

PROCEEDINGS

OF

THE COMMON COUNCIL,

OF THE

CITY OF ROCHESTER,

FOR 1860--61.

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ROCHESTER:

STEAM PRESS OF A. STRONG & CO., DEMOCRAT AND AMERICAN OFFICE.

1860.

Goetzman, Seward, Moore, Stone, Lutes, Angevine, Shelton, Vose, Mason, Schafer, Cushing, Barry.

Absent—Ald. Brackett, Hollister, Waring, Palmer.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

#### PETITIONS AND CLAIMS.

By Ald. Butler—Bill of R. A. Hall. Fire Department Committee.

By Ald. Buell—Bills of A. Strong & Co., C. D. Tracy & Co., Adolph Nolte, L. Malling, Alex. Allen, R. F. Gray. Contingent Expense Committee.

By Ald. Hebard—Bill of Owen Morgan, C. Harper; estimates of Whitmore, Carson & Co., I. Holloway; remonstrance of tax payers on Frank street. Improvement Committee. Bills of Health Inspectors. Finance Committee. Petition of citizens of 2d district, 6th ward. Table. Of B. E. McAlpine and others. Sewer Com.

By Ald. Goetzman—Petition of residents of 6th ward for a market stall to Geo. Ihrig. Market Committee.

By Ald. Seward—Bill of E. B. Booth. City Property Committee.

By Ald. Moore—Petition of Henry Closs. Wood Building Committee.

By Ald. Stone—Bills of E. W. Bryan, Geo. Darling, C. Backus, J. Howe, T. E. Scrantom, Law & Horton, C. V. Jeffries, S. S. Pellet, J. Butterfield, Dr. M. L. Voburg, H. Bender & Co., D. W. Allen, B. O'Reilly. Poor Com.

By Ald. Lutes—Petition of J. W. Davis. Wood Building Committee.

By Ald. Angevine—Bill of O. Morgan. Com. on Opening Streets. Memorial of the Water Works Co., asking the city to fix the terms upon which it will contract with the Company for a supply of water for public purposes. Water Works Committee.

By Ald. Vose—Bill of Wm. Corris & Co. Improvement Committee.

By Ald. Shelton—Bills of Wm. Whitehare, P. Quin, F. Mosier; estimate of John Gebling, D. McGary, assignee, E. Watson. Sewer Committee.—Petition of D. Marsh. Water Works Committee.

By Ald. Mason—Bills of L. T. Goodrich, J. Strecker, and of Policemen's wages. Police Committee.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

By Ald. Stone, from Poor Com., favorably on bills of C. Backus, T. E. Scrantom, E. W. Bryan, S. S. Pellet, J. E. Butterfield, Law & Horton, J. Howe, G. Darling, C. V. Jeffries, D. W. Allen, H. Bender & Co., B. O'Reilly. Finance Com.

By Ald. Buell, from Contingent Expense Com., favorably on bills of H. B. Knapp, A. Strong & Co., C. D. Tracy & Co., A. Nolte, L. Malling, R. F. Gray, Alex. Allen. Finance Com.

By Ald. Hebard, from Improvement Com., favorably on bills of Owen Morgan, and C. H. Harper, estimates of Whitmore, Carson & Co., I. Holloway. Finance Com.

By Ald. Butler, from Fire Department Com., favorably on bills of Chas. Greene, Engine Co. No. 2, Geo. Arnold, N. Aylesworth. Finance Com.

Also, favorably on petition of Fire Co. No. 4, for change of location for their engine house, recommending that it be located on Buffalo street, near the Genesee Valley Canal.

#### RESERVOIR IN SIXTH WARD.

Also, on petition of R. Schlitzer and others, for a reservoir in Andrews street, recommending that a reservoir be built in Clinton street, front of school

house No. 10, where it may receive the rain water collected from the roof of that building.

#### ALARM BELL IN 12TH WARD.

Also on petition of Engine Co. No. 8, and citizens of the 7th and 12th wards, for an alarm bell, recommending that a bell costing not to exceed \$75 be placed upon engine house No. 8.

By Ald. Mason, from Police Com., favorably on bills of L. T. Goodrich, Jacob Strecker, and Policemen's wages for September. Finance Com.

By Ald. Angevine—From Committee on Opening Streets, favorably on bill of O. Morgan.—Finance Committee. Also, Report of City Superintendent for September. Filed.

By Ald. Shelton—From Sewer Committee, favorably on bills of Wm. Whitehare and F. Mosier, estimate of E. Watson and John Gebling. Finance Com.

#### WATER WORKS FOR THE CITY.

Also, from the Water Works Committee, the following Report:

*To the Honorable the Common Council of the City of Rochester:*

The Select Committee in charge of the subject of Water Works, beg leave respectfully to report: That the survey and estimates, directed by the Common Council, have been made, and the report of the Engineer, Daniel Marsh, printed; and that the Committee with much satisfaction now submit the report to the Board, complete.

The Committee would state in the outset, that they have given such examination to the report as time would permit, and feel the utmost confidence that all the sources of supply of water, and every question bearing upon the subject, have been considered and examined with great care by the Engineer, and that the results attained in the report may be relied upon to the fullest extent.

Five distinct plans are presented in the report, with all the material facts bearing upon each, viz:

1.—By elevating water from Lake Ontario, by steam power.

2.—By elevating water from the Genesee River, at the Rapids, south of the city.

3.—By collecting the rain-fall upon the sources of Little Black Creek, into a reservoir near its mouth, conducting it thence to a point at or near the Rapids, and there elevating it by pumping.

4.—By taking water from the outlet of Honeoye Lake, near Smithtown, Monroe county, in a 20 inch pipe, to a receiving reservoir.

5.—By taking water directly from Hemlock Lake, in a 16 inch pipe, to a distributing reservoir.

The first three are plans for elevating the water by steam power, or, in the last one, by water, and will necessarily be more expensive than either the fourth or fifth one.

Three kinds of pipe are presented for consideration, with the principal considerations connected with each, viz: 1. Iron Pipe. 2. Cement Pipe, with a frame of sheet-iron. 3. Banded Wood Pipe, laid in cement; and the comparative cost of each is presented. The first is the most expensive, the last the least so. Facts going to show the strength, durability and fitness of each, are fully presented, from which the Board can readily form an opinion on all those points.

These various plans embrace a reservoir at a point on the elevated ridge of land east of Mount Hope, from which the water would be distributed through the city.

An Engine House forms a part of the estimate in the first three plans, but not in the others.

In the fifth plan, the water would be that of

Hemlock Lake, which is so elevated that the descent of the water by force of gravitation would bring it, in sufficient quantities, to the distributing reservoir; the supply being ample and unailing, and of the softest and purest description.

By the fourth plan the water would be essentially of the same character, being that of Hemlock, Honeoye and Canadice Lakes, taken from the outlet stream, at a point above the strata of limestone which predominates over the lower part of the route.

Some distance and some expense would thus be saved, and yet the quality of the water be preserved. Subsiding and storing reservoirs would be constructed at the Mendon ponds, using the ponds for that purpose by elevating their banks at certain points, and thus the pure and soft waters of those ponds be made available, in addition to those of the outlet or lakes; or Hemlock Lake be used as a reservoir, with either of those plans.

The distributing reservoir near Mount Hope would probably give a fall from that point of nearly 100 feet in the central part of the city, which would be somewhat less in the upper and more elevated portions, and would be increased in the northern and lower portions of the city. By either of these plans the water would be available for all internal or domestic purposes, in the most elevated buildings, and for the extinguishment of fires, and all external purposes, without the use of any force power.

The plans for distribution through the city, embrace one crossing of the Genesee river, with mains, and three crossings of the canals. The estimate is for two mains of twelve inches diameter, from the distributing reservoir, along South Avenue to the canal, and across the river and along Plymouth Avenue. From these, other pipes of smaller diameter would conduct it to the different points to be supplied; one of the mains being used to conduct it to the elevated parts of the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth and tenth wards, which by their elevated surface make necessary separate mains from the distributing reservoir.

The committee feel assured that upon one or the other of these plans the city of Rochester can be economically supplied with an abundance of that element which is so necessary to the preservation of health, the promotion of the industry, convenience and comfort of the inhabitants, and the protection of their property from destruction by fire.

The only remaining question is, whether sufficient means can be obtained for the construction of such expensive works. It has been proposed that the city should dispose of the railroad stocks held by it, and invest the proceeds in aid of this enterprise. This is a question for the consideration of the Board. Another method suggested is, that the works be constructed by private enterprise alone, and the city pay the Company an annual sum for the use of the water, from the fund raised by annual assessment.

While it is uncertain what the stock might bring in the market, this second method has an advantage in the fact that under it the sum to be fixed upon would be graduated to the exact or probable amount of water to be required annually, furnished through at least two hundred hydrants, and more if necessary, for public uses, and would be fixed, known and certain. By the other method the amount would be uncertain, and the contingent liability of the city dependent on the profitable construction and management of the works.

The report embraces much important and

valuable information, with full tables respecting the construction, cost and material of water works in other cities, embracing also the question of income, from reliable sources, which will enable not only the Common Council but our own citizens and others to decide upon all these subjects, so as to determine what ought to be their action. If the means can be raised by individual enterprise for constructing the work, without a subscription to the stock by the city, it is better in our judgment. The effort can at least be made. If it fails, it will then be still in time to decide whether the Board will dispose of the stock in question and apply the proceeds to the water works.

In order to determine the amount of probable income, the engineer has appended tables showing the cost, expenses, population and income of works in other cities, from which it results that the usual income from private consumption is about \$1 per individual in the whole population. As the population of our city is forty-eight thousand and over, and is likely to increase to fifty thousand by the time the work would be fully completed, an income of \$50,000 from private consumption, may be reasonably anticipated. If there should be added to this a sufficient yearly rate, payable by the city, for water for general consumption in the streets, public squares, and parks, and public buildings, and extinguishment of fires, with something from county for water for the county buildings, and from managers of the House of Refuge, and the Railroads, it seems probable a sufficient income would be realised in one or two years after the work were in operation, to pay ordinary interest on the cost of construction, upon one of the least expensive of the five plans, and within four or five years to pay handsome dividends to stockholders. We do not wish to be too sanguine, and therefore speak reservedly, as it must be borne in mind that for the first year or two it is not by any means probable that the entire population would become consumers. The progress of family consumption would be slow and gradual, increasing year by year. It would therefore become necessary for the city, as a corporate body, to pay a liberal sum for its general consumption, from the outset.

This sum would be saved, in great part, to the individual citizens who would pay the taxes, in the decreased destruction of property by fires, the decrease of sickness and its consequent expenses, the diminution of the rates of insurance, the lessening of the necessity for large insurances, the decrease of private expenses for taxes, wells, cisterns and water conduits, and by lessening the public expense for maintenance and repairs of engines and hose necessary for extinguishing fires.

A computation of these various expenses would show what sum the city could afford to pay annually for the use of water, and still save money.

It is therefore in our judgment advisable that the Common Council, acting in promotion of both the public and private interest of the inhabitants of Rochester, should not only give its sanction to the enterprise, but promote it by a liberal annual payment, and every other means in its power.

The Committee respectfully offer the subjoined resolution:

Resolved, That the Fire Department Committee and the Improvement Committee, together with the Chief Engineer, and City Surveyor, be associated with the Committee on Water Works, and that they be authorized to inquire into and arrange a preliminary plan and estimate of the quantity of

hydrants, &c., required, and the reservoirs, fountains, &c., desirable, in their opinion, with the extent of territory to which the water should be immediately distributed, and lay the same before the Common Council at as early a day as may be convenient.

GEO. SHELTON,  
N. C. BRADSTREET,  
JOHN LUTES,  
P. BARRY,  
H. D. SCRANTON,

Committee.

Ald. Stone moved that the Finance Committee be added to the above Committee. Agreed to.  
The Resolution was then agreed to.

#### COMMUNICATIONS.

The Clerk presented a communication from the Chief Engineer, recommending the passage of an ordinance designating Badges to be worn by Firemen.

The Report of the Overseer of the Poor for September was presented. No. of families 176.—Amount expended \$292,70. Less for County and Towns \$32,28. Filed.

#### ASSESSMENTS.

Ald. Hebard presented the assessment roll for construction of a cross walk on Buffalo street, at the intersection of State street, and opportunity having been heard thereon, the same was confirmed by the following vote:

Yeas—Ald. Holmes, Butler, Woodbury, Buell, Hebard, Bradstreet, Longmuir, Stearns, Goetzman, Seward, Moore, Stone, Lutes, Angevine, Shelton, Vose, Mason, Schafer, Cushing, Barry—20.

Ald. Hebard presented the assessment rolls for the improvement of Andrews street, and that for plank walks on Madison street, and moved that the same be postponed till the last regular meeting in March, 1861. Agreed to.

Ald. Hebard presented the assessment rolls for constructing plank walks on East street and on Stillson street, and moved that the same be postponed till the next regular meeting. Agreed to.

Ald. Butler presented the re-assessment roll for the laying of water pipes in Exchange and State Streets, and appeals having been heard thereon, the same was confirmed, by the following vote:

Yeas—Ald. Butler, Woodbury, Buell, Hebard, Bradstreet, Longmuir, Stearns, Goetzman, Seward, Moore, Stone, Lutes, Angevine, Shelton, Vose, Cushing, Barry—17.

Nay—Ald. Holmes—1.

Ald. Angevine presented the assessment roll for the widening of Stephen's Alley, and appeals having been again heard, the question of the confirmation thereof was postponed till the next regular meeting.

On motion of Ald. Hebard, Thursday evening Oct. 16th, was fixed as the time when the Common Council will hear appeals from the assessment roll for the improvement of North Clinton street, from Main street to Andrews street, the same having been duly returned and filed in the Clerk's office.

#### ACTION UPON ORDINANCES.

Ald. Hebard presented the final ordinance for Plank Walk on Frank street, from Platt to Brown streets, and moved that the same be indefinitely postponed. Agreed to.

Ald. Hebard presented the final ordinance for the improvement of Plymouth Avenue, from Buffalo street to Spring street, and moved that the

same be postponed until the last regular meeting in March, 1861. Agreed to.

Ald. Hebard presented the final ordinance for a Plank Walk on Julia street, and allegations having been heard, moved its postponement until the next regular meeting. Agreed to.

Ald. Hebard presented the final ordinance for a Side Walk on South Clinton street, and moved that the same be postponed till the next regular meeting. Agreed to.

#### EXTENSION OF GEORGE STREET.

Ald. Angevine presented the final ordinance for the extension of George street, and allegations having been heard thereon,

Ald. Angevine moved that the ordinance be postponed till the next regular meeting.

Ald. Holmes moved to amend, by postponing indefinitely. Lost; yeas 5—Ald. Holmes, Butler, Goetzman, Lutes and Vose; nays 13.

Ald. Angevine's motion was agreed to, amended by Ald. Butler, so that allegations may be heard on the next consideration of the subject.

#### EXTENSION OF ORCHARD STREET.

Ald. Angevine presented the final ordinance for the extension of Orchard street.

Ald. Lutes moved that the same be postponed till the next regular meeting. Agreed to.

#### SOUTH LINE OF MAIN STREET.

Ald. Angevine presented the final ordinance for the widening of Main street, and moved that the same be postponed till the next regular meeting. Agreed to.

#### PLANK WALK ON FRANK STREET.

On motion of Ald. Hebard, the Board proceeded to hear allegations in relation to the improvement described in the ordinance below.

After hearing such allegations from all persons appearing, Ald. Shelton submitted the following:

AN ORDINANCE to lay a plank walk on Frank street, from Lyell street to Ambrose street.

The common council of the city of Rochester do ordain and determine as follows:

A plank sidewalk five feet in width, shall be constructed on the east side of Frank street, from Lyell street to Ambrose street, and a suitable number of crosswalks shall be constructed therein.

And the whole expense shall be defrayed by an assessment upon the owners and occupants of houses and lands to be benefited thereby, and the city Surveyor, under the direction of this Board, having made an estimate of such expense, and reported the same at \$225 00, which estimate was and is hereby approved. The sum of \$225 00, being the whole amount of the estimate aforesaid, shall be assessed on such owners and occupants. And the portion of said city which said common council deem will be benefited by said improvement is described as follows:

One tier of lot on the east side of Frank street, from Lyell street to Ambrose street.

On which above described portion of the city the said sum of \$225 is hereby ordered to be assessed.

And David McKay, Francis Dana and Jared Coleman, the Assessors of said city, not interested in any of the property so benefitted, and not of kin to any person so interested, are hereby designated and directed to make an assessment upon all the owners and occupants of lands and houses within the portion or part of said city, so designated, of the said amount of expense, in proportion, as nearly as may be, to the advantage which each shall be deemed to acquire by the making of said improvement; and said Assessors are hereby notified to meet for this purpose, on Friday, the 3th day of October, 1860, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, at the office of the city clerk.

Passed by the following vote:

Yeas—Ald. Holmes, Butler, Woodbury, Buell, Hebard, Bradstreet, Longmuir, Stearns, Goetzman, Seward, Moore, Stone, Lutes, Angevine, Shelton, Vose, Mason, Schafer, Cushing, Barry—20.

Nays—None.

#### IMPROVEMENT OF STATE ST. AT DEEP HOLLOW.

On motion of Ald. Hebard, the Board proceeded to hear allegations in relation to the improvement described in the ordinance below.

After hearing such allegations from all the persons appearing, Ald. Hebard submitted the following:

AN ORDINANCE to improve State street, from Brisbane street to Rowe street.