

Council Chamber,
Ann Arbor, Mich., April 16, 1906
Regular Session.

Meeting called to order by President Gilmore.

Present—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore—14.

Absent—Ald. Kurtz—1.

Mayor's Message.

Ann Arbor, Mich., April 16, 1906.

Honorable Common Council:

Gentlemen—As public servants we certainly have good reason to be thankful for the very successful year through which we have just passed, and for the bright outlook for the one upon which we now enter. Let the same harmony and united effort for the welfare of the city continue, and results for good in ever increasing ratio will be attained.

Lighting.

While marked progress in all departments was made during the past year, in none were more satisfactory results secured than in that of lighting. The opportunity came for a new contract or contracts for lighting the streets of the city, and I am sure our people will never regret that the opportunity was improved as it was. Now, with reasonable attention on the part of the proper committee, in seeing to it that the contracts are fully complied with, and with a little judicious trimming of some of the trees, where branches have been permitted to extend down too low, the results will continue to prove more satisfactory year after year, whether the moon shine or not.

Water.

While it is hoped that the comprehensive report of the special water committee, with the accompanying recommendations and your action upon the same, is a long step toward a settlement of that much agitated question, yet, pending any further action that may be deemed necessary, your regular water committee and the board of health should see to it that no contamination come to the water supply from any of the probable sources referred to in the report of the special committee.

Streets and Ecard of Public Works.

We think it has been most clearly

demonstrated that a representative from each ward upon the Board of Public Works can more satisfactorily serve the city; and the harmony in which the Board and the Council have co-operated is most commendable, and goes far toward accounting for the success of both. And that the street committee, the Board and the street commisisoner have rendered excellent service, is abundantly shown by the condition of the streets, after an open and very trying winter, and the cleaning of the paved streets in winter time, at comparatively little cost, affords an example well worth imitating by some of our larger neighbors, and indicates that with an additional team and a few more laborers, the summer cleaning can be done much cheaper and more satisfactorily than by the uncertain contract plan. Let it be fairly tried.

Sidewalks.

Time was, and that not very far past, when the dilapidated condition of many of the sidewalks and crosswalks of the city was a subject for just criticism; but thanks to a healthful growth of civic pride, aided by the faithful, persistent efforts of the sidewalk committee, the conditions have been rapidly changing for the better. Still there is much yet to be done by this committee, and let the work be commenced early, that there may be no excuse for tearing up poor walks too late in the fall.

Parks.

The Park Commisison has made a most excellent beginning upon that comprehensive plan which, when completed, will afford one of the chief attractions of our attractive city. The commission will soon investigate the disease reported to be threatening some of the trees in the eastern part of the city. And I would recommend that the finance committee, in making up the budget for the year, make provision to enable this department to do some of the much needed trimming of shade trees in different parts of the city which will not only benefit the trees, but will also give the light and air a better chance.

Police.

We are told by those in position to know that there has not been less of

disorder and crime in the city for many years than at present. Yet we have reason to believe that there is still room for improvement, and will be as long as there is a tendency on the part of any to break or evade the law; and so long there will be work for a police force, and that force will be expected to do its duty thoroughly and impartially.

Fire Department.

Our city has suffered very little loss by fire during the year, and the department now having two stations, is much better situated than formerly, to reach the scene of action promptly, which is the secret of success in controlling a fire. I think, however, that the equipment might be improved at not great expense, as doubtless your committee will find, upon investigation and by consulting the fire commisison.

Board of Health.

Although the city has been remarkably free from any serious epidemics, and the better disposition of the garbage, the elimination of hogpens and the extension of sanitary sewers, all aid in safeguarding our people, still there is too much negligence on the part of some, in sewer districts, in reference to connecting with the sewers. Our efficient Board of Health is aware of this fact and will do their duty in the matter, and we hope all concerned will co-operate as promptly as possible, that our city may retain her enviable reputation of being one of the most healthful as well as one of the most beautiful cities anywhere to be found.

Finances.

Notwithstanding the extra demands made upon the funds of the city for various purposes, as paving, storm sewers, taking care of garbage and increasing the fire department, in addition to the ordinary current expenses; yet the finances of the city are in good condition, and with the usual budget and careful management, you will be able to carry the city through the coming year nicely, meeting all obligations and making the contemplated improvements.

Gentlemen, as the management of the affairs of this city has for the time been entrusted to our care, let us one and all, at the threshold of this a new year, resolve that its record

shall equal or excel that of the past, and that our beautiful city shall continue to become more beautiful still, and shall ever be worthy, in every way, of being the home city of the great University, of the whole University, one and inseparable, immovable now and always.

Very truly yours,
FRANCIS M. HAMILTON,
Mayor.

The message received, ordered on file and published in the minutes.

Communication.

From President of Council:
Ann Arbor, Mich., April 16, 1906
Mr. Ross Granger, City Clerk,
Ann Arbor, Mich.,

Dear Sir:—I hereby appoint committees of the Common Council for the ensuing year as follows:

Finance—Manwaring, Goodyear, Gill.
Ordinance—Fischer, Manwaring, Abbott.

Sewer—Kurtz, Abbott, Blaich, Manwaring, Markey, Sweet, St. James.

Street—Markey, Fischer, Goodyear, Sherk, Miller, Schneider, Kurtz.

Sidewalk—Abbott, Goodyear, Sherk, St. James, Miller, Schneider, Gill.

Fire Department—Sherk, Markey, Gill.

Water—Gill, Blaich, Manwaring.

Police—Miller, Abbott, Snauble.

Lighting—Goodyear, Markey, Snauble

License—Blaich, Fischer, Sweet.

Ponds—St. James, Fischer, Snauble.

Parks—Snauble, Schneider, Sherk.

Poor—Sweet, Kurtz, St. James.

Cemetery—Schneider, Kurtz, Miller.

Respectfully,

E. S. GILMORE,

President of Council.

Communication from Welch Post, No. 137 G. A. R., inviting members of Council and other city officers to participate in services of Memorial Sunday, May 27th and Memorial Day, May 30th, 1906, received and on motion of Ald. Fischer accepted.

Communications from the Board of Public Works in form of resolutions, presented to the council as follows:

By Mr. Nichols—

Resolved, that inasmuch as Lambert Dresselhouse is the lowest regular bidder for the construction of storm sewer through the Judson property this board recommends to the council that he be awarded the con-

tract, the matter of bond being left to the City Attorney. Adopted by board.

By Mr. Nichols—

Resolved, that inasmuch as the bid of Lambert Dresselhouse is the lowest regular bid for the construction of the East Washington street storm sewer this board recommends to the council that he be awarded the contract, matter of bond to be left to the City Attorney. Adopted by board.

By Mr. Nichols—

Resolved, that inasmuch as Lambert Dresselhouse is lowest regular bidder for the construction of sanitary sewer in sewer district No. 19 (Church street), this board recommends to the council that Mr. Dresselhouse be awarded the contract, matter of bond to be left to the City Attorney. Adopted by board.

By Mr. Cornwell—

Resolved, that inasmuch as the bid of Hutzel & Co. is the lowest regular bid for the construction of sanitary sewer in sewer district No. 18, (Huron street) this board recommends to the council that Hutzel & Co. be awarded the contract, matter of bond to be left to the City Attorney. Adopted by board.

Moved by Mr. Nichols, supported by Mr. McIntyre, that council be requested to authorize the clerk to purchase 100 barrels of cement. Adopted by board.

By Mr. Nichols—

Resolved, that this board request the council to authorize the advertising for bids on sweeping the paved streets according to plans to be furnished by the city engineer. Adopted by board.

In connection with the foregoing recommendations a petition from the Ann Arbor Fluff Rug Co. et al asking that the Huron street sanitary sewer (District No. 18) be re-advertised, was presented and read.

Moved by Ald. Markey, supported by Ald. Fischer, that the council concur in the recommendations of the Board of Public Works and award contracts to Mr. Dresselhouse and Hutzel & Co. for the construction of storm and lateral sanitary sewers as set forth in the recommendations.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwar-

ing, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Pres. Gilmore—13.

Nays—Ald. Schneider—1.

By Ald. Goodyear—

Resolved, that the council concur in the recommendation of the Board of Public Works relative to cement.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Markey—

Resolved, that the Board of Public Works be authorized to continue cleaning paved streets in same way as at present.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

Petition of School Board, per C. L. Miller et al, asking for sanitary sewer on Miiler avenue from First to Seventh street, received and referred to sewer committee.

Committee Reports.

Finance.

Ann Arbor, Mich., April 14, 1906.
To the Honorable the Common Council.

Gentlemen—Your committee on finance have had the following bills under consideration and would recommend their approval and that warrants be drawn for same.

GEO. H. FISCHER,

WM. GOODYEAR,

Committee.

Street Fund.

Marion Wheelock, labor, snow plowing	\$8.00
George Moran, labor.....	1.65
Edward Barnett, labor.....	1.65
George Hopkins, labor.....	1.65
Fred Gakle, labor.....	1.84
Adolph Christman, labor.....	3.30
William Kuehn, labor.....	3.30
Fred Oalirug, labor	6.05
William Rvan, labor.....	7.99
Michael Heary, labor.....	10.64
August Schmidt, labor.....	11.47
Charles Haase, labor.....	11.92
Michael Hession, labor.....	16.97
George Weeks, team.....	3.50
Jacob Hauser, team.....	3.50
Jacob Becks, team.....	5.06

Harvey Robinson, team.....	7.59
S. A. Elsifor, team.....	10.50
Marion Wheelock, team.....	10.50
Joe Wiliker, team	17.89
John McHugh, team.....	19.84
Lou Bucholz, team.....	29.17
John Markey, team.....	31.00
James Mason, skilled labor...	8.77
William Bury, skilled labor...	20.22

\$253.97

Bridge, Culvert and Crosswalk Fund.	
Mathew Leophold, labor.....	1.65
Bennett French, team.....	7.59

\$9.24

Recapitulation.

Street fund	\$253.97
Bridge, Culvert and Crosswalk	9.24

\$263.21

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

Special Fire Department Committee.

Ann Arbor, Mich., April 16, 1906.

To the Honorable Common Council of the City of Ann Arbor.

Gentlemen:—Your committee, appointed to investigate the matter of the recent quarrel in the Fire Department, and the efficiency of the department generally, beg leave to report:

We met at the Fire Hall on the day of April instant at 2 o'clock in the afternoon; and were very cordially received by the chief and the firemen. We were tendered the use of the chief's office, and we thereupon proceeded with the investigation. The chief of the department, a large number of the firemen, and also Mr. Whitlinger, were sworn and examined.

Before we had really commenced to question the chief, he voluntarily stated to the committee that it was his intention to resign from the department. He said positively that he would not serve the city another month and gave as his reasons that he was naturally of a nervous temperament, was considerably broken down in health, and felt that he was unable to do the department justice. After some talk with the chief and among the individual members of the committee on that subject, and finding

that he was determined in the matter, we proceeded with the examination of witnesses.

We found that there had been a feeling of enmity existing between Mr. Whitlinger and Mr. McLaren for several years; that they had frequently had angry words; and while they had never come to blows, it was generally understood that they were not friends. We found that on the night of the 17th day of February last, Mr. McLaren was upstairs in the sleeping apartment of Firemen's Hall, and Mr. Whitlinger came in. They had some words, when the chief finally entered and an altercation took place between the chief and Mr. Whitlinger. It is admitted by the chief that he struck the first blow in this altercation, but there is some discrepancy in the testimony as to whether Mr. Whitlinger slapped the chief in the face or as to whether he simply pushed him away. Then Mr. McLaren came up and struck at Mr. Whitlinger, who raised up his arm to ward off the blow. Mr. McLaren struck Mr. Whitlinger's arm in such a way as to break his, McLaren's, arm over Mr. Whitlinger's arm. This ended the affray. There is no claim by any one that Mr. Whitlinger struck Mr. McLaren. (Since the taking of the testimony of the firemen, Mr. McLaren has informed the chairman of your committee that he has resigned from the department, which renders it unnecessary to make any recommendations as to him.)

The chief and nearly all of the firemen stated that both Mr. McLaren and Mr. Whitlinger were good firemen, but many of the firemen stated that Mr. McLaren was not popular with the firemen, and some said that they would not work under him. Nearly all of the firemen had a good word for Mr. Whitlinger, said he was an easy man to get along with, an excellent fireman, and a man to be relied upon in all cases.

Your committee inquired into the equipment of the fire department and found that the general opinion, not only of the chief but also of the firemen, is that the ladders are old, unsafe and insufficient; and many of the firemen said that they did not feel that these ladders, especially the long ones, were safe. We found that the

hose is in good shape and sufficient for the needs. There is some discrepancy in the opinion of the firemen as to other parts of the equipment.

Your committee inquired into the custom as to drilling the firemen and found that there had been no fire drill at Station No. 1 for at least four or five years. One man testified that he had been there four years lacking two months, and that he had never seen a fire drill there. Others do not remember of seeing any for five years. We found that there have been some drills at Station No. 2. The chief admitted that it would be better for the department to have fire drills at Station No. 1 at least once in ten days or two weeks, and nearly every member of the department, who was examined, coincided with that opinion.

We found that at present each fireman has every fourteenth day off from duty, which always gives him a certain day off every two weeks.

We further report that we found a general lack of discipline in the fire department at Station No. 1.

We further report that Mr. Charles Carroll, employed as watchman at Station No. 1, was injured by the premature explosion of a cannon some years ago while employed as a fireman in a Fourth of July celebration, losing one arm and a part of one hand; that he fills the position of watchman satisfactory to all, and that he is at present receiving \$30 a month and upon that supports his family, consisting of himself and his mother.

Your committee believes that the expense of maintaining the fire department in the City of Ann Arbor is sufficient to give the city first class service, and that it is poor economy to maintain such a department without proper equipment.

It is the sense of this committee that—

(1) Mr. Whitlinger should be reinstated in the department as fireman;

(2) The salary of Charles Carroll should be raised to \$40 per month.

(3) The Fire Committee of this council should confer with the Fire Commission as to the equipment of the department and recommend such improvements as they may deem proper;

(4) The efficiency of the fire de-

partment depends largely upon thorough practice and drill, and regular drills should be insisted upon;

(5) Each fireman should have every eleventh day off from duty, instead of every fourteenth day as at present.

Respectfully submitted,
CHAS. L. MILLER,
I. L. SHERK,
B. ST. JAMES,
E. B. MANWARING,
J. W. MARKEY,

Committee.

Received and on motion of Ald. Manwaring, ordered on file.

Ald. Abbott reported, for special committee appointed to confer with Mr. Wilgus in reference to compensation for his work on Water Committee, that Mr. Wilgus would not accept anything in the way of pay from the city for work done on said committee.

Officers' Report.

The City Engineer presented the following letter relative to high tension wires:

Detroit, Mich., April 4, 1906.
Mr. E. W. Groves, City Engineer,
Ann Arbor, Mich.

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request I have inspected a portion of the high tension lines of the D., Y., A. A. & J. R'y and beg to report as follows:

The general condition of the work, size of poles, cross arms, insulation, etc., is satisfactory. It is unfortunate that a route was chosen which brings the high tension lines in such close proximity to the various telephone wires. It would have been decidedly better to have kept them entirely separate, at least, by a distance equal to the height of the highest poles.

The hazards involved are two-fold. In case one of the high tension wires should break and fall in contact with a telephone wire, there would be introduced at once a dangerous voltage upon wires and instruments designed for a very low voltage. Resulting from this would be the probability of fires in the buildings where telephones are installed and fatalities to persons attempting to use the telephone instruments.

The other danger is to linemen working on the pole line for either

the telephone company or the railway company. A number of such accidents, many of them fatal, have occurred in this state where men have accidentally come in contact with high voltage wires either directly or through crossed lines. These dangers could be obviated by the entire separation of such lines or by the use of a guard wire net-work. Such a net-work should be constructed in accordance with the requirements of Rule 12 A-d 3 of the National Electrical Code and should extend from pole to pole wherever the two circuits are adjacent.

If either of these methods is impractical particular attention should be paid to the construction work. End guards should be placed on the ends of the high tension cross-arms so that in the event of an insulator breaking the wire would not sag onto the lower wires. A separation of at least six feet should be insisted upon between the two sets of cross-arms. Care must be taken that in possible future additions this distance is maintained.

It was noted that in several places, as at the corner of First and Washington streets, the high tension lines cross the telephone lines at right angles with a very small separation. In these cases one of the forms of construction given in Rule 12 A-d should be used.

Particular attention should be paid to turns. At one corner it was noted that the work was in such shape that the breaking of an insulator or pin would allow the wire to fall over onto adjacent telephone wires. In such a case, end guards should be placed on the cross arms. At all corner poles, double cross arms, heavy pins and guards should be provided. The worst condition was seen on West Huron street where there are high tension wires, two sets of telephone wires, street arc lighting circuits, and the 600 volt grounded trolley line, all on one street lined with shade trees. Such a condition besides being unsightly is unsafe.

Trusting that this will give you the information desired, I remain

Yours very truly,
J. H. MONTGOMERY,

Electrical Inspector.

Accepted and ordered on file.

Moved by Ald. Gill that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to look into the matter of high tension wires as set forth in the foregoing letter, the engineer to act with said committee, and report at next regular meeting of the council. Adopted and following committee appointed: Ald. Markey, Ablott and Gill.

Matter of inlet on Fuller street, corner of State street, referred to Street Committee.

Matter of Dieterle property on West Liberty street referred to Board of Public Works.

City Treasurer Sample presented a statement of uncollected city taxes which was referred to Finance Committee.

Resolutions.

By Ald. Manwaring—

Resolved, that the salary of Charles Carroll be raised to \$40 per month, commencing this 16th day of April, 1906.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Abbott—

Resolved, that Dr. Elliott K. Herdman, our present city physician, be and he is hereby re-appointed for the ensuing year.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Goodyear—

Resolved, that the street commissioner be instructed to clean catch basins of storm sewers.

Adopted.

By Ald. Fischer—

Resolved, that brick cross walks be ordered built

Across South Fourth avenue at the intersection of Lincoln street.

Across Hill street at the foot of Brown street.

Across Packard street at Arch street.

Across Packard street at East University avenue.

Across Packard street at Dewey avenue.

Resolved, further that the cross walks ordered last fall on and along the west side of Packard street be built as soon as possible.

Referred to Street committee.

By Ald. Fischer—

Resolved, that J. R. Miner be employed to audit the books of the city treasurer and city clerk. Twenty-five dollars to be allowed for said work. Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Manwaring—

Resolved, that the rules of the last council be adopted as the rules that shall govern this council for the ensuing year.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Abbott—

Resolved, that the matter of the occupancy of a portion of Fifth avenue by the Hammond Beef Company be referred to the Street committee and the City Attorney, and that said committee be instructed to investigate and make report as to what rights, if any, said company claims to have in said street.

Adopted.

By Ald. Manwaring—

Resolved, that the report and recommendations of the Special Fire Department committee be referred to the Board of Fire Commissioners through the Fire committee of the council.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Fischer—

Resolved, that the Michigan State Telephone Co. and the Washtenaw Home Telephone Company make the following changes of telephones at the residences or business places of the following named aldermen: From Dr. Blair to Vernon Snauble; C. Schlenker to E. L. Schneider; Richard Kearns

Jr. to Clarence J. Sweet; Emmet Coon to George Blaich.

Resolved, further, that Ald. J. W. Markey and Ald. Horatio J. Abbott be furnished with Washtenaw Home telephones as per resolution of council June 20th, 1904.

Adopted.

By Ald. Fischer—

Resolved, that the city clerk advertise for bids for the printing of the council proceedings in both the city papers and in pamphlet form, the bids to be in by our next meeting. Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Fischer—

Resolved, that Mr. Allmendinger be and is hereby instructed to have the stone pile in front of his lot on South Fourth avenue removed at once, and that if not removed within two weeks that the street commissioner remove the same at once.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich, Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.

By Ald. Sherk—

Resolved, that a brick crosswalk be constructed across Jones street at intersection of Pontiac street.

Referred to Street committee.

By Ald. Manwaring—

Resolved, that brick crosswalks be built on Pontiac street at the intersection of Plum and Apple streets.

Referred to the Street committee.

By Ald. Sherk—

Resolved, that the Board of Fire Commissioners be and are hereby requested to enforce Section 23, Rules and Regulations of the Fire Department.

Adopted.

By Ald. Fischer—

Resolved, that a gas light be located at the corner of Hill street and Fifth avenue and the center of the block between Madison and Hill street on Fifth avenue.

Referred to Light committee.

Moved by Ald. Markey, supported by Ald. St. James, that a warrant for \$50 in favor of Welch Post G. A. R.

be drawn to assist in defraying Memorial Day ceremonies.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Gill, Snauble, Schneider, Miller, Sweet, St. James, Markey, Manwaring, Sherk, Goodyear, Blaich,

Abbott, Fischer, Pres. Gilmore.—14.
Nays—None.

On motion the council adjourned.

ROSS GRANGER,
City Clerk.