

Monday Evening, May 6, 1912

The Council met in special session at 8 o'clock p.m., for the purpose of receiving the report of the Judges of Election for the annual municipal election held this date, for the hearing relative to construction of a cement sidewalk on a portion of Chestnut Ave, and for such other business as may be presented. There were present Mayor Platt and Councilmen Blodgett, Rogers, Rush, Taff and Williams. Councilman Grabill was absent because of death in his family which necessitated his absence from the city.

Mr. J.H. Van Houten, Chairman of the Election Judges, presented to the Council the ballot box, tickets voted, summary of results, etc, relative to the Town election, together with the following report of the Judges:

To the Mayor and Council, Town of Takoma Park, Md,		Takoma Park, Md., May 6, 1912		
Gentlemen - The undersigned, duly appointed and qualified as Judges of Election, beg leave to submit the following report in regard to the annual municipal election, held this date:				
The Board of Judges organized and qualified before the Mayor on Saturday, May 4, and appointed Mr. S.E. McNeill as Clerk.				
The polls were opened promptly at the legal hour of six o'clock a.m., and closed at six o'clock p.m.				
The following persons were balloted for and received the number of votes set opposite their respective names:				
For Mayor:	E. N. JACKSON.....106	For Councilmen:	J. W. AUSTIN.....108	R. D. RUSH.....158
	C. W. PAFFLOW.....9		L. R. GRABILL.....222	H. F. TAFF.....211
	S. W. WILLIAMS.....133		B. B. JENKINS.....35	
The total number of votes cast was 248.				
It appears from the official canvass of the ballots that the following named candidates received the highest number of all the votes cast and are hereby declared duly elected: MAYOR, S.W. Williams; Councilmen, L.R. Grabill, R.D. Rush, H.F. Taff.				
Certificates of election are herewith inclosed.		Very respectfully		
Attest: S.E. McNEILL,	Clerk.	J. H. VAN HOUTEN, Chr. } F. W. LONGLEY } L. M. MOGERS } Judges of Election		

Mr. Taff moved that the report be received and filed. Carried and so ordered.

On motion of Mr. Rush the Treasurer was authorized to make the usual payment of \$3⁰⁰ each to the Judges and Clerk of Election.

The Clerk presented a communication from the Washington Gas Light Company requesting permission to extend a 4" gas main on Sycamore Ave. for a distance of about 600 feet. In connection with this request the Mayor stated that the Company would probably desire permission to extend their main on Baltimore Ave. in the near future and suggested that permission be granted for that also.

Mr. Taff moved that the Washington Gas Light Company be granted permission to extend their 4" main on Sycamore Ave. a distance of about 600 feet under the usual conditions, and that the Clerk be authorized to grant similar permission for an extension of

the Company's main on Baltimore Ave. whenever such permission is requested. The motion was carried.

The Mayor laid before the Council the matter of the construction of a cement sidewalk on a portion of Chestnut Avenue, and stated that in compliance with public notice, legally given, the Council was now ready to hear objections, if, any, to the proposed work. No objections being presented the following ordinance was presented for the consideration of the Council:

Ordinance No. 199

Be it Ordained by the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Maryland:

Section 1. That in accordance with the authority conferred by the Act of the General Assembly of Maryland approved March 3, 1904, the Mayor and Council hereby deem it necessary for the public safety and comfort that a 4-foot cement sidewalk be constructed on Chestnut Avenue as provided in Section 1 of Ordinance No. 197, passed and approved April 8, 1912.

Section 2. The whole cost of construction of said walk shall be assessed proportionally against the following abutting property which is hereby declared specially benefitted by said walk, namely: lots 24, 25, 26 and 27, in block 12 and lots 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 in block 11, of B. F. Gilbert's subdivision.

Mr. Rogers moved that the Ordinance be adopted and the Ordinance was adopted upon an aye and nay vote as follows: Voting aye, the Mayor and Councilmen Blodgett, Rogers, Rush, Taff and Williams. Voting nay, none.

Mr. Blodgett, from the Street committee, stated that in the establishment of a proper grade for the sidewalk on Chestnut Avenue just authorized, it would probably be necessary to cut down considerable of the street and suggested that this be authorized.

Mr. Rush moved that the Street Committee be authorized to do the necessary grading to secure a proper adjustment of the street to the sidewalk grade for the proposed new cement walk on Chestnut Ave. and that the sum of \$100 or so much thereof as may be necessary be appropriated therefor. The motion was carried.

Mr. Taff moved that the construction of the cement walk on Chestnut Ave. the grading of the street and all work in connection therewith be done by the Town under direction of the street committee. Carried and so ordered.

Upon request of Mr. H. F. Taff and upon motion of Mr. Rush the Street Committee was directed to construct a 4-foot cement sidewalk in front of Mr. Taff's property on Maple Avenue, upon deposit with the Town Treasurer of the amount of the estimated cost thereof.

Mr. Rogers, from the Health Committee, presented to the Council the draft of a proposed circular to the householders in

the Town, relative to a "cleaning-up week" in conformity with the recommendation of the Associated Boards of Trade of Maryland, and requested that authority be granted the Health Committee to take the necessary steps to secure efficient action along the lines suggested.

Mr. Taff moved that the draft of the circular presented by Mr. Rogers be approved, except that the week of May 13-18 be substituted for that of May 6-11 and that the Health Committee be authorized to take all action deemed necessary to secure the most favorable results. The motion was carried.

There being no further business, the Council, at 9:50 o'clock adjourned,

Approved:

W. G. Platt

Mayor.

B. G. Davis clerk

Monday Evening, May 13, 1912.

The Council met at 8 o'clock p.m. There were present Mayor Platt and Councilmen Grabill, Rogers, Rush, Taff and Williams.

The minutes of the last regular meeting and of the special meeting of May 6 were read and approved.

The Mayor announced that in accordance with public notice given as required by law the Council would now sit as a Board of Review to hear and consider any complaints or appeals regarding the annual assessment as submitted by the Board of Assessors.

Mr. Charles Selden, jr, representing the owners of the subdivision "Hill Crest," addressed the Council in opposition to the increase from \$6000 to \$22000 of the property within this subdivision. Mr. Selden maintained that in the absence of any physical improvement resulting from the division of this acreage property into building lots the large increase in its assessed valuation, was unjustified.

Mr. B. G. Davis, a member of the Board of Assessors recommended a reduction of \$200 in the assessment of improvements on lot 2, block 62, property of Joseph T. Cherry and of \$200 in assessment of improvements on property of Wm. L. Beaman in the Carroll subdivision, stating that the amounts recommended by the Assessors were based upon erroneous valuation of these properties.

No further objections were filed or presented.

On motion of Mr. Taff the assessment on the properties of Messrs. Cherry and Beaman was reduced \$200 on each.

In view of the representations of Mr. Selden regarding the "Hill Crest" property, Mr. Grabill moved, in order that the members of the Board might further inform themselves upon the subject that further proceedings of the Board of Review be postponed until the evening of Monday May 20, 1912, at which time the Council meet in special session for final consideration of this and such other matters as may be presented. The motion was carried and the Council resumed its regular order of business.

The monthly report of the Town Treasurer, duly examined and approved by the Finance Committee, was submitted as follows:

Balance on hand last report		\$ 6523.63	Street lighting: oil		\$ 22.80
Receipts:			General expenses: printing	\$ 9.25	
From general taxes	\$ 222.30		contingent	3.35	
" special " (cement walks)	117.15		telephones	12.15	
" " (Tulip Ave. sewer)	67.08		Water tapping fees	2.50	27.25
" water rents	92.58		Miscellaneous expenses		35.50
" permits	11.00		Interest on filter bands	18.75	
" miscellaneous	18.40	538.51	Interest on water and sewer bonds	1040.00	1058.75
		7062.14	Salaries: engineer	75.00	
Disbursements:			lanplighter	40.00	
Pumping plant: miscellaneous	\$ 11.53		clerk and treasurer	35.00	
gasoline	103.95	115.48	laborer	5.00	
Waterworks: miscellaneous	21.68		bailliffs	20.00	175.00
Sewer System	15.00		Filter bands paid		1000.00 2591.52
Street work: labor	115.69		Balance on hand		\$ 4470.62
material	9.37	120.06			

On motion of Mr. Taff the report was received and ordered filed.

Dr. E. Clyde Shade, of Eastern Avenue, appeared before the Council and called attention to the damage being done his property by increasing drainage from the District of Columbia into the stream that passes through a portion of his lot. Dr. Shade called further attention to the rumor that it is the intention of the District of Columbia authorities to drain the surplus water from the subway into this same stream and thus augment the possibility of increased damage to his property. The Council considered the matter at some length but in view of a divergence of opinion as to whether or not it was a matter of public or private interest no definite action was taken.

Mr. George T. Randall of Maple Ave. appeared before the Council and requested that something be done to protect his property from street water piped across the Presbyterian Church lots and emptied upon his grounds. Without objection the matter was referred to the Water and Sewer committee for investigation and report.

A communication was read from Mr. Louis D. Bliss, President of the Bliss Electrical School, stating that he had ascertained that 3 street lamp globes had been broken by students of the Bliss School and asking that bill therefor be sent to him; Mr. Bliss stated also that some globes had been taken away by a crowd of negroes and that one lamp had been removed from the pole and set on fire by soldiers not long since.

Mr. Grabill moved that a bill be sent Mr. Bliss for the three globes, as requested, and that a letter be addressed to the Commanding Office, Walter Reed General Hospital, telling of the vandalism of the soldiers in destruction of a street lamp and requesting his cooperation, in such manner as may be possible, in preventing further similar damage. The motion was carried.

Mr. Taff, from the Finance Committee, submitted the following bills, examined and approved for payment:

Standard Oil Co. 835 gals gasoline	\$ 93.90	Eddy Valve Co. Hydrant repairs	\$ 51.75	Columbia Brick & Coal Co. Crushed stone	\$ 110.16
" " 250 " illum. oil @ 8¢	20.00	Cent. P. Telephone Co. rentals	12.25	Springfield Gas Engine Co. 2 pump plungers	1.50
G. W. Farsberg, Stem for engine	3.00	A. W. Skinner, Printing	10.00	H. Mueller Mfg. Co. 2 doz. carp. cocks	17.96
National Elec. Supply Co. dry cells	3.00	Geo. F. Muth & Co. lighting supplies	8.53	J. H. Cissel, 2 wheelbarrows	6.50
					338.55

Mr. Williams stated that the two wheelbarrows purchased had been obtained for use at the pumping station and that one had been returned. He therefore asked that this bill be adjusted prior to payment. Mr. Taff therefore moved that the bills be paid as recommended by the Finance Committee except that of Mr. J. H. Cissel for 2 wheelbarrows and that that one be paid less credit for the barrow returned. Carried and so ordered.

Mr. Grabill, from the Water and Sewer committee returned the communication of Mr. M. L. Harper relative to sewerage facilities for lot 28, in block 19, facing Carroll Avenue, with recommendation that Mr. Harper be informed that after careful consideration it is impossible to indicate when a sewer will be constructed on this portion of Carroll Avenue; that as regards the construction and use of a cess-pool the Council has always declined to permit this where it is possible to connect with existing

sewers, which can be done in his case with the Columbia Ave. sewer, and that the committee would suggest to Mr. Harper that with the cooperation of adjacent lot owners a sewer might be constructed to sewer all these lots into Columbia Ave at a comparatively small expense. On motion of Mr. Grabill the recommended action was approved.

Mr. Grabill called attention to the damage done at the pumping station by the heavy rain of the night of May 6th and stated that in order to repair the damage the construction of a cement wall would be necessary at an expense of about ^{\$}150 and moved that this amount be appropriated for such work. The motion was carried.

There being no further business, Mayor Platt addressed the Council informing them that circumstances beyond his control had rendered it essential for him to leave Takoma Park and much to his regret he would be unable to be present at the installation of his successor the first Monday in June. The Mayor stated that within a few days he would leave Washington for the West and desired to take this opportunity to thank one and all of the Council and the town officials for the harmonious support given to him at all times during his three terms as Mayor. The Mayor made complimentary reference to each of his associates, commended their unselfish interest in the performance of their official duties and said he could wish his successor no better fortune than a continuance of the harmonious relationship it had been his pleasure to enjoy.

After individual expression of commendation to the Mayor for his achievements during his 6 years of incumbency of office and regret at severance of official relations, the Council gave voice to its feelings through Mr. Grabill who moved that this Council hereby records its loyalty and affection for the retiring Mayor and expresses its profound regret for the circumstances which necessitate his removal from the Town; that the Council extend its best wishes for future success and happiness and health to himself and to those dear to him and stand ready to welcome him home again whenever it may be his pleasure to return.

The motion was unanimously carried.

There being no further business, the Council, at 10:45 o'clock p.m., adjourned.

Approved:

W. G. Platt

Mayor

Ben G. Davis. Clerk

Monday Evening, May 20, 1912.

Pursuant to the order of the Council at its last session a special meeting was held at the office of the Town Clerk, convening at 8 o'clock, for the purpose of further considering objections to the assessment submitted by the Board of Assessors, and for such other business as may be presented. There were present Mayor Platt and Councilmen Blodgett, Grabill, Rogers, Rush, Williams and Taff:

Sitting as a Board of Review the Council proceeded to consideration of the objections of Mr. Charles Selden, jr. in behalf of the owners of "Hill Crest" subdivision, to the assessment upon that property.

Mr. Ben G. Davis, speaking for the Board of Assessors, stated that the efforts of the Board had been to assess the new "Hill Crest" subdivision equitably with other property in the Town; that in making an assessment the price paid for the land can be taken into consideration only incidentally, even when the purchase price be known, and that the Board of Assessors placed upon these new lots a value which they considered fair in comparison with other similar property throughout the Town.

After extended consideration of the matter, Mr. Williams moved that the assessment submitted be reduced $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The motion was lost. Mr. Grabill moved that the assessment be reduced 10% which motion was also lost. Mr. Williams moved to reduce the assessment by 30%. The motion was lost. Mr. Grabill moved that all lots in the "Hill Crest" subdivision facing on Carroll Ave, including lots 3 and 4 in block 1, be assessed as reported by the Assessors and that all other lots in the subdivision be reduced 20% from the assessment as reported. Mr. Rogers moved to amend Mr. Grabill's motion by reducing all lots in the subdivision 20%. The amendment was lost. The Council then voted upon the motion as submitted by Mr. Grabill, namely - to reduce all lots by 20% except lots 3 and 4 in block 1, and all lots facing Carroll Avenue which shall remain as reported by the Assessors. The motion was carried.

There being no further complaints or suggestions the Council adjourned as a Board of Review and reported to the Council the new assessment with such corrections as had been authorized, with recommendation that the following ordinance be adopted:

Ordinance No. 200

To Adopt an Assessment of Real Property for Purposes of Municipal Taxation.

Be it Ordained by the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Maryland.

Section 1. That the assessment of real property lying within the limits of the Town of Takoma Park, Md., made for the purposes of municipal taxation by J. H. Van Houten, E. N. Jackson and Ben G. Davis, Board of Assessors, and reported by them to the Council, Apr 8, 1912, with such corrections, amendments and adjustments made by the Council sitting as a Board of Review on May 15 and May 20, 1912, be and the same is hereby adopted as the assessment for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1912. The Council, as a Board of Review, having heard and decided all complaints and objections made therefor.

Mr. Rush moved that the Ordinance be adopted and the Ordinance was adopted upon an aye and nay vote as follows: voting aye, the Mayor and Councilmen Blodgett, Grabill, Rogers, Rush, Taff and Williams. Voting nay, none.

The Council then proceeded to the consideration of the tax rate for the ensuing year. Mr. Taff, from the Finance Committee, stated that his committee had recently considered the matter with the Treasurer and had decided to recommend a reduction from \$1.40 per \$100 to \$1.25 per \$100, but in view of recent damage to the pumping plant dam it would probably be safer to make a less reduction than that suggested. Mr. Grabill moved that an Ordinance be submitted fixing the total tax rate for the coming fiscal year at \$1.30 per \$100 assessed valuation. The motion was carried and the following Ordinance submitted:

Ordinance No. 201.

To Levy a General Tax for Municipal Purposes and an Additional Tax for Interest, Sinking Fund, and Maintenance of Water & Sewer System.

Be it Ordained by the Mayor and Council of Takoma Park, Md.

Sec. 1. That a general tax of Sixty-five Cents on each one hundred dollars of assessed valuation of real property within the limits of the Town of Takoma Park, Md., as shown by the assessment adopted May 20, 1912, be and the same is hereby levied and fixed for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1912.

Sec. 2. - That an additional tax of Sixty-five Cents on each One hundred dollars of the same assessed valuation and of the same assessment as stated in Sec. 1. for the payment of interest, addition to the sinking fund and maintenance of a water and sewer system, is hereby levied and fixed for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1912.

Mr. Grabill moved that the Ordinance be adopted and upon an aye and nay vote the Ordinance was adopted as follows: voting aye, Mayor Platt and Councilmen Blodgett, Grabill, Rogers, Rush, Taff and Williams; voting nay, none.

Mr. Rogers, from the Health Committee, reported a number of cases of measles and whooping cough throughout the town and asked if it was desired to disinfect the premises in cases of measles. On motion of Mr. Taff the Health Committee was directed to follow the judgment of the Health Officer in regard to the necessity or advisability of disinfecting premises where measles had prevailed.

The general business of the meeting having been concluded Mayor Platt announced to the Council that inasmuch as he would depart within a few days for the West to be absent an indefinite period, this would be the last meeting of the Council over which he would preside, and suggested, in order that there be no delay in town business, that a Mayor pro tem be chosen to serve until June 3 when the term of Mr. Williams, Mayor-elect would begin.

Mr. Taff moved that Mr. Williams be elected Mayor pro tem for the unexpired term of Mayor Platt. The motion was unanimously carried. [cried]

As Mayor Platt was about to declare the meeting adjourned, Mayor-elect Williams obtained the floor and called the attention of Mr. Platt to the fact that he (Mr. Platt) was about to lay aside official duties which he had performed ably and faithfully for 14 years - 8 years as a member of the Council and 6 years as Mayor of the Town; that during that period he had endeared himself to his associates, both officially and personally, and that now, upon conclusion of those pleasant relations, those associates had delegated him to present to Mayor Platt, as an evidence of their esteem and good will, a token of their regard which carried with it every good wish for his future happiness and prosperity. Mr. Williams thereupon handed to the Mayor a handsomely executed watch fob consisting of a heavy silk-ribbon from the clasp of which, supported by a lion's head of roman gold, hung pendant a heavy disk of gold. Upon one face of the disc was engraved the seal of the Town and upon the other, the words: "Presented to W. G. Platt - Mayor 1906-1912 - by his associates in the government of the Town."

After recovering from this unexpected part of the proceedings, the Mayor feelingly responded to Mr. Williams' remarks. He expressed his great regret at the severance of relations that had been so pleasant and dwelt especially upon the continuous harmony that had made so agreeable his three terms as Mayor. He complimented the fidelity of each and every member of the Council and congratulated Mr. Williams as Mayor-elect in having such a "fine bunch of fellows" to help him in his administration of the Town's affairs. In conclusion the Mayor expressed his thanks for the very beautiful remembrance given him which would ever be a reminder of faithful and true official and personal friends.

The Town Clerk, addressing the Mayor and Council, stated that he had recently gone over the official minutes of the past six years, during which Mr. Platt has served as Mayor and had embodied the chief achievements of that period in a

letter to Mr. Platt, which, with the permission of the Council, he would like to read as a matter of public record. Permission being granted the letter was read, and upon motion of Mr. Taff it was ordered spread upon the minutes, and was as follows:

Mr. Wilmer G. Platt, Mayor
Town of Takoma Park, Md.

Takoma Park, Md., May 15, 1912

Dear Mr. Mayor: - As you are about to retire from the office of Mayor, which position you have filled with credit and ability from June 4, 1906 to date, a period of six years, it may be of interest to you to have in succinct form a brief resume of the more important accomplishments in the way of public improvements for which your administration is entitled to credit.

As an evidence of your personal devotion to the work imposed upon you by your fellow citizens, it is shown by the official records of the Town that during your six years of duty there were held 115 meetings of the Council, regular and special, from which you were absent upon but a single occasion and then because of personal illness and upon a stormy night. This does not include the numerous informal meetings of the Council from which you were never absent so far as my recollection goes.

Two public works of vast importance to our community stand out prominently in the accomplishments of your administration - the building of the new Sligo bridge and the construction of the filtration plant. These two works involved a combined expenditure of upward of \$20,000.00 and, being permanent in their character, will bear attest for many years to your foresight in their advocacy and to your executive ability in their accomplishment. The vast benefit to the community of either of these great works is inestimable. The construction of the Sligo bridge, in the elimination of the steep grades and of the dangerous and antiquated bridge that spanned the stream has, since its completion, and will more and more in the future, prove of vast benefit in the material advancement of the Town. The filtration plant, even more, is a substantial, present evidence of your progressive administration. The certainty of pure water which it assures to the people, not only promotes and maintains the general health but allays all lurking suspicion to which, at some time or other, unfiltered water supplies are preeminently liable. These two splendid public improvements you constantly advocated and urged and as the executive head of our Town government you are entitled to a large share of the credit in their successful termination.

The splendid initiation of your predecessor, Mayor Kinnear, of the construction of cement sidewalks, has been carried forward materially under your regime. Since 1906 over five thousand feet of such walks have been laid to the vast improvement of streets, to the added comfort of citizens and to generally improved appearances, all of which count for much in the attainment of ideal conditions in our community.

The records show further that since 1906 there have been constant and in the aggregate substantial extensions of the water and sewer mains, every foot of which tends to improved conditions of public comfort and health and to the increased valuation of the property of our citizens. You have consistently advocated these extensions to the limit of the Town's financial ability to provide them.

Although with the limited income of the Town it has been impossible to carry out your cherished desires for extended macadamizing of our streets, some progress has been made in that direction and plans have almost matured for considerable additional work. That already accomplished on Carroll Avenue is indicative of what may be ultimately done as a result of your urging.

Another innovation of your administration is the installation of water meters. Time has demonstrated their effectiveness in the prevention of undue waste of water and without doubt they will eventually prove to have been an economical investment in the conservation both of pumping expense and of wastefulness of the most important article of daily use.

Many lesser accomplishments of your administration, though not so important as those enumerated, suggest themselves, among them the opening and grading of Lincoln Avenue, thus affording access to the main Town of a large section heretofore isolated; the assertion of the Town's right of ownership to the Takoma Spring Park and the taking possession thereof by the Town; and finally the negotiations for electric lighting of our streets which we have reason to hope will soon be successfully terminated.

It may be of interest to you to know that since you were elected Mayor increased improvements have added upward of \$120,000 to our assessment valuations and that during your six years of service the bonded indebtedness of the Town has seen a net reduction of \$7300.00. In view of our annual limited income and the numerous projects that have called for considerable extra disbursement this net reduction in our bonded indebtedness is worthy of special mention and deserving of much credit in your attention to our fiscal affairs.

There is no doubt, Mr. Mayor, that the executive head of a municipality counts for a great deal in its progress or its retrogression. Fortunate as you have been throughout your three terms in your associates upon the Council, all of whom have been devoted to the special lines of municipal affairs to which you assigned them, the fact remains that the Mayor, of necessity, is the directing force and as such a large share of credit for our commendable municipal progress in the past six years, is yours, and upon you that credit is ungrudgingly bestowed by your associates.

Finally I desire to express my personal appreciation of your uniform courtesy to me in the close official relations we have enjoyed these past six years. We have worked together in harmonious fellowship, with no differences that were not speedily and satisfactorily adjusted in such manner as we both deemed most advantageous to our Town. In severing those official relations I feel a sense of regret that mere words can but feebly express—a regret that is somewhat assuaged and softened in the knowledge that there will always exist a lasting personal friendship.

With every good wish for your happiness and prosperity, believe me,

Sincerely yours,
BEN G. DAVIS, Clerk and Treasurer.

There being no further business the Council thereupon, at 9:50 o'clock p.m., adjourned.

Approved:

Ben G. Davis, clerk.

Mayor Pro tem.

Monday Evening, June 10, 1912

The Council met at 8 o'clock p.m. There were present Messrs Williams, Blodgett, Grabill, Rogers, Rush and Taff.

Mr. Williams announced that as Mayor-elect he had duly taken the prescribed oath of office before the clerk of the Circuit Court at Rockville and had entered upon the discharge of his duties as Mayor on Monday June 3, 1912. The Mayor thereupon administered the oath of office to Councilmen Grabill, Rush and Taff for the new term to which they had been elected.

Mr. Rush moved that Mr. Ben G. Davis be elected clerk and treasurer for the ensuing year. The motion was carried and the oath of office was thereupon administered to Mr. Davis by the Mayor.

Mr. Rush moved that the offices of Registrar of Vital Statistics and Health Officer be combined and that the duties thereof devolve upon Mr. H. E. Rogers, now filling the latter position. The motion was carried.

The minutes of the last regular meeting and of the special meeting of May 20th were now read by the Clerk, and there being no objection, they were approved.

The monthly report of the Treasurer, duly examined and approved by the Finance Committee, was submitted as follows:

Balance on hand last report		\$ 4470.62	Street work: material	\$ 110.16	200.16
Receipts:			Street lighting: oil	20.00	
Special taxes: cement walks	\$ 47.00		miscellaneous	8.78	28.78
General taxes	28.37		General expenses: printing	10.00	
Water and meter rents	30.13		telephones	12.25	
Permits	1.00		contingent	1.14	
Miscellaneous	1.20		postage	2.38	25.77
Special deposits	52.50	160.20	Miscellaneous expenses		30.75
		4630.82	Interest on filtration bonds		100.00
Disbursements:			Salaries: clerk and treasurer	35.00	
Pumping plant: miscellaneous	9.75		lamp lighter	40.00	
gasoline	93.90	103.65	engineer	75.00	
Waterworks: miscellaneous	417.71		laborer	5.00	155.00 1185.90
Sewer system: miscellaneous	124.08		Balance on hand		3444.92
Street work: labor	90.00				

On motion of Mr. Taff the report was received and ordered filed.

Dr. George H. Heald, of Cedar Ave, personally presented a petition numerously signed by residents and property owners on that street and Beech Ave. asking for the construction of a sewer main on Cedar Ave. along Beech Ave. to sycamore Ave. Mr. H.A. Stacy, also of Cedar Ave. briefly addressed the Council also urging the desired improvement.

The Clerk presented a petition from property owners on Ash Ave, between Eastern and Pine Aves. requesting the construction of water and sewer mains on that street. Mr. Edwin L. Yancy addressed the Council urging this work.

On motion of Mr. Grabill these petitions were referred to the Water and Sewer committee with instructions to present them with estimates of cost and recommendations, to the Finance Committee, the latter committee to return them to the Council with a statement as to the amount of funds, if any, available for the work.

Messrs. McKenney, Babcock and Coleman, residents of Carroll Ave, appeared before the Council and called attention to the resumption of Saturday night disturbances on that thoroughfare since the bailiffs have ceased their Saturday night patrol. The Mayor assured the gentlemen that he would give the matter his personal attention.

The Mayor announced the appointment of Mr. Rush as temporary chairman of the Ordinance Committee with request that

the Committee investigate and report to the Council existing laws or ordinances relating to the speed limits of automobiles and motor cycles within the limits of the Town.

The Mayor, regarding the matter of the electric lighting of streets stated that the special committee in charge thereof, consisting of himself and ex-Mayor Platt, was now dissolved through the absence of the latter and asked the wishes of the Council in regard thereto. Mr. Grabill moved that Mayor Williams be authorized to assume the duties and powers of the special committee investigating the electric lighting of the streets and requested to proceed with negotiations with the Potomac Electric Power Co. toward the accomplishment of that end. The motion was carried.

Mr. Taff, from the Finance Committee submitted the following bills, duly examined and approved for payment:

Standard Oil Co. 1050 gals. gasoline _ _ \$ 129.23	Columbia Brick & Coal Co. Cement & brick \$ 89.98	A. W. Skinner, Printing _ _ _ _ _ \$ 6.60
" " " 265 " illum. oil @ 8¢ _ 21.20	Lamond Bros. Sewer pipe _ _ _ _ 86.70	Geo. H. Cohn, Electrical work _ _ _ _ 12.00
C. and P. Telephone Co. _ _ _ _ _ 12.35	Geo. L. Tarbell, Sundries _ _ _ _ 3.45	<u>407.81</u>
Rudolph & West Co. 120 th waste @ 11 ¹ / ₂ ¢ _ 13.80	Fred J. White, Manhole frames _ _ _ 21.00	
D. Feldman, 2 prs. rubber boots _ _ _ 9.00	E. E. Blodgett, Tapping fees _ _ _ 2.50	

Mr. Taff moved that the report be approved and bills paid except that payment of bill of Columbia Brick and Coal Co be withheld until the items thereof are checked and approved by Mr. Grabill. The motion was carried.

Mr. Rogers, from the Health Committee, reported back to the Council the numerously signed petition for the installation of a garbage and trash collection service, with verbal report to the effect that the only reasonable offer for the performance of this service was obtained from Mr. Walter Proctor who will make 2 or 3 weekly collections at \$ 3.00 each collection.

The Committee recommended installation of the service upon terms proposed by Mr. Proctor. On motion of Mr. Grabill the petition and report was referred to the Finance Committee for report as to available funds in connection therewith.

Mr. Blodgett, from the Street Committee, submitted the following schedule of permanent street improvement as having been approved by his committee: For construction of gutter on west side of Poplar Ave, \$ 700.00; for completing the macadamizing of Carroll Ave, \$ 1600.00; for macadamizing Tulip Avenue, from Willow to Oak, \$ 900.00. Total \$ 3200.00

Mr. Grabill moved that the schedule as submitted by the Street Committee be approved as the permanent street improve-

ment to be accomplished and that the matter be referred to the finance committee for statement of the funds available toward this work during the next four months. The motion was carried.

Mr. Grabill submitted a proposal from the Standard Oil Company to oil Carroll Avenue with one application of No. 4 Standard Asphalt Road Oil at a price of $2\frac{1}{4}$ cents per square yard and moved that the proposal be accepted. The motion was ^{(ried,} carried.

Attention having been called to the destruction of the bridge on Lincoln Ave. crossing Brashears Branch the Street Committee, on motion of Mr. Grabill, was instructed to submit estimates to the Council for reconstruction thereof both of lumber and cement.

Mr. Grabill, from the Water and Sewer Committee reported relative to repairs at the pumping station which, so far as made, had largely exceeded the estimate of the committee. Upon his motion the expenditures in excess of the appropriation of \$150⁰⁰ were approved and an additional appropriation of \$250⁰⁰ for filling, etc., was authorized.

A communication from Mr. W. T. Knox, President of Boards of Washington (D.C.) Sanitarium Association and Washington Foreign Mission Seminary, relative to a special water rate for these institutions was returned from the Water and Sewer committee with report as follows:

June 10, 1912. An examination of the receipts for water and expenses of the waterworks show the following facts: The expenditure for the waterworks operation and maintenance for the year (1912) including approximately \$500 of what may be termed extraordinary expenditure, amounts to approximately \$3660.00. Deducing this extraordinary expenditure there remains approximately \$3160. for annual cost of maintenance and operation. This does not include any interest or bonded debt or allowance for depreciation or sinking fund. The receipts from water rents and meter rents for the same period were about \$4200. This includes about \$900 for meter rent which is for the purpose of paying bonds and interest incurred for installation of meters, the collection of which it has been intended to discontinue when those bonds are paid off. Deducing this amount the revenue from water rents alone amounts to about \$3300, a little more than the annual cost of maintenance and operation, but less than the amount actually expended for the year on the waterworks. It does not appear certain that any great decrease in this expenditure can be made in the near future; but rather that there are expenditures beyond the ordinary maintenance which should be made in the near future. It does not appear from this comparison that any reduction can be made in the water rate at this time without bringing the revenues below the necessary amount for maintenance and care of the waterworks. The committee therefore recommends that after the expiration of the present contract with the Washington Sanitarium the rate for water furnished that institution be the same as that now in force for all other premises, viz: 15 cents per 100 cubic feet.

It is further recommended that the President of the institution be informed that, beginning 60 days from date the furnishing of water for use as a source of motive power will be discontinued. The amount of water rent paid last year by these institutions was about \$540. which will be increased to about \$700.00 per annum when the sanitarium charge is included. The committee recommends the installation of a new meter at the sanitarium or the repair of the present meter, to be at the expense of the town.

Upon suggestion of Mr. Rogers the limit of 60 days for discontinuance of water for motive power was amended to read "90 days" with which change the report and recommendations of the committee were approved upon motion of Mr. Grabill.

The Clerk called the attention of the Council to the passage by the legislature at its last session of an amendment to the Town charter whereby the lands of John and George Powell were removed from the corporation, thus without the knowledge or consent of the town authorities. Upon motion of Mr. Grabill the Mayor was requested to thoroughly investigate the legal phases of this action by the legislature and to report to the Council at his convenience.

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

Approved:

J. Williams Mayor

Ben W. Davis Clerk

Takoma Park, Md., July 8, 1912

The Council met at 8:15 o'clock p.m. at the office of the Town Clerk, the janitor having failed to open the usual place of meeting.

There were present Mayor Williams and Councilmen Blodgett, Grabill, Rogers, Rush and Taff.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read by the Clerk and there being no objection they were approved.

The monthly report of the Treasurer, duly approved by the Finance Committee, was submitted as follows:

Balance on hand last report	\$ 3444.92	General expenses: printing	\$ 6.60
Receipts:		telephones	12.35
From general taxes	\$ 34.25	contingent	1.68
" permits	9.00	Water tapping fees	2.50
For redemption of property sold for taxes	132.00	Miscellaneous	24.00
	175.25	Salaries: engineer	\$ 75.00
	3620.17	lamplighter	40.00
Disbursements:		clerk and treasurer	35.00
Pumping plant: miscellaneous	\$ 17.50	laborer	6.00
gasoline	129.23	bailiffs	15.00
Waterworks: miscellaneous	40.00	Paid from redemption fund	132.00
Sewer system	267.92	Balance on hand	880.69
Street work: labor	54.71		2739.48
Street lighting: oil	21.20		

The annual report of the Treasurer, duly examined and approved by the Finance Committee, was also submitted as follows: