

CITY COUNCIL.

The City Council met in regular session December 17, Mayor Armstrong presiding.

A communication was received from B. G. Raybould, calling the attention of the council to the fact that several petitions had been presented to their predecessors in office concerning the bad condition of that part of West Temple Street lying between Fifth and Sixth South streets, and that on April 20, 1886, this street was ordered to be graded, but not an attempt had been made to carry out the instructions. The petition asks that the work be done at once, as teams were mired there every day, and he thought that if it was not done, the result would be a lawsuit against the city for damages.

The mayor stated that the supervisor had been instructed to fill it up when hauling gravel. Petition referred to the street supervisor.

Messrs. Moon and Twitchell petitioned for the privilege of covering up that part of the city canal which crosses lot 5, block 30, plat B, and also from said lot to the bridge on Fourth South Street. The same to be done by fixing and covering with soil so as to allow free passage of water. Referred to the committee on canal.

A communication was received from John White, a resident of Plain City, Weber County, stating that he had read in the papers that suit has been brought against the city by one Thomas R. Higgins to prevent the sale of a certain parcel of land upon the plea that he was the legal owner of said lot and further asked that a deed be made to him, Higgins. The petitioner protested against the issuance of such deed on the ground, first that he was a lawful owner; second, that he had never disposed of his right; third, that he held a certificate for said lot for twenty years, although it had passed from his hands by trickery and fraud, it being his supposition that said certificate was now in the hands of Higgins or some person in collusion with him; fourth, he claimed priority of possession by the building of a cabin, which had subsequently been stolen. The petitioner stated that he had been unfortunate and asked that equitable action be taken in the matter. Communication received and referred to the city attorney.

George Morris presented a petition setting forth that William Noye, in 1871, purchased from Salt Lake City lots 2 and 3, block 86, plat D, and received a certificate from the city surveyor to that effect. Afterward the land was sold to Matthew Morris, who left a widow. Mrs. Morris, it is alleged, was ignorant of the law and failed to make the proper entry and but this week learned that these lots had been sold at the auction sale of lots. The petition asked that the sale be rectified and a deed given to Sarah Morris. Petition received and referred to the city attorney.

Twelve liquor licenses were granted.

A petition was presented from

residents of Fourth South and Eleventh East, asking for an electric light to be placed at the intersection of the two streets. Referred to the committee on improvements.

I. M. Millsbaugh represented that in a mayor's deed given to N. C. Sorensen the document conveyed the east half of lot 3, block 6, plat B, when it should have been the north half, and therefore asked that the error be corrected. Referred to the city attorney.

The following communication from Jesse W. Fox, city surveyor, was read:

"I tender you my resignation as city surveyor, to take effect January 15, 1890. My reason for this action is that I cannot keep up the work and attend to other duties devolving upon me."

After some consideration action was deferred for one week.

The following communication was received from Mayor Armstrong:

I beg to call your attention to the fact that I have been arrested upon indictments made by the grand jury of this district, charging me with aiding and abetting in the misappropriation of public moneys, and while I am not advised as to the specific charges made against me, and will probably not ascertain until Saturday next, at which time I have been notified to appear for arraignment, I respectfully ask that a committee be appointed to investigate said charges, as I do not believe any man guilty of aiding and abetting in the misappropriation of public moneys to be worthy of the position of mayor of this city, or president of this council.

Alderman Riter moved that action be deferred for one week, owing to the fact that no specific charge had yet been made and it would be impossible for a committee to make an intelligent investigation.

Councilor Young said it was an important matter and he believed it should be investigated as early a date as possible.

After some further discussion it was decided to let the matter go over to the next meeting of the Council instead of one week, it being deemed advisable to hold an adjourned session in a few days.

The committee on improvements to whom was referred the petition of W. R. Everell and others and the Salt Lake Brewing Company and others asking that the electric light be extended so as to embrace Third Street on the north bench, also a lamp at the intersection of Fifth South and Tenth East streets, reported that while they would like to see the entire city well lighted they were compelled to recommend against further extension for reasons heretofore given.

Councilor Clark, in behalf of the committee, said that it had been the policy of this committee to refuse all such petitions for the reason that the electric light works were now running at their full capacity and could not furnish more lights at present.

Councilor Young—People in that part of town have said that we granted a petition for a light on the application of one man, and then refused a petition signed by 500.

Councilor Sowles—It was the first petition sent in that we granted, and we were soon so flooded with them that we were compelled to refuse all.

Alderman McCormick—I have been speaking with Councilor Clark on this topic and we decided to ask the mayor to go with us over the city and select suitable sites for new lights and then we could authorize the electric light company to add to their facilities.

The Mayor—I have been talking with the manager of the electric light company and he informs me that they anticipate increasing their facilities soon by the addition of a new dynamo.

Alderman Riter—I am strongly in favor of voting for additional lights. The lighting of the streets by electricity was one of the most important acts of the council. I therefore move that the committee on improvements be instructed to take steps in the matter.

Councilor Clark—I understand that the electric light company will be prepared to furnish forty more lights within thirty days.

Alderman McCormick asked if the telegraph company could not be compelled to remove their poles from South Temple Street, as they were a nuisance on account of obstructing the light from the electric street lamps. The matter was ordered investigated.

The finance committee reported the bids for city bonds had been opened, but in view of the fact that the recent land sale had brought more money than was expected, the committee recommended that the bonds be not sold. Report received and recommendation adopted.

The special committee to whom was referred the petition of Jesse W. Fox, Sr., and others proposing to return the amount paid by the city to the Hydraulic Canal Company in consideration of receiving a deed from Salt Lake County of an undivided one-sixth interest in the Jordan dam and the water of said river, provided the city would deed said one-sixth interest so acquired back again, reported that the matter had been carefully considered. They said:

While we are convinced that the transaction was made in good faith by all concerned, subsequent events have demonstrated that the interest in the water of the Jordan river so acquired by the city is uncertain and cannot be at present maintained by the city but by expensive litigation. We therefore recommend that the proposition of said Hydraulic Canal Company be accepted. We are not prepared to determine whether the deed conveying said interest should be made to Salt Lake County or to the Hydraulic Canal Company, and therefore leave this question to be determined by the Council, and when so determined we recommend that the city attorney be instructed to draft and present the necessary deed for the approval of the Council.

Mr. Dooley stated that inasmuch as there was a question about the city being able to maintain its interest to one-sixth of the waters husbanded by the Jordan dam, last conveyed by the county, it would