

Monday Evening, January 14, 1918

The Council met at 8 o'clock. There were present the Mayor and Councilmen Grabill, Hendrick, LaFetra, Rogers and Taff.

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

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

Balance on hand last report		\$ 3570.72	Water System: miscellaneous		\$ 21.19
RECEIPTS:			Sewer System: pipe line extensions		453.85
From general taxes	\$ 305.36		Street work: labor	46.34	
" special "	199.76		material	390.15	436.49
" road tax refund, Montgomery Co	1514.67		Concrete Streets		3119.74
" water and sewer permits	5.00		Cement walks		21.00
" gas permits	1.00		General expenses: telephones	8.85	
" miscellaneous	1.60	2027.39	postage	10.60	
		5598.11	miscellaneous	18.00	37.45
DISBURSEMENTS:			Street lighting		158.75
Pumping Station: miscellaneous	\$ 30.30		Salaries: clerk and treasurer	50.00	
fuel oil	29.35		Superintendent of public work	105.00	155.00
salary of engineer	90.00		Balance on hand		\$ 1016.74
assistance to engineer	28.25	177.90			

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

The Clerk laid before the Council a communication from C. Selden, Jr., President of the Washington and Maryland Railway Co., reiterating his former demand for the payment of 15% of the cost of lowering the water main on Carroll Avenue in accordance with an alleged understanding to that effect, said communication being referred to the Street Committee.

A communication from the W. H. H. Allen Construction Company relative to the rental of a concrete mixer for the Carroll Ave. work and non-payment therefor, was likewise referred to the Street Committee.

The Clerk submitted a letter from the Potomac Electric Power Co, stating their construction of the letter of the Clerk dated Dec. 15 to be an extension of the street lighting contract for a period of five years. After discussion the Clerk was instructed to advise the Company that the letter of December 15th was intended to represent the desire of the Council to continue in force the existing contract which provides that its terms and conditions shall continue after the lapse of five years until either party gives written notice three months in advance of a desire to terminate the agreement.

Mr. Ramsdell and several gentlemen residing on Maple Avenue appeared before the Council in reference to the freezing of the water main and service pipes on that street. They were assured by the Mayor and Council that diligent effort would be made to thaw out the main and that all assistance would be rendered them consistent with law and public policy, in the thawing out of their private service pipes.

Mrs. Dodge, owner of the land lying beyond Maple Avenue appeared before the Council and submitted an offer to deed to the Town the necessary land for an extension of Maple Avenue through her property.

Mr. Hendrick moved that the property offered by Mrs. Dodge be accepted with thanks and that the necessary deeds be drawn by the Town. Mr. La Fetra moved as a substitute that ground be accepted sufficient to carry the proposed extension to the corporation line only. Mr. Hendrick accepted the substitute and the substitute was thereupon adopted.

Messrs. C. V. Leach, S. L. Lush and S. M. Harlan, residents of the Pine Crest Subdivision, presented to the Council a petition requesting the inclusion within the corporation limits of the designated portions of the Pine Crest Subdivision on an accompanying map thereof. After consideration it was agreed that the gentlemen mentioned should arrange to meet the Mayor on the ground for further explanation of their petition.

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

<i>C. and P. Tel. Co. Rentals</i> _____ \$ 9.40	<i>Mattingly Bros., Disinfectors</i> _____ \$ 11.40	<i>Taylor and Balderson, Hauling cinders</i> \$ 40.50
<i>Col. Brick and Coal Co. 1 ton coal</i> _____ 10.25	<i>Standard Oil Co. Fuel oil</i> _____ 52.53	<i>Total</i> ----- \$ 124.08

On motion of Mr. Taff the report was approved and the bills directed to be paid. [Approved and payment directed.

A bill of H. H. Spencer, amounting to \$ 8.00 for delivery of a barrel of lubricating oil from Baltimore to the pumping station was disallowed. A bill of J. J. Ramsdell for work on thawing out water main on Maple Ave, amounting to \$ 6.75, was disallowed.

Mr. Hendrick, from the Ordinance Committee, submitted the following:

**Ordinance No. 321.**

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

*Sec. 1. That on and after the passage of this Ordinance it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to coast upon a sled, bob-sled, or by any other means, upon Carroll Avenue, between Lincoln Avenue and Flower Avenue, or upon Elm Avenue, between Hickory and Sycamore Avenues, or upon any other street, and for such times, as may be designated by the Mayor of the Town of Takoma Park.*

*repealed by no. 1067 (21:17)*

Sec. 2. Any person or persons offending against any of the provisions of the preceding section, shall, upon conviction, thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than One Dollar nor more than Ten Dollars for each offense, and in default of payment thereof, may be imprisoned in the County jail for a period not exceeding ten days.

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 Grabill, Hendrick, LaFetra, Rogers and Taff. Voting nay, none.

In accordance with the above Ordinance the Mayor announced that he would designate Elm Avenue, between Hickory and Sycamore Avenues, upon which coasting should be prohibited until further notice.

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

Approved:

*W. H. Platt*

Mayor

*Bruce Davis*

Clerk.

Monday Evening, February 11, 1918

The Council met at 8 o'clock. There were present: Mayor Platt and Councilmen Grabill, Hendrick, Miller, Rogers and Taff,

The minutes of the last regular meeting were read by the Clerk and 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	\$ 1016.74	assistance to engineer	\$ 65.50	226.28
Receipts:		Water System: miscellaneous	125.20	
From general taxes	\$ 446.90	Street Work: material	40.50	
" special "	349.98	Concrete Streets	109.94	
" water rents	1248.25	Street lighting	158.75	
" interest on deposits in bank	20.32	General expenses: telephones	9.40	
	<u>2065.45</u>	miscellaneous	27.90	
Disbursements:	3082.19	Salaries: clerk and treasurer	50.00	
Pumping and Filter Plants: miscellaneous	\$ 18.25	superintendent of public work	105.00	155.00
Fuel oil	52.53	Balance on hand		<u>852.97</u>
salary of engineer	90.00			\$ 2229.22

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

The clerk laid before the Council several communications and a number of plumbers' bills submitted in reference to the freezing of

water mains and service pipes. These, on motion of Mr. Grabill, were submitted to the Water and Sewer Committee for consideration and report.

A committee of gentlemen from the Pine Crest Subdivision waited upon the Council in regard to their request submitted at the last meeting, for admission to the corporate limits of the Town. The Mayor announced that owing to the severe weather conditions prevailing during the past month the Council had been unable to survey the property proposed to be incorporated but that effort would be made to do so and appropriate action taken as soon as possible.

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

G. and P. Telephone Co. _ _ _ _ _	\$ 8.90	Columbia Brick and Coal Co. _ _ _ _ _	\$ 10.38	Washington Rubber Co. Pair boots _ _ _	\$ 5.50
Mathingly Bros. Disinfectors _ _ _	2.85	Washington Sanitarium _ _ _ _ _	2.50	District Machine Works, Repairs	
Vacuum Oil Co. 1 bbl. lubr. oil _ _ _	31.00	Thos. Somerville Co. Gasoline torch _ _	4.00	to engine _ _ _ _ _	38.67
Standard Oil Co. " " " _ _ _ _	31.93	Rudolph & West Co. 10# waste _ _ _	2.30		264.72
" " " Fuel oil _ _ _ _ _	103.35	August Mietz, Engine Repairs _ _	18.34		

On motion of Mr. Taff the report was approved and payment of the bills directed.

Mr. Rogers from the Health Committee reported one case scarlet fever and a number of cases of measles, all of mild type.

Mr. Grabill, from the Street Committee, returned the communication of Charles Selden, Jr, President of the Washington and Maryland Ry. Co., relative to 15 per cent on the cost of removing the water main on Carroll Ave, with the following report:

Feb. 5. 1918. - Upon the decision of Mr. Williams, then Mayor, to have the water main on Carroll Avenue shifted from under the track of the railway company, as requested by the Company, arrangement was made by Mr. Williams to take over the force of the railway company for the purpose, particularly because that force was about to be laid off on account of lack of material. The Railway Company was at that time very glad to make the arrangement and the entire force was taken over including a very heavy pay-roll for superintendence. It had not been expected that Mr. Smethurst, Superintendent for the Railway Company, would have anything to do with the work on the water-main and I think he did nothing except to collect one-half his pay from the town. The entire arrangement was closed by Mr. Williams and he is cognizant of all the facts. He has informed me that there is not the least ground for any payment of a commission on account of work done by this force, and asks, if the claim is persisted in, that we send to him for a deposition as to this matter. I may say that I was in touch practically all of the time with this work and knew of the employment of this force, and Mr. Selden's letter making claim for a commission on account of the work is the first reference I have ever known to be made to such a claim in this case.

Mr. Hendrick moved that the report of the Committee be approved and adopted and payment of the 15% per cent be denied; that payment be allowed for 16 ties at 80¢ each used by the Town, and that a copy of the report of the Committee be sent to Mr. Selden.

The motion was carried.

The Street Committee, through Mr. Grabill, returned the communication of the W.H.H. Allen Construction Company relative to \$100 for use of concrete mixer by Mr. Shadle on the Carroll Avenue work with recommendation that the writer be advised that the matter referred to is one concerning the Allen Company and Mr. Shadle only and that the Town cannot properly take action thereon. The recommendation of the committee, on motion of Mr. Taff, was approved.

The Council discussed at length the matter of cleaning snow from the sidewalks and at the conclusion thereof a motion by Mr. Hendricks that hereafter action be taken promptly to clear the sidewalks of snow or slush upon cessation of storms, was adopted.

Mr. Hendricks invited the Council's attention to the lack of any regulations regarding hucksters and cited instances of short weight and measure which had come to his attention. Upon suggestion of the Mayor Mr. Hendrick was requested to investigate the matter further with inquiry as to possible state or county regulations and their application to the Town.


The Mayor reported verbally to the Council relative to a hearing before the Montgomery and Prince George's delegations in the General Assembly at Annapolis which he and Mr. J. Bond Smith attended in the interest of the Town. The pending bill, the Mayor stated, was evidently to the advantage of the community and had his earnest support.

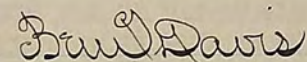
On motion of Mr. Grabill the Treasurer was authorized to pay the expenses of the Mayor and Mr. Smith in connection with the above service.

The Mayor suggested to the Council the advisability of requesting state aid, through the General Assembly, in connection with the concreting of Carroll Avenue. On motion of Mr. Taff the Mayor was authorized to initiate the matter and to employ such legal assistance as he might deem necessary.

There being no further business, the Council, at 10:25 o'clock adjourned.

Approved:

 Mayor



Clerk.

Monday Evening, March 11, 1918

The Council met at 8 o'clock. There were present the Mayor and Councilmen Grabill, La Fehra, Hendrick, Miller, Rogers and Taff.

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

The monthly report of the Treasurer was submitted as follows:

Balance on hand last report-----	\$ 2229.22	Water System: miscellaneous-----	495.33	
Receipts		Street work: labor-----	19.25	
From general taxes-----	\$ 492.28	Concrete Streets-----	3142.62	
" special "-----	1024.92	General expenses: telephones-----	8.90	
" water rents-----	1322.25	postage-----	12.65	
" water meter advances-----	48.00	miscellaneous-----	21.93	43.78
" proceeds of bond issue-----	5000.00	Street lighting-----		158.75
	7887.45	Semi-annual interest on improvement bonds---		500.00
	10116.67	Salaries: clerk and treasurer-----	50.00	
Disbursements:		Superintendent of public work-----	105.00	155.00
Pumping plant; miscellaneous---	\$ 76.64	Balance on hand-----		5258.00
Fuel oil-----	103.35			
Salary of engineer-----	90.00			
Assistance to engineer-----	74.25			
	344.24			

On motion of Mr. Taff the report was received and referred to the Finance Committee for examination and audit.

Mr. Roland S. Booth appeared before the Council in behalf of Mr. Fred S. Glaize and urged that the grading of Boyd Avenue and replacing of the cement walks in front of Mr. Glaize's houses on Carroll Ave., be given early attention. Mr. Booth stated that the sale of Mr. Glaize's houses had been handicapped by the delay in this work.

The Mayor assured Mr. Booth that the Town was most anxious to complete the work referred to and that in fact the contract for replacing Mr. Glaize's walks and steps had been awarded last fall and its non-completion due to the severe weather conditions of last winter. Every effort will be made to take up the work at the earliest moment. Mr. Booth was requested to inform Mr. Glaize of the Council's earnest desire to encourage his building operations to the fullest possible extent.

A numerously signed petition request that action be taken with reference to controlling the running-at-large of numerous dogs throughout the Town, was referred by the Mayor to the Judiciary Committee for consideration and report.

A communication from Mr. Guy Clinton relative to condition of street adjoining his premises on Carroll Avenue, was, upon motion of Mr. Rogers, referred to the Street Committee for report.

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

C. and P. Telephone Co. Rentals ----- \$ 9.20	Standard Oil Co. Fuel oil ----- \$ 548.32	Rudolph and West Co. Waste ----- \$ 2.30
A.W. Skinner. Printing ----- 2.85	Thos. Samensville Co. Offset ----- 75	Total ----- \$ 563.42

On motion of Mr. Taff the report was approved and payment of the bills directed.

Mr. Rogers, of the Health Committee, invited attention to his forthcoming absence of some weeks from the city and recommended that Mr. F. Greiner, a competent nurse connected with the Washington Sanitarium, be appointed a deputy health officer of the Town to take charge of contagious diseases, under general direction of the Health officer.

Upon motion of Mr. La Fetra the recommendation of Mr. Rogers was approved and Mr. Greiner duly appointed, to be compensated for services actually performed in connection with contagious diseases, at the rate of 50 cents per hour.

Mr. Grabill, from the Street Committee, reported that the Committee had arranged with Mr. Shadle to resume the work of concreting Carroll Avenue and to push the work to early completion.

Mr. La Fetra, from the Water and Sewer Committee, reporting relative to the water mains which had frozen during the winter, recommended that those mains in streets which had been graded and the depth of the mains lessened thereby, be lowered as fast as the available funds of the Town will permit. On motion of Mr. Grabill the recommendation was approved.

With respect to the expenses attendant upon individual property owners for opening up frozen service water pipes the Water and Sewer Committee, by Mr. La Fetra, recommended the employment of an attorney to render an opinion as to the liability of the Town to reimburse for expenses thereby incurred. The recommendation was approved and on motion of Mr. Hendrick the Water and Sewer committee was authorized to select the attorney and directed to report at the next meeting of the Council.

The petition of residents of the Pine Crest subdivision for admission to the Town of Takoma Park was laid before the Council for further consideration. After discussion and on motion of Mr. Taff the Clerk was instructed to transmit to State Senator Williams, the draft of a proposed amendment to the charter which should include within the corporation the portion of the Pine Crest subdivision represented by the petitioners, with the information that the Mayor and Council had no objection to the proposed enactment thereof into law.

The Mayor reported to the Council that he had personally visited Rockville and Annapolis and had taken up with the County Commissioners and State Senator Williams the matter of securing state and county sanction to a proposed bond issue of \$7500 by the county in aid of the concreting of Carroll Avenue and that he had received best encouragement from both sources and felt confident of the enactment of the necessary legislation. On motion of Mr. Grabill the Clerk was instructed to communicate to the County Commissioners the appreciation of the Mayor and Council for their approval of the legislation desired and to express similar appreciation to State Senator Williams for his courtesy in introducing the necessary bill in the legislature and his support thereof.

The Superintendent of Public Work reported that the last of seven water mains frozen during the winter had been thawed out and that relief had been afforded in all cases of water deprivation. In this connection he spoke of the difficult labor situation and the almost impossibility of securing men. In consequence it would be a difficult matter to undertake the lowering of water mains at this time. During discussion of the situation it developed that men held by Mr. Shadle for work on Carroll Avenue would be available for at least a short time for the water main work and on motion of Mr. Hendrick the Superintendent of Public Work was directed to utilize their services in connection therewith.

The Superintendent of Public Work and Mr. Shade called attention to the scarcity of teams and the great difficulty of obtaining them. On motion of Mr. Grabill they were authorized to pay as high as \$1.00 per hour for teams in connection with necessary and required work of the Town.

The often considered matter of carrying street surface water across the lot of William Thomas on Montgomery Ave, was once more presented to the Council and referred, by direction of the Mayor, to the Street Committee.

On motion of Mr. LaFetra the Treasurer was directed to submit a bill to Miss Myra Ourand for water meter frozen at her residence, she being deemed responsible, after due investigation, for the destruction thereof.

There being no further business the Council thereupon, at 11:10 o'clock, p.m., adjourned.

Approved:

*W. H. Platt*

Mayor.

*Paul Davis*, Clerk.



Monday evening, April 8, 1918

The Council met at 8:20 o'clock. There were present the Mayor and Councilmen Grabill, Hendrick, LaFetra and Taff.

In the unavoidable absence of the Clerk, Mr. J. Bond Smith was designated Acting Clerk.

On motion of Mr. LaFetra the reading of the minutes of the last regular meeting were dispensed with.

The Mayor laid before the Council a communication from R.L. Belt regarding the plumbing in the "Holt house. After an explanation by Mr. Blodgett, and on motion of Mr. Taff, the Clerk was instructed to advise the writer that the outside stack on the premises was the matter complained of by Mr. Blodgett and that it could not be permitted under the Plumbing Regulations of the Town, a copy of which would be furnished the writer upon application therefor to the Clerk.

A communication from Richard F. Irwin, of 1, Alleghany St., Takoma Park, Md., complaining of unsanitary conditions in the rear of the premises of E.C. Mitchell, was referred to the Health Committee.

The Mayor laid before the Council a complaint from certain citizens calling attention to the unsanitary conditions on the premises occupied by J. J. Snodgrass, which complaint was referred to the Health Committee.

The Finance Committee submitted bills amounting to \$300.01 with recommendation that they be approved and paid, which recommendation, upon motion of Mr. Taff, was adopted.

Mr. Hendrick, from the Ordinance Committee, presented a proposed amendment to Ordinance No. 136, to be known as Sec. 3-a, but after considerable discussion action upon the amendment was deferred pending the appointment of a Police Magistrate in whom may be vested jurisdiction over offenses contrary to the Town Ordinances.

The Judiciary Committee was authorized to investigate the matter of available men from whom a Police Magistrate may possibly be selected for the above purpose and to report with recommendations at the next meeting of the Council.

Upon motion duly made and carried the evening of Monday, April 22, 1918, was designated as the date for a caucus of citizens to nominate candidates for Mayor and three members of the Council whose terms expire the first Monday in June next. The basement of the Presbyterian Church and 8 o'clock, p.m., were designated as the place and time, respectively, for such caucus.

The following Ordinance was presented:

*Ordinance No. 322.*

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

*Sec. 1. That in accordance with Sections 4 and 5 of the Town Charter, a general election is hereby called for Monday, May 6, 1918, in the basement of the Presbyterian Church, on Maple Avenue, at which time and place the qualified voters of the Town will cast their ballots for a Mayor and three Members of the Council for a term of two years beginning Monday, June 3, 1918.*

*Sec. 2. The polls for said election will open at 6 o'clock a.m., and will close at 6 o'clock p.m.*

The Ordinance was passed as follows: Voting aye, the Mayor and Councilmen Grabill, Hendrick, LaFetra and Taff; voting nay, none.

Upon motion the Council selected the following Judges of Election - L.M. Mooers, George F. Randall and Stanley E. McNeill - and authorized the Mayor to fill any vacancies resulting from inability of any of the gentlemen named to serve.

Upon recommendation of the Health Committee, the week of April 29-May 4, was designated "Clean-up Week," and the Health Committee was charged with the necessary arrangements in connection therewith.

The Council unanimously adopted the following Resolutions on the death of Captain Hugh Mackay Davis, 3rd United States Infantry:

**Whereas:** We, the MAYOR AND COUNCIL of THE TOWN OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND, have learned with profound sorrow of the death, in his Country's service of **Captain Hugh Mackay Davis**, Third United States Infantry, be it

**Resolved:** That in his death, we, in common with all residents and citizens of this community, experience a keen sense of personal loss. He was one of our best-loved and most promising sons, and his supreme sacrifice for his country being the first from this community in the present conflict, is fraught with peculiar meaning to us at this time. Be it further

**Resolved:** That we extend to his father, MR. BEN G. DAVIS, the Town Clerk and Treasurer of this Town, and to the other members of his family, our sincere sympathy and condolences in this hour of their bereavement. And be it further

**Resolved:** That these Resolutions be spread upon the records of THE TOWN OF TAKOMA PARK and that a copy of these Resolutions be transmitted by the Mayor to the family of the deceased and furnished to the press.

Mr. LaFetra, from the Water and Sewer Committee, submitted a report relative to the expenses incurred by individual property owners in thawing out their water service pipes during the severe weather of the past winter in which, although disclaiming all legal responsibility, recognized a moral obligation on the part of the Town and recommended payment of bills submitted as follows: W.F. Wight, \$ 21.05; J.E. Cross, \$19.60; H.C. Lockwood, \$ 8.64; L.W. Graham, \$ 8.40; A.R. Colburn, \$25.32; Geo. J. Bentley, \$7.95; Ben G. Davis, \$28.00; Earl Culley, \$19.65; Elizabeth Purman, \$ 8.20; L.W. Morrissey, \$11.50; H.E. Rogers, \$10.13; G. L. Heald, \$7.85; Louis Messenquer, \$10.00; - Total \$186.29. On motion of Mr. LaFetra the report of the Committee was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Hendrick the Superintendent of Public Work was directed to confer with Mr. Shadle and to ascertain and

report the number of yards of dirt placed on private property by the Town, the number of yards of such dirt paid for by property owners and the number of yards for which payment has not yet been made.

The following Resolution of appreciation for the services rendered to the Town by State Senator J. Dawson Williams, of Montgomery County, in the last session of the Maryland Legislature, was unanimously adopted and ordered spread upon the minutes:

*Be it Resolved by the Mayor and Council of the Town of Takoma Park, Maryland, that the thanks of this community are hereby extended to HONORABLE J. DAWSON WILLIAMS, State Senator from this county, for his services in behalf of this municipality at the last session of the Maryland Legislature. His efforts in securing the enactment of the bill creating the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; obtaining reimbursement to this municipality for money expended in the construction of Carroll Avenue; and the enactment of the bill amending the corporate limits of the Town were all matters of direct value to the Town and of considerable public benefit. Montgomery County was intelligently and ably represented by its Senator.*

*Resolved, That these Resolutions be spread upon the minutes of the meeting and the Clerk instructed to furnish Senator Williams with a copy thereof.*

With reference to the complaint of certain citizens regarding the unsanitary conditions at the property on Maple Ave. owned by John J. Snodgrass, submitted to the Health Committee earlier in the evening, the Committee reported as follows:

*These premises being without water or sewer connection and occupied by several families, located in close proximity to other occupied residences, are considered to be a serious menace to public health.*

*It is therefore recommended in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Plumbing Regulations of the Town, which require that "existing houses and premises abutting on public sewers and water mains provided by the Town of Takoma Park shall be connected therewith when, in the opinion of the Mayor and Council, such connection is necessary for the public health," that due legal notice be given the owners and occupants of the premises to connect the same with the existing public sewers and water mains of the Town of Takoma Park within sixty (60) days, or in default thereof that proper legal action be taken.*

Upon suggestion of the Mayor action upon the above report was deferred pending a report of the Corporation Counsel relative to the powers of the Mayor and Council in the matters of this kind and the necessary legal action to be taken.

There being no further business the Council, at 10:20 o'clock p.m., adjourned.

Approved:

*W. S. Platt* Mayor

*Basil Davis*

clerk.