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VOL. 2

ST. JOHNS, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1905.

NO. 2



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LOTS OF BUSINESS.

City Council Gets Busy And Cleans The Docket Dropping Out Obnoxious Grafters.

Every councilman was present Monday evening when the gavel fell—with Mayor King in the chair.

J. H. Black presented a petition asking that Monteith street, in the Heights, between Buchanan and Polk streets, be improved by grading, sidewalking, etc., and the name be changed to Jersey. It was shown that it is really a continuation of Jersey street—there being but a slight jog between the two—and property-owners believed it would be to their advantage to have the change and the improvement made. The petition was adopted and the street committee will take care of the work.

A resolution was adopted regarding the improvement of Gresham street from Mohawk to Tyler, and another resolution for the extension of Chicago street from Jersey to and through the Braasch addition was also adopted.

An ordinance providing for the numbering of all business houses and residences was introduced, and passed its first, second, and third reading. Mr. Edwards desired to have the streets completely signed before the numbering took place, and staidly voted in that way.

Burlington and Jersey streets were accepted as the base line for numbering. Each block will be on hundred system—and as the streets may extend to the north or the south of Burlington they will bear the prefix of North or South. East and west of Jersey the streets will be known also by prefixing the word East or West. All even numbers will be upon the north side of streets running east and west—and upon the west side of streets running north and south.

If one desires to find 218 West Chicago they will at once know that the house is in the second block west of Jersey and on the right-hand side of the street going toward the river. The ordinance is a good one—the only fault being that a number is given to every 25 feet of frontage in place of each 12 1-2 feet. This necessitates the use of fractions where a 25-foot store shall have a second floor.

It was decided to re-name Catlin street in the north part of the city and Maple street was the decision of the council. This is in honor of one of the old settlers. Park place, in Braasch's addition, will be named Chicago street as soon as the extension shall be completed from Jersey to that point—which will be a betterment. Resolutions for this purpose were adopted.

The improvements on Burlington street were discussed. It was stated that the job was awarded July 1 and was to have been completed August 23; but it is not yet finished. Mr. Edwards said the material used for the sidewalks was not up to the quality desired by those paying for it. A communication from the city engineer regarding the unhealthful condition of gravel from the Willamette was read—Engineer Goodrich stating that he would not accept the improvement if the gravel used should be from the Willamette.

City Recorder Hanks was ordered to so notify the contractors. On motion of Mr. Brice, seconded by Mr. Shields, Bechel Brothers were also ordered to complete their work within 15 days.

Arrangements for procuring a "bonding lien docket," together with necessary printed blanks, were left in the hands of the city recorder. These articles will be absolutely necessary as soon as real work commences upon the sewer proposition.

The city engineer was allowed the sum of \$150 part payment for his services.

City attorney was ordered to prepare an ordinance relating to the placing of signs upon street intersections—the same to be made of metal.

Jersey street from John street to Tacoma street was accepted.

Attention was called to the fact of a discrepancy between the relative positions of the public dock and the building being erected by

the Marine Boiler Company. Either the new building extends into Richmond street—or the public dock projects upon the Rankin property on the south a matter of some six feet. The matter is to be at once investigated by the city engineer.

Bills were allowed to Charles Brederson, \$20; G. I. Thompson, \$15; St. Johns Lumber Company, \$6.75; D. D. Woods, \$4.

The water question was then brought up. Mayor King suggested that a bond election be called to see if the citizens favored a municipal plant; but it was remarked that the people would vote down the proposition: if they didn't vote them down the bonds would be declared illegal.

The Board of Public Works ordinance, which had passed second reading, was then brought up. Mr. Shields wanted something done. He was perfectly willing to have the entire council of seven made a Board of Public Works—he didn't care about the number if it placed the city in a position to act.

Mr. Brice thought that a move of that sort would be foolish: it was merely making a committee of the council and removing from the mayor all right to veto. He saw no use in such an ordinance.

Mr. Shields said there was an evident desire upon the part of some people to labor for the interests of Hartman, Thompson and Powers: he had no doubt if a committee could be selected from outside the council and all of the committee were Hartman, Thompson & Powers men there would be no kick by some people. Such a thing he thought would provoke very little antagonism among a certain class.

City Attorney Greene was asked his opinion regarding the proposed ordinance. In re-reading the ordinance Mr. Greene noted, and pointed out to the council, that the latter part of article two in section 71 of the city charter prohibited some of the conditions of the ordinance. This reads as below:

"Provided, however, save as otherwise provided in this charter, no contract or agreement for the purchase, condemnation, ownership, construction or operation by the city of any public utility shall be entered into by the council without first submitting such proposed contract or agreement to the qualified voters of the city, in accordance with the provisions of this article."

Mr. Peterson thought the farther consideration of this ordinance should be postponed. Mr. Brice considered the ordinance "an estray": no one seemed to know anything about it: apparently there were two sides to the matter—and the council should do nothing until it had full details.

Mr. Shields said the matter was introduced by Mr. Thompson—and he ought to know all about it. Mr. Thompson denied all knowledge of it—more than to admit he introduced it at the request of W. T. Vaughn—but did not pay any attention to the subject.

Some personalities followed—but Mr. Edwards declared that old matters should be dropped and attention given to what was of importance.

Mr. Shields said that ever since the present council had taken hold of affairs people had been asking for some new water facilities—and now their term of office was nearly out and nothing had been done. "It don't look as if any of us would get back into office again," tersely added Mr. Shields, "the way we've been doing."

By consent of his second Mr. Shields withdrew his motion to have the B. P. O. W. increased from five to seven. Then was a little farther discussion regarding the ordinance—and then, in deference to Mr. Greene's opinion regarding the invalidity of the document, the matter seemed to become of no interest—and without action upon it an adjournment was made to the next regular meeting.

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