday and Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> days of May next would meet the wishes of said Society for its annual re-union and those dates were selected.

On Motion the Council adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

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At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 29<sup>th</sup> day of March 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

M G Willis, Recorder

Councilmen W E Bradley, J P Rowe, E D Cole, Jno T Knight, M S Chancellor, H B Lane and T McCracken

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor who stated that it had been called as the request of the Finance Committee to consider the License Tax Ordinance for the year 1900.

Whereupon, Mr Willis, Chairman of said Committee presented said ordinance which he said was identical with that of last year save that it had been changed to conform to comply enacted State laws in reference to wholesale liquor dealer Houses ordered that the ordinance lie over until next meeting.

On motion of Mr Willis the rules were suspended

Mr Willis offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, to-wit;

Resolved by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg that they will in pursuance of the Act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved February 18<sup>th</sup> 1898 entitled "An Act authorizing the City of Fredericksburg to issue bonds to redeem what known as her Gas and Bridge Bonds" issue the bonds of said City to an amount not to exceed twenty-five thousand dollars at their par value for the redemption of the Fredericksburg Bridge Bonds

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Resolved further that the Finance Committee of the Council shall proceed without delay to negotiate a loan of twenty five thousand dollars with which to redeem the said Fredericksburg Bridge Bonds on the thirtieth day of June 1900, and so soon as said loan is effected said Committee shall have the bonds of the City lithographed, said bonds to run for twenty years from said thirtieth day of June 1900 and to bear interest not to exceed four per cent per annum and to be in such amounts as the said Committee shall deem proper. The said bonds to be coupon bonds convertible into registered bonds at the option of the holder and to be non-taxable by the City and the interest thereon to be payable semi-annually and said bonds to be secured by a deed of trust upon said Bridge and all the rights pertaining thereto.

The Committee are authorized if it deem the same proper to advertise for bids for said bonds.

Resolved further by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia that in pursuance of the Act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved January 10<sup>th</sup> 1890, entitled, "An act to authorize the City of Fredericksburg to building and operate a bridge across the Rappahannock River at Fredericksburg" wherein the City is authorized to borrow twenty-five thousand dollars and to issue and negotiate its bonds for the same, said bonds to be redeemable in ten years and payable in thirty years, the said Mayor and Common Council of said City having determined to redeem said bonds issued under said

act, doth hereby call in for redemption the said bonds of the face value of twenty-five thousand dollars bearing date on the first day of July 1890, and payable on the first day of January 1920 issued in pursuance of said act of January 10<sup>th</sup> 1890, and doth require all said bonds and the coupons belonging to the same to be presented for payment at the office of the City Treasurer of Fredericksburg in Fredericksburg, Virginia on the thirtieth day of June 1900; and doth declare and resolve that all interest shall cease upon said bonds from and after said thirtieth day of June 1900, it being the purpose of the City to pay all said bonds on said last mentioned day as said City is fully authorized to do by the foregoing Act of the General Assembly of Virginia.

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

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Col Cole, Chairman of the Water Committee stated that he had together with other members of the Council carefully inspected the canal leading from the City Pump House after the water had been cut off from the Canal and found that there were obstructions in it and defects in the trunk-way in said Canal in the lower end of the City, which he believed caused the back water overflow at some places along the Canal, and which he thought should be removed and remedied, and that a gate should be constructed in the canal at the Boulevard, he thought the cost would not exceed \$150 or \$175.

Whereupon Mr Bradley moved that the sum of \$175.00 or so much thereof as should be needed therefor, be placed to the credit of the Water Committee to perform said work which was carried.

Mr Willis stated that there were still outstanding \$10,000.00 of the old Gas bonds which had not been presented for payment.

Mr Lance, Chairman of Ordinance Committee presented and had read "an ordinance providing for the paving and better repairs of the side-walks &c" which was ordered to be laid over until next meeting and Mr Lane also offered and had read "an ordinance providing for the greater safety of pedestrians and vehicles traveling the side-walks and streets etc" which was ordered to be laid over till next meeting.

Capt McCracken, Chairman of the Light Committee stated that he had secured from Mr James C Clark for 125 HP or less to be leased at the Paper Mill site and at the site between the Woolen Mill and Myer Mill at \$9.00 per horse power, the same to hold for six months from March 27<sup>th</sup> 1900

Whereupon Mr Willis offered the following resolution which was adopted

Resolved that the Light Committee e and they are hereby authorized to advertise in such newspapers as they deem best for bids to erect an Electric Light Plant for lighting the City in accordance with the plans and specifications proposed by D F Stokes and approved by engineer Edward J Willis of Richmond, Va, and also to advertise for proposals from outside parties for lighting the City by Electricity for five years with as [?] service as that called for by said places and specification, and submit such bids and proposals to the Council for its approval or rejection.

Mr Willis moved that the Spottsylvania Telephone Company be permitted to run one (1) wire to the Central office of the Rappahannock, Fredericksburg & Piedmont Telephone [Page 310] Company in this City, the work to be done under the supervision of the Street Committee, the Council reserving the right to withdraw said permission at any time, which was carried.

A communication from the Merchants & Mechanics Perpetual Building and Loan Association petitioning the Council to sell and convey to them that part of Canal Street lying between Main Street and the Rappahannock River, was read and on motion the matter was referred to the Finance Committee to consider and report to the Council.

The Mayor reported fines collected for February 1900 = \$8.00 and tax for one impression of the City's Seal = \$1.00

On motion the Council adjourned  
A P Rowe, Mayor  
James P Corbin, Clerk

At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 1900 at 8 o'clock PM  
There were present Hon A P Rowe, Mayor  
M G Willis, Recorder  
Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E D Cole, M S Chancellor and H B Lane

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the minutes of the meeting held on February 15<sup>th</sup> and March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> were read and approved.

Mr Willis Chairman of the Finance Committee called up the license & Tax Ordinance for the year ending April 30<sup>th</sup> 1901 which is as follows:

An Ordinance imposing Taxes in the City of Fredericksburg for the year ending April 30<sup>th</sup> 1901 for the support of the City Government, the payment of the interest on the City debt and for other expenses and providing for the collection thereof

1. Be it ordained by the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg in the manner following that is to say, there shall be an annual license tax assessed and paid by all persons and firms in the City engaged in the different descriptions of business, professions and occupations named in this ordinance and enumerated below for the year [Page 311] beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1900 and ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1901.

The license tax shall be assessed and collected at the following rates and paid on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1900.

1. On every license to a Steam boat, steam ship, or other transportation agency (other than express companies) in this city the specified tax shall be \$35.00.
  2. On every license to any person renting houses, farms or other real estate for compensation or profit, the tax shall be \$15.00
  3. On every agent for the sale of books or maps, or canvasser for any book, newspaper, periodical, magazine, map, engraving, or picture, or solicitor for subscriptions thereto, ten dollars (\$10.00)
  4. On every agent for copying pictures, fifteen dollars (\$15.00)
  5. On the agent of each incorporated insurance company doing business in this city, thirty five dollars (\$35) But this shall not apply to the agent of resident insurance companies doing business in the City, upon whom the tax shall be ten dollars (\$10)
  6. On every agent for hiring labor, ten dollars (\$10)
  7. On every mercantile agent or reporter reporting the financial standing and credit of persons engaged in business, twenty-five dollars (\$25)
  8. On every agent for the sale of real estate, residing or keeping an office in the City, thirty dollars (\$30)
- Attorneys, Doctors &c

9. On every attorney-at-law, physicians, conveyancer, dentist, surveyor, civil engineer, the gross amount of whose professional receipt for the year ending April 30, 1900 was less than \$1000, ten dollars (\$10). Where the gross amount of their professional receipts for the same time was \$1000 and less than \$1500, fifteen dollars (\$15). Where such receipts were \$1500 and less than \$2000, twenty dollars (\$20), and for \$2000 and over, twenty five dollars (\$25). All persons other than duly licensed attorneys-at-law who for compensation shall prepare deeds, contracts, wills, or other writings shall be deemed conveyancers.

#### Auctioneers

10. On every general auctioneer, forty five dollars (\$45) whether he derives any compensation for his services or not.

11. Concession crier, ten dollars (\$10.)

#### Billiard Tables, Bowling alleys &c

12. On every license permitting a billiard or Pool Saloon to be kept in the City (whether a charge is made for playing or not) the tax shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25) and each additional table ten dollars (\$10).

13. On each bagatelle, Jersey laid? Or Dexter table ten dollars (\$10) and if said table is kept in the same house with or in any way attached to a bar room, hotel, boarding or eating house, this tax is imposed whether any charge is made by the proprietor thereof for the use of said table or not, and whether said table is used or not.

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14. On every license permitting a bowling saloon or ten-pin alley (whether a charge is made for playing or not) to be kept in this City, the tax shall be ten dollars (\$10) on each alley.

#### Bill Posters

15. On every bill-poster five dollars (\$5)

#### Bakers and Confectioners

16. On every person keeping a bakery or manufacturing confectionary, other than merchants, ten dollars (\$10)

#### Boarding Houses, Hotels, Eating Houses &c

17. On every person keeping a boarding house ten dollars (\$10). Any person other than the keeper of a hotel, eating house or restaurant who shall furnish for consumption, board and lodging to any number of persons not less than five, for a period or time of one month or more shall be deemed a boarding house keeper. Any boarding house keeper who shall take boarders for a less period than one month, shall be deemed a hotel keeper.

18. On every person keeping a hotel, twenty dollars (\$20), but this license shall not cover the right to sell wines, spirituous or malt liquors.

19. On every person keeping an eating house or restaurant, sixteen dollars (\$16). Any person who shall cook or otherwise furnish for consumption diet or refreshment of any kind for casual visitors at his house and sold for consumption thereon and who is not the keeper of a hotel or boarding house, shall be deemed to keep an eating house or restaurant, but the refreshments herein named shall not consist of wines, spirituous or malt liquor, except where parties have license to sell the same.

20. On every person selling upon the street or other public place snacks and such like eatables five dollars (\$5), or \$1.50 per quarter.

#### Bankers, Brokers &c

21. On every private banker, two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250). The term "private banker" shall include all persons conducting the business of a stock, note, bond, money or bill broker.

22. On every pawn broker twenty-five dollars (\$25)

#### Itinerant Doctors

23. On every chiropodist, cancer, eye or other itinerant doctor or optician ten dollars (\$10)

#### Photographic Artists

24. On every daguerrean or photograph artist, twenty dollars (\$20).

#### Express Companies

25. On every express company having an office or doing business in the city, thirty dollars (\$30) and no railroad company shall do an express business in the City without first obtaining a license under this clause.

#### Junk Dealers

26. On any person trading in any kind of second hand [Page 313] articles, junk, old metals, rages, or other like commodities, thirty five dollars (\$35) and for each canvasser or agent canvassing the city for the purpose of buying junk or other matter for junk dealers or themselves, fifteen dollars (\$15)

#### Livery Stables

27. On every keeper of a livery stables thirty dollars (\$30)

28. On every two-horse hack, phaeton, omnibus, carriage, or wagon used for hire, eight dollars (\$8) on every buggy used for hire four dollars; on every one horse wagon, dray or cart used for hire four dollars (\$4).

#### Liquor Dealers

29. On every person selling by wholesale wine, ardent spirits, [Page 201] malt liquors, or any mixture thereof, one hundred and sixty dollars (\$160), (Any licensed wholesale liquor dealer may also obtain a license as a retail liquor dealer upon the payment therefor of one-half the amount required in section 30 of this act) but where a person sells only malt liquors by wholesale the tax shall be twenty five dollars (\$25).

30. Retail liquors, including the privilege of drinking where sold, one hundred and twenty dollars (\$120). Retail malt fifteen dollars (\$15). In conflict with State Law

31. On every person distilling or manufacturing ardent spirits, twenty five dollars (\$25); and on manufacturing malt liquors, ten dollars (\$10)

(32. A wholesale liquor dealer desiring to sell liquors by retail may do so by paying one-half of specific tax on a retail liquor license additional.)

33. On every rectifier, twenty five dollars (\$25)

#### Merchants

34. On every license to a merchant or mercantile firm, the tax shall be graduated as follows; where the amount of purchases for the year ending April 1, 1900 did not exceed \$1000 the tax shall be ten dollars (\$10), where the purchases for the year did not exceed \$2000 the tax shall be fifteen dollars (\$15). On all purchases over \$2000, the tax shall be fifty cents on the one hundred dollars of said purchases, and upon all purchases over two thousand dollars and less than twenty five thousand dollars there shall be a tax of thirty center on the one hundred dollars of said purchases.

Merchant tailors, lumber merchants, furniture merchants, butchers, green grocers, hucksters, dealers in coal, ice or wood shall be considered in this section, but dealers in wood, coal or ice paying license tax under this section may peddle the same from vehicles without paying additional tax.

35. On every commission merchant forty-five dollars (\$45) Every person buying or selling on commission shall be deemed a commission merchant and that whether the articles bought or sold are bought or sold in this city or elsewhere.

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36. Every agent for the sale of musical instruments, sewing machines, fertilizers, or other articles, twenty dollars (\$20)

37. On every person retailing tobacco, cigars, snuff five dollars (\$5)

#### Medicines

38. On every person engaged in the sale on the streets or other public places of patent or quack medicines or any other articles by auction or otherwise or exhibiting the same two dollars and a half (\$2.50) for each day or night the same may be done. This license shall be a personal privilege, and only be granted by order of the Mayor.

#### Oysters and Fish

39. On every person selling oysters or fresh fish (other than duly licensed merchants) five dollars (\$5)

#### Patent rights



40. On every person selling patent rights, ten dollars (\$10)

Peddlers &c

41. On every peddler, fifty dollars (\$50) and every person selling to consumers by sample, card, or representation or soliciting or taking orders from any other than from merchants or other persons dealing in the articles so sold shall be deemed a peddler.

Railroad Tickets

42. On every person buying or selling railroad tickets other than the duly authorized agent of some railroad company with a depot in this city, ten dollars (\$10)

Swings

43. On every proprietor of a revolving swing, flying tournament or machine of like nature for each week ten dollars (\$10)

Shooting Galleries

44. On the proprietor of every shooting gallery five dollars (\$5)

Theaters, Shows, Circuses &c

45. On every proprietor or lessee of a public or private building to be used for any theatrical or secular performance, panorama, or any other public exhibition show or entertainment, whether any charge for admission thereto is made or not, fifteen dollars (\$15), and no building shall be used for any such purpose until said tax is paid. But this section shall not apply to any exhibition held in any church or building owned or used as a place of worship by any religious congregation in the city.

46. The specific license tax on every show, every circus, and on the exhibition of a menagerie fifty dollars (\$50) per day, on the outside shows, whether attached thereto or not, five dollars (\$5) each.

47. On every license to a theatrical performance of any kind whatever, professional juggler, necromancer or any other exhibition of a like kind, whether money or any other thing is charged therefor or not, the tax on each exhibition or performance by day or night shall be three dollars (\$3); ten dollars (\$10) for six consecutive days by the same company [Page 315] but when such exhibition performance or lecture is held or given for any charitable or literary purpose within the City, and the net proceeds actually applied or bestowed within the City to said charitable or literary purpose, the Mayor shall have power and authority to give a permit for such exhibition, performance or lecture free from all tax or charge; and every lecture included in the above clause shall be only granted upon the order of the Mayor. And each exhibition shall pay the city collector the sum of seventy five cents for collecting, provided however that said collector has to leave his regular place of business to make such collection. Such license tax shall be paid to the city Collector before any exhibition is held

Telegraph Companies

48. On every telegraph company having an office in the city, thirty five dollars (\$35)

Telephone Companies

49. On every telephone company having an office in the city, twenty five dollars (\$25)

Dealers in Futures

50. Every person who shall conduct the business of dealing in what is known as futures in grain or other produce or merchandise, shall pay a specific license tax of twenty five dollars (\$25) and if a similar business be done in railroad or other stocks or bonds an additional license of twenty five dollars (\$25), but this shall not be deemed as interfering with the stock or bond dealing of regular bankers.

Guarantee Insurance Companies

51. On every license to a person or firm to act as agent or solicitors for any company guaranteeing official or other bonds, not having its principal or home office the in the City, there shall be a specific license for doing business in this City of twenty dollars (\$20) for each company represented.

Wagon Yards

52. Every person or persons keeping a wagon yard in this city shall pay upon each such yard so kept a specific license tax of ten dollars (\$10) for each year or fractional part thereof.

Fortune Telling or Palmistry

53. Fortune telling or Palmistry when charge is made, either for admission or hand reading five dollars (\$5)

I. Whenever a license shall be especially required by law on any business, profession or employment it shall be lawful to grant a license for said business, professional or employment. Where the ordinance aforesaid does not clearly define and provide for the same, the license may be granted according to the law, which governs in similar cases, and be subject to such restrictions as appertains thereto, and the Mayor of the City may authorize the granting of such license, which shall be deemed a personal privilege. [Page 316]

II. All other license taxes imposed by this ordinance are subject to a pro rata deduction when the same are issued after the beginning of the year to which this ordinance applies; provided that the tax on the license issued shall always be assess as of the first day of the quarter in which issued and shall cover the period until the 30<sup>th</sup> April next succeeding.

III. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner of the Revenue to keep a book in which he shall classify all the branches of business and occupations upon which a license tax is imposed by this ordinance and show the amount of assessment made of each license the name of the person against whom assessed and the person for which said license is issued. At the end of each quarter commencing with that ending on the 30<sup>th</sup> April 1900, he shall deliver to the Finance Committee extracts from said books showing the entries thereon made during the preceding quarter, properly classified. These extracts shall be certified under oath.

IV. Any person who shall engage in, or exercise any business, employment or profession without license is required by law or shall in any manner violate the license or revenue laws of the city if as specified fine is imposed for such violations, shall pay a fine of not less than five dollars (\$5) or more than ten dollars (\$10) for each offense.

V. Every person or firm commencing business after the first day of May, and who shall fail to obtain a license within ten days thereafter shall be subject to the same penalties as in section IV.

VI. Every license granted for the unexpired portion of the term heretofore mentioned shall be charged pro rata until otherwise provided. But no license shall be issued for a less sum than two dollars (\$2) nor granted for a longer period than to the first of May 1900.

VII. The City Collector shall at the expiration of each week report to the Treasurer the amount of all money received by him for licenses, and pay the same over to the Treasurer, for which he shall be allowed two and one half percent.

VIII. The Commissioner of the Revenue shall, before the first of March of each year ascertain the names of persons and firms who are engaged in any of the occupations, professions or businesses named or referred to in this license ordinance. He shall list and keep each list in his office and report copies of such list to the Common Council and Mayor on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April annually. He shall assess each person or firm named in the list with the license tax imposed by the ordinance and he is not authorized to release or discharge any of the persons or firms enumerated in this list who are engaged in the occupation, profession, or business upon which license tax is imposed [Page 317] without a judicial decision in the case.

IX. Should there be an assessment made and not paid, it shall be the duty of the City Collector to make collection by levy and sale of the goods and chattels of the person assessed as is provided by the Act of the General Assembly of Virginia for the assessment ley and collection of taxes. A commission of 5 percent shall be allowed on collections so made from default or persons and such commissions shall be paid by the person or persons in default.

X. A discount of five per cent will be allowed on all licenses paid on or before May 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.

XI. Be it further ordained that all laws ordinances and resolutions that are in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

A recorded vote being held the said ordinance was adopted unanimously .

Mr Willis Chairman of the Finance Committee to which committee was referred the application of the Merchants and Mechanics Perpetual Building and Loan Association to purchase that portion of Canal Street between Main Street and the River said he had consult Mr St G R Fitzhugh, the City Attorney, in reference to the application and submitted Mr Fitzhugh's answer which is as follows.

M G Willis, Esq

Chairman of Finance Com of City Council

Dear Sir;

The City Council cannot sell to anyone that portion of Canal Street extending from Main Street to the River.

The Streets of the City do not belong to the City within which they are depicted, although acquired by the exercise of eminent domain and the damages paid out of the Corporation treasury.

The streets of a City are public highways and belong to the public, and the only authority the City has over these is derived from the Legislature. The City Council cannot discontinue or vacate a street once opened and accepted by it without authority from the Legislature. Our charter contains no power to sell, discontinue or vacate any of our streets. The Legislature might authorize a discontinuance or vacation of a street, I do not think it could authorize a sale.

Very Respectfully,

St Geo R Fitzhugh

April 19, 1900

A protest from Mrs A Jean Arnaud against the sale of the said part of the Street was also read and the said application was denied.

Mr Willis reported that there were now outstanding \$5000 of the 6 per cent Gas Bonds not yet presented for payment.

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Mr Wroten suggested removing the old iron railing around the Court House Lot and replacing it with a granite curbing.

Mr Bradley moved that the Street Committee be direct to have the iron railing around the Court House on Princess Anne and George Streets removed and a neat granite curbing put in its place, which motion was adopted.

Mr Embrey, Chairman of the Street Committee asked for an appropriation of \$200 for said construction which on motion was ordered

Mr Embrey also state that "Mint Spring" needed being properly protected and on motion of Mr Willis the matter was referred to the Street Committee.

Col Cole, Chairman of Water Committee asked for an appropriation of \$657.17 to react contractual expenses incurred in putting in 19 more new fire plugs and laying new pipe, on motion it was ordered.

Mr Lane, Chairman of Ordinance Committee called up the two ordinances of the last meeting, one entitled "an ordinance providing for the paving and better repair of the side-walks of the Corporation of the City of Fredericksburg" (which is as follows)

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Corporation of the City of Fredericksburg that the owner of any house or lot fronting on any street in said Corporation, shall at his own expense keep in good repair with good paving brick, stone stabs, concrete or sharp sand, so much of the side walk as shall front the building and lot of ground belonging to him.

1. The Mayor shall direct such repairs to be made whenever necessary, and if any such owner shall fail to make such repairs after having received ten days notice so to do, the person so failing shall pay a fine of one dollar for each day, and after the expiration of ten days, if the repairs shall not have been made by the owner, it shall be the duty of the Mayor to certify the facts to the (Chairman of the ) Street Committee and the Street Committee shall forth with cause the repairs to be made on account of such owner, and shall certify the bill of cost thereof to the City Treasurer for payment.
  2. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer forthwith to record the same in a book kept in his office for that purpose, and place the said bills in the hands of the City Collector for collection; and the said bills shall be charge against the property specified therein, as taxes and levies are made by law, and shall be collected in [Page 319] the manner prescribed by law for the collection of taxes upon real estate.
  3. This ordinance shall be in force and after its passage.
- On motion of Col Cole this ordinance was adopted.

The other ordinance is entitled “an ordinance providing for the greater safety of pedestrians and vehicles traveling the side walks and streets of Fredericksburg” (and is as follows)

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Corporation of the City of Fredericksburg that a temporary walkway at least three feet wide shall be kept in front of any building in course of construction or repair, said walkway extending from the edge of the permanent side walk in front of each lot adjoining the sides of the lot on which is the building in course of construction or repair. It shall be constructed of plank laid lengthwise on sufficient sleepers and shall be laid out around the materials for the proposed building and entirely within the space provided in Chapter eleven, section three of the General Ordinance, and shall be kept entirely clear for the passage of pedestrians, except when materials are being from the street across it.

2. When building is commenced and material hauled [to] the space in front of the proposed building must be fenced or roped off at each end and the temporary walk-way constructed.
3. No gutter or water way shall at any time be obstructed by building materials so as to prevent the free passage of water along the same.
4. No box cutting or mortar mixing shall be allowed on any street unless pedestrians or others passing by be protected by proper screens or bulk heads. Light in such places as may be necessary and in conspicuous places in front of obstructions shall be maintained each night from dark till sun rise on any obstruction as long as it may remain.
5. Every person violating any of the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined not less than one nor more than five dollars.
6. This ordinance shall be in force from and after passage.

On motion of Col Cole this ordinance was adopted.

Mr Rowe, Chairman Committee on Schools presented bill of the Fredericksburg College for one hundred dollars (\$100) which on motion was ordered to be paid.

The Mayor reported fines collect in March 1900 \$9.50  
 The Mayor reported that the Police Officers performed their duty

The terms of M G Willis, upper ward and Jas T Layton lower ward, as School Trustees having expired and these two gentlemen were elected School Trustees for three years from April 4, 1900.  
 On motion the Council adjourned  
 A P Rowe, Mayor  
 James P Corbin, Clerk  
 [Page 320]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held in the Council Chamber of said City on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 1900 at 4 o'clock PM

There were present, Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

M G Willis, Recorder

Councilmen G W Wroten, W S Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E D Cole, W H Hurkamp, Jno T Knight, M S Chancellor, H B Lane and T McCracken

The Mayor stated that the meeting had been called to take appropriate action on the death of Henry R Gouldman, Esquire

Mr Embrey offered the following resolutions:

Whereas Henry R Gouldman departed this life at his house in the City on the Evening of April the 24<sup>th</sup>, Instant,

And Whereas this Council desires to spread upon its minutes a tribute to his personal worth, public services and private character, therefore:

First: That this Council learns of his death with profound sorrow.

Second: That in his death Fredericksburg has lost a valued citizen, a public spirited, progressive man and an officer who as a member of this body for over seventeen years and as Mayor (filling the unexpired term of W S White, deceased), served his people faithfully and conscientiously. His life was the life of a Christian gentleman, following with a fidelity and exactness rarely witnessed that devise injunction "whatever ye would that man should do to you, do ye even as to them."

Third: That the sympathy of this body is extended to his family in their bereavement.

Fourth: That this council do attend the funeral in a body.

Fifth: That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, and a copy be furnished the city newspapers for publication."

The resolutions were seconded by Messrs McCracken, Knight and Willis and were unanimously adopted. On motion the Council decided to assemble at the Council Chamber tomorrow afternoon at 3:15 o'clock to attend the funeral.

On motion the meeting adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 321]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present Hon A P Rowe Mayor

M G Willis, Recorder

Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E D Cole, M S Chancellor, H B Lane and T McCracken.

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor who stated that it had been called at the request of the Finance Committee on matters relating to advertising for bids for new Bridge Bonds and also on request of Capt McCracken.

Mr Willis, Chairman of the Finance Committee stated that bids from three of our citizens aggregating \$13,000.00 had been received for the new Bridge Bonds at the rate of \$1002.50 per thousand which was the rate at which the new Gas Bonds were taken in January last and that it was the opinion of the Finance Committee that the entire issue of said Bonds, viz; \$25,000.00 would be taken at that rate by our home people and requested that said Committee be instructed in the premises.

Whereupon, Mr Bradley offered the following:

Resolved, that the Finance Committee be instructed to sell the \$25,000.00 of Bridge bonds at a price not less than was paid for the Gas Bonds which were floated by this City on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1900, which was adopted.

Capt McCracken moved that the Rules be suspended for the purpose of amending Sec 25, Chapter 12 of the City Ordinances by striking out the words "dirty water"

After some discussion in which the motion was opposed by Messrs Cole, Embrey and Willis, a recorded vote was called for which resulted as follows:

For suspension of the rules, Capt McCracken (1)

Against, Messrs Willis, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Cole Chancellor and Lane (8)

And the motion was declared lost

Capt Mc Cracken then moved that the rules be suspended for the purposed of repealing Sec 12 Chapter 6 of the city ordinance touching the duties of the Commissioner of the Revenue, and said motion was adopted. Whereupon

Capt McCracken moved that Section 12, Chapter 6 of the City Ordinances, which read as follows, Sec. 12 Any person having a license issued or transferred shall pay the same fees to the Commissioner of the Revenue for the Corporation license as for a State license," be repealed, which motion was unanimously adopted.

Col Cole gave notice that he would at the next meeting of the Council introduce the question of sewerage.

On Motion the Council adjourned

A P Rowe, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 322]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present, M G Willis Esquire, Recorder

Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, E D Cole, W H Hurkamp, J T Knight, M S Chancellor, H B Lane and T McCracken.

The meeting was called to order by the Recorder who stated that it had been called for the purpose of conferring with the General Committee of Councilmen and citizens appointed to arrange for the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac to be held here on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> instant.

Col Cole, Chairman of the said Committee, made a statement of progress made and remarks were made by Mr Willis of the Council and Messrs Fitzhugh, Shepherd and McCracken of the Committee

And then the Council adjourned

A P Rowe Mayor

James P. Corbin, Clerk

[Page 323]

At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present, Hon A P Rowe, Mayor

M G Willis, Recorder

Councilmen W E Bradley, G W Wroten, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, J T Knight, and H B Lane.

The meeting was called to order and the minutes of the meetings held on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of April and on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of May were read and adopted.

Mr Willis, Chairman of the Finance Committee, stated the entire issued of \$25,000.00 of refunding Bridge Bonds had been sold to our home people at the rate of \$1002.50 per thousand.

Mr Willis also present two bills of the *Free Lance*, one for \$2.50 and one for \$3.25, which on his motion were ordered to be paid; and five bills of the *Fredericksburg Star*, one for \$3.00, one for \$1.75, one for \$6.50, one for \$1.50 and one for \$2.50, which on his motion were ordered to be paid.

And pursuant to Sec 2 Chapter 42 of the City Ordinances Mr Willis reported that the “estimate of the debts and necessary expenditures of the City for the following fiscal years with a scale of taxes and levies for meeting the same” would be about the same as for last year.

Mr Knight of the Committee on Light, Stated that advertisements for bids for the erection of an Electric Light Plant had been put in several papers and that the Committee would report fully when they had secured the necessary information.

Mr Willis, at the request of Mr J P Rowe, Chairman of the Committee on Schools, stated that the number of pupils in attendance had made it necessary to open an over-flow school to accommodate the children, which entailed an additional expense of \$200 and that the School census had to be taken this year which would cost about \$50.00, and moved that the sum of \$250.00 be place to the credit of the School Board, which upon motion was adopted.

A communication from the Business Men’s Association of the City relative to a better supply of water in that section of the City situated north of the P F & P R R, south of Commerce Street and west of the Canal” was read, and on motion of Mr Knight referred to the Committee on Water.

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And on motion the Council adjourned.

M G Willis Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice at the Council Chamber of said City on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> day of May 1900 at 5 o’clock PM  
There were present M G Willis, Recorder  
Councilmen, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, J P Rowe, E D Cole, H B Lane and P McCracken

The meeting was called to order by Mr Willis.

Col Cole stated that it was called at the request of the Committee on the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac and said that that Committee had about finished its work, which the Committee hoped and believed had been done to the satisfaction of said society and of our own people generally, that the total cost amounted to about \$1225.00, but that some small bills might have been overlooked.

Capt McCracken moved that the sum of \$1250.00 or so much thereof as may be needed to meet the said cost be placed to the credit of said Committee, which motion was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr Bradley, the meeting adjourned

M G Willis, Recorder

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 325]

At a called meeting of the Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 1900 at 4 o’clock PM

There were present, M G Willis, Esquire, Recorder  
Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, E D Cole, W H Hurkamp, J T Knight, H B Lane,  
and T McCracken.

The meeting was called to order by the Recorder who stated that it had been called to take appropriate  
action on the death of Hon A P Rowe, Mayor.

Cole E D Cole offered the following

“Whereas an inscrutable providence has removed from our midst by death the chief executive of our City,  
the Hon Absalom Peyton Rowe; and whereas we, who have been so long and so intimately associated  
with him in official relations desire to publicly testify and place upon record our estimate of him as a  
public officer, private citizen, neighbor and friend, therefore, be it resolved by this Council;

First that we recognize in our deceased Mayor a faithful and conscientious officer, an upright and public  
spirited citizen, a kind and obliging neighbor, a true and devoted friend.

Second: that as an expression of our deep sorrow in the death of our worthy Mayor, it is hereby ordered  
that the City Hall, Council Chamber and Mayor’s Office be draped in mourning for the period of thirty  
days.

Third: That as a token of our respect and esteem for the deceased, it is agreed that this council will attend  
the funeral in a body.

Fourth; That it is ordered that this paper be placed on the minutes of the Council and that an official copy  
thereof be sent to the family of our deceased Mayor with expressions of our sincere sympathy for them in  
their deep sorrow”

Which was unanimously adopted

On motion, the council adjourned

M G Willis, Recorder

James P Corbin, Clerk

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At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to  
notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 1900 at 8 o’clock PM

There were present, M G Willis Recorder

Council W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E D Cole, W H Hurkamp, J T Knight, M S Chancellor, H  
B Lane and T McCracken.

The meeting was called to order by the Recorder.

Mr Knight stated that it had been called at the request of the Light Committee, but that he thought the  
vacancy in the office of Mayor caused by the death of the honorable A P Rowe should be filled for the  
unexpired term and moved that the rules be suspended which was seconded by Col Cole.

A recorded vote was called for, which resulted as follows:

For suspension of the Rules Messrs J P Rowe, E D Cole, J T Knight, M S Chancellor, H B Lane and T  
McCracken (6)

Against suspension of the Rules Messrs M G Willis, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, and W H Hurkamp (4)  
four, and the rules were declared suspended Capt McCracken being in the Chair.

Whereupon Mr Knight nominated for Mayor Marion G Willis, Esqr, a ballot was had and Mr Willis  
unanimously was elected Mayor for the unexpired term and so declared by the Chair. And Mr Willis  
qualified as such by taking the oaths prescribed by law.

Col Cole moved that the Council proceed to the election of a recorder to fill the vacancy caused by the  
election of the Honorable Maurice G Willis as Mayor, which was carried, and Cole Col nominated Capt



McCracken, whereupon Capt McCracken requested Col Cole to withdraw the nomination and nominated John T Knight, Col Cole then withdrew Capt McCracken's name. And a ballot was had and John T Knight was elected Recorder for the unexpired term.

Col Cole moved that the Council proceed to election Councilmen to fill the vacancy from the Upper and Lower wards which was adopted; Whereupon Mr Bradley nominated Mr Sydney S Bradford for the Upper Ward

And Capt McCracken nominated Mr Lawrence Perry from the Lower Ward, and a ballot being had they were duly elected members of this Council their respective Wards, and Mr Sydney S Bradford appeared and qualified as a [Page 327] member of said by taking the oaths prescribed by law and took his seat as a member of the council.

Capt McCracken, Chairman of the Light Committee reported three bids for the erection and installation of an Electric Light Plant for Lighting the Streets of the City as follows:

A bid from J F Buchanan & Co for	\$13,688.00
A bid from Kingsbury, Samuel & Co for	\$13,700.00
A bid from W D Morrow for	\$11,384.56

And offered the following, which was adopted

Whereas the Committee on Light has reported three bids in in writing for the construction of an Electric Plant for Lighting the Streets of the City;

Resolved: That the said three bids are referred back to said Committee with authority to accept for the City either of the three bids that said Committee may deem proper, or to reject all three of said bids if they deem such rejection expedient;

Resolved further; that said Committee shall not accept any one of said bids until a contract for the faithful performance of the work, drawn by the City Attorney, shall be approved by the party whose bids it is proposed to accept, and until some thoroughly responsible guaranty Company shall agree to guarantee the faithful performance of said contract:

Resolved further; that said contract shall designate a suitable person to pass on the work and to approve the same; and the committee on Light is hereby authorized to execute said contract on behalf of the City.

Col Cole of the Committee on Finance offered the following which was adopted.

Resolved; by the Council; that the resolution heretofore adopted in relation to the issue of bonds with which to reduce the Bridge Bonds, be modified so that the said bonds shall bear date on July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1900 and shall be payable on July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1920.

Mr Embrey, Chairman of Committee on Streets called attention to the condition of the gutters in the streets at the new building being erected at the corner of Main and Hanover Streets, whereupon, Capt McCracken moved that the Committee on Streets be requested to have the gutters properly fixed.

On motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Recorder and Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

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At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of the said City, on Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June 1900, at 8 o'clock PM

There were present, Honorable Marion G Willis, Mayor

Jno T Knight Esq, Recorder

Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E D Cole, W H Hurkamp, M S Chancellor, H B Lane, T McCracken, S Sydney Bradford and Lawrence Perry (The Recorder and Mr Perry having duly qualified)

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the minutes of the last meetings held on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of May and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of June were read and approved.

And on motion of Mr Bradley, Mayor Willis was authorized and requested to sign the minutes of the regular meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 1900, which meeting was presided over by the late Mayor Rowe.

The Clerk read the following which was ordered to be spread upon the record viz;

Virginia:

At a Corporation Court held for the City of Fredericksburg on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1900: Marion G Willis, who has been duly elected by the Common Council of this City as Mayor to fill the unexpired term of Hon A P Rowe who has departed this life appeared in Court and qualified as such Mayor by taking and subscribing the oaths required by law.

A copy: Teste James P Corbin, Clerk

The foregoing order of the Corporation Court of the City of Fredericksburg entered on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1900 is hereby certified to the Clerk of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg.

Given under my hand this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1900

James P. Corbin Clerk of the Corporation Court of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia

Received this 16<sup>th</sup> day of June 1900

James P Corbin

Clerk of Common Council

Col Cole of the Finance Committee presented a bill of the *Free Lance* amounting to \$10.25, which on motion was ordered to be paid; he also presented three bills, one for \$2.60, one for \$.42, and one for \$2.00, which on motion were ordered to be paid.

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Mr Wroten, Chairman of the Public Property Committee presented a report showing the expenditures amounting to \$1796.10, which report on motion of Col Cole was received & ordered to be filed.

Mr Embrey, Chairman of the Committee on Streets, presented a report and asked for an appropriation of \$79.92 to meet unpaid accounts, (the said report showed expenditures amounting to \$1644.60) on motion the sum of \$789.92 was ordered to be place to the credit of the Street Committee and on motion the report was received and ordered to be filed.

Col Cole, Chairman of the Water Committee presented the report of the Superintendent of the City Water Works which the Committee asked to be taken as its report, the said report was read by Capt Quinn, Supt of Water Works, it showed receipts amounting to

\$6,295.97

And expenditures amounting to

\$4,601.76

Showing net receipts from Water Works of

\$1,694.21

The report showed that the running expenses, repairs &c exceeding the appropriations for the year by \$37.95, which amount on motion was ordered to be placed to the credit of the Committee and

On motion the report was received and ordered to be filed.

Col Cole further stated that the work on the Canal directed to be done by the Committee on Water had cost \$361.80, which in excess of the appropriation of \$175.00 made for that purpose by the sum of

\$186.80 and on motion the sum of \$186.80 was ordered to be placed to the credit of the Water Committee.

Mr Lane Chairman Ordinance Committee presented a report showing expenditures by said Committee in printing 250 copies of the late ordinances and for photographs, half-tone and &c for the history of the City amounting to \$336.96.

On motion the sum of \$336.96 was ordered to be placed to the credit of the Committee on Ordinances and on motion the said report was received and ordered to be filed.

Capt McCracken, Chairman Light Committee presented a report showing

total receipts from Gas Works	\$10,242.43
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Expenditures amounting to	6,457.05
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Earnings for the year	3,785.38
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Report also set forth the Streets to be

Amt paid City Gas Works	\$2,012.40
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Amt paid Electric Light Co	\$2,292.48
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Amt paid George Wills	175.00	4,477.88
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The Committee suggested a reduction in the price of gas furnished consumers from \$1.50 to \$1.25 per thousand feet.

On motion of Col Cole the report was received and ordered to be filed.

Capt McCracken also stated that the Light Committee had deemed it expedient to reject all three bids received for the construction of an Electric Plant, and that this action had been taken in pursuance of the resolution on the subject passed at the last meeting of the Council. Capt McCracken further stated that extended investigation and inquiry would be made and he thought terms equally as low and more satisfactory in other respects would be negotiated.

Mr Bradley, Chairman Committee on Alms & Alms House presented a report showing expenditures for the poor of the City of \$308.47 in excess of the appropriation on motion the sum of \$308.47 was ordered to be placed to the credit of said Committee and on motion the report was received and ordered to be filed.

Mr. Knight, Chairman of Committee on Health & Police presented a report showing expenditures amounting to \$160.86 on motion the sum of \$160.86 was ordered to be placed to the credit of said Committee and said report was received and ordered to be filed.

Mr Rowe, Chairman of Committee on Schools reported orally that the number of pupils enrolled was 806, the number of medals conferred 17, and that the pupil in the Fredericksburg College having the highest garnered standing was one of those appropriated in said College by the Council.

Mr Chancellor, Chairman of the Fire Department Committee reported that said had expended the sum of \$24.73 in excess of the annual appropriation. On motion the sum of \$24.73 was ordered to be placed to the credit of said Committee and that said report be received and filed.

Col Cole, Chairman of the Committee on the meeting of the Society of the Army of the Potomac reported a total expenditure on that occasion of \$1264.33, on motion the report was received and ordered to be filed

On motion of Mr Hurkamp, the Council adjourned to next on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> inst at 8 o'clock PM

M G Willis, Mayor  
James P Corbin, Clerk  
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At an adjourned meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held in the Council Chamber of said on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 1900 pursuant to the adjournment of said body on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June 1900

There were present, Hon M G Willis, Mayor

John T Knight, Esq, Recorder

Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E D Cole W H Hurkamp, M S Chancellor, H B Lane, T McCracken, S S Bradford and Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order

Col Cole, Chairman of the Finance Committee submitted the following report to the Mayor and the Council, viz;

Your Committee on Finance respectfully submit the following report, embracing settlement of the account of the City Collector and Treasurer respectively.

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

(The Collector's report is as follows)

(Read and ordered to be filed)

The accounts of R T Knox, Treasurer having been examined and found correct are submitted as a part of this report and are as follows

(Read and ordered to be followed)

(It shows total receipts of \$51,198.45 & disbursements of \$44,895.51)

The report of the auditing committee is as follows:

We, the Auditing Committee, have examined the books of the City Treasurer, Gas & Water Works and have found the same correct.

The above reports are very full and clear and need no comment by your committee. It will be observed that all the officers' salaries due July 1<sup>st</sup> 1900 are included herein. The balance in the hands of the Treasurer is \$6,307.94 which with the July Water rent will amount to about \$8,700.00.

This gives the City ample funds, if judiciously used, to meet all needs until the October taxes are paid. The Gas bonds have been funded at four per cent and the Bridge bonds will on July 2<sup>nd</sup> be funded at the same rate, which will be a saving in interest on these two amounts of \$500 each or \$1,000 per annum.

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The bonded indebtedness of the City is as follows

7 per cent due 1906	\$119,420.00
5 per cent Water Bonds	30,000.00
4 per cent Bridge bonds	25,000.00
4 per cent Gas bonds	25,000.00
	\$199,420.00

The sinking fund is \$8,873.57.

We would recommend that your committee be instruction to advertise for \$4000 of the seven percent bonds to be added to this fund, and that the lowest bid be reported to this Council for its action.

The delinquent real estate is about \$3,200 and the amount due by the late R W Adams' estate \$4,604.72 with interest should be all collected as early as possible and added to the sinking fund.

Your will see by the Treasurer's report that the collections from all sources exceed last year by about \$2,800.

You will also see that our extraordinary expenses have reached about \$2,600.

Respectfully submitted

E D Cole

W S Embrey

Capt McCracken moved that the report be received filed and that the same be printed, which was carried.

Col Cole also presented the Annual Appropriation Bills as follows:

First be it ordained by the City Council of Fredericksburg, Virginia that the following appropriations be made for the year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 1901.

Interest & sinking fund 7 percent bonds	\$10,000.00
Interest on 5 percent water bonds	1,800.00
Interest on 4 percent bridge bonds	1,250.00
Interest on 4 percent gas bonds	1,250.00
Alms House	1,000.00
Police	1,440.00
Salaries	4,500.00
Public Property	600.00
Streets	1,000.00
Lights	3,500.00
Public Schools	3,000.00
Water	1,000.00
Health & Police	100.00
Fire Department	50.00
Contingencies	5,010.00
	\$35,500.00

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Second that it shall not be lawful for the Treasurer to pay any amount in excess of appropriations aforesaid and it shall be his duty to notify the Common Council at the next meeting if any of these appropriations are exhausted, and not to pay any order on them until further appropriations are made to meet them.

Capt McCracken, moved the adoption of the said ordinance which motion was carried

Col Cole also offered the following tax bill

Be it ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Va

That the following taxes on personal property (read and personal) shall be assessed, levied and paid for the year 1900-1901 for the support of the municipal government, public schools, for the poor, for the lighting of the Streets, to pay interest on bonds, and to provide a sinking fund for the redemption of the City debt, viz:

1<sup>st</sup> On every male person over 21 years of age (not legally exempt) 50 cents

2<sup>nd</sup> On all real and personal property, income, toll bridges, monied capital, in any business, investments in bonds in or out of the State, and stock in incorporated companies, on every (\$100) one hundred dollars \$1.15

3<sup>rd</sup> On any property taxed by the State and not included in the foregoing, the tax shall be the same at that fixed by the State.

4<sup>th</sup> A deduction of five percent shall be made on all taxes paid on or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October next.

5<sup>th</sup> On all taxes remaining unpaid on and after the 15<sup>th</sup> day of October next, there shall be added five percent and interest from that date till paid, and the Collector shall proceed to collect the same in the manner prescribed by law and the ordinances of the City.

6<sup>th</sup> The Taxes imposed by this ordinance shall be payable in National currency of the United States and in the coupons of the 7 per cent bonds of the City , and on the first day of November next (without rebate) in pursuance of the ordinance on that subject

And, on motion of Mr Knight, this ordinance was adopted.

Col Cole also read a statement of the taxable values of the City which was ordered to be filed.

The Mayor reported fines collected for April & May	\$43.50
For June	\$19.00

The Mayor [stated] that the several Policemen had faithfully performed their duties.

On motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 334]

At a meeting of the members-elect of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, held in the Council Chamber of said City on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of July 1900 at 10 o'clock AM

There were present, Hon M G Willis, Mayor

And the following duly qualified members of the Council; George W Wroten, William E Bradley, W S Embrey, E Dorsey Cole, Josiah P Rowe, William H Hurkamp, M Sanford Chancellor, Terence McCracken, S Sydney Bradford, Lawrence Perry, & Matthew J Gately

The meeting was called to order

Col Cole moved the Council proceed to elect a Clerk which was carried

Col Cole also moved that the salary of the Clerk of the Council be fixed at (\$100) one hundred dollars per year, which was adopted.

Capt McCracken nominated James P Corbin for Clerk and a ballot was had which resulted in his unanimous election to that office.

Capt McCracken moved that the vacancy in the Council from the Upper Ward be filled.

Mr Bradley moved as a substitute that the election to fill said vacancy be postponed for the present. A recorded vote on Mr Bradley's substitute was called for which resulted as follows

For the substitute, Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp and Gately five (5)

Against the substitute Messrs Rowe, Cole Chancellor, Perry, McCracken and Bradford six (6)

The substitute was declared lost

And the original motion of Capt MrCracken was adopted whereupon

Mr Chancellor nominated A R Howard, and Mr Bradford nominated Mr C W Jones, a ballot was had which resulted as follows for Mr Howard four (4) for Mr Jones seven (7)

Mr Jones was declared elected to fill the vacancy in the Council from the upper Ward,

And Messrs Bradford and Chancellor were requested to inform Mr Jones of his election.

Mr Jones appeared and qualified as a member of the Council and took his seat therein.

Mr Willis presented and had read the following:

To the Common Council of Fredericksburg, Va

Gentlemen

On June 15<sup>th</sup> without solicitation on my [Page 335] part you elected me your Mayor, I qualified according to law and have performed the duties of the office to this date. Now I understand the question has been raised as to whether this election carries with it the term ending July 1<sup>st</sup> 1902; I have been of the opinion that since the death of our late Mayor, the Council could hold but one election to fill the vacancy and am still of that opinion.

Desiring to do what is right and to have this question decided upon high moral grounds, if the members of the Council dissent from my views, I submit the matter to you gentlemen, who have taken a solemn oath of office as I have done, to take such steps or may be necessary to define my position according to law.

Respectfully

M G Willis

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1900

And called Capt McCracken to the chair

Col Cole moved the Council go into the election of a Recorder

Mr Bradley moved as a substitute for Col Cole's motion, that the election of the Recorder be postponed for the present. A recorded vote was asked for on the substitute and was had with the following result, for the substitute Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp, Gately and Jones six (6)

Against the substitute Messrs Rowe, Cole, Chancellor McCracken, Bradford and Perry, six (6) and was declared lost

The question coming on the original motion, by request a recorded vote was had with the following result viz:

For the motion Messrs Rowe, Cole, Chancellor, McCracken, Bradford and Perry six (6) against the motion Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp, Gately and Jones, six (6), and the original motion was declared lost.

Mr Bradley moved that before the Council go into the election of Mayor that Mr St George R Fitzhugh be heard, a recorded vote on the motion was called for and had with the following result,

For the motion, Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Hurkamp, McCracken, Perry, Gately and Jones, nine (9)

Against the motions Messrs Cole, Chancellor and Bradford three (3) and the motion prevailed.

Whereupon Mr Bradley offered the following

Resolved that Mr St George R Fitzhugh is requested to render an opinion as to whether Mr M G Willis is legally elected Mayor for the City of Fredericksburg for the term commencing July 1, 1900 and ending July 1, 1902, which resolution was adopted.

And Mr Fitzhugh being present after requesting the Clerk to take down what he said, spoke as follows, to-wit:

Prior to the recent act of the Legislature, in the [Page 336] case of a vacancy in the office of Mayor, the law required the Corporation Court to fill the vacancy until the next general election. This last act of the Legislature, to which I refer, requires the Council instead of the Corporation Court to fill the vacancy. Under this recent Act of the Legislature it was competent for the old Council, which has gone out of existence to have elected a successor to Mr Rowe, to fill the unexpired term ending July 1<sup>st</sup> 1900. The old Council undertook to fill that vacancy and to elect Mr Willis (Marion G Willis), but it failed to elect him legally, and in my judgment as I told him the morning after his election, he was not the Mayor. But, if that election had been legal, it was not competent for the old Council to elect a Mayor for any longer time than the first day of July, 1900. Hence I have no difficulty in advising this Council that a vacancy exists today in the office of Mayor of this City which the law make it the duty of this Council to fill for the unexpired term ending July 1<sup>st</sup> 1902. And I think it my duty to the Council, as its counsel, to add that since the law imposes that duty upon the Council and since the Legislature has deliberately taken that function away

from the people any reference to the question of the selection of that officer to the people would be a violation of the law and hence a violation of their official oaths.”

Col Cole moved that Mr Fitzhugh’s opinion as aforesaid be laid on the table, which motion was defeated. Mr Perry, moved that everything in Mr Fitzhugh’s opinion not bearing directly on the election by the old Council of Mr Willis as Mayor, be expunged therefrom, which motion was adopted.

Mr Bradley moved that Mr Fitzhugh’s opinion expurgated in accordance with Mr Perry’s motion be received and placed upon the record; which was adopted

Mr Bradford offered the following, seconded by Mr Perry;

Whereas more than a majority of the qualified voters of this City have requested this Council by petition to allow them to declare by a primary election their preference for Mayor for the full term commencing July 1<sup>st</sup> 1900, it being understood that this Council shall elect to the office of Mayor the person so preferred by said primary, if he be capable and qualified to perform the duties of said office, and Whereas the Council desires to elect such a person to the office of Mayor who shall be acceptable to the people which can be best expressed by a primary election at the same time not to avoid or evade its responsibility,

Be it therefore resolved that a Committee of five (5) [Page 337] be and is hereby appointed, which said Committee shall fix its date of said primary and make all rules and regulations for the same and to report their action hereunder to a further meeting of this Council; provided that the cost and expense of the said primary shall be borne by the candidate being voted for at the same.

And the Council will elect said person as preferred by said primary.

A recorded vote being called for, was had with the following result

For the resolution, Messrs Rowe, Cole, McCracken, Bradford, Perry and Jones, six (6) against the resolution Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp, Chancellor and Gately, six (6) and the motion was declared lost.

Mr Bradley moved that the Council go into the election of Mayor for the term beginning July 1, 1900 and ending July 1, 1902.

A recorded vote being called for resulted as follows

For said motion, Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Cole, Hurkamp, Chancellor, McCracken, Bradford, Perry, Gately and Jones, twelve (12)

Against the motion none (0)

The motion was carried, Whereupon

Mr Wroten nominated for Mayor Hon Alvin T Embrey, Mr Chancellor nominated for said office Col E Dorsey Cole, and Mr Bradford nominated Mr A B Tapscott

Whereupon a ballot was had, with the following result

Embrey 5, Cole 4 and Tapscott 3; there being not election the ballot was continued with the same result until 38 ballots had been taken when Mr Perry moved to adjourn till 3 o’clock PM which motion prevailed and the Council adjourned until 3:00 PM

At 3 o’clock the Council convened present as at the morning session,

Capt McCracken stated that some objection had been made to his acting as the presiding officer, whereupon, Mr Bradley moved that Captain McCracken be called to the chair, which motion was adopted unanimously.

The ballot for Mayor for then resumed and continued with the same result namely Embrey 5, Cole 4 and Tapscott 3, until 57 ballots had been taken, When Col Cole moved to go into the election of a Recorder. Mr Bradley raised the point of order that the motion was out of order and was sustained by the Chair Whereupon the ballot for Mayor was continued until 68 ballots had been taken with the same issue



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When Col Cole moved to pass by the election of Mayor and proceed to elect a Recorder Mr Bradley made the same point of order as before and was over-ruled by the chair, whereupon Mr Bradley appealed from the decision of the Chair and a recorded vote being asked was had with the following result,

For sustaining the appeal Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Hurkamp, and Gately six (6)

Against sustaining the appeal Messrs Cole, Chancellor McCracken, Bradford, Perry and Jones six (6)

And the appeal was defeated

Cole Cole then moved that the Council proceed to elect a Recorder, which motion was adopted where upon

Col Cole nominated Capt Terence McCracken and Mr Gately nominated Geo W Wroten, Esq for Recorder

Whereupon a ballot was had which resulted as follows

For McCracken 5, Wroten 5, Hurkamp 1, Cole 1, the ballot was continued without an election until 5 ballots were had when Mr Bradley moved to take a recess for 10 minutes a recorded vote being called for was had with the following result

For recess Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp and Gately five (5)

Against a recess Messrs Rowe, Cole, Chancellor, McCracken, Bradford, Perry and Jones seven (7) the motion was lost

The ballot was resumed and continued without an election until the 25<sup>th</sup> ballot when Mr Bradley moved that the election of Recorder be passed by for the present.

A recorded vote being called for was had as follows

For passing by Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Hurkamp, and Gately, six (6),

Against Messrs Cole, Chancellor, McCracken, Bradford, Perry & Jones six (6)

The motion was defeated

The ballot was resumed with no election until the 29<sup>th</sup> when

Col Cole moved that the election of Recorder be passed by for the present, a recorded vote was asked and had as follows,

For passing by Messrs Cole, Chancellor, McCracken, & Bradford four (4)

Against Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Hurkamp, Perry, Gately & Jones eight (8) defeated

And

Ballot was resumed and continued without an election until 36 ballots had been had when Messrs Wroten and McCracken requested permission to withdraw from the Chamber, but objection was made.

And the 37<sup>th</sup> ballot was had with the following result McCracken 7, Wroten 3 and Rowe 1 and Capt McCracken was declared duly elected as Recorder.

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Mr Rowe moved to take a recess for 10 minutes, which motion was carried.

After 10 minutes the body reconvened all the Councilmen being present.

Mr Bradley moved to take up the election of Mayor which was passed by after the 68<sup>th</sup> ballot, which motion was adopted

And the 69<sup>th</sup> ballot was had with the following result for Embrey 5, for Cole 4, for Tapscott 3, not election and was continued with no change until 83 ballots had been taken when

Col Cole moved to pass by the election of Mayor for the present, a recorded vote was called for and had with the following result

For passing by Messrs Rowe, Cole, Hurkamp, Chancellor, McCracken, Bradford, Perry, Gately and Jones nine (9)

Against Messrs Wroten, Bradley and Embrey three (3), the motion prevailed

On motion of Col Cole the election of other officers was taken up  
The application of Mr A P Rowe Jr for Collector of City Taxes was read and a ballot being had he was unanimously re-elected.  
For City Surveyor, Mr Hurkamp nominated Mr S S Bradford and he was unanimously elected to that office by ballot  
Col Cole moved that the salary of the Clerk of the Market be fixed at \$75.00, the same as last year which motion was adopted  
The application of Mr Samuel Fitzhugh for said office was read and he was unanimously re-elected by ballot as Clerk of the Market  
The application of Messrs R H Carmichael, Geo E Cole and Lewis F Stoffregen for measurer of Coal &c were read and a ballot being had Mr R H Carmichael was duly elected to said office.  
Col Cole moved that the salary of the Superintendent of the Alms House be fixed at \$100.00 as last year which was carried.  
And the application of MR J W Ball for said office was read and a ballot being had he was unanimously re-elected to said office.  
The applications of Messrs James Shelton and Wm Ware for Scavengers in Lower Ward and of Mr J A Stone in Upper Ward were read and a ballot was had which resulted in the election of Mr James Shelton and Mr J A Stone as Scavengers from the Lower and the Upper Wards respectively  
Col Cole moved that the salaries [Page 340] of the four Police officers be fixed at \$[blank] the same as last year which was adopted, and  
The applications of Messrs Charles A Gore, John H Robinson, William R Hall, Wallace N Tansill and R L Jefferson for the office of Policeman were read and a ballot was had which resulted in the election of Messrs Gore, Robinson, Hall and Tansill.

Col Cole moved to adjourn until 8:30 o'clock PM which was carried.

At half past eight o'clock in the evening the Council re-convened present as at the afternoon session  
Capt McCracken in the Chair  
Mr Hurkamp moved that the Council resume the ballot for the election of the Mayor, which was adopted and the 84<sup>th</sup> ballot was had with the following result for Mr Embrey 5, for Col Cole 4, for Mr Tapscott 3  
There being still not election the ballot with the same result continued until the 89<sup>th</sup> on which Mr Embrey received 6, Col Cole 5 and Mr Tapscott 1; the ballot then continued with a like result until 91 ballots had been taken when  
Mr Hurkamp moved that the lowest votes be dropped, which motion was declared out of order by the chair and the  
Ballot was resumed with same result until the 97<sup>th</sup> ballot when  
Col Cole moved to pass by the election of Mayor for the present, which was carried and Col Cole moved that the salary of the Mayor be fixed at \$300 instead of \$400 as formerly, which was adopted  
Col Cole then move that the Council resume the to ballot for the election of Mayor, which was adopted  
And the 98<sup>th</sup> ballot was had with the last name result and the ballot was continued with a like result until 117 ballots were had when  
Col Cole moved that the election of Mayor be passed by for the present. A recorded vote was called for and had with the following result  
For passing by Messrs Cole, Chancellor, McCracken, Bradford, Perry & Jones six (6)  
Against Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Hurkamp and Gately six (6) defeated and  
Ballot was continued with same result until the 128<sup>th</sup> ballot when  
Col Cole moved to adjourn till tomorrow at 10 o'clock AM which motion was lost (no recorded vote being taken) and [Page 341] the ballot was continued with the same result until the 155<sup>th</sup> when

Mr Perry moved to adjourn, a recorded vote was demanded and had with the following result  
For adjournment Messrs Cole, Chancellor, McCracken, Perry & Jones (5),  
Against Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Hurkamp, Bradford, Gately seven (7) defeated  
The ballot was continued with same result until 171 ballot was had when  
Mr Chancellor moved to adjourn till 10:00 tomorrow morning, defeated by the following recorded vote  
For Messrs Rowe, Cole, Chancellor McCracken, & Jones five (5)  
Against Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp, Bradford, Perry & Gately seven (7)  
Ballot continued with same result unto the 191<sup>st</sup> when  
Mr Jones moved to adjourn, which was lost the following recorded vote  
For Messrs Rowe, Cole, McCracken, Gately & Jones five (5)  
Against Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp, Chancellor, Bradford & Perry seven (7)  
Col Cole moved to pass by election for present which was carried.  
Mr Bradley moved a recess for 10 minutes which was adopted.  
Reconvened pursuant to recess all the member present  
Mr Bradley moved to go into election of Mayor which motion prevailed  
And the 192<sup>nd</sup> ballot was had, no election, and ballot continued until 195 ballot had been had, the 195<sup>th</sup>  
standing for Mr Embrey six (6) for Col Cole five (5) for Mr Tapscott one (1) when  
Mr Bradley moved to adjourn till 10:30 o'clock AM tomorrow which was carried by the following  
recorded vote,  
For adjournment Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Cole, Hurkamp, McCracken, Gately and Jones  
nine (9)  
Against Messrs Chancellor, Bradford and Perry three (3)  
The Council adjourned until 10:30 o'clock AM on July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1900

Tuesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1900 the Council reconvened pursuant to adjournment last evening  
Present, Hon M G Willis, Mayor  
Terence McCracken, Recorder  
Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, E. D. Cole, W H Hurkamp, M S  
Chancellor, S S Bradford, Lawrence Perry, M J Gately and G W Jones  
[Page 342]

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor

Mr Chancellor who had voted in the negative on the same moved a reconsideration of the vote had on  
yesterday on the resolution offered by Mr Bradford relating to the reference of the selection of Mayor to a  
primary election before the people, a recorded vote was called for and had which result  
for reconsideration Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Cole, Hurkamp, Chancellor, Mc Cracken,  
Bradford, Perry, Gately and Jones twelve (12), against nobody. And the vote or yesterday was  
reconsidered.

Col Cole moved to amend the resolution by inserting the words "if the same be lawful" after the word  
"election" in the third line of said preamble and resolution as herein recorded on page 336 which accepted  
by the mover of the said resolution, and a recorded vote being called was had as follows  
For the resolution as amended Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Cole, Hurkamp, Chancellor,  
McCracken, Bradford, Perry, Gately and Jones twelve (12) against the resolution nobody and the  
resolution was adopted

Capt McCracken, offered the following

Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to ascertain the quickest, cheapest and best method of finding out the legal status and rights of Mr Willis as Mayor and that until that Committee report formally to this Council that all the official acts of the Hon Marion G. Willis as Mayor be of full force and effect.

Whereupon

Mr Bradley offered as a substitute for Capt McCracken's resolution the following:

Resolved that all the acts of the Recorder or Mayor this City and all the proceedings of this Council had since the 14<sup>th</sup> day of June 1900 be and they are hereby declared to be in full force including the election of the Hon Marion G Willis as Mayor and the election of Mr C W Jones as a member of this Council from the upper ward and that the said Marion G. Willis be declared elected Mayor of the City of Fredericksburg for the term beginning July 1, 1900 to Jul 1, 1902. A recorded vote was called for and had with the following result

For the substitute Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, Cole, Hurkamp, Chancellor, McCracken and Gately nine (9)

Against Messrs Bradford, Perry and Jones three (3) and the substitute was adopted

On Motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 343]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held in the Council Chamber of the said City on Wednesday the fourth day of July 1900, at 8 o'clock PM

There were present, Hon M G Willis, Mayor

Terence McCracken Esqr Recorder

Councilmen, E D Cole, Geo W Wroten, W E Bradley, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, C W Jones, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford, L Perry and M J Gately.

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor

Mr Bradley stated that by an oversight in the hurry of adjournment on yesterday the Council had failed to ratify the resolution then passed declaring Mr M G Willis Mayor of this City for the term beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> 1900 by a formal ballot and

That he now desired to nominate the Hon Marian G Willis for the office of Mayor of the City of Fredericksburg for the term beginning on the first day of July 1900 and ending on the first day of July 1902, which nomination was seconded by Col E D Cole and Mr W H Hurkamp, whereupon A ballot was had in which Mr Willis received (11) eleven votes (the whole number cast) and was declared duly elected Mayor of this City beginning July 1, 1900 and for the term ending July 1, 1902.

The Mayor announced the following committees

Finance	E D Cole	W S Embrey	T McCracken
Public Property	G W Wroten	W H Hurkamp	C W Jones
Streets	W S Embrey	E D Cole	S S Bradford
Water	M S Chancellor	G W Wroten	E D Cole
Ordinances	J P Rowe	W E Bradley	T McCracken
Lights	T McCracken	J P Rowe	L Perry
Alms & Alms House	W E Bradley	M J Gately	J P Rowe
Auditing & Claims	W H Hurkamp	G W Wroten	W E Bradley
Public Interests	S S Bradford	W S Embrey	M J Gately
Health & Police	M J Gately	M S Chancellor	L Perry

Schools                      C W Jones                      W H Hurkamp                      M S Chancellor  
Fire Department          L Perry                              S S Bradford                      C W Jones

Mr Bradley moved that the appointment of Committees as aforesaid be ratified which was adopted

On motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 344]

At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> day of July 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present, Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Councilmen E D Cole, W E Bradley, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, C W Jones, S S Bradford and Lawrence Perry.

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the minutes of the meetings held on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> were read, amended and after being so amended were approved.

Col Cole, Chairman of the Finance Committee presented a bill of the Clerk of the Corporation Court for taxes and recordation fees on said form to City in 1897, and same on deed of Trust from City covering \$25,000 of Bridge Bonds amounting in all to \$28.25 which on motion was ordered to be paid. He also presented a bill for typewriting done by J P Corbin at sundry times at request of Mr St G R Fitzhugh and sundry other typewriting for the City amounting to \$4.25, also two bills of the *Star* amounting to \$3.75 and a bill of the *Free Lance* for \$5.00, all of which on motion were ordered to be paid.

Col Cole also presented the following resolution which was adopted.

“Whereas the City Council of Fredericksburg in pursuance to the Act of the General Assembly entitled “An act authorizing the City of Fredericksburg to issue bonds to redeem what are known as her Gas and Bridge bonds” approved February 18<sup>th</sup> 1898, did by resolutions bearing date respectively on March 29<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup> 1900, authorize the negotiations and sale of bonds of the par value of twenty five thousand dollars to redeem a like amount of Bridge Bonds, heretofore issued, and by said resolutions direct that said bonds should bear date on the second day of July 1920, and that the same should be signed by the Mayor and Clerk of the Council.

And whereas said bonds were not signed by the Mayor and Clerk of the Council until the fifth day of July 1900 though they bear date on July 2, 1900.

Be it resolved that the said bonds are hereby ratified and certified by the Council”

Col Cole also presented the official bond of A P Rowe Jr, Collector of City Taxes in the penalty of \$10,000.00 with M B Role and E D Cole his sureties therein and bond was read, approved and accepted by the Council and on motion of Mr Bradley directed to be properly stamped [Page 345] and placed in hands of the Mayor for deposit in the National Bank for safe-keeping

Col Cole also called attention to the fact that the Mayor's salary for June 1900 had not been paid.

On motion of Mr Bradley, the salary of the Mayor for the month of June 1900 at the rate of \$400.00 a year was ordered to be paid.

Col Cole also stated that the Estate of the late Robert W. Adams, Treasurer was indebted to the City in about the sum of \$6,815.21, whereupon Mr Bradley offered the following which was adopted.

Resolved that the Finance Committee of this Council are hereby instructed to take legal steps at once for the speedy collection of all sums due the City of Fredericksburg by the late Robert W Adams, Treasurer of this City, and report to this Council as soon as possible what action is being taken.

The Mayor reported fines collected amounting to \$48.25.

Mr Bradford moved that the subject of sewerage be taken up, which was carried Whereupon, he proceed to read from the estimates and report of Mr Davis CE touching sewerage, when Mr Hurkamp moved that the matter be referred to the Street Committee to report thereon at the next meeting of the Council, which motion was adopted.

Mr Bradford moved that the Water committee be requested to investigate the question of boring on the hills west of the City to the end of securing a better water supply for the City and report at the next meeting of the Council which motion was adopted.

Mr Perry presented and had read a paper signed by K N Goolrick and M M Lewis asking to be allowed to run the fan motors in their respective stores on Main Street by water.

Mr Bradley moved to refer the paper of Messrs Goolrick and Lewis to the Water Committee with the request that their request be granted if in so doing the interests of the City and not injured which motion was adopted

On motion of Mr Hurkamp the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P. Corbin, Clerk

[Page 346]

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Monday, the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present, Hon M G Willis Mayor

Terence McCracken, Esq, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, C W Jones, M J Gately, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford and L Perry

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor, who stated that it had been called at the request of the Light Committee

Whereupon

Capt McCracken, Chairman of the said Committee, stated that pursuant to the recommendations made in the annual report of the Light Committee for the year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 1900 he moved that the 1<sup>st</sup> sentence of Chapter XXXVIII, Section 14, of the ordinance be amended so as to read as follows, to-wit On and after the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1900 the price of gas shall be (\$1.25) one dollar and twenty five cents per (1000) cubic feet to all consumers payable monthly"

Mr Embrey moved that the Light Committee be requested to ascertain and report at the next regular meeting of the Council, the cost of extending and enlarging the gas mains where necessary.

A recorded vote being called for was had as follows

For Mr Embrey's motion: Messrs Embrey, Jones and Bradford 3

Against Messrs Cole, Bradley, Rowe, McCracken, Hurkamp, Gately, Chancellor and Perry 8 and the motion was lost

A recorded vote being called for on Capt McCracken's motion, it was had with the following result,

For the motion, Messrs Rowe, McCracken, Hurkamp, Jones, Gately, Chancellor, and Perry 7

Against Messrs Cole, Bradley, Embrey, Bradford 4 and the motion prevailed.

Capt McCracken then offered the following

Resolved that the Light Committee be and the same is hereby authorized to advertise in such newspapers as they deem best, for bids to erect an Electric Light Plant for lighting the City in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by E J Willis of Richmond, Va"

Mr Bradley offered the following amendment

“Resolved further that the Light Committee in advertising for bids for the erection of an Electric Light Plant for the City of Fredericksburg shall embrace in those bids an incandescent system in connection with the [Page 347] proposed arc system.

Mr Bradford offered an amendment to the amendment of Mr Bradley’s as follows

“That bids shall be asked for Gas Engine to run contemplated Electric Light Plant”

The question came on the amendment of Mr Bradford and a recorded vote was had as follows

For the said amendment Messrs Cole, Embrey, Jones, Bradford and Perry 5

Against Mess Bradley, Rowe McCracken, Hurkamp Gately and Chancellor 6 and the amendment was lost

The vote then came on Mr Bradley’s amendment and a recorded vote being called for was had as follows

For the amendment Messrs Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp, Jones, Chancellor, Bradford and Perry 7

Against Messrs Cole, Rowe, McCracken and Gately 4 and the amendment was declared adopted

Whereupon the vote was taken on Capt McCracken’s motion as amended, and it was adopted by the following unanimous recorded

Messrs Cole, Bradley, Rowe, McCracken, Hurkamp, Jones, Gately, Chancellor, Bradford and Perry

On motion of Mr Jones, the rules were suspended for the purpose of giving Rev Dr Roseboro, President of Fredericksburg College the privilege of the floor. Dr Roseboro spoke briefly in reference to the City’s continuing the former agreement with the College.

Whereupon Mr Jones moved that the arrangements which the Council had with Fredericksburg College in relation to 10 scholarships for the session of 1899 and 1900, be continued for the session of 1900 and 1901 which motion was adopted.

Mr Embrey had read the following

July 26<sup>th</sup> 1900

To the Mayor and City Council

Gentlemen

I hereby respectfully request that you grant me the privilege of constructing a spur track from a point on the R F & P R R Co’s side track running across Water Street to a point opposite the Plant of the Fredericksburg Ice Co

Yours Respectfully

B J Marshall

On motion of Mr Bradley the letter was referred to the Street Committee with power to act, and

The Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 348]

At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to

notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> day of August 1900 at 8 o’clock PM

There were present, Hon M G Willis, Mayor

Capt Terence McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen G W Wroten, W E Bradley, J P Rowe, C W Jones, M J Gately, S S Bradford

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor. The minutes of the meetings held on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> were read and approved.

Capt McCracken of Finance Committee had read the following which was unanimously adopted

Whereas the Council by resolution bearing date on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 1899 directed the Finance Committee to negotiate a loan of \$25,000.00 to reduce the Bonds known as the Gas Bonds and further resolved that said bonds when sold should be secured by a deed of trust on the Gas Works,'  
And whereas said bonds were duly issued and disposed of but the same had never been secured by a deed of trust as authorized by said resolution and the Act of the General Assembly of February 18<sup>th</sup> 1898.  
Resolved that the deed of Trust shall be forthwith executed by the Mayor and the Clerk of the Council who shall attach the seal of this City to the same, which said deed of trust shall secure all of said bonds alike without any priority of right to satisfaction of one bond over another.

A bill of the Star approved by the Health Officer of the City for work done by said paper accounting to \$3.50 was ordered to be paid on motion of Mr Bradley.

Capt McCracken, Chairman of the Light Committee read several letter from Mr Edward J Willis, the electrical engineer who is engaged to advise with said Committee and prepare plan and specifications for the erection and construction of an Electric Plant for Lighting the City, in which Mr Willis set forth quite at length the Comparative cost of an arc system solely with the cost of an Arc and Incandescent system combined, showing the Arc system to be much cheaper than the combined system and advising the adoption of the Arc system and

Mr St G R Fitzhugh, as the legal advisor of the Light Committee addressed the Council stating that the Council had no legal authority to issue bonds, the [Page 349] proceeds of which should be applied to any system of Electrical lighting save the Arc system for lighting the City as that system had been specifically mentioned and set forth in the proceedings of this body and in the Act of the Legislature authorizing the City to issue \$12,000.00 of bonds "necessary to obtain an electric plant for lighting said City"

Whereupon, Capt McCracken said, that as the Council on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July had authorized the Committee to advertise for bids for the erection of a combined Arc and Incandescent system, the Committee deemed it proper that the Council should know the legal aspect of the matter as well as the expert opinion of Mr Willis.

Whereupon MR Bradley moved to reconsider the vote taken on the 30<sup>th</sup> of July authorizing the advertised system, and a recorded vote being called for was had as follows

For reconsideration Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Rowe, McCracken, Gately, Jones and Bradford (7) seven  
Against reconsideration, nobody and said vote taken on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July last was reconsidered.

Whereupon Capt McCracken offered the following;

Resolved that the Light Committee be and they are hereby authorized to advertise in such newspapers as they may deem best for bids to erect and Electric Light Plant for Lighting the City in accordance with plans and specifications for Arc Lights prepared by Edward J Willis of Richmond Virginia.

Which resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr Gately, Chairman of Health & Police, stated that new uniforms had been purchased for the four Police Officers at a cost of \$21.00 each.

Mayor Willis reported net fines for the month \$43.230 which amount had been paid over to the Treasurer.

Mr Jones offered the following

Resolved that any extension of the present system of private sewerage be and is hereby prohibited.

Mr Rowe moved as a substitution to Mr Jones' resolution that the matter be postponed until the Street Committee could report on sewerage.

A recorded vote was called for on the substitute which was had as follows:

For the substitute: Messrs McCracken, Bradley, Rowe, Gately and Jones (5) five



Against Messrs Wroten and Bradford (2) two and the substitute was adopted.

Mr Bradley moved that privilege be granted to parties to extend the sewer down Charles Street to the residence of Dr H H Johnston and that parties live on the line of sewers be permitted to [Page 350] connect with said sewers.

Capt McCracken moved to lay Mr Bradley's motion on the table, a recorded vote was had as follows, For laying on the table: Messrs McCracken, Rowe, Gately and Jones (4)

Against Messrs Wroten, Bradley and Bradford (3) three and Mr Bradley's motion was laid on the table On motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present, Hon M G Willis, Mayor

Capt Terence McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, H W Hurkamp, M S Chancellor and S S Bradford

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor who stated that it had been called at the request of the Street Committee and also to consider a petition of sundry citizens

Whereupon Mr Embrey, Chairman of the Street Committee stated that he had no written report nor could his committee (in its judgment) make an intelligent report on sewerage until the City had been more completely and fully surveyed and sewer designated, Asked that the Street Committee be empowered to employ Mr Davis or some other competent engineer to make such survey and drawings.

Mr Wroten moved that the Street Committee be and it is hereby empowered to employ the services of Mr Davis, who made the former survey, or some other competent engineer, to make a survey and plot of a suitable survey for sewerage embracing the several water sheds of the City. Which motion was adopted.

The following petition was read

August 28<sup>th</sup> 1900

To the Mayor &c &c

We the undersigned citizens, property holders & taxpayers, respectfully petition your honorably body to grant us permission to lay a sewer pipe and to connect with [Page 351] the present main sewer pipe upon our respective streets and which privilege has heretofore been accorded other citizens along the said streets, and which the said main sewer and connections have so far given entire satisfaction and has proved a great comfort and convenience to those having water closets and bath tub connections with said system

B P Willis, Pr Edwd St, Mrs Anna C King Chas St, Hugh D Scott, Chas St, H H Johnston, Charles St; J R Rawlings, Chas St, Horace B Hall Chas St; G W Shepherd Princess Ann

And the following petition was also read

Aug 28<sup>th</sup> 1900

To the Mayor &c &c

We, the undersigned property owners on Commerce Street and citizens of this City petition your honorable body to grant us the privilege of running a sewer on Commerce Street from the corner of Prince Edward Street to deep water in River opposite Scotts Island

Sewer pipes to be laid under the direction of Street Committee and as large as those called for in Davis Specifications

Respectfully submitted  
J D Roy, R L Biscoe

Whereupon

Mr Wroten moved that the first petition be granted which  
Capt McCracken amended to grant the several petitions also  
A recorded vote was had on the amendment as follows

For Messrs McCracken and Rowe two (2)

Against Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Hurkamp, Chancellor and Bradford seven (7) and the  
amendment was declared lost.

A recorded vote was then had on the first petition or on Mr Wroten's motion to grant same, which  
resulted as follows;

For granting the petition; Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, McCracken, Hurkamp,  
Chancellor and Bradford

Against, no body was the prayer of the petition was granted unanimously.

Mr Bradley offered the following;

Resolved that the Street Committee be instructed to construct a sewer along Commerce Street from  
Liberty Street to the Free Bridge ending at deep water according to the plans as submitted to the City by  
engineer Davis

Mr Embrey moved to lay the resolution on the table

A recorded vote being had on Mr Embrey's motion resulted as follows;

For the motion Messrs Cole, Wroten, Embrey, Rowe, Hurkamp, Chancellor, and Bradford seven (7)

Against Messrs Bradley & McCracken two (2) and the motion prevailed

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On motion the rules were suspended and a communication from Dr J N Barney Jr, the Health officer of  
the City (duly appointed pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved March 7<sup>th</sup>  
1900) touching the compensation of said Health Officer was read and on motion of Col Cole (pursuant to  
Section 8 of the aforesaid Act of the General Assembly) the compensation of said Health Officer was  
fixed at sixty dollars (\$60.00) per annum from the first day of July 1900.

Mr Hurkamp of Schools, had read a letter from B P Willis, Supt of Public Schools together with the report  
of Mrs A L Magrath, showing the highest average attained at the intermediate and final examinations  
Grammar Grade No. 1 Public Schools as follows:

Elwood J Knight	98.06	Esther Thomas	97.57
Sadie Tyler	97.07	Renia Owens	96.78
Susie Whitehouse	96.57	Mary Lindsey	96.28
Grace Jones	95.78	Josie Martin	93.56
Archie Ray	92.49	Edward Strasburger	92.46

And Mr Hurkamp moved that the aforesaid ten (10) pupils of the Public Schools of the City, be  
designated as entitled to the ten scholarships in Fredericksburg College provided for by the City under the  
action of this Council had on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July 1900 and that the Clerk of the Council be requested to  
inform said ten scholars their scholarship and also to furnish the President of said College with a list of  
the said scholars and their respective standings. Which motion was adopted

On motion of Mr Embrey, the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held in the Council Chamber of said city pursuant to notice on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 1900 at 8 o'clock PM There were present, Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor Terence McCracken, Esq, Recorder Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, C W Jones, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford, and L Perry

The meeting was called to order and the minutes of the last regular meeting and called meetings were read and approved

Col Cole, Chairman Finance Committee, presented two bills of the Free Lance, one for \$2.00 and the other for \$8.00, which on motion were ordered to be paid, also a bill of the Fredericksburg Star for \$2.00, which on motion was ordered to be paid.

Mr Wroten, Chairman Public Property Committee called the attention of the Council to the iron-work of the Free Bridge and stated that it needed painting and Mr Bradley moved that the Public Property Committee be instructed to procure bids for painting the iron work of the Free Bridge and report same to the Council

Capt McCracken, Chairman Committee on Light made a report setting forth the following bids for the equipment of a Street Lighting Electric Plant of 80 lamps of 2000 candle power, to-wit:

Tower Binford Electric Manfg Co, Richmond, Va	\$10,594.00
J F Buchanan & Co, Philadelphia, Pa	\$10,444.00
Homes Rose Electric Co, Baltimore Md	\$10,400.00
Kingsburg, Samuel & Co, Baltimore Md	\$ 9,994.00

And the following bids for the construction of buildings, retaining wall, tail-race &c &c viz:

William Livingston	\$ 7,204.06
McDowell & Musselman	\$ 5,800.00
E J Heflin	\$ 5,770.00
G J Fletcher	\$ 5,224.72
A M Garner	\$ 4,240.00

And the Committee recommended that the bid of Kingsbury, Samuel & Co of \$9994.00 be accepted And the Committee stated that since the bids for construction of the buildings, retaining wall, race-way &c &c were opened Mr A M Garner, who was the lowest bidder had stated that there was [Page 354] an error in the addition of the items of his bid of \$1,000.00 which if corrected would make said bid \$5240.00 instead of \$4240.00 as appears on the face of the bid and desired to withdraw said bid, and the Committee recommend that Mr Garner be allowed to withdraw his bid.

And the Committee further recommended that all bids for the construction of building, retaining wall head race &c &c be rejected and Committee be authorized to advertise for new bids for the construction of same at as early day as possible:

And the Committee stated that it had received a letter from Mr Jno W Taylor Vice-president and general manager of the John W Taylor Manufg Co of Mt Holly, New Jersey, offering to put in through Kingsburg, Samuel & Co 1 pair of 15<sup>th</sup> standard Taylor Sleeve Gate Turbines guaranteed to deliver 176 HP under 25 feet working head without extra charge to the City of the Contractors which guaranteed to give 80 per cent efficiency at from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to full gate”

And the Committee stated “That Mr Clark the manager of the Water Power Co, has agreed to charge only for the power actually used and will not charge for power anytime the water in the canal is not sufficient

to run the plant” And filed as part of their report letters from Mr Jno W Taylor and Mr Jas G Clark Agent for Martha E Clark.

And the Committee further stated that “the increase in the bids for constructing the plant over the last bids is caused by the addition to the retaining wall of building race-way and the adoption of improved enclosed lamp which Mr Willis the engineer recommended as necessary in order to have an up to date electric plant”

And the Committee further stated that if it was authorized to accept the bids and proceed with the construction of the plant the city would be the best lighted in Virginia and probably in the United States. The report was signed by all the Committee, viz; T McCracken, J P Rowe and Lawrence Perry.

Col Cole moved that the report of the Committee be received and filed, which motion was adopted. Col Cole moved that A M Garner be allowed to withdraw the bid which on motion was carried.

Mr St Geo R Fitzhugh was heard on behalf of the Light Committee

Col Cole then offered to the following

Resolved that all bids in relation to the building retaining wall, tail-race &c be rejected and that the Committee on Light give notice by advertisement [Page 355] or personal service on those who have put in bids that new bids will be received at the expiration of five days from said notice upon the same terms or those heretofore advertised for; and said committee without further report to this Council is authorized to accept which ever one of said bids will be best for the city, or reject them all as they may see fit;

And the Committee is further authorized to accept the bid of Kingsbury, Samuel & Co, as set forth in its report; and said Committee in communication with the above is directed to make a contract with Mrs Clark for the lease of the necessary amount of power for the operation of the Arc Plant, and if possible for the authority on behalf of the City to increase that power for the purposes of Arc or incandescent lighting as the City may find in the future to be necessary; And further to provide that the site of the location of the Plant and buildings containing the same shall be the property of the City so long as the City uses said water power with the privilege to the city to remove said plant and buildings whenever it shall cease to use the water power;

And the said Committee shall proceed without delay to make a contract with Kingsbury, Samuels & Co for the construction of said plant as speedily as the same is practicable, and to make a contract for the erection of said buildings, tail-race &c &c as soon as any bid is accepted by said Committee

And the contract with Mrs Clark shall provide also for the carrying out of the provisions of the option touching water at the pump house.

And

Mr Bradley moved that the foregoing resolutions be amended so as to provide that the bids relating to the buildings, retaining wall, tail-race &c &c be reported to this Council for their acceptance or rejection before any contract is made by the Committee for this construction; and called for a recorded vote, which resulted as follows;

For the proposed amendment to the resolution, Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, McCracken, Jones, Chancellor, Bradford, and Perry (10) ten

Opposed nobody and the amendment was adopted

And Capt McCracken moved to adopt the resolution offered by Col Cole as amended and asked for a recorded vote which resulted as follows,

for the resolution as amended Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, McCracken, Jones, Chancellor, Bradford and Perry, ten (10)

Against nobody, and the resolution as amended was declared adopted

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Mr Perry, Chairman of Fire Department Committee made a report with the following recommendations

1<sup>st</sup>. That the sum of \$500 be placed to the credit of the Committee for the purchase of new hose

2<sup>nd</sup> That trucks, reels, &c be put in good condition and that shafts be fitted to the truck & reel so that horses could be used

3<sup>rd</sup> That 6 lanterns, 6 axes and such other minor equipment as are absolutely necessary be purchased.

4<sup>th</sup> That a trough for washing hose be put along the side of the truck-house

5<sup>th</sup> That a thorough re-organization of the Fire Department be had

That the City purchase 2 horses, 2 carts and harness; same to be stabled at the Fire Department for the use of said Dept; and subject to the call of the Street Committee when not in use at Fire-Dept. Street Committee to be charged for their use at the usual rate.

6<sup>th</sup> That 2 men be employed to look after the Fire Dept, attend fire, and be responsible for property of said Dept one of said men shall be at the Fire Dept each night, that said men and horses be subject to the Street Committee as set out in the 5<sup>th</sup> recommendation.

The report was signed by Messrs Perry, Bradford & Jones

Capt McCracken moved that the report be received and filed, which was adopted.

Capt McCracken moved that \$500 be appropriated for buying hose, which motion was carried

Col Cole moved that that part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> recommendation concerning shaft for reel & truck be stricken out and a recorded vote was had as follows

For striking out Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, McCracken & Chancellor, seven (7)

Against Messrs Jones, Bradford & Perry, three (3) and said part was stricken out, and

On motion of Capt McCracken, the 2<sup>nd</sup> recommendation as abridged was adopted. Which motion prevailed

Capt McCracken moved that the 3<sup>rd</sup> recommendation be adopted which motion prevailed.

Capt McCracken moved that the 4<sup>th</sup> recommendation be adopted which motion was carried.

Col Cole moved that all of the 5<sup>th</sup> recommendation be stricken out except that touching the reorganization of the Department, a recorded vote resulted as follows;

For striking out Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, McCracken, & Chancellor seven (7)

[Page 357]

Against striking out Messrs Jones, Bradford & Perry three (3)

And the recommendation was abridged

Capt McCracken as a substitute for the 6<sup>th</sup> recommendation of the said Committee moved that the Committee be empowered to employ one man to look after the Fire Department and perform such other duties as may be assigned him in said Department by said Committee which motion prevailed.

On motion of Mr Bradley the action of the Council in the Fire Dept Committee's 5<sup>th</sup> recommendation touching on organization of said Department was reconsidered as it was in conflict with the ordinance on that matter.

Mr Bradley moved, that the Fire Dept Committee be requested to recommend someone for the office of Chief of the Fire Department, which was carried.

His Honor reported fines as collected and paid over to the Treasurer to the amount of \$48.25

He also reported the police had performed their duty

Col Cole requested on behalf of the Mary Washington Hospital Association, that said Hospital be excused from the payment of all gas bills since February 1<sup>st</sup> last, and that until January 1, 1901. That said Hospital be given gas for illuminating purposes free of charge by the City.

Which request on motion of Mr Bradley was granted

Capt McCracken, Recorder stated that recently during the absence of the Mayor his right as Recorder, acting in the absence of the city to issue and try warrants had been contested, he having fined an offender under the ordinances of the City, and that the matter had been taken to the Corporation Court of the City on a writ of Habeas Corpus, and that the decision of said Court fully sustained the right of the Recorder acting in the absence of the Mayor to issue and try such warrants; And Capt McCracken further stated that as the case had been made up to test the matter and was a friendly one, he thought the fine imposed by him as Recorder amounting to \$5.00 should be remitted and that the costs of said warrant and counsel fee should be paid by the City.

And Col Cole moved that the sum of \$5.00 the fine paid by S H Beale the defendant be remitted and that the costs of Mayor's Court, 70¢ and counsel fee of \$10.00 be paid by the treasurer [Page 358]

A recorded vote was called for and had with the following result

For the motion Messrs Cole, Rowe, Jones, Bradford, and Perry five (5)

Against the motion Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey and Chancellor, four (4)

(Capt McCracken not voting) and the motion was adopted

On motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 1900 at 8 o'clock PM

There were present Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Capt Terence McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, J P Rowe, C W Jones, S S Bradford and Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order and the Mayor stated that it had been called at the request of the Light Committee

Whereupon

Capt McCracken, Chairman of the Light Committee made the following report

The Committee on Light report that in accordance with your resolution we sent notices to the former bidders in writing that the Committee would receive bids up to 10 o'clock today for the construction of head-race, retaining walls, building, trail-race.

Your Committee reports the following bidders and the amount of their bids

E G Heflin 5,770.00

A M Garner 5,500.00

Wm Livingston 5,200.00

Your committee recommend that the contract be awarded to Wm Livingston he being the lowest bidder  
Respectfully submitted T McCracken, J P Rowe, Lawrence Perry

And Capt McCracken verbally recommended that a bond of \$1500 with approved security be required of the party becoming the contractor

Whereupon

Col Cole moved that the report be referred back [Page 359] to the Committee with full power to act

And Mr Wroten moved as a substitute, that the report be referred back to the Committee on Light with direction to award the contract to Mr Wm Livingston provided he gives the bond of \$1,500, as recommended by the Committee, and if he does not, that the Committee be empowered to contract for said work with some responsible party.

A recorded vote was called for on the substitute which resulted as follows

For Messrs Wroten, Rowe, McCracken, Bradford, and Perry, five (5)  
Against Messrs Cole and Jones, two (2) and the substitute was adopted  
And  
On motion the Council adjourned  
M G Willis, Mayor  
James P Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Tuesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of October 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM  
There were present, Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Capt Terence McCracken, Recorder  
Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, C W Jones, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford and  
Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order and the Mayor stated that it was called at the request of Messrs Cole, McCracken and Bradley

Whereupon Col Cole stated that information had been received that the Veterans of three regiments of Humphreys Div, Albaugh's Brigade, Penn Vols, Army of the Potomac, would visit the City and vicinity on Tomorrow and the next day and thought some thing should be done to show them some attention and Mr Bradley moved that a committee of fifteen citizens be appointed by the Mayor, to receive the Northern Visitors and extend to them the courtesy of the City and that said Committee be empowered to expend what is absolutely necessary in looking after the comfort of the visiting veteran, which was unanimously adopted.

And the Mayor named the following committee viz;

Of the Council, Cole E D Cole, Capt T McCracken, & Messrs W E Bradley, M S Chancellor, Lawrence Perry & G W Wroten [Page 360] of the citizens Messrs J P Corbin, H F Crismond, H H Wallace, Capt S J Quinn, Messrs St G R Fitzhugh, J T Goolrick, Major T E Morris and Messrs A T Embrey and J D Scott  
And Capt McCracken moved that Mayor Willis be added to the Committee and put the motion which was unanimously adopted.

Mr Wroten moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of reading the bids received by the Public Property Committee for scraping and painting in pure red lead and linseed oil the iron work of the Free Bridge, which motion was adopted unanimously.

Whereupon the following bids for said work were read, viz;

Bid of Wright & Jefferson	for	\$520.00
Bid of Rodgers & Revere	for	\$437.00
Bid of B L Jefferson	for	\$373.50
Bid of George F Rodgers	for	\$367.50

And

Capt McCracken moved that all four of said bids be rejected, a recorded vote was called for which resulted as follows

For rejecting the bids Messrs Cole, Wroten, McCracken, Jones, Chancellor five  
Against Messrs Bradley, Bradford and Perry, three and said bids were all rejected

Whereupon

Col Cole moved that the Public Property Committee be instructed to proceed forthwith to have the iron work of the Free Bridge screwed up thoroughly, the same scraped and painted with pure red lead and linseed oil, and that said Committee be and are hereby requested to keep a separate account of the cost of Screwing up the Bridge and of scraping and painting same and report said account to this Council.  
Which was unanimously adopted

On motion of Mr Bradley the Council adjourned  
M G Willis, Mayor  
James P. Corbin, Clerk  
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At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM There were present Hon M G Willis, Mayor  
Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, M J Gately, S S Bradford and Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor

Col Cole, Chairman Finance Committee expressed the thanks of the Mary Washington Hospital for the donation of gas made said Hospital by the Council.

Col Cole also reported that the expenditure made by the Committee to receive the Veterans of Humphrey's Div, Army of the Potomac accounted in all only to ten dollars.

Col Cole presented an account of Mr St G R Fitzhugh attorney at law for his services to the City as done from August 15<sup>th</sup> 1898 to October 15, 1900 amounting to \$450, which on motion was ordered to be paid.

Col Cole also presented a petition which had been prepared by Messrs A T Embrey & B P Willis, attorneys for the Finance Committee to be filed in the Chancery cause of Phillips' Ex vs Phillips et al now pending in the Circuit Court of the City, praying that the interests of the City touching the amount alleged to be due it by Ro W Adams deceased as late Treasurer be duly protected, which was read, and the following resolution was adopted.

The draft of a petition purporting to be in the name of the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg and to be filed in the Chancery cause of Phillips Ex vs Phillips et als praying for a settlement of the debt due the Corporation of Fredericksburg by the estate of R W Adams, its late Treasurer having been read and approved

Resolved: that the Mayor be and he is hereby authorized and requested to affix to said petition the name of the Mayor and the seal of the Corporation of Fredericksburg.

Mr Embrey, Chairman Committee on Streets asked for an appropriation of \$600 which on motion was ordered. The increased sum made necessary by the recent unusual rain.

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The Mayor called attention to the Dog Tax and said 234 dog licenses had been issued, he further stated that he thought the \$5 for not taking out said license was unreasonable and requested that it should be from \$1 to \$5.

Mr Cole gave notice that at the next regular meeting of the Council move to amend Chapter XX, Section 1 in relation to the fine of \$5 making the same for \$1 to \$5, instead of \$5 as at present and the Mayor was instructed to extend the time for collecting the dog tax until the next regular meeting of the Council.

A communication from the Business Men's Assoc asking that the Council appoint a Committee to co-operate with a Committee of said Assoc in regards to appropriation by Congress for the improvements of the Rappahannock River.

On motion of Col Cole the matter was referred to the Committee on Public Interests and the said Committee be requested to co-operate with the Businessmen's Committee.

Mr Perry Chairman Fire Dept Committee presented a report recommending J H Robinson be re-elected Chief of the Fire Department and Mr Robinson was so elected.



Mr Perry also for said Committee recommended that the Chief of the Fire Department be allowed a compensation of \$2 for each fire attended  
Said recommendation being in conflict with an existing ordinance was ordered to lie over.

The Mayor reported \$33 fines collected and paid to the Treasurer  
He further reported that the Police Officers had done their duty

Mr Hurkamp presented a petition of the Kenmore Shoe Co asking that the price of gas consumed by them be reduced in proportion as it had been to other consumers, on motion the petition was referred to the Light Committee with power to act

Col Cole offered an ordinance requiring steam rail road companies whose tracks cross Sophia, Main & Princess Anne Streets to place vertical iron gates at said crossings  
It was referred to the Ordinance Committee with request that it be reported at the next regular meeting.

A communication from Mr St G R Fitzhugh in regard to taxes on the Fredericksburg College property, saying the same was exempt from taxation under Sec 457 of the Code of Va was read and said exemption allowed.

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On motion permission was granted to Mr S S Bradford to connect his new business building at the Southeast corner of Commerce and Princess Ann Streets with the jail sewer, the work to be done under the supervision of the Public property Committee; and the compensation to be paid by Mr Bradford for said privilege to be fixed by said Committee.

On motion the Street Committee was empowered to lay a [?]ble gutter on Commerce and Princess Anne St at the Bradford Building.

On motion permission was granted to Mr M G Willis to join the sewer on Princess Anne Street, work to be done under the supervision of the Street Committee

The fire Department Committee was authorized to tap the jail sewer for the use of the building of said Dept

On Motion of Mr Hurkamp the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Monday the 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM  
There were present Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Capt T McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, C W Jones, M J Gately, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford and Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order and the Mayor stated it have been called at request of the Street Committee

Where upon

Mr Embrey, Chairman of Street Committee stated that Mr N Wilson Davis the consulting engineer had proposed a careful & full report which he requested. Mr Davis to read and did so in said the report the following estimates were set forth,

Estimate cost of Main Sewer Eastern District	\$6,539.40
Laterals as named Eastern District	\$4,761.00
Main Sewer Western District through Hazel Hill to Lewis Street	\$4,273.60
Laterals Western District	\$5,247.60
Engineering and Supervision	\$1,200.00
Total	\$22,021.60

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The report was accompanied by maps and drawings showing line of mains and laterals  
 And the said Committee recommended that the plan submitted by Mr Davis be adopted and that the City issue bonds sufficient to have the work done if approved by the voters of this city at an election held for that purpose.

After some discussion

Mr Jones moved that the report of Mr Davis and the recommendation of the Street Committee be received and files, which was adopted

Mr Jones then moved that the Street Committee have 1000 copies of Mr Davis' report and the recommendation of the Committee printed in hand bill form and that said Committee ask for a called meeting of the Council to be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November next for the purpose of consider said report which motion was carried.

Mr Perry moved that the rules be suspended for general business to be taken up which was carried unanimously

Mr Embrey moved that the amount of \$20.60 which had been collected from the Baptist Church by the Street Committee for the cost of setting back and straightening the retaining wall of the sidewalk on Amelia Street adjoining the Church be refunded by the Corporation and it was unanimously so ordered.

Col Cole asked permission for Mr Joseph Goldsmith to put an 8 foot bill-board across Canal Street east of Main, same to be erected under supervision of Street Committee and to be promptly removed by Mr Goldsmith whenever so requested by said Committee, which was granted.

Col Cole, Chairman of Finance Committee presented 3 bills of the Fredericksburg Star as follows \$1.50, \$4.00, \$6.80 which on motion were ordered to be paid.

On motion of Mr Bradley the Council adjourned over to the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November next

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

[Page 365]

At a meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia, held in the Council Chamber of said City (pursuant to adjournment on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 1900) on Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM

There were present Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Terence McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, C W Jones, M J Gately, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford and Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor.

Capt McCracken, speaking to the report of the Street Committee on Sewerage offered the following:

Whereas the subject of sewerage and the improvement of our Streets has for a long time commanded the earnest consideration of the citizens of Fredericksburg,  
And whereas, there is a general and unmistakable sentiment in favor a some speedy action on the part of the Council in relation to these matters, both of which must necessarily be considered together, and with careful regard to the means at the disposal of the Council;  
And where before the Council proceeds to action in relation to these public improvements a definite place or system relating to both sewerage and Street improvement and the method of defraying the expense of both should be matured;  
Therefore, Resolved that the report of the Street Committee in relation to sewerage be referred to a joint Committee composed of the Street Committee, the Finance Committee and three citizens not members of this council who shall be appointed by the Mayor and said joint-committee shall consider the matters referred to in the foregoing preamble and report such matters for the consideration of the Council as they shall deem advisable.” And moved adoption  
A recorded vote was called for and had as follows;  
For the preamble and resolution; Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Rowe, McCracken, Jones, Gately, Chancellor and Perry (9)  
Against Messrs Hurkamp and Bradford (2) and it was declared adopted.

Capt McCracken, Chairman of Light Committee offered the following which was adopted;  
Resolved by the Council that the Mayor and Clerk [Page 366] of Council on behalf of the Mayor and Commonalty of Fredericksburg execute the lease with Martha E Clark for water power to operate the Electric Plant &c and the contract with William Livingston for building &c for Electric Plant and the contract with Kingsburg, Samuels & Co, for the Electric Plant &c and they are authorized to attach the seal of said City to said lease and contracts.

And

Capt McCracken, Chairman of Light Committee, offered the following;  
Resolved by the Mayor and Commonalty of Fredericksburg that the Finance Committee of the Council proceed without delay to negotiate a loan of twelve thousand dollars for construction of the Electric Light Plant for Lighting the Streets of this City in pursuance of the Act of the General Assembly of Virginia approved January 11, 1900 entitled “An Act to authorized the City Council of Fredericksburg to issue its coupon or registered bonds for the purpose of obtaining an Electric Plant for lighting the City” said loan to be at a rate of interest not to exceed four per cent;  
Resolved further by the Council of the said City, that the Finance Committee of the Council shall so soon as said loan is effected have the bonds of the City to the amount of Twelve thousand dollars lithographed. The said bonds shall conform to the requirements of the aforesaid Act of the General Assembly of January 11<sup>th</sup> 1900 and of the Act of the General Assembly of February 1<sup>st</sup> 1896 entitled “An act to authorize the City Council of Fredericksburg to issue its coupon or registered bonds for the purpose of constructing or improving streets and for other purposes of internal improvements and benefits to the City.” The said bonds to be coupon bonds but convertible into registered bonds at the option of the holder, and to be non-taxable by the City, and the interest thereon is not to exceed four per cent per annum payable semi-annually and the said bonds shall be secured by a deed of trust on the Electric Plant subordinate to the lease of water power;  
Resolved further by the Council that so soon as the aforesaid loan is effected and said bonds lithographed they shall be signed by the Mayor and the Clerk of the Council who shall attach the seal of the City to them and the coupons shall be signed by the Treasurer of the City and said bonds and coupons shall be payable at the Treasurer’s office.  
And when said bonds are so executed the Finance Committee shall deliver them to the parties making the loan and shall turn over the said \$12,000.00 to the City Treasurer.  
Which was adopted

Mr Perry presented a communication from Dr M M Lewis requesting that the pavement wall at his residence be repaired which on motion of Mr Hurkamp was [Page 367] referred to the Street Committee with power to act.

Col Cole, Chairman Finance Committee presented a bill of the *Fredericksburg Star* amounting to \$10.00 which on motion was ordered to be paid.

He also presented bills of the judges and clerks of the Election held on the 6<sup>th</sup> instant amounting in all to \$30.00 which on motion were ordered to be paid.

And on motion of Col Cole it was ordered that the sum of \$250.00 be held subject to the order of the Street Committee to be used to pay Mr N. Wilson Davis his fee as contracting engineer.

And on motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City, on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM

There were present Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Capt Terence McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, W E Bradley, J P Rowe, C W Jones, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford, and Lawrence Perry

The minutes of the last regular and called meetings were read and approved

Col Cole, chairman Finance Committee reported that the entire issue of Electric Light Bonds of par value of \$12,000 had been taken at 25¢ on the \$100 above par

Mr Rowe, Chairman Ordinance Committee reported favorably (pursuant to notice given by Col Cole at the regular meeting) the amendment to Chapter XX Section 1, so that said section in line nine of the printed ordinance shall read "shall be fined from \$1.00 to \$5.00 etc" instead of "shall be fined \$5.00 etc" and it was unanimously adopted.

And Mr Rowe also offered the following ordinance which was offered by Col Cole at the last regular meeting and referred to the Ordinance Committee, viz;

An ordinance concerning gates at Steam rail-road crossings:

Be it enacted and ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Corporation of the City of Fredericksburg that

1. It shall be the duty of all steam rail road companies [Page 368] operating in the Corporation of the City of Fredericksburg, whose tracks cross Sophia or Water, or Caroline or Main Streets, or Princess Anne Street, within sixty days after the passage of this ordinance to provide and erect vertical area gates on each steam rail-road crossing on said streets; each gate to be of such pattern and erected in such manner or way be satisfactory to the Committee on Streets of this said Council.
2. It shall be the duty of the said steam rail-road companies, or any corporation or receiver of individuals operating the same to erect and maintain such gates, and to provide for the closing of the same at the approach of engines or trains so as to prevent accidents, and to have the same immediately opened when the engine or train has passed, so as to interfere as little as possible with public travel over said crossings.
3. If said gates are not erected within the time above specified, and, if the same when erected are not maintained according to this ordinance, the Corporation, receivers, or individuals operating said steam rail-road shall be subject to a penalty of ten dollars for each day of failure to comply with the terms hereof.

4. This ordinance shall be operative between the hours of seven AM and nine PM
  5. Any interference with, or injury to said gates shall constitute a misdemeanor.
  6. The Clerk of the Council shall mail a certified copy of this ordinance to each of the steam rail-roads now entering the said Corporation with its tracks.
- And said ordinance was unanimously adopted

The Mayor reported fines amounting to \$40 collected and paid to the Treasurer, and that the Police Officers had performed their duty.

He reported Dog licenses issued	222 at \$1.00	\$222.00
	40 at \$1.50	60.00
	262	\$282.00

And on motion of Mr Bradley

The Mayor was allowed fifteen cents on each license so issued

Col Cole moved that the Commissioner of the Revenue A B Bowering be paid his annual salary of \$250.00 which motion was adopted.

And Col Cole further moved that the salary of the Commissioner of the Revenue hereafter be increased by the sum of \$100.00 so that it will be hereafter \$350.00 per year.

Mr Bradford asked that a street gas lamp be placed at the corner of Commerce and Princess Anne streets at the corner of the new Bradford Building of such a character as shall be an ornament to the said corner And on motion of Col Cole the matter was referred to [Page 369] to the Light Committee with power to act

On motion of Col Cole Mr St George R Fitzhugh was heard and Mr Fitzhugh notified the Council that Mr E J Willis employed by the City in the erection of the Electric Plant had indicated a desire to introduce at his own cost an incandescent Plant, in the same building with the Arc Plant and to pay for the additional water power necessary to operate the same, and to divide with the City the net profits of operating the same, the net profits to be ascertained by deducting from the gross receipts the operating expenses and five per cent interest upon the cost of the Plant; This franchise to continue for ten years, at the expiration of which period the City to have the option of purchasing the incandescent plant at its then value.

On motion of Mr Bradley, the matter was referred to the joint-committee composes of the Street Committee, the Finance Committee and three citizens to which committee has been referred the sewerage and street improvement question.

On motion of Mr Jones the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor  
James P Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM

There were present Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Capt Terence McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, W H Hurkamp, C W Jones, M J Gately, M S Chancellor, S S Bradford and Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order and the Mayor announced that it was called at the request of the Joint-Committee on Sewerage and Street improvement

Mr Embrey, Chairman of said Committee presented the following report as the majority report of the Committee, to wit:

To the Mayor and Common Council of Fredericksburg

The subject of Sewerage and the improvement of the Streets of the City of Fredericksburg was submitted [Page 370] to a joint-Committee by a resolution of the Council adopted on the 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 1900

In this resolution the joint Committee is told that “there is a general and unmistakable sentiment in favor of some speedy action on the part of the Council in relation to these matters, both of which must necessarily be considered together and with careful regard to the means at the disposal of the Council.

The said joint Committee is further told by this resolution of the Council

That before the Council proceeds to action in relation to these public improvements a definite place or system relating to both sewerage & street improvement and the method of defraying the expense of both should be mentioned.

It is thus seen that the joint-committee was not at liberty to require the subject of Street improvement even if it had felt so inclined, but the undersigned fully concur with the Council that sewerage & street improvement “must necessarily be considered together, and with careful regard to the means at the disposal of the Council.”

The fact that there is but \$35,000 at the disposal of the City for improvement renders an inquiry at the outset necessary as to how much of said fund should be devoted to sewerage and how much to Street improvement.

The Act of the Legislature under which the City is authorized to expend \$50,000 expressly contemplates the use of some funds for both street improvement and sewerage. The Council has already devoted \$12,000 of this fund for the installing of an Electric Plant for lighting the City, leaving as stated but \$38,000 for street improvements and sewerage, in the minds of our people has been improvement of our wretched streets, especially the main thoroughfare of the City, and the Council has time and again pledged the people that this matter should have its early attention. The matter of sewerage has not been deemed heretofore of such pressing importance, in view of the excellent natural drainage of our City, and the excellent health of its people. It has been of course recognized that streets intend to be paved must first have sewers laid; and the opinion has been quite generally expressed that if the city should see its way to lay an Eastern and a Western main sewer a large majority of the people would, of their own accord and with expense to the city connect with [Page 371] these main sewers under the supervision of the Street Committee

We cannot overlook the fact, that there is a considerable element of our community who are not able to pay for and whose homes are not adapted to the full use of sewers, even if laid in their immediate vicinity; and a city ordinance compelling all such persons to connect with the sewers would be attend with serious and unnecessary hardships and expense, and yet it would not be competent for the Council to except these from a general ordinance on the subject.

Hampered as the City has been ever since 1865, by the considerable indebtedness incurred prior to the Civil War and by the necessity of providing the people with such matters of prime necessity as water and light, the Council has been constrained to pursue a policy touching the improvement of our street which finds them today in no better condition than they were thirty-five years ago.

In the present financial condition of our City, and people any attempt on the part of the Council to cure all the evils from which the City suffers at once bound by a large increase of our bonded indebtedness, would be most unwise and might be attended with fatal consequences to our future progress, since it would unquestionably deter capital from seeking investment in our midst and people from making their homes here.

The cheapness of money is a temptation only to an improvident borrower.

Our City needs every dollar of its surplus revenue for matters of prime importance and we should not stimulate the borrowing spirit, but the specious argument; that our present and prosperous revenues will enable us to pay interest on new bond issues without additional taxation.

If all the streets of our City are to be permanently improved, it cannot be accomplished by a bond issue, but must be in large measure done by larger annual appropriations of the revenues of the City to that purpose under a system which will insure permanence when the work is done.

These large revenues the City will gradually obtain by the saving of interest on our refunded indebtedness and by the growth of the city, and the economical administration of its officials, if we are conservative in the matter of borrowing.

Entertaining the foregoing areas very strongly, the undersigned are of the opinion that "the means at the disposal of the Council" to-wit, the \$38,000 should be judicially apportioned better the matter of sewerage and the matter of street improvement and that the major portion of the [Page 372] fund should be devoted to street improvement.

The undersigned recommend that the two main sewers called for by the report of Engineer Davis, viz; the Main Street Sewer and the main sewer along the western part of the City be laid without delay.

They also recommend that the sewer on Commerce Street called for by said report be also laid without delay. This latter sewer is rendered necessary by the further recommendation touching street improvement since there can be not permanent improvement of Commerce Street until the same is sewered.

The cost of the Main street sewers will be \$6,539.40

One half of the cost of this sewer should be assessed against the real estate benefitted thereby, viz; \$3,269.70

The real estate benefitted thereby in the opinion of the undersigned embraces all the real estate situated on the eastern water shed of the City, or speaking generally all between Prince Edward Street and the River

The other half of the cost of the Main Street sewer should be borne by the city

The cost of western sewer will be \$4,273.60

The real estate benefitted thereby should be assessed with the payment of a part of this sum but the assessment should be so made as that the real estate benefitted by the western sewer will not pay more on a \$100 of value than is paid by the real estate benefitted by the Eastern sewer

The balance of the cost of the Western sewer should be borne by the City

The cost of the Commerce Street sewer will be \$500.00

One half of the cost of this sewer should be assessed against the real estate benefitted thereby 250.00

The other half of the cost of the Commerce Street sewer should be borne by the City.

It is proper to remark here, that the law does not permit the City to lay a larger proportion of the cost of local improvements on the property benefitted thereby than one-half of said cost

The City will have to advance at the outset all the money required for laying these three sewers \$11,313.00

It will get back in assessments, one half of the cost of the Main Street sewer \$3269.70

One half of the cost of Commerce Street sewer 250.00

From Western sewer assessment say 900.00

\$4,419.70

Making the cost of these three sewers to the City \$6,893.30

The undersigned further recommend that the City without delay pave with granite spalls or vitrified brick (whichever may be best) Main Street from the R F & P R R [Page 373] tracks to Amelia Street, and also Commerce Street.

From the data accessible to them the undersigned estimate that the cost of the paving of said blocks will be approximately \$27,000.00

The sum with the \$11,313.00 above estimated for sewerage aggregates the sum of \$38,313.00 and will absorb the aforesaid \$38,000.00 at the disposal of the City.

The undersigned recommend that of half of the cost of paving Main and Commerce be assessed against the abutting property, that is one fourth to each side of the street, and that the other half of the cost of the paving be borne by the City.

They further recommend that the assessments for both sewers and for paving be collected in three equal annual installments commencing in the fall of 1901.

The undersigned have made a calculation of what the assessment against real estate benefitted by sewerage will account to, and find that it will not exceed thirty cents on the \$100.

The total assessed value of real estate in the City is \$1,419,223.

The real estate benefitted by the Main Street sewer amounts to about \$1,116,927, which at 30 cents on the \$100 would yield \$3,350.78. This is slightly more than one half the cost of the Main Street sewer.

The real estate benefitted by the Western Main Sewer assessments to about \$302,296, so that 30 cents on the \$100 would yield \$906.88, which will be the total amount contributed by the property benefitted by the Western Main sewer.

A man owning \$100 of real estate any where in Fredericksburg would not pay for the sewerage proposed herein over \$3 and he would have three years in which to pay that \$3.

There would come back to the City Treasury during the years 1901-1902 and 1903 from the assessments for sewerage and paving the sum of

	\$17,919.70
That is from sewerage assessments	\$4419.70
That is from Street paving assessments	13500.00
These assessments would bring in each year	5,973.23

If the Council should approve and adopt the suggestions of this report we do not deem it expedient for the Council to proceed under the Act of February 1, 1896. That act provides only for the issue of thirty year bonds though they may be redeemed after ten years.

The Council should obtain from the Special Session of the Legislature which convenes in January the authority to issue the \$38,000 of bonds provided for in the Act of February 1896 on such terms as the Council may deem expedient so that the Council can retire so many of said bonds as it may see fit out of the assessment fund as collected.

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The objections to the adoption of the report of Engineer Davis are to the minds of the undersigned inseparable.

In the first place there is not present necessity for the expenditure of \$22,000.00 for sewerage.

In the second place the scheme of Engineer Davis does not profess to provide a complete system of sewerage but ignores considerable districts of the City.

Mr Davis in his report says the amount of work he proposes will meet our present needs and then he adds this "note that after mains are built all street laterals can be put in under contract for about \$2000 per mile"

Hence the City can gradually introduce those laterals as they may be needed.

In the third place, if the \$22,000 is now expended in unnecessary sewerage, the Council must violate its pledge to the people touching the speedy improvement of the Streets, or else must apply to the Legislature for authority to make another large issue of bonds which every conservative citizen should view with alarm, and should oppose.

In the fourth place the extensive system of sewerage contemplated by the report of Mr Davis, will if carried out at the present time render our present water works wholly inadequate to supply the City with water and hence will necessitate a further bond issue or else the diversion of the revenues of the City from Street improvements to the enlargement of the water works.

In the opinion of the undersigned the laying of the sewers above mentioned and the accumulation of materials for paving should commence without delay, and that all the work should be done, as far as practicable, by the labor of our city, thus keeping the money which the City expends at home.

The above report is amended by adding a sewer from Bowering's bridge over Canal up Charlotte Street to Weedon Street then along Weedon Street to Mercer and up Mercer to Willis Street. One half of the cost thereof to be borne by the property benefitted thereby and the other half of said cost by the City.



With this amendment the report is made to the council.

W S Embrey, E D Cole, H F Crismond, H H Wallace, B J Marshall, T McCracken

Mr Bradford of said Joint-Committee offered a minority report of said Committee which was read  
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Mr Perry moved that the majority report of the joint Committee be adopted, which was seconded by Mr Jones, and a recorded vote being called for on said motion was had with the following result,  
For the adoption of the majority report Messrs Cole, Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, McCracken, Hurkamp, Jones, Gately, Chancellor, Bradford, and Perry (12)  
Against no one and the said report was declared unanimously adopted

Capt McCracken then offered the following

Resolved by the Council that the report of the Joint-Committee which has just been read and adopted by the Council be referred back to said Joint-Committee which is hereby continued; and said joint-committee is directed to report to a called meeting of this Council the plans and proceedings which should be adopted by this Council for the immediate conveying of the recommendations of said report into effect; and they shall take all necessary preliminary steps for carrying into effect the will of the Council when the same shall be declared, which on motion of Col Cole was adopted.

On motion of Capt McCracken, the joint-committee was authorized to have 1000 copies of the aforesaid report printed in leaflet form.

And on motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

At a called meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM  
There were present Hon M G Willis, Mayor

Capt Terence McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, C W Jones, M J Gately, M S Chancellor, J S Bradford, and Lawrence Perry.

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor who stated that it was called by request of the Committee on Light

Whereupon Capt McCracken, Chairman of the Light Committee stated that the action of said Committee in award the last contract for gas coal had been adversely criticized in a communication published in the Journal newspaper [Page 376] published in this City and on behalf of the Committee presented and had read a detailed report on setting forth the circumstances connected with and reasons governing the Committee in making said award, and requesting that a full investigation be made.

Whereupon Col Cole move that the written statement made by the Committee be received by the Council as a full and satisfactory explanation of the said award and that the Council deem no investigation necessary, which motion was unanimously adopted.

Capt McCracken moved that the rules be suspended for general business, which motion was carried and Mr Embrey, Chairman of the Joint-Committee on Sewerage and Street improvements offered a report setting forth that the Committee had seen Mr N Wilson Davis Civil Engineer in reference to his taking charge of the sewerage work, and that Mr N Wilson Davis had agreed to superintend and overlook the entire work of laying the sewers for the sum of \$800, provided the said work did not cover a period longer than four months; and stated that in case the work did take longer than four months there [?] the additional

charge (which would be \$150 per month) could be met by attaching a penalty to the contract with the party doing the work to cover such excess of time and charges which on motion was adopted.

And Mr Embrey offered the following

Resolved by the Council that the Joint Committee make a contract with Mr N Wilson Davis for Superintending the work of laying sewers in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of said Committee just received and adopted.

And that the said Committee proceed without delay to advertise for bids for laying said sewers which bids when received and opened shall be reported to this Council before acceptance.

Which resolution on motion of Capt McCracken was adopted

Mr Embrey, Chairman Street Committee stated that the work on the Baptist Church hill on Amelia Street and on George Street at St George's Church needs completion before winter comes on and that money was needed for said work and

Mr Rowe moved that \$300 or so much thereof as may be necessary to finish said work be placed to the credit of the Street Committee

Which motion was adopted

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Capt McCracken Chairman Light Committee stated that money was needed on construction account of the Electric Light Plant

And on Motion of Mr Bradley, \$1000 was ordered to be placed to the credit of the Light Committee to be used on account the construction of the Electric Light Plant, which sum is to cover and include \$300 already used by said Committee under authority from the Finance Committee.

Col Cole, Chairman Finance Committee presented a bill of R A Kishpaugh for printing and distributing 1000 copies of the report of the Joint Committee on sewerage and Street improvements as ordered by the Council and amounting to \$5.00, which on motion was ordered to be paid.

And on motion the Council adjourned

M G Willis, Mayor

James P Corbin, Clerk

At a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held pursuant to notice in the Council Chamber of said City on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December 1900 at 7:30 o'clock PM

There were present Hon Marion G Willis, Mayor

Capt T McCracken, Recorder

Councilmen E D Cole, G W Wroten, W E Bradley, W S Embrey, J P Rowe, M S Chancellor, S S

Bradford, and Lawrence Perry

The meeting was called to order and the minutes of the last regular and two called meetings were read and approved.

Col Cole, Chairman Finance Committee presented a bill of Dr J E Tompkins against the Corporation for medical services were rendered by direction of the Mayor, said bill amounting to \$12.00 and, on motion, it was ordered to be paid.

Col Cole also called attention of the Council to the fact that Mrs Margaret V King who is now and has been an inmate of the City Alms House for some time receiving a pension from the United States amounting to \$96.00 a year and it appearing that said Mrs King's income as [Page 378] aforesaid received and disbursed by her committee who had duly qualified as such in the Corporation Court of this City and that Mrs King is not a pauper in a legal sense but that it is necessary to her welfare that she be kept under

restraint, which constraint is afforded by the registration of the Alms-House, and Col Cole moved that Mrs Margaret V King be permitted to remain an inmate of the City Alms-House and that her committee be requested to pay out of Mrs King's said income the sum of \$5.00 per month to the Corporation for her maintenance in said Alms-House, said sum put to cover any expenditure of said Committee for stimulants for her use which motion was adopted

Mr Embrey, Chairman Street Committee stated that he had met the Rail-road officials and located the vertical cross gates at street crossings and thought they would soon be placed.

Mr Rowe, Chairman Ordinance Committee presented the following ordinance with the recommendation that it be adopted to-wit;

Be it enacted and ordained by the Mayor and Common Council of the Corporation of the City of Fredericksburg, that John H Roberson, C A Gore, W R Hall and W N Tapscott be and they are hereby appointed constables for the Corporation aforesaid; each of these appointments aforesaid to take effect from and after the passage of this ordinance and as soon as they shall have executed the bond of a constable as required by section 814 of the Code of Virginia as amended.

This ordinance shall take effect from and after its passage.

Whereupon Capt McCracken moved that the Rules be suspended in order to consider said ordinance, which motion was adopted and

Col Cole moved that the said ordinance be adopted which motion was carried unanimously

The Mayor reported fines collected amounting to \$37.00 and that the police officers had performed their duty

On motion Col Cole, the election of Superintendent of the City Water Works for the year 1901 was taken up, and on Col Cole's motion the salary attached to said office was fixed at \$900, the same as this year. A communication from Capt S J Quinn, the present superintendent asked that he be re-elected was read, and a ballot being had Capt S J Quinn was declared unanimously elected Superintendent of the City Water Works for the year 1901.

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On motion of Col Cole the Council proceeded to the election of Superintendent of the City Gas Works for the year 1901.

Mr Embrey moved that the salary attached to said office be fixed at \$750 the same as this year.

Mr Bradford moved as a substitute that said salary be fixe at \$800, an increase of \$50 over the present salary.

A recorded vote being called for was had with the following result

For the substitute Messrs Cole, Wroten, Rowe, McCracken, Bradford and Perry six

Against Messrs Bradley, Embrey and Chancellor three; and the substitute was declared adopted and said salary fixed at \$800

Mr Rowe then nominated Mr William Fitzpatrick the present incumbent and a ballot being had Mr William Fitzpatrick was unanimously elected Superintendent of the City Gas Works for the year 1901.

Mr Bradley called the attention of the Council to the inefficiency of the City Gas in lighting the buildings of the City and Col Cole and Maj Embrey also spoke along that line and

Col Cole moved that the Light Committee be requested to have the Street Gas lamps not lighted from now until the day after Christmas day, so that the whole supply of gas for illumination be available for buildings,

A recorded vote was called for on said motion and had with the following result,

For the motion Mr Cole, one  
Against the motion Messrs Wroten, Bradley, Embrey, Rowe, McCracken, Chancellor, Bradford and Perry  
eight and the motion was declared lost.  
On motion of Mr Chancellor the Council adjourned  
M G Willis, Mayor  
James P Corbin, Clerk  
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