

COUNCIL CHAMBER, }
Ann Arbor, April 20th, 1896. }

Regular session.

Called to order by President Hiscock.

Roll called. Quorum present.

Absent, Ald. Brown.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR.

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

Gentlemen:—In presenting this, my second annual address to the Common Council of our City, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the Council of last year for their many courtesies shown. I hope and have every reason to believe that the relationship of Council and Mayor will continue as pleasant for the year just beginning; and with that very desirable object in view, your attention is especially directed to the necessity of harmony between the several departments of the City's government. I am sorry to confess that all has not been as we would like it, that during the last year there was not that harmony and good feeling between the City Officials that there should have been, and the city has been the loser thereby. Let us be warned by past experiences, and not duplicate this error. I believe that every member of your Honorable Body is just as much interested and has the welfare of our City just as much at heart as myself, and shall therefore have very little advice to give. To so manage the affairs of our City that the taxation may be as light as possible for a progressive City, is, I am sure the desire of all members of the Common Council, and to that end I ask of you to instruct your Committee on Finance to closely investigate the conditions and requirements of the different funds, and to recommend the appropriation of no more money than is really necessary to carry out the several funds through the year if handled in the most economical and careful manner. What I mean by economy is not

that you hold on to the City's money, regardless of the demands of progress, such is false economy. A moderate amount of money properly expended in substantial improvements is always the proper thing to do, and now I ask the assistance of your Honorable Body in the matter of making some of these improvements; of lowering the bridge over the Michigan Central Rail Road, and raising the one on Broadway street, thus connecting with our City the Fifth ward which is practically shut out by this unnecessary barrier. I ask that your Honorable Body direct the Board of Public Works to ascertain as soon as possible the cost of carrying out such work.

I again, as I did a year ago, call the Council's attention to the smoke nuisance. There are portions of this City where the smoke from chimneys, where soft coal is used for fuel, is ruining the property of our citizens. The Supreme Court of our State has said it is illegal. Our citizens have been pleading with the several Common Councils of our City for years. They have come to them with large petitions bearing the names of many of our most respected citizens and largest tax payers, but all in vain. The chimneys continue to scatter soot over their property, and the tax gatherer never misses a call. The matter before the Council is dying slowly but surely in committee. Let it not be said that the Council of 1896 ever neglected his duty, or to act promptly in defense of its citizens. Committees having in charge such matters as this should be called upon to make a report of the progress they have made upon the subject at every regular meeting of the Council.

I understand that there are smoke consumers that can be applied at reasonable cost, that will not only burn the soot out of smoke, but will cause an actual saving of 15 or 20 per cent. on the amount of coal consumed, so that the

cry of burdening industries or of driving out industries cannot be used in this case, and even it were a hardship *it is still* your duty. The citizen pays his taxes for protection, and we have no right to allow his property to be destroyed, even though by so doing others may make fortunes.

I do not advise placing this matter in the hands of a Committee, it is simply a question of duty and law. If your Honorable Body will place this matter in the hands of the City Attorney, it will be attended to at once.

Another thing to which I wish to call the attention of your Honorable Body, is our Fire Department of which the citizens of Ann Arbor are justly proud. It is one that for the size of it will compare fairly with any in this country, and is deserving of our special attention. Their quarters need a thorough overhauling and painting. They should also have a bath-room, where after being called to a fire, or at any other time they bathe and refresh themselves,

The matter of placing and keeping the streets of the City in a good condition is becoming a serious matter. The City has no place from which to procure suitable gravel for making good roads, and the time has now arrived when your Honorable Body should be looking for a way out of the dilemma. I should advise instead, of spending so much money in covering our streets with poor gravel, only to be washed away by the rains and then hauled on again the next year to do as little graveling as possible, and each year as soon as any street becomes so that it cannot be kept in proper condition by the old process, I should advise the putting down of macadam, except in business portion of the City, where I would advise brick paving.

Detroit-st. has long been an eye sore to our citizens. Year after year money has been expended in graveling and fixing it and yet it is always bad. It is the

first of our streets to meet the eyes of strangers arriving by way of the M. C. R.R. and it certainly cannot give them a good impression of our streets. I would advise your Honorable Body to look well into the matter and if possible, macadam Detroit street from the Court House square to the bridge over the M. C. R. R. There is no likelyhood of any sewers being put down in that street, for a number of years, and then only for a short distance below the Junction of Division street. I would advise not delaying the macadamizing of any street on account of sewers, because the damage occasioned thereby is easily repaired. With a good macadam road from the Court Yard to the M. C. R. R., and the bridges over the railroad and the river put on a proper grade, that which for years has been a disgrace to our city, will be one of its most beautiful drives.

Dated, April 20, 1896.

WARREN E. WALKER,
Mayor.

By Ald. Moore.

Resolved, that the message of the Mayor be referred to a committee of three for division and reference.

Adopted.

Pres. Hiscock appointed Ald. Moore, Koch and Dell as such Committee.

Ann Arbor, Mich., April 14th, '96.

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

Gentlemen:—At the last meeting of the out-going Council they again ordered the printing of the report of the Board of Public Works for the year 1895, which I do hereby disapprove, and for the following reasons:

1st. On February 18th last it was disapproved by me as being misleading and unreliable and of having the appearance of unloading onto the council responsibilities which they themselves should bear and for several other reasons at the time stated.

It was then returned to the Council, and they sustained the veto. They

have now no right to print the report with the objectional matter still therein.

2nd. I objected then as I do now to the City of Ann Arbor lending its hand in carrying out any scheme to advertise Paving Block Companies or any other company at the expense of the City and to the great detriment of other competitors. It is an injustice that should not be tolerated, much less be carried out by the authority of our City. I object to a part of the 1st page as it casts serious reflections on all previous members of the Board.

3rd. Finally I object to the publishing of said report on the ground that it would be a useless waste of the peoples monies, that there is nothing therein which interests the citizens or they care about but that has been heretofore published in council proceedings. I would suggest that the objectional matter be stricken out and the report placed on file in the office of the City Clerk which will answer all purposes so far as the citizen is concerned and save to the city the cost of publishing (which I am told will amount to nearly \$100.)

WARREN E. WALKER,
Mayor.

Filed February 14th, 1896.

The resolution passed over the veto of the Mayor as follows.

Yeas—Ald. Maynard, Moore, Koch, Grossman, Dell, Burke, Shadford, Rhodes, Coon, Soule, Cady, Danforth, Pres. Hiscock—13.

Nays—Ald. Laubengayer—1.

By Ald. Shadford.

Resolved, That the rules of the former Council be adopted for this session and that a committee of three including the President of the Council, be appointed to formulate the rules of this Council.

Adopted.

Pres. Hiscock appointed Hiscock, Shadford and Brown as such committee

President Hiscock appointed the following as the Standing Committees of Common Council for the year 1896 and 1897.

Finance—Cady, Coon, Soule. •

Ordinance—Maynard, Brown, Danforth.

Sewers—Koch, Moore, Dell, Burke, Shadford, Coon, Cady.

Streets—Moore, Grossman, Dell, Burke, Shadford, Soule, Cady.

Sidewalks—Coon, Maynard, Koch, Laubengayer, Brown, Rhodes, Danforth.

Fire Department—Shadford, Grossman, Rhodes.

Water—Laubengayer, Moore, Brown.

Police—Dell, Koch, Burke.

Lighting—Soule, Cady, Danforth.

Boads—Brown, Moore, Grossman.

Licenses—Grossman, Coon, Dell.

Parks—Burke, Maynard, Shadford.

Poor—Rhodes, Danforth, Laubengayer.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS.

To the Common Council:

The Board of Public Works would recommend that a plank crosswalk be ordered built across Thompson street on the north side of Madison, and further the Board would recommend that a culvert be constructed across West Washington street on the line of Allen's creek, from property line to property line, the same to be built of five lines of tile, each two feet in diamater.

Board of Public Works,

Glen V. Mills, Clerk.

Referred to the Street Committee.

A petition signed by Richard Hudson and 9 others asking for a hydrant at the corner of Oakland avenue and Tappan street was read and referred to the Fire Department and Water Committees.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS.

To the Common Council:

The Board of Fire Commissioners herewith transmit to your Honorable Body the annexed report of the Chief of the Fire Department for your consideration.

Moses Seabolt,
James E. Harkins,
Michael Grossmann.

Board of Fire Commissioners.

Office of Chief of the Fire Department, }
Ann Arbor, Mich., April 15th, 1896. }

To the Honorable Board of Fire Commissioners.

Gentlemen:—I herewith submit to your Honorable Body my seventh annual report of the Ann Arbor Fire Department in which you will find a brief review of the work performed by the Department during the year ending March 31st, 1896, the numbers of alarms responded to sixty-four (64) making a total of three hundred and forty (340) since April 1st, 1889, the date of our organization.

The cause of the alarms was as follows:

Chimney fires causing no loss.....	11
Defective chimneys.....	5
Careless depositing of ashes in barrels, boxes, etc.....	5
Oil stoves.....	3
Gasoline stoves.....	1
Children with matches.....	6
Sparks from locomotives.....	3
“ “ cupola.....	1
Cigarette.....	1
Fire crackers.....	1
Plumbers stove.....	1
Stove pipe.....	3
Hot air furnace.....	3
Bakers oven.....	2
Burning rubbish.....	1
Traction engine.....	1
Wood in oven of cook stove.....	1
Spontaneous combustion.....	2
Incendiary.....	7
Unknown.....	6

Total number fires..... 64

Value of property destroyed...\$11,575.89
Amount Insurance paid..... 11,993.75
Total amount Insurance carried..... 80,225.00
Value of property destroyed on which there was no Insurance..... 800 00
Number of miles traveled in responding to and returning from above alarms.....54

Number of feet of hose laid25,050
Number of discharges from chemicals used during the year..... 52
Of the above alarms forty-six were by telephone and eighteen were run in to the Department.

The question of Fire Alarm system is still open for discussion and should receive very careful attention.

The water service has been very superior to that of any previous year, the pressure having been kept so nearly up to the required standard as to leave little cause of complaint.

The cost of maintaining the Department during the year has been as follows:

Salaries.....	\$ 5,359 65
Men's bedding.....	52 27
Washing.....	62 00
Repairs on stoves.....	13 45
Coal.....	129 04
Gas and repairs to gas fixtures.....	202 65
Repairs and supplies for chemical fire extinguishers.....	15 00
Supplies for men's department including towels, soap and matches.....	13 89
Repairs on apparatuses.....	28 84
Repairs on building including lumber, nails, glass, etc.....	53 54
Painting roof.....	14 65
Medicine and surgical treatment for horses.....	34 35
Horse shoeing.....	60 25
One new double harness with hang-ers.....	110 25
Repairs on harness.....	5 95
One horse blanket.....	5 00
Harness, oil and soap.....	4 70
Curry combs and brushes.....	3 25
Chamois and sponges.....	5 25
Oats.....	51 95
Hay.....	190 98
Straw.....	35 59
Ground or mill feed.....	13 40
Oil meal.....	2 75
Carrots.....	7 62
Feed box.....	2 00
One pair horses.....	275 00
Horse hire getting team.....	2 00
500 feet 2 inch cotton hose.....	400 00
Waste and polish.....	13 05
Hose washers.....	75
Hose rings.....	4 00
Hose spanners.....	5 00
Lanterns.....	12 00
Freight and express charges.....	1 85
One year subscription to Fire and Water Journal.....	3 00
Lantern, globes and wicks.....	2 57

Oil	22 45
Brooms.....	5 65
Salt.....	1 00
Nails.....	50
One basket.....	15
Gold dust.....	50

Total \$ 7,327 74

We received from the sale of old brown horse \$75.00 which being deducted from above amount leaves the actual cost of the department \$7252.74.

Four hundred dollars (\$400.00) of which was for additional fire hose which has put this branch of the department in excellent condition.

The salaries account has been slightly increased by there being no second or third grade men, they all having served the required time entitled to the maximum of the scale of wages fifty dollars (\$50) per month, we have also an additional expense in the person of Chas. Carroll who has been employed as Engine House watchman at a salary of fifteen dollars (\$15) per month, aside from this there has been but one change in the manual force, M. C. Ryan having resigned, his place is filled by Geo. Hoelzle.

Following is an inventory of property and equipments under supervision of the Departments Officers.

Land fronting 66 feet on Huron street, and 103 feet 8 inches on Fifth avenue. Building corner Huron street and Fifth Avenue 66 feet front and 62 feet deep, six horses, three set double and one single harness, 300 bushels oats, 1½ tons of hay, 150 pounds bran, 100 pounds oil meal, two hose wagons, 4250 feet cotton hose, one exercise wagon, one button steam fire engine, one hook and ladder truck with 226 feet ladders, one hose hoist with 50 feet ¾ inch rope, one pull hook with 40 feet 1½ inch rope, one hay hook, one wire cutter, one pair rubber gloves, 13 rubber coats, two 2½ inch hose jackets, four seat cushions, six horse blankets, 9 lanterns, 7 play pipes, 100 feet ½ inch rope, four crowbars, five forks, 3 shovels, 4 axes, 3 ax helves, 22

spanners, 4 hose straps, 33 charges for chemicals, 2 dozen expansion rings for hose couplings, nine 4 inch gaskets, 12 2½ inch gaskets, 3 curry combs, 3 brushes, 6 tie straps, 4 pails, 6 brooms, one extra horse collar, one extra horse collar pad, 2 plunger rings for steamer, 2 oil cans, 2 small oilers, 75 pounds waste 6 cans polish, 1 gallon harness dressing, 6 iron feed boxes, 3 brass gongs, 2 scrub brushes, 4 stoves with pipe, 25 feet ¾ in. hose, one 12 foot step ladder, 6 sponges and 3 chamois, 3 lantern globes, 5 rubber buckets, 2 tarpanlins, 4 hydrant wrenches, 2 burr wrenches, two cap wrenches, two monkey wrenches, one three way siamese, two 2 way siamese, 2 respirators, 2 extra wheels for apparatus, 1 set bobs, one set pole chains, 1 coupling ring expander, 3 saws, 1 bitt stock four bitts, 1 bench vice, 1 draw shave, 2 screw drivers, 3 cold chisels, 1 revitng hammer, 1 pair nippers, 1 wagon jack, 1 grind stone, 1 oil stone, one rivet set, 1 file, 1 square, 1 gasket cutter, 14 bed-stead's, 14 mattresses, 14 quilts, 15 pillows, 13 white spreads, 28 blankets, 38 pillow slips, 47 sheets, 12 wooden chairs, 2 tables, 14 lockers, 25 towels, 7 boxes matches, five bars soap, 1 flag, 1 committee wagon, 1 delivery wagon, and 1 delivery sleigh.

The buildings located in Fifth and Sixth wards being in charge of the Board of Public Works, I make no statement as to their contents.

APPARATUS.

The appartuses of the Department are all in good condition and are amply sufficient for the present demand of our City.

HORSES.

As this branch of the Department is somewhat impaired by the fact that some of them have almost out-lived their limit of usefulness for our purpose. I respectfully suggest that we endeavor to dispose of the roan team known as Fred and Billy, and purchases others to fill their places

Aside from responding to the above

mentioned alarms and doing the work incident thereto, the members of the Department have furnished most of the labor required in making necessary repairs to apparatus and building, have delivered to the needy poor (of our city) five hundred and ten 510 loads of wood, furnished man and team for conveyance of Council committees and performed many minor jobs thereby saving which in the course of a year would be quite a sum in the expense account of the city.

Thanking your Honorable Body for past courtesies and hoping to merit your approbation in the future. I very respectfully submit the above report.

Fred Sipley,

Chief Fire Department.

Received and placed on file.

RESOLUTIONS.

By Ald. Koch.

Resolved, That the bonds for liquor dealers and druggists be placed at \$3000 and 2000 respectfully.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Maynard, Moore, Koch, Grossman, Laubengayer, Dell, Burke, Shadford, Rhodes, Coon, Soule, Cady, Danforth, Pres. Hiscock—14.

Nays—None.

By Ald. Cady.

Resolved, That the Ann Arbor Street Railway Co. be ordered to at once fill up with gravel and put the space between the rails of their track in such condition as to be of easy passage for teams.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Maynard, Moore, Koch, Grossman, Laubengayer, Dell, Burke,

Shadford, Rhodes, Coon, Soule, Cady, Danforth, Pres. Hiscock—14.

Nays—None.

Ald. Maynard moved that resignation of Daniel J. Ross as a member of the Board of Public Works be accepted.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Maynard, Moore, Koch, Grossman, Laubengayer, Dell, Burke, Shadford, Rhodes, Coon, Soule, Cady, Danforth, Pres. Hiscock—14.

Nays—None.

The confirmation of Eugene Oesterlin as member of the Board of Public Works failed as follows.

Yeas—Ald. Koch, Grossman, Laubengayer, Coon, Cady, Pres. Hiscock—6.

Nays—Ald. Maynard, Moore, Dell, Burke, Shadford, Rhodes, Soule—7.

Ald. Danforth excused from voting.

By Ald. Maynard.

Resolved, That the City Attorney be and is hereby directed to furnish to this council an opinion in regard to the qualifications of J. R. Miner to act on the Board of Public Works.

Adopted.

Ald. Coon moved that the Board of Public Works be instructed to build the brick Crosswalks ordered by the Council last fall.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Maynard, Moore, Koch, Grossman, Laubengayer, Dell, Burke, Brown, Shadford, Rhodes, Coon, Soule, Cady, Danforth, Pres. Hiscock—14.

Nays—None.

On motion the Council adjourned.

GLEN V. MILLS,

City Clerk.