

Council Chamber,
January 20, 1902.

Regular session.

Called to order by Pres. Haarer.

Roll call. Present—Ald. Richards, Hamilton, Schlenker, Koch, Kearns, Brown, Roberts, Jenney, Burg, Pres. Haarer—10. Absent—Ald. Clancy, Schumacher, Weeks, Coon, Fischer—5.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

Mayor's Office,
Jan. 20, 1902.

To the Honorable the Common Council:—

Gentlemen—After the passage of the last ordinance granting a franchise to Mr. Boland, I withheld my approval of the same until he filed in my office the grade separation bond which was read to your honorable body and which you desired to be made a condition of approval.

Immediately upon Mr. Boland's compliance with this condition I notified Mr. Hawks of the state of affairs. This is a copy of the letter sent him under date of Jan. 3rd, 1902:

My Dear Mr. Hawks:

I am glad to report that the grade separation affair is looking bright. Mr. Boland has filed his bond and backed it up with such collateral that his share is provided for. Under date of Dec. 30th Mr. Ashley writes that the owners of the Ann Arbor R. R. are favorable to the plan. Knowing your own good will, I see no reason why there should be the slightest delay.

This matter must be closed up at once, however. In order to take up the work the first thing in the spring this plan must be closed at once. This is especially true since Mr. Ashley leaves the road Feb. 1st. We ought to have all details settled by the 15th of this month. Can your road have your share in the plan provided for and in my hands by that time?

Yours truly,

R. S. COPELAND, Mayor.

The fifteenth of January having passed with no response from Mr. Hawks, on the 16th I sent the following telegram:

Hawks & Angus, Detroit, Mich.

Am I not entitled to an answer to my letter of Jan. 3 about grade separation? Why not frankly declare yourselves?

R. S. COPELAND, Mayor.

Up to this moment no reply has been vouchsafed. Your honorable body should be fully informed in this matter. Grade separation is of too great importance to our city to be lost without exhausting every effort to bring about a consummation of this plan.

That the Ann Arbor Railroad is favorable to the project and anxious to see it succeed is shown by the following letter, dated Jan. 17:

R. S. Copeland, Esq., Mayor, Ann Arbor:

My Dear Sir—It is not probable that steel bridges ordered in February could be booked for delivery earlier than September. If anything looking to grade separation in Ann Arbor is undertaken for the current year, the legislation and contract should be concluded within 30 days.

Respectfully,

H. W. ASHLEY, Manager.

In November, Mr. Angus called upon me and made a verbal proposition looking towards grade separation, giving us ten days in which to decide a question which could be settled only by agreement between three roads, of which Mr. Angus represented one. He stated then that Mr. Hawks might not agree to it, limited his possible contribution to \$30,000, and wished it to be in the shape of certain undefined securities.

On my part correspondence was attempted. One letter met a response saying that Messrs. Hawks and Angus were both in the East, that my letter had been referred to Mr. Merrill and would be answered on the return of the officials. It never was. I wrote again on the 21st of December and received from Mr. Hawks, under date of Dec. 26, the following letter:

Mr. R. S. Copeland, Mayor, Ann Arbor, Mich.:

Dear Sir—I have your letter of the 21st inst. Mr. Angus is out of town for a few days. He told me some time ago that he had made an offer good until Nov. 16, agreeing to put up \$30,000 if the city of Ann Arbor got \$10,000 from the so-called Boland road, and an agreement from the Ann Arbor R. R. that they would elevate their tracks.

I am not advised that any of these things have been done and now see by the newspaper that Mr. Ashley is to leave the Ann Arbor R. R. Jan. 1st next.

This matter has been so long delayed that it looks to me as though it was liable to fall through.

Yours truly,
J. D. HAWKS,
President.

A "Y" has been built west of the Ann Arbor tracks. What it means I do not know. It may mean that all idea of crossing the tracks has been abandoned. You must judge for yourselves.

I hope, however, you will be able to devise a means of reaching Hawks & Angus. Unless the grade separation matter is settled within three or four weeks I doubt if it will be carried out for years, if ever.

Respectfully,
R. S. COPELAND,
Mayor.

By Ald. Brown:

Resolved, that a committee of three be appointed to take up with Hawks & Angus the question of grade separation, with instructions to try and bring about the separation of grades and to find out definitely what Hawks & Angus will do towards paying the costs of said separation. Carried.

The chair appointed the following committee: Mayor Copeland, Ald. Jenney and Koch.

Ann Arbor, Mich., Jan. 17, 1902.

To the Common Council of the City of Ann Arbor:

On the 22nd day of January, 1902, the charter of the Ann Arbor and

Lodi Plank Road company expires by limitation of time. At that time the company turns over to the public a road which has by numerous critics been determined the best country road in Michigan, and we turn over to the city of Ann Arbor something more than a half mile of road, superior, we believe, to any except the paved streets of the city.

By direction of the company I hereby tender to your honorable body the drinking fountain located near the toll gate with the simple condition attached that it shall be maintained, either in its present location or at some other on South Main street at a point south of the track of the Ann Arbor railroad company.

The toll gate of our company extends some feet into the public highway. We intend to remove this building entirely from the street with the opening of spring, and respectfully ask your permission for retaining the gate house in its present location until that time. I am,

Very respectfully yours,
G. F. ALLMENDINGER,
President A. A. & L. P. R. Co.

Ald. Hamilton moved that the communication be received, the offer accepted and the request granted. Carried.

Ald. Jenney made a verbal report on the water works question and the new city building. He asked for and was given more time.

City Attorney Sawyer presented the claim of Asa Allen and recommended that the same be settled.

By Ald. Schlenker:

Resolved, that the city attorney be authorized to settle the same for the sum of \$30.00.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Richards, Hamilton, Schlenker, Koch, Kearns, Brown, Roberts, Jenney, Burg, Pres. Haarer—10. Nays—0.

By Ald. Hamilton:

Resolved, that the street commissioner be directed to repair temporarily all sidewalks of a dangerous character, and that he also hang danger

signals at all dangerous places in the streets. Carried.

By Ald. Brown:

Resolved, that Attorney F. A. Stivers be directed to take the necessary steps to appeal the case of Mrs. M. R. Newman vs. the City of Ann Arbor. Carried.

By Ald. Schlenker:

Resolved, that the city engineer be directed to give the council an estimate of the cost of construction of public scales. Carried.

On motion the council adjourned.

JAS. E. HARKIN'S,
City Clerk.