

January 6, 1902.

The Council met at 8 o'clock P.M. with the following members present: Mayor Shedd, Councilmen, Depue, Long, Longley, Lung, Mooers and Platt.

The minutes of the December meeting were read by the Clerk and approved.

The Mayor announced the presence of a delegation consisting of Mrs. Morris Bien, Mrs. E. B. Harrison, Mrs. R. H. Barnitz, Mrs. H. C. Bursley, and Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Shear who desired to be heard regarding certain needed improvements in their section of the Town.

The business of the Council was thereupon suspended and Mrs. Morris Bien, in behalf of the delegation, addressed the Council, calling attention to needed walks on Pine and Elm Avenues, the presence of weeds along the streets, the necessity of crossings at certain points, the disfiguration of the landscape by the removal of trees and the digging of sandbanks, the closeness of the fences to the sidewalks and the desirability of setting out shade trees upon the public streets. Mr. C. L. Shear briefly indorsed the remarks of Mrs. Bien and urged the Council to comply with the request of the delegation so far as it might find it possible to do so.

In connection with the same subject the Mayor presented a petition from Mrs. R. H. Barnitz requesting the construction of a board walk from her residence on Elm Avenue, west to Hickory Avenue.

The matters presented by the delegation were informally discussed at some length the Mayor assuring the ladies that careful consideration of their recommendations would be given and such relief afforded as the finances of the Town would allow.

The Council thereupon resumed its regular order of business.

On motion of Mr. Long, the chairman of the street committee was directed to construct a one-board walk from the residence of Mr. R. H. Barnitz on Elm Avenue west to the intersection of said Avenue with Hickory Ave., and to construct such crossings as are necessary.

The Mayor informed the Council of the advertising for bids for the issue of Ten Thousand Dollars additional water works and sewerage bonds, and that the only bid received was that of the Washington Loan and Trust Company for the entire issue at par.

On motion of Mr. Long the bid of the Washington Loan and Trust Company was accepted and all former action of the Council relative to the issue of said bonds was ratified.

The Treasurer submitted his regular monthly report as follows; and the same was accepted and ordered placed upon the records.

Takoma Park, Md., January 6, 1902.

Balance on hand last report	\$ 272.65
Received from taxes	196.92
Road tax, Montgomery County	<u>531.63</u>
	\$ 1001.20
By disbursements	<u>318.25</u>
Balance on hand	\$ 682.35

In submitting the above report I desire to present the following data for the information of the council:

Since July 1st there have been collected from taxes \$3,551.70 with a possible balance of uncollected taxes of \$1,700. Much of which is slow and will require enforcement of annual tax sale notices to collect; possibly \$1000 may be collected between now and April 1st.

Outstanding bills already approved by the Council which have not been paid for want of funds, amount to -- \$ 579.10

Interest on old bonds----- 60.00

Salaries of Clerk and Treasurer, not paid since September----- 60.00

Note due February 1st----- 500.00

Interest due Rosser & Castoe due January 14th----- 278.63

Making a total indebtedness of----- \$ 1477.73.

The total cost, so far as can be determined for labor and material in reconstructing the sewerage disposal field amounts to this date to \$1,322.33, which has taken this money from the funds of the Town and the amount should be made good from the proceeds of the new issue of bonds; there are also a few bills for pipe, etc., not yet paid that will probably aggregate \$150. more, by which it will be seen that the amount of the town's outstanding indebtedness of \$1,477.73 is about equal to the funds of the town expended in reconstructing the sewerage field. (\$1472.33.)

I have no recommendation to make, but incidentally state that with the stone crusher and pulley yet to pay for and running expenses of the town to the end of the fiscal year, no very great expenditures should be authorized.

GEORGE A. WARREN, Treasurer.

The Finance Committee reported as follows:

January 6, 1902

To the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.

Gentlemen: The Finance Committee has to report that they have carefully examined the following bills and accounts submitted to the Committee for report. We have approved the following and recommend payment:

W. J. Giddings	\$ 46.98	Wash. Evening Star, Advertising	\$ 7.56
A. B. Burrows, Alcohol	4.45	Contingent expenses	4.95
W. S. Jenks, Oil Tank	5.00	B. G. Davis, Engraving bond	10.00
T. P. Moore, Printing	6.00	A. B. Graham, Photo-lithographing bond	8.00
J. W. Hodges	2.00	S. S. Shedd & Bros. Valves, etc.	<u>60.48</u>
G. L. Tarbel, Oil and Gasoline	<u>126.50</u>		\$ 281.92

W. G. PLATT.
JAS. K. DEPUE.
HORACE J. LONG. } Committee.

On motion of Mr. Long the report of the Committee was adopted and payment of the bills recommended ordered.

The Street Committee, through its Chairman, presented the following report:

Takoma Park, Md., January 6, 1902.

To the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to make the following report of the work done for the months of November and December, 1901. The work on the sewer farm has been pushed forward as fast as possible. There have been 2037 yards of dirt moved from the upper fields and deposited on the lower end of the farm, a distance of about 350 feet and graded to form the two lower benches. There were 2900 feet of drain tile taken up on the two upper fields and relaid on the lower fields with an addition of 400 new tiles. The laying of these tiles required ditching to an average depth of about two feet. After the tiles were laid and the fields (or benches) had been brought to the proper grade and levelled, surface drain ditches were made the length of the fields, parallel with each other, three feet apart. There were laid 585 feet of six-inch pipe with cement joints for main carrier; some of this ditching for the main carrier was through hard rock for quite a distance, and to a depth of from three to four feet making progress slow and expensive, but it could not be avoided. The course of the stream that ran through that portion of the field that is now the lower bench of the sewer farm, was changed by a narrow ditch being cut at the outer edge of the field. It was found necessary to widen the ditch in order to give more room for the water in time of heavy rains, to save overflow and washing away of the field. This was done and the dirt used on the field. The new tank is completed and is in good working order and the sewage has been turned on the lower field. On account of the freezing of the ground the two upper fields have not been surfaceditched. This, and some repairs to the bank along the creek, washouts being caused by the recent heavy rain, will have to be done after the ground thaws.

There is considerable work to be done on the streets. Washouts and settling of the dirt in the ditches of the sewer and water mains, also repairing street crossings and board walks. I wish to report that the recent rains have washed out several of the twenty-four-inch pipes forming drain under Buffalo Avenue, between Albany and Takoma Avenues, leaving a large and dangerous hole under the sidewalk and out into the street. The repairing of this piece of road has been a great expense to the town ever since the town was formed. In my opinion the most permanent and cheapest way in the end, is to build a stone culvert large enough to carry off the water that comes through this ravine. I would ask the Council to take some action in this matter.

I also recommend that the Committee on Streets be authorized to locate all cut-offs, blow-offs, and man-holes and raise the tops to the surface of the ground, so they will be easy of access. This matter is very necessary for in case there is a leak at fire hydrant, or a break in the water main the plumbing inspector and assistant should be familiar with the location of the cut-off so that the whole town may not be cut off from water for an indefinite time while making repairs. As it is now the most of them are under ground, varying in depth from six inches to two feet.

Respectfully,
F. W. LONGLEY,
L. M. MOOERS.

Mr. Platt moved that the report be received and placed upon the record. Carried.

Mr. Long moved that the chairman of the street committee be directed to have the drain under Buffalo Avenue, between Albany and Takoma Avenues, referred to in his report, replaced, setting the said drain nearer the surface should that be deemed the best plan for the prevention of future washouts. It was so ordered.

The Mayor presented a communication from Mr. John E. Hodgson, residing between Sligo and Flower Aves., requesting additional lamps in that neighborhood and the lighting of those already there. The Clerk was directed to inform Mr. Hodgson that the lamp-

lighter would be directed to see to the lighting of the lamps already located on Carroll Ave. but that it is impracticable at the present time to locate additional lamps in that vicinity.

The Clerk presented the following official copy of an order received from the Commissioners of the District of Columbia:

November 11, 1901.

Ordered: That the Inspector of Plumbing and the Health Officer, D.C., are hereby directed to confer with the Health Officer and the Inspector of Plumbing of Takoma Park, Md., for the purpose of considering the question of the utilization of the sewerage system of the town of Takoma Park, Maryland, for those portions of Takoma Park lying in the District of Columbia which are too low to connect with the public sewers of the District of Columbia.

Official copy furnished Mr. Ben G. Davis, Town Clerk, Takoma Park, Md.

By order:
(Sgd.) William Tindall, Secy. Board of Commissioners, D.C.

On motion of Mr. Platt the Clerk was instructed to acknowledge receipt of said order and to inform the Commissioners that the Inspector of Plumbing and the Health Officer of the Town of Takoma Park, Md., are ready to confer with the similar officials of the District of Columbia upon the questions involved at such time and place as may be suggested by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

Mr. L. M. Mooers, Health Officer, reported verbally that he had attended the meeting of the Maryland Public Health Association in session at Rockville on the 4th day of December, 1901; relative to the scarlet fever in the Park that there were thirteen cases; ^{one} several of typhoid, the origin of which was under investigation; that in response to the request of the Health Officer of the District of Columbia, he would hereafter notify that official of all cases of contagious disease in the town. Relative to the disinfecting of premises where contagion existed Mr. Mooers recommended that the necessary expenses of such disinfecting should be paid by the family where able, which recommendation was approved by the Council; also that the expense incurred by the town in the purchase of anti-toxine for indigent families residing in the county, outside the town limits, should be recovered from the county commissioners by the filing of physician's certificate, etc., and the Clerk, upon motion of Mr. Platt, was instructed to secure the necessary data and certificates and present the same to the county commissioners.

On motion of Mr. Platt the Street Committee was instructed to locate all cut-offs, blow-offs and manholes in connection with the water and sewerage system and to bring the same to proper levels.

Mr. J. H. Clark addressed the Council relative to certain alleged errors or discrepancies in the printed report of the

Town Treasurer. After extended discussion the Clerk was instructed, upon the receipt of a written statement from Mr. Clark presenting the points he desired more clearly shown, to refer such statement to the Auditors who had passed upon the Treasurer's accounts and to request of them a careful and detailed investigation of the points at issue.

There being no further business the Council, at 11:15 o'clock P.M., adjourned.

Sam Shedd
Mayor

Ben D. Davis Town Clerk.

Takoma Park, Md., February 3, 1902.

The Council met at 8:30 o'clock, P.M., with the following members present: Councilmen Depue, Long, Longley, Lung and Mooers.

Mayor Shedd and Councilman Platt were absent because of illness.

On motion of Mr. Depue, Mr. Mooers was unanimously elected Mayor pro tem and presided as such during the session.

The minutes of the January meeting were read by the Clerk, and with a slight correction, were approved.

The Finance Committee submitted the following report:

Takoma Park, Md. Feb. 3, 1902.

To the Mayor and Council: -

Gentlemen: The finance Committee has to report that they have carefully examined the following bills and accounts submitted to the Committee for report. We have approved the following and recommend payment:

A. Lamond, Pipe	\$ 56.65
A. Lamond, Pipe	36.75
Barber & Ross, Padlock for log cabin	1.50
W. H. Keene	.93
Springfield Gas Engine Co. Pulley	45.00
Good Roads Machine Co, Balance on Crusher	300.00

George E. Walker, Lumber	\$ 21.34
H.A. Pressy, Professional Services as Engineer	300.00
F. J. Lung	43.05
E.E. Blodgett, Box for fumigating apparatus	4.14
Total	<u>809.36</u>

HORACE J. LONG. } Committee.
JAMES K. DEPUÉ }

On motion of Mr. Long the report was adopted and payment of the bills ordered.

The Town Treasurer submitted receipts aggregating \$82.38, money advanced by him from private funds, to meet payment of weekly payrolls, the public funds being unavailable because of the illness of the Mayor.

Mr. Long moved that the Treasurer be reimbursed for the advances made and it was so ordered.

Mr. Lung, from the special committee appointed to visit Marlborough and examine into the amount of road tax due the Town of Takoma Park from Prince George County, submitted the following report:

Takoma Park, D.C., February 3, 1902.

To the Mayor and Council.

Gentlemen:—I beg leave to report that, in accordance with the instructions of the Council, I made a trip to Marlborough, Md., on January 21, 1902, accompanied by Mr. F.W. Longley, and attended a session of the County Commissioners, also the session of the Road Commissioners, for the purpose of effecting a settlement of the Road Tax due the Town of Takoma Park by Prince George County. We find that all road taxes are now turned over to road commission and by them expended for road purposes, and they were surprised to find that any part of Takoma Park, Md., is in Prince George County, and we are sorry to report that they have expended all that was allotted to them by the County Commissioners, but they assure us that if we put in our claim it would be paid out of the next levy.

In conversation with the County Treasurer he advised us to have our claim in by March of this year, when the County Commissioners would make the levy, and they might make a special levy to pay the Town of Takoma Park what is due them from former years, and then have a member of the Council come to Marlborough on the first meeting of the Commissioners in July. When he makes his first payment to that body, he thought we could get all that is due to the Town.

We informed the Commissioners that we had never had a settlement from the County since the Town has been incorporated, and we would furnish them with a copy of what is due the Town, also what has been paid on account, which they said they would be glad to have. After searching all of the dark corners we found the old assessment books, but found that Takoma Park was assessed in the Bladensburg District until 1893, when it was separated and had been kept separate since that time. The only way we could find out what was assessed in Takoma Park, was by going over the Bladensburg District for the years 1890, 1891 and 1892, and picking out the property which we knew was located in Takoma Park. We feel confident that we did not get all, as the property is not described, so we could get only what we were sure of. We also find that the levy for road purposes has been ten per cent of the assessed value until 1900, and for 1901 it was twenty per cent.

Herewith we enclose a copy of the property assessed in Takoma Park, together with what has been received by the Town from the County since its incorporation.

Very respectfully,
F. J. LUNG.
F. W. LONGLEY.

Inclosure: Statement of Road Tax Due From Prince George County.

Year.	Amt. of Assessment	Road Tax Due, 10%	Cash Paid.	Amt. due.	Year.	Amt. of Assessment.	Road Tax Due. 10%	Cash Paid.	Amt. due.	
1890	23,225.00				1895	37,197.00				
1891	24,335.00				1896	37,319.00				
	47,560.00	47.56	Oct. 20 '92, 41.36	6.20	1897	60,060.00				
1892	25,420.00				1898	60,127.00				
1893	35,338.00					230,041.00	230.04	Apr. 1 '99, 120.12	109.92	
	60,758.00	60.75	Jun. 5 '94, 43.85	16.90	1899	65,070.00	65.07	May 8, 1900, 34.82	30.25	
					1900	64,970.00	64.97		64.97	
1894	35,338.00				1901	72,870.00 (20%)	145.74		145.74	
									Total cash due Town of Takoma Park	373.98

On motion of Mr. Depue the report was accepted and the Treasurer directed to send a statement of the account as inclosed to the County Commissioners of Prince George County.

The Treasurer submitted his monthly report as follows:

<u>FEBRUARY.</u>	
Total cash receipts to date	\$15,848.18
Total expenditures to date	<u>5,427.33.</u>
Balance on hand.....	\$ 10,420.85
<u>Receipts during January:</u>	
Received from taxes.....	\$ 154.92
Road Tax, Montgomery County.....	531.63
Road Tax, Prince George County.....	68.36
Water rents.....	397.00
Interest on deposits.....	4.83
Proceeds water works bonds.....	10,000.00
Deferred interest.....	72.22
	<u>\$ 11,228.96</u>
Amount of water rents unpaid.....	\$ 278.00
Amount of taxes unpaid.....	1,628.16.
GEORGE A. WARREN, Treasurer.	

Mr. Longley, from the Street Committee, reported verbally that the board walk authorized at the last meeting of the Council had been partially constructed and would be completed so soon as the weather will permit; also, that in accordance with the instructions of the Council he had begun the work of locating the cut-offs, blow-offs, man-holes, lamp-holes, etc., of the water and sewerage system and was bringing the same to a level with the street as soon as found.

Mr. Long presented the following motion:

That the Treasurer be and is hereby directed to furnish the Inspector of Plumbing with a list of all delinquent water takers; that the latter official shall personally inform each delinquent of the expiration of the limit for payment of water rents and that, if payment be not made within 48 hours after such notification, said Inspector of Plumbing is hereby directed to cut off the water from the premises of said delinquent; nor shall the water be turned on such premises again until said water rent, together with penalty and costs shall have been paid.

The motion was adopted and it was so ordered.

The Mayor pro tem laid before the Council a communication from Mary A. Pater calling attention to the condition of the side-walk at the corner of Holly and Magnolia Avenues and on motion of Mr. Lung the same was referred to the street committee with instructions to make repairs.

Mr. Mooers presented the following Resolutions which were adopted:

Whereas, The proposition to enforce the ordinance prohibiting the sale of intoxicants within the corporate limits has been before the Mayor and Council during the past three months, and

Whereas, The proposed enforcement has been heretofore delayed by various causes, and is now delayed by the inability of the corporation attorney to find time to attend to the prosecution, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Mayor is hereby instructed to at once proceed with the enforcement of the ordinance, and to employ counsel to represent the Mayor and Council if, in his judgment, counsel is necessary.

Mr. Depve presented the following Resolution and the same was adopted:

Resolved, That in case of future snow storms the Chairman of the Committee on Streets is hereby directed to cause the sidewalks throughout the Town to be cleared without delay.

On motion of Mr. Lung the Treasurer was directed to make payment of \$9000.00 from the proceeds of the recent bond issue to Messrs Rosser & Castoe and to pay interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum on the balance due said contractors.

The Mayor pro tem laid before the Council the following communication from the Town Treasurer:

Takoma Park, Md., February 3, 1902.

To the Mayor and Council, Takoma Park, Md.

Gentlemen: I beg to tender herewith my resignation as treasurer of the town, and earnestly request that the Council accept the same.

For ten years I have been an active servant of the people, and for six years its treasurer and few can understand or appreciate the sacrifices I have made in holding the office. It was my desire a year ago to relinquish the office and only held on at your request during the construction of the water work system, This work is now completed. During the past year I received and disbursed an aggregate of over one hundred thousand dollars and the responsibility and detailed work involved were a draft on my vitality, and the coming few months with the laborious and uncertain work of the coming tax sale, the new assessment and the careful consideration of the town's finances, makes me shrink from further responsibilities in the work involved therewith.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE A. WARREN.

On motion of Mr. Long action upon the resignation was deferred for a full meeting of the Council.

The Mayor pro tem laid before the Council a communication from Mr. J. H. Clark who requested permission to address the Council upon the subject of the local telephone.

Mr. Clark, being present, and no objection being offered, proceeded to briefly address the Council, the substance of his remarks being embodied in the following letter which he subsequently presented:

Takoma Park, February 3, 02.

To the Mayor and Council.

Gentlemen: - A report has reached me which is deemed of sufficient importance to bring to your attention.

The report is as follows: The local telephone line as originally constructed was found to be unsatisfactory and about one year ago was reconstructed. That the expenses of assembling and erecting the poles, stretching wires, etc., were paid out of the town treasury.

I request that an investigation be ordered by the Mayor and Council to determine whether the report is true or false and that the Committee conducting the investigation be directed to report in writing at your next regular meeting the result of its inquiry, touching especially upon the following points, - provided, of course, the report is found to be true:

First, To ascertain what sum of money was thus expended.

Second, To ascertain by whose authority the expenditure was made.

Third, To ascertain whether the Treasurer was aware when the payment was made that the expense had been incurred in the manner herein set forth.

Fourth, To ascertain what amount was received from the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company for the reconstructed portion of the line referred to herein.

Fifth, To ascertain whether the Treasury has been reimbursed, and if so what amount has been returned, and whether the expenditure appears as a credit, and the reimbursement as a charge in the Treasurer's last annual report.

The committee will probably have to depend on the members of the original local company, or syndicate, for information relative to this alleged misuse of the public funds.

Very respectfully,
J. H. Clark.

On motion of Mr. Depeve the communication was referred to the Finance Committee with instructions to investigate and report on or before the next regular meeting of the Council.

Mr. Lung brought to the attention of the Council the question of compensation of the Committee which had audited the accounts of the Treasurer for the year ending June 30, 1901, and after some discussion the matter was deferred for a full meeting of the Council.

The Mayor pro tem laid before the Council the following communications and inclosures from Mr. Lisle Morrison, one of the Committee which had audited the accounts of the Town Treasurer and to which committee had been referred, for further examination and report a communication from Mr. J. H. Clark requesting certain explanations of the Treasurer's annual report:

Takoma Park, D.C., February 1, 1902,

To the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.

Gentlemen: - Referring to your indorsement of the 10th ultimo, on communication of Mr. J. H. Clark, I beg to advise that I made a copy of the paper for my own use and forwarded the original to Mr. B. C. Coon, the other member of the Committee, informing him that I was at liberty to

go over the accounts again any evening except Tuesdays and Fridays. You will note from the inclosed letter that Mr. Coon could not come out and has not done so up to this time. Prior to receipt of Mr. Coon's letter I had gone ahead with the work of preparing an answer and inclose herewith a memorandum which covers the questions raised. This, of course, is not from the Committee as a whole but as you emphasized the importance of having the reply at your next meeting, I send this.

I regret exceedingly that any mistake should have escaped our notice, but as stated in the memorandum this error does not affect the receipts, disbursements or accountability of the Treasurer in any way.

Respectfully,

LISLE MORRISON.

Inclosure 1.

Takoma Park, D.C., Jan. 8, 1902.

To the Mayor and Council.

Gentlemen:- In response to your recent verbal request, I herewith submit several inquiries relative to certain entries in the Treasurers annual report, as published by authority of the Council, which are obscure.

First. The total cost of the water works and sewerage system as given on page 4 ----- \$56,975.35

On page 2 the items are,

Total amount due contractors ----- \$41,140.20

Money cost of work done by town ----- 15,545.13

Total ----- \$56,685.33

which indicates a difference of ----- \$ 290.02

Second. On page 2 appears an item of \$2000 amount of four certificates of indebtedness of \$500. each, with interest thereon, \$11.98. If this is borrowed money, as seems probable, should it not appear among the receipts on page 1? Can the two amounts properly appear as items representing "work." Are canceled certificates satisfactory vouchers for work performed, or for supplies purchased?

Inclosure 2.

Memorandum for the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Maryland, in connection with the accounts of the Town Treasurer, brought up by Mr. J. H. Clark raising certain questions relative thereto.

No. 1. - The amount \$56,975.35 shown on page 4 is an error made in preparing the typewritten copy. The figures should be \$56,685.33. This mistake does not affect the accounts of the Treasurer so far as receipts and disbursements are concerned.

No. 2. - The \$2000.00 and \$11.98 referred to is money borrowed on certificates of indebtedness and the interest thereon.

The reason this does not appear on page 1 under "Receipts," is due to the fact that the cash obtained from said certificates was received prior to opening a "Water-works" account, consequently was taken up in the "General-fund" account. The cash thus received is accounted for as follows:

Paid in previous years -----	\$388.67	
Paid in current year -----	<u>786.33</u>	\$ 1,175.00
Balance -----		<u>825.00</u>
		\$ 2,000.00

The expenditures above given were for work incident to and in connection with the water-works system and the money was disbursed thro' the "General-fund" account.

When the money for the water-works system became available the Mayor and Council, in the interests of economy, directed the redemption of the four certificates of indebtedness from the "Water-works" fund as the "General-fund" account did not have sufficient money on hand to do so. This was done and the "General-fund" account was indebted to the "Water-works" account in the sum of \$825.00 remaining unexpended as shown above, which it cancelled by transfer of that sum, and the 4th item, under head of "Receipts," page 1, is thus explained

These cancelled certificates, supported by vouchers covering the work done, seem to have been satisfactory to the Mayor and Council, and as the vouchers show the money to have been expended for work in connection with the installation of the water works, may be properly included in the cost of said system.

Third. The next item is one of \$1,466.96, for "Reimbursement of General Funds" and is also included in the "Total money cost of work done by town." If this amount was expended in prior years and credit claimed therefor in previous reports, can it properly be included as an expenditure made within the period of time covered by this report? If so, were vouchers submitted to support this claim for "cost of work."

Fourth. On page 3 appears a charge of \$1,500.00 proceeds of certificates of indebtedness and also a credit item of \$500 for redemption of certificate of indebtedness. Does this indicate unpaid certificates amounting to \$1,000? If so, should not total amount appear on page 4 under the heading "Outstanding indebtedness"?

Fifth.

Fifth. On page 3 appears a credit item of \$825.00 transferred to special fund, and on page 1 the same amount appears properly charged. Does this entry indicate that the special fund is indebted to the general fund for the amount named? Or has it been returned? If so, should not the general fund be charged and the special fund credited therewith?

Sixth. On page 3, the credit items of \$864.18 and \$218.61 for "stationery, postage, freight, &c., &c.," and for "purchase of sundry street working tools," respectively, are so large as to suggest the probability that a portion of those amounts should appear in the water-works and sewerage account. Cannot the amount that should be thus separated be determined by the vouchers?

Seventh. Should not the item of \$786.33 appearing on page 3, "expended on account of items in connection with the installation of water-works" be included in the total cost of the water and sewerage system?

(Note. Inquiries sixth and seventh are made because the people are entitled to know the exact amount expended for the water and sewerage system.)

Eighth. The law requires a sinking fund to provide for the payment of the bonds. The report is silent on this point. Has the required amount been set aside? If so, how invested? If not, what amount is due that fund to June 30, '01?

No. 3. The item of \$1,466.96 is to cover expenditures made by direction of the Mayor and Council for a number of years prior to the actual commencement of the work of installing the water system. These expenditures are not a part of the amount referred to in No. 2. As they were made from the "General-fund" account, the Mayor and Council decided that the disbursements thus made should be reimbursed to the "General-fund" account by the "Water-works" account, which was done. This explains the charge against the account last mentioned and the third item on page 3 under "Receipts." Vouchers are on file in Treasurers office showing these expenditures.

No. 4. The charge of \$1,500.00 covers the cash received from three of the four certificates of indebtedness referred to in No. 2, the fourth certificate having been cashed the previous year and taken up in the accounts for that year. Explanation in No. 2 shows that these certificates have been redeemed, hence should not appear on page 4 as an "Outstanding Indebtedness."

The \$500.00 mentioned is to cover a certificate of indebtedness pertaining solely to the "General-fund" account and having been redeemed by funds of that account is a proper credit and closes out that transaction. This certificate was issued two years previous, renewed for one year, and is now taken up as above shown.

No. 5. For explanation as to the credit item of \$825.00 reference is made to No. 2. It will be seen that the "general fund" account has been charged with this sum, that the 16th item on page 3 reimburses "Water-works" account in this sum, and that the "Water-works" account takes it up under "Receipts" as coming from the "General fund" account.

No. 6. The question of establishing a basis upon which the expenses for stationery, postage, etc., etc., should be prorated among the several accounts rests with the Mayor and Council and the Auditing Committee does not question their authority when appearing on a paid voucher, as it is understood the Treasurer is directed by the aforesaid body when and how to pay bills, and the duty of the Committee is to see that that officer has such authority for the disbursement. As the committee understands the matter tools and equipment are used on town work generally and to follow the matter out on lines suggested would entail endless debits and credits, but as before remarked, this is for the Mayor and Council to determine.

No. 7. By referring to No. 2 it will be seen that the item mentioned in this question is included in the total cost of the water and sewer.

No. 8. The Treasurers records show nothing in regard to establishing a sinking fund for the payment of bonds. Attention is invited to the letter of the Treasurer herewith on this point.

In closing permit me to suggest the advisability of discontinuing the present method of keeping the accounts, substituting therefor one account, with all items of debit and credit included therein. The change will, I believe, be appreciated by the people and will lessen the perplexities of the Treasurer.

Very respectfully,
J. H. CLARK.

Inclosure 3.

Messrs. Lisle Morrison and Byron C. Coon, Auditing Committee.

Gentlemen: In response to your request for information as to whether the records of the Town Treasurer show the creation of a sinking fund, I have to inform you that the Treasurer has never been instructed by the Council to set aside any of the funds of the town for this purpose and in the absence of any specific instructions could not on his own account take any action in this direction.

Very respectfully,
GEO. A. WARREN, Treasurer.

Office of the Town Treasurer, Takoma Park, Md., Jan. 19. 1902.

On motion of Mr. Depue the report of Mr. Morrison was accepted as the report of the Auditing Committee, and said report ordered spread upon the minutes. The Clerk was instructed to forward to Mr. Clark a copy of the Memorandum touching upon his questions.

There being no further business, the Council, at 10:30 o'clock p.m., adjourned.

Sam'l J. Shedd
Mayor.

Ben D. Davis Town Clerk.

Takoma Park, Md., February 17. 1902.

Pursuant to the call of the Mayor a special meeting of the Council was held in the Presbyterian Chapel this date. There were present the Mayor and Councilmen Depue, Long, Longley, Lunq, Mooers and Platt.

The Mayor laid before the Council the letter of Mr. J. H. Clark, presented at the regular meeting on the 3rd inst., requesting an investigation of certain alleged misuse of the public funds in the construction of a private telephone line. The Mayor stated that, in compliance with the request of the Chairman of the Finance Committee, to whom Mr. Clark's letter had been referred for investigation by his committee, he had called the Council together to take such action it might deem proper regarding the matter.

Mr. Platt thereupon took the floor and briefly explained the situation to the effect that the Town had authorized the construction of

the line from the residence of the Town Treasurer to the pump house; that it was deemed expedient, in view of the necessity of having the chairman of the street committee in touch with the pump house, to repair the private line running along Tulip Avenue to North Takoma; that in this work the town laborers were employed, in order to expedite the same, and that the expenses of such labor, although really employed for the benefit of the town, was subsequently reimbursed to the Town. It was shown by the Treasurer's books that such reimbursement had been made and was properly credited.

After extended discussion of the matter, participated in by Messrs J. H. Clark, C. W. Scudder, J. H. VanHouten and E. M. Douglas, in addition to the Mayor and members of the Council, the following resolution, presented by Mr. Depue, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Mayor and Council that the Town has not been defrauded or suffered any pecuniary loss in the matter of the construction and sale of the local telephone line.

This matter disposed of the Council proceeded to the transaction of further business as follows:

Mr. Long presented the following resolution:

That an appropriation of \$15⁰⁰ be authorized as compensation to Messrs. Lisle Morrison and B. C. Coon for services in auditing the voluminous accounts of the Town Treasurer for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901, of which amount \$10⁰⁰ shall be paid to Mr. Morrison and \$5⁰⁰ to Mr. Coon the former, at the request of the Mayor and Council having subsequently reviewed the accounts in connection with certain inquiries of Mr. J. H. Clark relative thereto, and the Treasurer is directed to make the payments herein authorized.

The motion was adopted and it was so ordered.

Mr. Longley called the attention of the Council to the necessity for the purchase of several new street lamps to replace worn out ones and for extra founts and upon his motion the purchase of a dozen founts and one-quarter dozen lamps was authorized.

Mr. Longley called the attention of the Council to the resignation of Town Treasurer George A. Warren, presented at the last regular meeting of the Council and upon which action had been deferred for a meeting of the full Council.

Addressing himself to the subject of the Treasurer's resignation, Mayor Sheld expressed the hope that Mr. Warren would not insist upon its acceptance at this time. Mr. Warren, however, stated that it was his earnest desire to be relieved at this time, and upon motion of Mr. Platt, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the resignation of Mr. George A. Warren, as Town Treasurer, which resignation was presented at the meeting of the Council on February 3, 1902, be and the same is hereby regretfully accepted.

Thereupon, Mr. Platt presented the following Resolutions:

In accepting the resignation of Mr. George A. Warren as Treasurer, the Mayor and Council deem it fitting to give appropriate expression to the regret they feel at the severance of his official relations, and to place upon record their appreciation of the invaluable services he has rendered to them and to the people of TaKoma Park.

Mr. Warren's record as a public servant embraces a period of ten years. During that time he has performed every duty intrusted to him with a zeal that knew no flagging and a thoroughness that left nothing undone. As councilman, as clerk and as Treasurer he has served our people with that faithfulness, carefulness and courtesy that characterizes the ideal public servant.

It is therefore, with more than regret, that the Mayor and Council, at his earnest solicitation and in deference to his health, allow him to sever his official relations. In so doing they, each and all, express to him their heartfelt personal esteem. They wish him a long life of happiness and prosperity and bespeak for him that contentment which comes from a knowledge of labor well performed and duty nobly done.

It is hereby ordered that these Resolutions be entered upon the minutes of the Town and the Clerk instructed to furnish a duly attested copy thereof to Mr. Warren.

The Resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Platt moved that the Council proceed to the election of a Treasurer to fill the vacancy occasioned by Mr. Warren's resignation. Carried.

Mr. Depue nominated Mr. J. H. Clark and the nomination was duly seconded. Mr. Platt nominated Mr. Ben G. Davis and the nomination was duly seconded. At the request of Mr. Clark his name was withdrawn, and there being no further nominations Mr. Davis was duly and unanimously elected and so declared.

On motion of Mr. Platt the Mayor was authorized to have the Treasurer's bond transferred to Mr. Davis or a new bond obtained according to the requirements of the case.

There being no further business, the Council at 11:00 o'clock p.m., upon motion of Mr. Depue, adjourned.

Samuel J. Shedd Mayor.

Ben G. Davis
Town Clerk.

Takoma Park, Md., March 3, 1902

The Council met at 8:15 o'clock, p.m. There were present Mayor Shedd and Councilmen Longley, Mooers and Platt.

The minutes of the last regular meeting and of the special meeting held February 17, 1902, were read by the Clerk and approved.

Mayor Shedd addressed the Council upon the resolutions adopted at the last regular meeting directing him to engage counsel and proceed in the prosecution of violation of the ordinance against sale of liquor. In this connection the Mayor presented a letter from corporation attorney A.M. Gould who stated therein that his engagements were such that he would be unable to appear in the case, and that the Mayor was at liberty to secure other legal assistance. Continuing, the Mayor stated that he had consulted an attorney as to the probable cost of such prosecution and was informed that \$100 would be the minimum sum and that, if carried to the circuit and other courts, might reach as high as four or five hundred dollars. In view of the condition of the town's finances the Mayor was uncertain as to the advisability of further procedure at this time.

Mr. Platt moved that, in view of the Mayor's statement, further action in the matter be postponed and it was so ordered.

The Mayor laid before the council a communication from Mr. Charles W. Smiley asking that the board walk recently constructed on Elm Ave. be continued to his residence and on motion of Mr. Mooers the street committee was instructed to make such extension.

The Mayor laid before the Council a communication from Mr. Jos. Allen complaining that, owing to the impassable condition of the street in front of his premises, teams were driving upon and ruining his walk. On motion of Mr. Platt the letter was referred to the Street Committee with instructions to remedy the matter when it was possible to resume street work.

The Mayor also laid before the Council a communication from Mr. J.H. Clark wherein that gentleman disclaimed any personal allusion in his remarks before the Council at its special meeting on February 17th, 1902.

The following communication from Fire Chief O.D. Summy was presented and read:

Takoma Park, March 3, 1902

To the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to inform you that as Fire Chief of the corporation of Takoma Park as well as Chairman of the Committee on Fire Protection of the Citizens' Association, a meeting of my committee was held and the matter of fire protection fully discussed. It is unnecessary to go into

all the details that were before the committee in the furtherance of this subject, but we are aware of the fact that with our growing population something must be done as safeguards. The most urgent necessity at present is a liberal supply of fire hose and two hand reels.

During the discussion it was brought out that the present condition of the funds of the town were not sufficient to make any expenditure in this direction and the suggestion made that the Fire Chief present the matter to the Council asking that in the forthcoming municipal tax levy, a certain percentage be levied purely for fire protection, how much I will not attempt to dictate, other than to say that the corporation needs about 1000 feet of hose and two reels entailing a cost probably of not exceeding \$500. With the hose now on hand, this addition will permit of a hose reel and hose at three sections of the town, viz: North Takoma, in vicinity of Chestnut Avenue and in the New Park.

As it is apparent that unless some special tax is levied the Town will always have other matters which will absorb the funds, it is believed the taxpayers will not object to a slight increase in taxation to meet expenses for the preservation of their property, and now that a new levy is about to be made, this is the time to consider the matter.

Very respectfully,

O. D. SUMMY, Fire Chief.

Mr. Summy, being present, briefly addressed the Mayor and Council upon the lines indicated in his report.

Inasmuch as the tax levy for the ensuing year will be made by the Council to be elected in May, it was informally decided to defer action, leaving the recommendations of the Fire Chief to be acted upon by the new Council.

During discussion of the subject of fire protection the condition of the fire engine owned by the Town was considered, and on motion of Mr. Platt the Clerk was instructed to correspond with the authorities of the Towns of Kensington and Garrett Park with a view to the disposal of our engine.

Mr. Longley, from the Street Committee, submitted the following report:

Takoma Park, Md, March 3, 1902

To the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.

I hereby submit a report of the work done during the month of February. The condition of the weather has been such that very little work has been done. The board walk that was ordered laid on Elm Avenue from Mr. Barnitz's property to connect walk on same avenue in the rear of Mr. Bien's property is completed. Some of the pipe forming the drain under the driveway to Mr. Bien's property were broken and filled with dirt causing the water to wash over the road; these were taken out and replaced with new ones. The sidewalk space in front of Mrs. Seaman's property on Columbia Ave has been brought to the proper width. In order to do it, it required some more work than was anticipated. The sidewalk of the adjoining property below had to be straightened in order to form a gutter that would carry off the water, so it required the moving of considerable dirt. Some work has been done on Sycamore, Poplar, Columbia and Elm Avenues such as filling sunken places in the ditches of the sewer and water mains, repairing washouts in the roads, clearing and straightening gutters, etc. I would state that the recent heavy rains have put the streets of the Town in very bad condition causing ditches to settle, and some washouts, some of them in the extreme portion of the Town, which need immediate attention. Several of the drain pipes under sidewalks and roadways of the Town are filled with dirt, causing the water to overflow the gutters and cause washouts in the streets. I would suggest that authority be given for such drains as need attention to be taken up and cleaned and where it is deemed advisable to replace with larger pipe. The washout in the street and sidewalk on Buffalo Ave. has not been repaired. The condition of the weather not being such as to warrant the beginning of that work. The three lamps and one dozen founts ordered at the last meeting of the Council to replace those that are worn out, have been received.

F. W. LONGLEY }
L. M. MOOERS } Com. on streets.

Mr. George A. Warren, the retiring Town Treasurer, submitted the following:

Final Financial Report of George A. Warren, as Treasurer, Town of Takoma Park, covering the Period from July 1, 1901, to February 22, 1902.

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
Consolidated balance from last report	336.80	General expenses	273.75
Proceeds of 2 ^d water work bond issue	10,000.00	Interest	1463.46
General Taxes	3,941.96	Rent, Log Cabin	48.00
Miscel. receipts to include \$575.00 loaned town	707.36	Fire apparatus	10.90
Water rents	645.24	Refundment of cash loaned Town	575.00
Road tax rebate, Montgomery Co.	531.63	Purchase of tools	32.81
Road tax rebate, on account, Prince George Co.	68.36	Reconstruction of sewer disposal field	1462.46
Interest	86.85	Purchase of stone crusher and construction of building	470.64
	<u>16,318.20</u>	Maintenance expenses at Pump House	122.82
		Miscel. expenses in connection with water works system	444.76
		Street work, Material	72.48
		Street work, Labor	401.03
		Street lights, Purchase of oil	192.75
		Street lights, Purchase of lamps, etc.	48.94
		Salaries. G. A. Warren, Treasurer	70.00
		" Ben G. Davis, Clerk	70.00
		" William Jones, Lamplighter	315.00
		" George Day, Engineer, etc.	306.00
		Paid Rosser and Costue on acct. of bal. due on water works system	9,000.00
			<u>15,380.80</u>
		Balance transferred to successor	937.40
			<u>16,318.20</u>

I certify that the above is a true extract from the records of the Town of Takoma Park,

(Signed) Geo. A. Warren.

The Finance Committee submitted the following report.

March 3, 1902.

To the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.

Gentlemen: - The Finance Committee has to report that they have carefully examined the following bills and accounts submitted to the committee for report.

We have approved the following and recommend payment:

George L. Tarbell, Oil and gasoline	\$ 56.28	F. W. Langley, Services Superintending town work	\$ 11.25
William Watkins, Coal	19.75	Columbia Printing Company, Notices	2.25
William S. Moore, Castings, etc.	2.88	C. M. Heaton, Assignee, Materials	5.60
Fred J. Lung, Freight, hauling, etc.	.75		<u>98.76</u>

In the matter of the account of Fosburg & Murray we have withheld approval pending consideration of Council.

W. G. PLATT, Committee.

The report was adopted and payment of the bills approved ordered.

The Treasurer submitted the following report:

		Takoma Park, March 3, 1902	
<i>The Mayor and Council,</i>			
<i>Gentlemen: I have the honor to submit the following report: I assumed the duties of Treasurer February 24th, on which date there was turned over to me by Mr. Warren, the retiring Treasurer, bank deposits, checks, cash and stamps amounting to</i>			
		-----	\$ 937.40
	<i>Received since that date, from taxes</i>	-----	20.61
	" <i>water rents</i>	-----	9.00
	" <i>Commissioners, Montgomery County</i>	-----	49.13
	" <i>Miscellaneous receipts</i>	-----	12.00
		Total -----	1028.14
	<i>Disbursements:</i>		
	<i>Contingent</i>	-----	1.00
	<i>Pay roll, including salary of Engr. for week</i>	-----	11.25
	<i>Salary town clerk</i>	-----	10.00
	" " <i>treasurer</i>	-----	10.00
	" <i>Lamp lighter, etc</i>	-----	45.00
	<i>Services of Auditing Committee,</i>	-----	15.00
		-----	92.25
	<i>Balance on hand</i>	-----	935.89
<i>Respectfully submitted.</i>			
<i>BEN F. DAVIS, Treasurer.</i>			

Mr. Platt submitted the following resolution and it was adopted:

Resolved, that in accordance with the law as set forth in Section 16 of the Charter, a Board of Assessors, to consist of Messrs George A. Warren, Ben F. Davis and Lisle Morrison, is hereby appointed to submit a revised assessment of all real property in the corporation, and said Board is hereby instructed to omit all personal property from such assessment.

The Mayor laid before the council a communication from Mr. George A. Warren relative to the new assessment of property about to be made, wherein certain suggestions and recommendations were made. The communication was referred to the Board of Assessors for consideration in the preparation of the revised assessment.

The matter of water rent penalty incurred in turning off the water at the property of Mr. Garrett M. Davis was brought before the Council by the Treasurer, and that official was ordered, upon motion of Mr. Platt, in view of the fact that Mr. Davis had no personal knowledge of the failure of his agent to pay the water rent, to refund the \$3⁰⁰ penalty.

Mr. Platt presented the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Mayor be, and is hereby requested to correspond with Hon. W. A. Johnson, Representative from Montgomery County in the House of Delegates of the General Assembly, and inform Mr. Johnson that, in the judgment of the Mayor and Council, the bill recently introduced by him at the instance of the town authorities, to authorize the issue of \$10,000 additional bonds to meet the increased cost of the water and sewerage system, should be amended to fix the amount of proposed issue at \$7000.00 and to specifically state therein that, ^{of said sum} the amount of \$5000.00 shall be devoted to the payment of the debt now owing Messrs Rosser and Castoe, of Bellaire, Ohio, for work done on the water and sewerage system, and that the balance of said bond issue or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be applied to the installation of a duplicate engine and pumping plant, and for no other purpose whatever.

There being no further business the Council, at 10:30 o'clock p. m. adjourned.

Sam'l Shedd
Mayor.

Ben B. Davis, Clerk