

Monday Evening, September 11, 1905

The Council met in regular session at 8 o'clock p.m. There were present the Mayor and Councilmen Blodgett, Derrick, Grabill, and Van Houten. Mr. Morrison was absent because of illness and Mr. Douglas being in the west.

The minutes of the last regular meeting and of the several subsequent special meetings were read and approved.

The Treasurer presented the following report:

<i>To the Mayor and Council. (Thro' the Finance Committee.)</i>		<i>Takoma Park, Md., September 1, 1905</i>	
<i>Gentlemen: - I have the honor to submit herewith report of receipts and disbursements for the month of August, 1905:</i>			
<i>Balance on hand last report</i> -----		<i>\$ 7927.64</i>	
<i>Receipts:</i>		<i>Disbursements:</i>	
<i>From general taxes</i> -----	<i>\$ 368.63</i>	<i>Sewer system</i> -----	<i>\$ 7.50</i>
<i>" Special taxes: water main</i> -----	<i>\$ 240.60</i>	<i>Street work: labor</i> -----	<i>219.82</i>
<i> cement walks</i> -----	<i>250.65</i>	<i>Improvement bonds paid and interest</i> -----	<i>100 1.38</i>
	<i>491.25</i>	<i>Salaries: Clerk and Treasurer</i> -----	<i>\$ 25.00</i>
<i>From water rents</i> -----	<i>11.00</i>	<i> lamplighter</i> -----	<i>35.00</i>
<i>" permits</i> -----	<i>1.00</i>	<i> engineer</i> -----	<i>48.00</i>
	<i>871.88</i>	<i>Pd. from special fund of \$3600 for improvement of Willow Ave</i> -----	<i>32.83</i>
	<i>8799.52</i>		<i>1369.53</i>
			<i>Balance on hand</i> -----
<i>Balance on hand</i> -----			<i>7429.99</i>
<i>Of which there belongs to fund for Willow Ave. improvements</i> -----	<i>\$ 3567.17</i>		<i>8799.52</i>
<i>To special improvement fund</i> -----	<i>843.78</i>		
			<i>4410.95</i>
<i>Amount due on sewer contract</i> -----	<i>\$ 1612.55</i>		<i>3019.04</i>
<i>Interest on bonds, due Nov. 1, 1905</i> -----	<i>1120.00</i>		
			<i>2732.55</i>
	<i>Available balance</i>		<i>286.49</i>

Respectfully submitted:
BEN G. DAVIS
Treasurer

Examined and found correct
L. MORRISON } Finance Committee.
J. H. VAN HOUTEN }

On motion of Mr. Derrick the report was received and ordered placed upon the records.

Mr. Van Houten, from the Finance Committee, submitted a communication from Mr. J. Ross Colhoun stating that he had paid the state and county taxes for the years 1901, 1902 and 1903 on the Gibbs and Kossack subdivision of land, within which was included the land owned by the Town of Takoma Park and operated as a sewer farm. The amount of taxes on this land for the years stated is \$ 25²⁰ for which amount Mr. Colhoun requested reimbursement.

Upon Mr. Colhoun's communication appeared the following indorsements:

Memorandum: On the third day of May, 1902, I wrote the clerk of the Circuit Court at upper Marlboro, requesting him, in view of the fact that these lots were used exclusively for municipal purposes, that they be removed from the assessment list and that if any taxes were then due upon them, to so notify me. This letter was referred by the Circuit Clerk to the County Treasurer who informed me under date of May 29, 1903 that there was no assessment against them.

BEN F. DAVIS, Clerk and Treasurer

Recommended that Mr. Colhoun be informed of the above facts and to request refund from County authorities.

L. MORRISON } Finance Committee,
J. H. VAN HOUTEN }

On motion of Mr. Derrick the recommendation of the Finance Committee was approved.

Mr. Van Houten, from the Finance Committee, submitted the following report:

To the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.		September 11, 1905		
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:				
Standard Oil Co. 345 gals. oil @ 7 1/2, 25 ⁸⁸	195 gals @ 7, 13.65	\$ 39.53	C. and P. Telephone Co. rental + messages	\$ 4.50
" " " 575 " gaso " 10, 57 ²⁰	300 " " 9 1/2, 28 ²⁰	86.00	Geo. F. Muth & Co. 2 bbl. globes 4 ³⁹ freight 25¢	4.59
" " " 49 " red engine oil @ 18 1/2		9.07	Walter W. Waters, sundries	4.80
Willard Douglas, Pumping, 3 days @ \$1 ⁰⁰		3.00	National Electric Supply Co. Repairs for engine	.50
H. Mueller Mfg. Co. 1 doz. 5/8 Corporation cocks		9.45	C. W. Scudder, reimbursement for type-writing	4.00
B. F. Schrider, Blacksmithing		1.35	Town Treasr. Contingent, July and August	3.15
E. N. Jackson, Surveying, etc.		5.00	Mayor - Telephone messages	.90
Lamond Bros. Sewer pipe		14.55		190.39

L. MORRISON } Finance Committee,
J. H. VAN HOUTEN }

On motion of Mr. Blodgett the report of the Committee was adopted and payment of the bills directed.

Mr. Blodgett, from the streets and lights committee reported that Mr. George Miller, in his efforts to dim the brilliancy of one of the street lamps on Carroll Ave., through the method of frosting, had broken a lamp globe and had paid the value of the same 40 cts.

The money was ordered deposited with the Treasurer and Mr. Blodgett directed to allow no further frosting experiments.

Mr. Blodgett also submitted requests from the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company for stringing two wires on existing line on Carroll Ave. Columbia Ave. and Pine Ave. to furnish service to Miss Anna A. Huck, and also to replace poles 1, 2 + 3 on Oak Ave. north of Tulip with 3 35-foot poles, to furnish service to Misses A. M. and E. H. Parkins, Oak Ave. These requests were favorably recommended, the poles to be placed as directed by the chairman of the street committee.

On motion of Mr. Derrick the recommendations were approved and the requests granted.

Mr. Blodgett called attention to the bad condition of Ridge Ave. in front of the lot owned by Mr. Saunders and upon which he is now building, it being necessary to drive through Mr. Saunders lot to avoid the obstacles in the shape of gulleys.

The matter was considered at length, upon conclusion of which Mr. Grabill moved that \$45⁰⁰ or so much thereof as may be necessary, be appropriated for improving Ridge Avenue. The motion was carried and it was so ordered.

A communication was presented from Mr. W. B. Walters urging the necessity of a street connecting Ridge Avenue with the business part of the town. By direction of the Mayor, and without objection, the petition was referred to the street committee for investigation and report.

Mr. Derrick invited the attention of the Council to the necessity of making the necessary fill on Buffalo Ave. for completion of the cement walk on that street. Consideration of the question brought up the question of grading Buffalo Ave. to bring street and gutters below the level of the cement walk and the probable necessity of lowering the water main.

Mr. Grabill moved that the matter be referred to the committee on Streets and Lights with instructions to investigate the matter thoroughly and to report to the council an estimate of the cost of grading Buffalo Ave. in connection with the required fill for completion of cement walk and cost of lowering of watermain should that be deemed necessary. The motion was carried.

The Mayor laid before the Council the following communication:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY.

Mr. J. B. Kinnear,
Treasury Dept., Washington, D. C.

Washington, D. C. September 6, 1905

Dear Sir:- We have completed the examination of the Takoma Park water and find that it is not contaminated in any way to indicate typhoid organisms. The water contains 3200 bacteria per cubic centimeter which is rather a high count for sand filtered water. I would suggest that the filters be carefully examined to see that they are in good condition.

There is an organism present in the water which gives several reactions indicating *B. coli-intestinalis*, but as it differs in its most important characters we have concluded that it is not this organism. I shall examine the water again in a week or ten days.

Very truly yours

A. F. WOODS,

Pathologist and Physiologist.

A communication from Mr. G. W. Stilson requesting an extension of the water main or of a service pipe from the water tower down Ethan Allen Avenue, where he is building and where there are two other houses, was laid before the Council by Mr. Grabill, to whom the

communication had been referred for investigation and report, with the following indorsement:

September 11, 1905. - Respectfully returned with report that the cost of a 3-inch main along Ethan Allen Avenue to the house named will be approximately \$1600.00. Recommended that the applicant be informed that it is not considered advisable to supply water to premises not provided with sewer facilities; and that if a petition be forwarded from the owners of $\frac{2}{3}$ of the property frontage along which the main will pass, also requesting sewer facilities, the Council will consider the matter further with reference to levying a special assessment on the property affected for the purpose of the extension of the sewer and water mains.

L. R. GRABILL

Mr. Van Houten moved that the report and recommendation be adopted and Mr. Stilson so advised. The motion was carried.

Mr. Blodgett reported to the Council that owing to the excessive use of water at the residence of Mr. M. Whitney, on Oak Ave, due to soil experiments being conducted by a Bureau of the Department of Agriculture, and which required sprinkling outside of the hours as fixed by ordinance, he had instructed the bailiff to shut off the water from the premises; that upon deposit of the sum of \$3.00 with the town clerk and treasurer, the bailiff had again turned on the water; and that instructions were desired as to the future course to be taken in the matter.

Mr. Grabill moved that the \$3.00 deposited with the town treasurer be considered a fine for violation of the ordinance, and be passed to the credit of the town; and that Mr. Whitney be informed that use of the water in the soil experiments at his residence will not be permitted except by special permission of the Council, for which written application should be made, stating specifically the length of time per day sprinkling is required. The motion was carried and the clerk directed to notify Mr. Whitney accordingly.

The Mayor laid before the Council the following report of the engineer and the report of the special committee in conjunction therewith, relative to examination and inspection of the outfall sewer and disposal fields constructed under contract with Messrs. Martin McNamara & Co. of Washington, D. C.:

Mr. John B. Kinner, Mayor,
Takoma Park, Maryland.

Washington, D. C., September 11, 1905

Sir: In compliance with your request I inspected, on the 9th instant, the sewer and disposal field constructed by Martin McNamara & Co for the Town of Takoma Park, Maryland, and find the following unauthorized deviations from the plans and specifications:

1. - The soil is not of the same character as the surface soil that has been removed, and I fear will not allow the water to properly percolate. (see specifications)
2. - The land drains and outlets of inverts are not placed at right angles to the invert (See plans)
3. - The fields are not graded so as to allow the water to run evenly over the surface of each bed.
4. - The splash stones are only a few inches below the outlets instead of 15 inches; and these stones are below the level of the bed instead of being 1" to 2" above the surface (see plans)
5. - Plugs have been used in the outlets instead of slides (see plans and specifications).

6.- The bank part of invert should be sloped back to prevent dirt washing into it.

7.- Manhole and pipe at bridge not properly protected.

If the above defects were remedied I would recommend as follows on the enclosed bill of Martin McNamara & Co.:

Item A - The length of the sewer as originally planned was about 7000 feet and no additional terra cotta pipe was ordered, but Mr. McNamara was allowed to deviate from this plan and follow the bank of the Sligo near the disposal field with the express understanding that the town would not be put to any additional expense for any additional pipe, manholes, or other material or work necessary for such deviation. This change in route was to the advantage of the contractor, as it saved considerable digging and blasting through a high hill. I therefore cannot recommend payment for the 211' of terra cotta pipe additional.

B. - In addition to the iron pipe indicated on plan, it was found necessary to insert in different places 29' and I recommend payment therefor at the rate of \$ 2.25 per foot, \$65.25

C, D, E, and F are included in the lump sum for the entire work, and no extras are charged in the bill.

G. - Martin McNamara & Co., in their bid, state that they will complete the entire work (including rock excavation) for the sum of \$7,464.75, and this bid was made a part of the contract. (See also report of Special Committee of November 22, 1904, recommending the acceptance of this bid). Moreover, if the contractor intended to charge for rock excavation, he should have given the engineer an opportunity to measure it (See specifications). I think therefore that no payment should be made for rock excavation.

H. - This item should be allowed. In constructing the sewer it was found that if kept to grade it would run into the water main. It was therefore depressed and the amount charged therefor is believed to be reasonable.

Recommended for payment, when defects are remedied:

Amount of contract	\$ 7464.75
29' cast iron pipe 10" @ \$ 2.25	65.25
Depressing sewer	20.00
Changing sewer as authorized by Council	200.00
	<hr/>
	7750.00
Paid	6203.20
Due	1546.80

Respectfully,
CHAS. W. SCUDDER

[Inclosure]

Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md., to Martin McNamara & Co. Dr.

Washington, D.C., June 6, 1905

A. Furnishing and laying 7,211' 10" T.C. pipe at 75c. per foot	\$ 5,408.25
B. " " " 229' 10" C.I. " " \$2.25 " "	515.25
C. " " " 800' land drains at 25c.	200.00
D. Cement invert	200.00
E. Filter beds	500.00
F. 19 manholes at \$40.00	760.00
G. 108 3/4 cu. yds rock excavation at \$ 2.50 per cu. yd.	2,708.12
H. Depressing sewer under water main	20.00
	<hr/>
	10,311.62
(Credit) By cash	6,203.20
	<hr/>
Changing sewer	4,108.42
	<hr/>
	200.00
	<hr/>
	4,308.42

To the Mayor and Council.

Takoma Park, Md., September 11, 1905

The undersigned have carefully considered the attached report of the Engineer and would present the following conclusions in regard thereto:

1. It is not probable that the town would benefit to any extent by a change in the soil and it does not seem that a change is practicable now. Moreover, the contractor gives positive assurance that the surface soil on the beds is the same that was originally removed.
2. While there are apparent slight deviations from right angles in one or two of the outlets from the invert, it does not appear to retard or interfere with the proper working of the plant. However, the contractor has promised to rectify this.
3. We concur with the engineer. A few hours work ought to obviate this objection and the contractor informs us that it has already been done.
4. The statement of the engineer is correct. It is apparent however that the splash stones cannot be lowered nor the invert raised now, in order to establish a distance of fifteen inches between them. To do so would require practically regrading of the entire field. We do not feel like imposing this upon the contractor inasmuch as the present construction will undoubtedly produce successful results.
5. We concur with the engineer. The plugs substituted for the slides are unsatisfactory and the latter should be insisted upon.
6. As the contractor has already apparently complied with the specifications in regard to grading bank back of the invert, we are willing to waive any further requirement in regard thereto.
7. We concur with the engineer.

In regard to the recommendations of the engineer as to payment and amount still due the contractor, we concur.

J. B. KINNEAR, Mayor } special Committee.
E. E. BLODGETT. }

Mr. Grabill moved that the report of the special committee be adopted, and that payment of the balance due the contractor as computed and recommended by the Engineer, be authorized, except that the sum of \$100.00 shall be withheld therefrom for a period of thirty days to insure remedy of those defects pointed out by the committee; and in case said defects are not remedied within said thirty days, then the required work shall be completed under direction of the Council and shall be paid for out of the said \$100.00 withheld. The motion was carried.

A communication from Messrs. J. Harrison Johnson & Son, representing Mrs. Catharine Bonifant, in which complaint was made of the condition of the sewer farm below the spring, was presented by the clerk, who was instructed to inform the Messrs. Johnson that since the date of their letter, the conditions complained of, had been remedied.

The Mayor announced the appointment of Mr. Grabill to the chairmanship of the committee on Water and Sewer and to membership on the committee on Ordinance and Judiciary, vice Mr. Scudder, resigned.

There being no further business the Council, on motion of Mr. Derrick, at 11:10 p.m., adjourned

Approved:

J. B. Kinneear

Mayor

Ben Davis

Town Clerk

Monday Evening, October 9th, 1905.

The Council met at 8:15 p.m., with the following members present: Mayor Kinnear and Councilmen, Blodgett, Derrick, Grabill and Van Houten.

In the absence of the Clerk, Councilman Van Houten was named to act in that capacity.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Van Houten, from the Finance Committee, presented the following bills with the recommendation that they be paid:

Cand. P. Telephone Co., Rental and Messages.....	\$ 2.10	E.E. Blodgett, 15 days inspection, Willow Ave. impts. -	\$ 52.50
Rudolph and West Co. Nails and waste.....	5.25	Geo. F. Muth and Co., Globes and burners.....	3.67
Standard Oil Co., 240 qals. oil @ 9/2¢.....	22.80	Springfield Gas. Engine Co. Valve and cam.....	4.75
			\$91.07

On motion of Mr. Derrick the recommendation was approved and payment of the bills directed.

A bill from Mr. C.W. Scudder for \$5⁰⁰, for inspecting and reporting upon condition of outfall sewer and disposal field, was disallowed.

The Finance Committee presented the following report:

To the Mayor and Council:

Gentlemen:—Your attention is called to the fact that several breaks have occurred in our new sidewalks, also some cracks. As the contractor guaranteed this work for five years, it is the opinion of your committee that he should be required to make the defects good as required by the contract. This should be done now.

Yours truly

Takoma Park, October 4, 1905.

L. MORRISON

J. H. VAN HOUTEN

} Finance Committee.

The communication was referred to the engineer for report as to the advisability of making repairs at this time.

The Street Committee recommended that Buffalo Avenue, between New York and Albany Avenues be improved by plowing out the gutters and seraping the street, and on motion of Mr. Derrick the sum of \$30⁰⁰, or so much thereof as may be necessary, was appropriated for such purpose.

The petition of Mr. W. B. Walters for the opening up of Lincoln Avenue between Carroll and Ridge Ave., was returned from the street committee, to which it had been referred, with the statement that as the street has not been surveyed, it would be impossible to do any work thereon until the lines and grades of the street had been established. In relation thereto the Finance Committee reported that no funds are available for the purpose indicated and recommended that Mr. Walters be so advised. The recommendation was adopted.

A petition was presented from Mr. Fred King and others living in the vicinity of Flower Avenue requesting improvement of that street, the petitioners agreeing to contribute specified work, or its equivalent, toward the improvement. The petition was ordered referred

to the street committee for consideration and recommendation.

On motion of Mr. Derrick the Council authorized the use of any unexpended balance of the \$30⁰⁰ appropriated for the improvement of Buffalo Avenue, for the improvement of Takoma and New York Avenues in the vicinity of the North Takoma hotel property, and if such unexpected balance be not sufficient, then \$20⁰⁰ additional, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be authorized for expenditure for this purpose.

The following communication was presented from the Finance Committee:

To the Mayor and Council.

Takoma Park, October 4, 1905

Gentlemen:-Your committee wishes to present the following for your consideration: We are now paying the lamplighter \$35⁰⁰ per month and he has a boy to help him. Our streets are sadly in need of attention to small items. It is believed that the Town would be money in pocket and our streets in better shape were we to pay this man (the lamp lighter) say \$40⁰⁰ or \$45⁰⁰ per month, taking all his time, and have Mr. Day and this man put their extra time on the streets. During the moon light nights this man would be available for the entire day.

Yours truly

L. MORRISON
J. H. VAN HOUTEN } Finance Committee.

After brief consideration the matter was laid upon the table.

The request of Mr. J.C. Britton for authority to use town water for sprinkling purposes in soil experiments at the home of Mr. M. Whitney, outside of the hours fixed by ordinance, was laid before the Council with the following indorsement: "It is recommended that the request be granted upon terms to be adopted by the Council when the case is considered. - L.R. GRABILL, Chr. Com. on Water etc."

On motion of Mr. Derrick the Clerk was directed to notify Mr. Whitney that upon the payment of an additional water rent of \$5⁰⁰ per annum, beginning January 1, 1906, he would be permitted to use his lawn sprinkler between the hours allowed by law, not to exceed one hour per day.

Mr. Blodgett invited the attention of the council to waste of water at the residence of Dr. Palmer and, upon motion the matter was referred to the committee on Water and Sewers for investigation and report.

Mr. John Powell presented a personal request that some action be taken looking to the improvement of Sligo Mill Road near Ethan Allen Avenue. On motion of Mr. Derrick \$25⁰⁰, or so much thereof as may be necessary, was appropriated for that purpose.

Upon the motion of Mr. Derrick the Committee on Water and Sewer was authorized to make certain repairs at the pumping station.

Because of the impracticability of connecting his Kitchen sink with the sewer, Mr. J.W. Wildman, was authorized, upon motion of Mr. Grabill, to construct a drain from said sink to the back of his yard. Said permission to be revokable at the pleasure of the Council.

Mr. Grabill presented the following:

<i>Takoma Park, Md, Octo. 9. 1905.</i>
<i>I hereby certify that Martin McNamara has completed, under his contract dated August 31, 1905, with the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md, 1360 linear feet of 8 inch sewer at a contract price of 97 cents per linear foot, amounting to \$1319.20. Less 25%, \$329.80 = \$989.40.</i>
<i>L. R. GRABILL, Engineer.</i>

On motion of Mr. Derrick the council authorized the payment of \$989.40 to Martin McNamara & Co., on account, for construction of sewer as per above statement of the engineer in charge of the work.

The special committee on inspection of new sewer farm reported progress.

On motion of Mr. Derrick the Council, at 11:15 o'clock p.m., adjourned.

Approved:

J. B. Finney

Mayor

Acting Clerk.

Monday Evening, October 30th, 1905

A special meeting of the Council was held at the residence of the Clerk this date, convening at 7:45 o'clock p.m.

There were present Mayor Kinnear and Councilmen Blodgett, Derrick, Grabill and Van Houten.

The Mayor stated that he had called the meeting to consider and take action upon the following communication:

To the Mayor and Town Council of Takoma Park, Md.

608 A St, S.E., Washington, D.C., October 27, 1905.

Gentlemen:—Owing to our inability by not getting prompt delivery of crushed stone and cement we respectfully ask an extension of our contract from October 30th till November 15th without any penalty to us.

Very respectfully,
MARTIN McNAMARA & Co.

After considering the matter at some length Mr. Grabill moved that each of the existing contracts with Martin McNamara & Co., for the improvement of Willow Avenue, be extended to November 15th, subject to the conditions and provisions of said contracts relating to the matter of extensions thereof. The motion was carried.

The Mayor stated to the Council that the contractor had informed him that through some error sufficient water pipe had not been delivered to quite complete the job and requested permission to use several lengths belonging to the town, promising to replace the same immediately upon delivery of balance of pipe.

Mr. Derrick moved that the Engineer be authorized to take such action in regard to the loan of water pipe as in his judgment may be deemed for the best interest of the Town. The motion was carried.

On motion of Mr. Van Houten, permission was granted the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co., upon their application therefor, to string a pair of wires along Carroll and Sycamore Aves., to furnish service to Mr. B.L. Taylor.

A communication from _____ asking if the Town was desirous of selling its stone crusher, and if so, the price desired therefor, was referred to the Committee on Streets and Lights for report and recommendation.

There being no further business the Council, at 8:30 p.m., on motion of Mr. Derrick, adjourned.

Approved:

Mayor

Ben W. Davis, Clerk.