Regular Meeting Thursday February 4th 1897

Council Chamber City Hall El Paso Texas Thursday Feb 4th 1897.

The City Council met in regular session on the above date; Mayor Campbell present and presiding and Aldermen Coldwell, Del=Buono, Kachler, O'Keeffe, Roberts, Stewart and Whitmore, present and Alderman Clifford excused.

The minutes of regular meeting of January 28th 1897 was read and on motion duly seconded and carried, was approved as read.

Reports of City Officers.

A & C's report

The Clerk presented and read the regular monthly report of the Assessor and Collector for the month of January 1897 showing total amount of taxes collected from all sources during the month $4,639.70 and credited by City Treasurer's receipts attached.

On motion the report was referred to the Taxation Committee.

Funding Indebtedness of the City

The City Attorney stated that if the city desired to fund its indebtedness, it would first have to repeal the Ordinance authorizing the issuance of the El Paso City Water Works Bonds, in order that the issuance of bonds would not exceed the amount authorized by the City Charter.

The Matter was on motion referred to the Finance Com=mittee for a report.

Report of Finance Committee.

Bills Allowed

E P G E L & P Co	For 49 arc lights for January 1897	General	612 50
El Paso Water Co.	" Water to City	"	469 56
Fassett & Kelly	" supplies to "Fire Dept"	"	70 95
Hotel Dieu	" nursing sick for city 66 days @ 1.00	"	66 00
Mrs Wagoner	" 395 meals to City prisoners Jan/97	"	59 25
Hulls printing house	" work done for A & C's office	"	23 75
Daily Herald	" Blanks to Recorders Court	"	23 13
Fassett & Kelly	" supplies to city	"	15 20
M J McKilligan	" Typewriting and fixing Salaries	"	2 45
W H Tuttle	" putting in window glass	"	5 00
Morning Telegraph	" printing notice for Chief Police	"	2 20
C C Kiefer	" supplies c/o election School Trustees	"	4 38
Rio Grand Pharmacy	" drugs c/o Charity	Special	62 85
R Duran	" 6 days work on Sts	St Imp	6 00
Juan Ochoa	" 6 " " " Plaza	"	6 00
H Solomon	" 2 teams sprinkling & extra 5 days wagon	St Maint	125 00
Fassett & Kelly	" supplies to St Com'r	"	2 10
T H Bennett	" work done for St Com'r	St Imp	2 65
W A Irvin	" 1 Box rubber bands Clks office	Contingent	35
	Total		1,559 32

Moved and seconded the bills be allowed and

that warrants be drawn to cover as specified.
The motion was carried.

The bills of the gas Co for gas to city for January 1897 $44.50 and for gas jet under Fire Engine for $24.40 were on motion referred to the Fire and Water Committee for investigation.

Telegram Bills — Bills of the Morning Telegram for printing citations in several delinquent tax suits amounting to $193.85 were presented and on motion referred to the City Attorney for written report on.

Fire & Water. Com.

Fire Dept — Chairman Roberts of the Fire and Water Committee reported that his committee had accepted the bid of Emmerson and Berrien to furnish six folding beds for the use of the Fire Dept employees. at $19.00 each, the bed to be of iron and same as cut shown in the bid.

Moved and seconded the action of the Fire and Water Committee be approved.
The motion was carried.

Communications etc.

The following communication was read:

School Board — W T Kitchens City Clerk

El Paso Texas, Dear Sir:

At a regular meeting of the El Paso School Board held this day, I was ordered by said School Board to notify the Hon. City Council that their tender of property on Utah Street, of Dec 11th 1896, in payment in full of all indebted=ness of said City Council to said School Board, was refused, but that the School Board is perfectly willing for the City Council to sell the property and pay the proceeds to the School Board, and will accept it in part payment for amount due this Board.

Respectfully
E C Pew
Sec'y

Moved and seconded that the communication be received and filed.
The motion was carried.

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The following petition was read;

E. H. Dunn rel to taxes

Gentlemen; Your delinquent tax list shows taxes of $2.82 for the year 1889 on lot 8 in block 230 Campbells addition to the city, assessed to unknown owner and owned by E H Dunn, I hold reciept for these taxes from J F Merrill assessor and Collector dated March 20th 1890.

I would respectfully request that you authorize the cancellation of the same on your tax books and the dismissal of the suits pending for the same.

Respectfully
W. N. Small agt for
E H Dunn.

We have examined same and find same to be as stated above.

J H Smith
Assessor and Collector

Moved and seconded that the petition be granted and that the Assessor and Collector and City Attorney be instructed to act in accordance herewith The motion was carried.

Idaho Street

A petition from Campbell Real Estate Company and El Paso Real Estate Company signed by A P Coles agent, asking that the name of "Idaho" Street east of Oregon Street be abandoned and the same be made the "Boulevard" also a petition from the El Paso Real Estate Company and the "El Paso Building and Real Estate Company, signed by A. P. Coles agent asking that the name of "Myrtle" Street be changed to "Myrtle Avenue" were read and on motion referred to the committee on Streets and Grades.

Myrtle Street

A number of bids to furnish to the city one car load of Sewer pipe were opened and read and on motion referred to the Street and Grades committee, Sewer commission and City Engineer.

Unfinished Business.

Saleries rel to

The Clerk presented the Ordinance fixing Salaries of city Officers and employees, which was laid over from regular meeting of January 28th 1897.

The Mayor requested that the following

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Communication be read;

Hon R F Campbell

Mayor El Paso Texas

Board of Health Com'n from

Dear Sir; your esteemed favor of the second instant, is at hand.

The office of "City Physician I consider exceedingly important, as the health of the community may at any time be placed in jeopardy if the office is not in capable hands. Therefore I consider that the office should at all times be in possession of a thoroughly capable and scientific man, and while the true physician at all times willingly gives of his time and abilities for the public weal, I think the community, in its corporate capacity, should not require special services from an appointed medical officer, without reasonable compensation for the importance of the services performed.

In answer therefore to your direct question: "What is your opinion of the worth of the services of the City Physician?" I will reply that, being at least equal in importance to any office within the gift of the city, and requiring for its occupant abilities and special training of a high order I consider it beneath the dignity of the city to pay for such services a less fee than that paid to any of the City officers

Respectfully
W A Vilas M.D.
President Board of Health
for the City of El Paso

Salary Ord'nce rejected

Alderman Whitmore moved the adoption of the Ordinance.

Alderman O'Keeffe moved as an amendment that the Ordinance be taken up section by section and read. The amendment was carried The clerk then proceeded to read the Ordinance by sections. After considerable discussion, and the agreement to several amendments, Alderman Whitmore moved that the Ordinance be adopted

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as read and amended, The motion was second=
=ed by alderman Del Buono.

The vote was taken on the motion by roll call and resulted as follows, to wit: Ayes, Alderman Del Buono, Stewart, and Whitmore (3). Nays Alderman Coldwell, Kachlen, O'Keeffe, and Roberts. (4) Alderman Clifford absent and excused.

The Mayor declared the motion lost and the Ordinance rejected.

Moved and seconded that the council do now adjourn to meet Friday February 5th 1897 at 7.30 P.M. The motion was carried and council then adjourned.

Attest
W. T. Kitchens
City Clerk

Approved
W. H. Campbell
Mayor

Adjourned ~~Regular Meeting~~ Friday February 5th 1897

Council Chamber City Hall El Paso Texas
Friday February 5th 1897

The city Council met in adjourned regular session on the above date Mayor Campbell present and presiding and Aldermen Coldwell, Del Buono, Kachler O'Keeffe, Roberts, Stewart and Whitmore present and Alderman Clifford absent.

Tax Levy 1896 & School tax Levy 1883

Mayor Campbell stated that the object of the meeting was to discuss matters relating to the tax levy for the year 1896. also to discuss matters pertaining to an election held on March 31st 1883 for the purpose of levying a tax not to exceed one half of one per cent for the purpose of maintaining Public Free schools for ten months the year.

It was stated that there was an error in the minutes of the City Council of a regular meeting held on April the 4th 1883 (see book "D" page 210) in canvassing the returns of an election held March 31st 1883. in this, that the resolution passed by City Council at a regular meeting held on the 19th day of March 1883 calling said election (see Book "D" page 202) the said resolution read "Not to exceed one half of one per cent", and the resolution declaring the result of said election read "To levy a tax of one half of one per cent" when it should read "to levy a tax not to exceed one half of one per cent. but that the original returns of said election had been found and were in the hands of the City Clerk. said returns showed as follows, to wit

Exact copy Original Election returns of School tax Levy Mar 31st 1883

"Election for First Ward City of El Paso Texas for or against a School tax of 1/2 of 1 per ct

Poll list and tally sheet March 31st 1883 (showing total votes cast 32) (by the clerk)

For the tax of 1/2 of 1 per cent — 28 votes

Against tax — 4 votes

We certify the above list to be correct

attest Wm J Vanstan } clerks — F P Clark } judges
Alex Myers } — J P Dieter }

Adjourned Regular Meeting Friday February 5th 1897

The Poll list and tally sheet for said election in the Second ward, as follows to wit:

"Tally list of 2d Ward of the election held for the purpose of determining whether a tax not exceeding one half of one per cent be levied to maintain Public Schools for ten months during the year in the city of El Paso Texas, March 31st 1883 (Showing 68 votes cast - Clk)

For the tax ——— 64 votes ———

against " " ——— 4 votes ———

We the undersigned Clerks of Election held in the second ward of the City of El Paso State of Texas this 31st day of March A D 1883 for the purpose of voting upon the School Tax question, hereby certify that we have counted the votes according to Law and find that sixty four (64) votes were polled in favor of said tax, and Four (4) votes were polled against said tax and that the foregoing is a correct tally list.

Clerks.

F W Merrick

S H Newman

Clerks

We the undersigned Judges certify that the above returns are correct.

W A Irvin

C T Jackson

The Third ward returns were as follows to wit:

We hereby certify that at the Special election held in the city of El Paso Texas on the 31st day of March 1883 to vote upon a tax levy for School purposes, There was cast in the Third Ward for such a tax not exceeding one half of one percent, Fifty Two, votes.

Against ——— none ———

J. List (Manager)

S. H. Buchanan } Judges

A E Willard } do

Jno B Watkins Clerk

Ovid M Summer do

adjourned Regular Meeting Friday February 5th 1897

In the matter of the tax levy for the year 1896 it was decided to lay the business over until the next regular meeting Thursday February 11th 1897

Alderman Stewart presented and read a resolution amending the city charter, so as to abolish the offices of the city Engineer and the city Recorder of the city of El Paso. To make the Mayor also Recorder of the city and to confer upon the Mayor all the authority now vested in the city Recorder.

No action taken

There being no further business the Council then adjourned.

attest
W. T. Kilchens
City Clerk

approved
W. F. Campbell
Mayor

Regular Meeting Thursday February 11th 1897

Council Chamber City Hall El Paso, Texas Thursday Feb 11th 1897.

The City Council met in regular session on the above date Mayor Campbell present and presiding and All of the Aldermen present

The minutes of Regular Meeting of Feb 4th and adjourned regular meeting of Feb. 5th 1897 were read and after correction were ordered approved

Communication from the Mayor.

The Mayor presented the following:

El Paso Texas Feb 7th 1897

Board of Health resignation of Barnhart

To the Hon Mayor and Board of Aldermen
El Paso Texas

Gentlemen; I hereby tender to you my resignation as a member of the board of health for the City of El Paso.

Very Respectfully
H. B. Barnhart

Moved and seconded that the resignation of H. B. Barnhart as a member of the Board of Health be accepted. The motion was carried

The following communication was read by the Clerk:

To the Honorable City Council.

C. R. Morehead appointed member Board of Health

Gentlemen;
I have the honor to nominate Mr C. R. Morehead as a member of the Board of Health to succeed H. B. Barnhart resigned, and most respectfully ask confirmation of same by you

Respectfully
R. F. Campbell
Mayor

Moved and seconded that the appointment of C. R. Morehead as member of the Board of health vice H B Barnhart resigned, be approved and confirmed. The motion was carried

Reports of City Officers.

Sewer Commissioner McGlennon reported that Supt Martin of the Southern Pacific

Regular Meeting Thursday February 11th 1897

had notified him that his company had decided to put in a Sewer line of their own independent of the city Sewers and at their own expense, said line would run from their shops to the river.

Reports of Committees.

Streets & Grades.

Sewer pipe

Chairman O'Keeffe reported in the matter of bids for furnishing Sewer pipe to the City; that his committee had examined the different bids and had accepted the bid of G.H. Davis as follows, to wit;

F O B car in El Paso.

1000 feet 6 inch pipe 2 ft lengths (straight) 6¢ per foot
350 " 10 " " 2½ " " (") 19¢ " "
100 6"x4" Y's for thirty cents each

The pipe must be standard thoroughly vitrified on the inside, and smooth joints to fit properly, without any chipping.

Moved and seconded the report of the committee be approved, The motion was carried,

Finance.

Chairman Stewart of the above committee recommended the payment of the following bills:

Bills allowed

C G Sexton	For horse feed to Fire Department	General	74 65
Star Stables	" horse hire " Fire Dept 27 day at 1.00	"	27 00
Neill McMillan	" work done for Fire Dept	"	15 00
Morning Telegraph	" printing rules " " "	"	3 00
H F Bloom	" work done " " "	"	2 85
Buchanan & Powers	" " " " "	"	1 65
Henry Brilton	" " " " "	"	2 75
A R Albus	" kindling to " "	"	2 00
West Tex Saddlery Co	" supplies " " "	"	1 50
Frassitt & Kelly	" " " " "	"	1 00
Star Stables	" burying pauper for city	"	8 25
D McKenzie	" rent of City Hall for Feb 1897	"	125 00
Ramon Duran	" 6 days work on Sts	St Imp	6 00
Juan Ochoa	" 6 " " " Sewers	Sewer	6 00
W T Ketchum	" postage stamps for Mayors office	Contingent	1 00
Walter Pierce oil Co	" 10 gal oil to Fire Dept	"	1 30
Western Union Tel Co	" Tel c/o horses for Fire Dept	"	1 20
	Total		$318 15

Moved and seconded the bills be allowed and that Warrants be drawn as specified to cover. The motion was carried

Fire Dept horses bought

Chairman Stewart also presented a bill from The D R G & El P R R Co for cash paid out on two horses for Fire Department $250.00 and for freight on same $50.70/100 making a

total of $3007.70 and stated that there was $60.00 cash in the hands of the City Treasurer, received from the sale of the horse "Alex" and recommended that the said $60.00 cash be applied on this bill and that a warrant be drawn on the General Fund for $283.18 to raise the cash amount of $240.70 to cover the ballance of the bill. Moved and seconded that the recommendation of the Chairman of the Finance Committee be carried out. The Motion was carried. Chairman Stewart also presented the following report;

To the Hon Mayor and City Council
City of El Paso

Funding the City Indebtedness rel to

Gentlemen; The Finance Committee to whom was referred, at the regular meeting of the 4th inst., the question of Funding the City's debt, beg leave to report; First, that we do not consider it the proper thing to do at this time, for the reason that the City has several cases now in court against delinquent tax payers, and which will be brought to trial and decided before long. And if decided in the City's favor, then in all probability there will be quite an amount of delinquent taxes paid to the City soon thereafter, and if such should be the case the City would have enough money to meet its urgent demands, and it would not be necessary to fund the debt as contemplated. Therefore your Committee "wonders why" bonds should be issued at present

Respectfully
J J Stewart
Chairman

After some discussion it was moved and seconded that the matter be referred back to the Finance Committee to report upon a plan to fund or compromise the City's indebtedness. Vote on the Motion was taken by roll call and resulted as follows;

Regular Meeting Thursday February 11th 1897

Ayes Aldermen Coldwell, O'Keeffe, Roberts and Whitmore (4)

Nays Aldermen Clifford, Del Bruno, Kachler and Stewart (4)

There being a tie 4 votes for and 4 votes against the motion, the Mayor voted aye and declared the motion carried

Taxation.

A & C's report

Chairman Clifford of the above committee reported that his committee had examined and checked up the report of the Assessor and Collector for the month of January 1897 and found it to be correct, and recommended that the report be approved and filed

On motion it was so ordered.

Unfinished Business.

Tax Levy 1896

Alderman Stewart presented and read an ordinance to amend the ordinance levying taxes for the year 1896.

Moved and seconded the ordinance be laid on the table until the next regular meeting Thursday Feb 18th 1897

Vote on the motion was taken by roll call and resulted as follows

Ayes Aldermen Coldwell, Del Bruno, O'Keeffe and Roberts, (4)

Nays Aldermen, Clifford, Kachler, Stewart and Whitmore (4)

There being a tie 4 votes for and 4 votes against the motion, the Mayor voted aye, and declared the motion carried,

New Business.

Fire Dept Hose Wagon

The Chief of the Fire Department appeared before the council and stated that Hose Co No 2 was now ready to have their new hose wagon repainted that it would take about sixty days to have the work done, and that inasmuch as the old hose reel had been condemned by bothe the City Council and the Board of Directors of the Fire Dept

Regular Meeting Thursday February 11th 1897

he did not want to take the responsibility of placing it in use without the consent of the city council; he therefore asked for instructions in the matter.

Moved and seconded the matter be referred to the Fire and Water committee and the chief of the Fire Department with power to act. The motion was carried

Alderman Stewart stated that he was opposed to selling the Fire Dept horse "Badger" but thought it would be best to sell the two Black horses of the Hook and Ladder truck and buy a mate for "Badger", to replace them.

On motion the matter was referred to the Mayor and Chief of Fire Dept.

On motion Mayor Campbell was granted leave of absence for thirty days.

There being no further business the Council then adjourned

Attest
W T Kitchens
City Clerk

Approved
Edwin C Roberts
Acting — Mayor

Special Meeting Monday February 15th 1897

Council chamber City Hall El Paso Texas
Monday February 15th 1897

The city council met persuant to the following call: to wit

City Clerks office
El Paso Texas Feb 15th 1897

To James Clifford W M Coldwell, Frank Del Buono J F Kachler John O Keeffe E C Roberts J J Stewart and J L Whitmore Aldermen of the city of El Paso Texas.

Gentlemen; you and each of you are hereby notified that there will be a Special Meeting of the City Council of the city of El Paso at Council chamber of city Hall in said City at 2.30 oclock P.M. of this date (Feb 15th 1897) For the purpose of electing a Mayor Pro-tem to act as such during the absence of Mayor R F Campbell. now absent on leave for thirty days.

Respectfully
W T Kitchens
City Clerk

Seal

Roll call showed all of the aldermen present. On Motion Alderman Roberts took the chair.

E C Roberts Elected Mayor Pro tem

Moved and seconded that Alderman Roberts be elected acting Mayor during the absence of Mayor Campbell now absent on leave for thirty days.

The Motion was carried

There being no further business the council then adjourned.

Attest
W T Kitchens
City Clerk

approved
Edwin C Roberts
Acting Mayor