

# MINUTES

OF THE

## Board of Estimate and Apportionment of The (City) of New York

FROM

APRIL 1, 1918, TO MAY 31, 1918.

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VOL. II.

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### MEMBERS:

Mayor - - - - - JOHN F. HYLAN  
Comptroller - - - - - CHARLES L. CRAIG  
President of the Board of Aldermen - - - - - ALFRED E. SMITH  
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President of the Borough of Richmend - - - - - CALVIN D. VAN NAME  
JOSEPH HAAG, Secretary.

**Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity—Purchase by City of Newburgh of Further Supply of Water from Catskill Aqueduct (Cal. No. 20).**

(On April 12, 1918 (Cal. No. 28), the report of the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity in this matter was referred to the Comptroller.)

The Secretary presented a communication, dated March 14, 1918, from the City Manager of Newburgh, N. Y., requesting an extension for one year from October 15, 1918, of the authority under which water may be supplied to the City of Newburgh, N. Y.; and the following reports from the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity and the Comptroller:

The City of New York, Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, April 4, 1918.

Mr. JOSEPH HAAG, *Secretary, Board of Estimate and Apportionment*, Municipal Building, New York City:

Dear Sir—This in reference to the petition of Hon. Henry Wilson, City Manager of Newburgh, for an extension of the authority under which he may obtain a supply of water for one year from October 15, 1918.

In accordance with resolution adopted by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment on October 5, 1917, this department entered into a contract for the delivery of a supply of water not to exceed 500 million gallons. The agreement extends over a period of one year, terminating October 15, 1918. The water is charged for at the uniform rate prescribed by ordinance, namely, ten cents per hundred cubic feet.

Up to the present time the City of Newburgh has obtained about 250 million gallons. The revenue derived for the sale of this water is approximately \$34,000. The furnishing for a further period of one year of an amount of water not in excess of the stipulated quantity covered by the existing agreement will not in any manner curtail the supply to the residents of New York City.

The City of Newburgh has a new source of supply under development and its application is evidently presented at this time to obtain assurance that, in the event of its own source not being available to meet the demands, it can rely upon the City of New York to furnish any deficiency.

The method of determining the quantity of water served to the City of Newburgh was to deduct the difference between the registry indicated by the Venturi meter at the Ashokan Reservoir and the registry of the meter at Pleasantville, a distance of about sixty miles from the reservoir. The Acting Chief Engineer has decided that this method is not sufficiently accurate. If the Board of Estimate and Apportionment shall determine that the City of Newburgh be given authority to obtain a supply of water not in excess of 500 million gallons during the year beginning October 15, 1918, the department agreement under which this water may be served will be slightly amended so as to establish a more direct and scientific method of measuring the water.

Respectfully,

NICHOLAS J. HAYES, Commissioner.

April 22, 1918.

*The Board of Estimate and Apportionment, The City of New York:*

Gentlemen—Under date of April 4, 1918, Mr. Nicholas J. Hayes, Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, made a report to you concerning a petition which had been addressed to your Board by Hon. Henry Wilson, City Manager of the City of Newburgh, N. Y., March 14, 1918, requesting an extension of the authority under which said City may obtain a supply of water for one year from October 15, 1918, which report was referred by your Board to the Comptroller at your meeting of April 12, 1918 (Calendar No. 28).

Under date of October 5, 1917, the then Board of Estimate and Apportionment adopted a resolution authorizing the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity "in the event of an emergency established to the satisfaction of the said Commissioner, to permit the City of Newburgh, New York, to purchase at the rate of ten cents (\$0.10) per 100 cubic feet, an amount not to exceed a total of five hundred million (500,000,000) gallons of water from the Catskill Reservoir."

Prior to the adoption of this resolution, Mr. Nelson P. Lewis, Chief Engineer of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment had made an examination concerning the proposition to furnish water to the City of Newburgh, and in a report to the Board, dated September 29, 1917, stated that expert engineers were then making an investigation as to the best method of increasing Newburgh's water supply, but that, while this investigation was in progress, the needs of the city were dangerously near its available supply, notwithstanding the fact that the use of water was being restricted in every possible way. The report further stated that arrangements could be conveniently made for discharging water from the aqueduct through a blow-off valve on the Washington Square Syphon into Silver Stream, which feeds the Newburgh

Reservoir, that this could be done without diminishing the available amount of water which could be delivered into Kensico Reservoir for the use of The City of New York, and that the sale of this water would be a clear financial gain to the City.

The petition of the City Manager of Newburgh, heretofore referred to, states that plans and estimates are now being prepared for the purpose of hastening the proposition for enlarging that city's present source of water supply, but that it will be physically impossible to receive any benefit from the new source for at least eighteen months. As the present contract with The City of New York terminates October 15, 1918, the City of Newburgh desires to enter into another contract, under terms and conditions similar to the present one, for the further period of one year from that date, in order that it may be able to obtain water with which to meet necessary demands in the event of its own supply proving inadequate. Commissioner Hayes states that the City of Newburgh has so far obtained about 250,000,000 gallons on which the revenue to The City of New York has been approximately \$34,000, and I am further advised that all bills so far rendered for the water furnished have been paid. The Commissioner's letter of April 4, 1918, attached, contains the statement that:

"The furnishing for a further period of one year of an amount of water not in excess of the stipulated quantity covered by the existing agreement will not in any manner curtail the supply to the residents of New York City."

Submitted herewith is a form of resolution which, if adopted by your Board, will authorize the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity to furnish the City of Newburgh with not to exceed 500,000,000 gallons of water during the year commencing October 15, 1918, in the event of an emergency established to his satisfaction, at the same rate (10 cents per 100 cubic feet), as under the present contract which terminates on that date. It is made a condition, in the resolution, that the water shall be furnished under a contract approved by the Corporation Counsel.

Yours very truly,

CHARLES L. CRAIG, Comptroller.

The following resolution was offered:

Resolved, That the Board of Estimate and Apportionment hereby authorizes the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, in the event of an emergency established to the satisfaction of the said Commissioner, to permit the City of Newburgh, N. Y., for the period of one year, beginning with October 15, 1918, to purchase at the rate of ten cents (\$0.10) per 100 cubic feet, an amount not to exceed a total of five hundred million (500,000,000) gallons of water from the Catskill Reservoir, the water to be furnished under a contract with the City of Newburgh, which shall have been approved by the Corporation Counsel of The City of New York.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

Affirmative—The Mayor, the Comptroller, the President of the Board of Aldermen, the Presidents of the Boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn and The Bronx, the Acting President of the Borough of Queens, and the President of the Borough of Richmond—16.

#### **Department of Street Cleaning—Transfer of Appropriation (Cal. No. 21).**

(On May 3, 1918 (Cal. No. 100-A), this matter was referred to the Comptroller.)

The Secretary presented a communication, dated April 17, 1918, from the Commissioner of Street Cleaning, requesting a transfer of funds within appropriation; and the following report of the Comptroller:

May 10, 1918.

*To the Board of Estimate and Apportionment:*

Gentlemen—The Commissioner of Street Cleaning, under date of April 17, 1918, applied for the transfer of \$8,100 from Code 2368—1918, Contract or Open Order Service, Hire of Horses, Vehicles or Motor Trucks with Drivers, to Code 2377—1918, Contract or Open Order Service, Transportation, Hire of Horses and Vehicles without Drivers. This communication, Calendar No. 100-A, of May 3, was referred to the Comptroller for report. The facts on which the request is based follow:

During the year 1917 a contract was entered into for 34 motor tractors and 38 trailers, to be delivered January 1, 1918. This new motor equipment was to be used on the west side of Manhattan in the 9th and 11th street cleaning districts. The equipment was not delivered as agreed and it became necessary to hire horses at \$1.50 per day to remove ashes, etc. The hire of horses is payable from Code 2377. The departmental estimate for this code was for 3,220 horse days at \$1.50, \$4,830, which was reduced in the 1918 budget to \$4,512. Liabilities against this account to April 1st amounted to \$12,319.50, making an over incumbrance as of that date of \$7,807.50,