

**OUR CITY AFFAIRS**

**Regular Council Meeting Held Wednesday Evening.**

**Much Routine Business Transacted—Reports of Mayor, Recorder and Water Commission.**

The new city council held its first regular meeting last Wednesday evening at which a great deal of business was transacted. The council was called to order at 8 o'clock by Mayor Caufield, who announced that the first thing in order was the election of a recorder pro tem, and T. F. Ryan was chosen without opposition. After roll call, which showed that all the members were present, the minutes of the last regular and special meetings were read and approved.

Councilman Koerner was unanimously chosen president of the council for the ensuing year.

Two nominations were made for recorder and T. F. Ryan was re-elected over Fred Hesse by a vote of 5 to 3.

The following committees were elected to serve for the year:

Finance—Koerner, Busch, Latourette. Fire and Water—Busch, Millin, Harris. Health and Police—Wilson, Metzner, Latourette.

Cemetery—Roake, Koerner, Millin. Streets and Public Property—Harris, Roake, Metzner.

A petition was read from citizens asking that an incandescent light be placed at a certain point on J. Q. Adams street; referred to committee on public property.

Petition from Willamette Bowling Alley Co., asking that alley be allowed to run on Sunday; ordered that alley be allowed to run on Sunday afternoons.

**MAYOR CAUFIELD'S ANNUAL MESSAGE.**  
To the Members of the Council of Oregon City, Oregon:

It again becomes my duty to transmit to your honorable body a review of the work of the past year, and make any recommendations I may think proper for the ensuing year. I do not believe I misstate the fact when I say that there has been a unanimity of feeling with the members of the council regarding any unnecessary expenditure of the city's money during the past year that could possibly be avoided. We have all felt it a duty we owed the taxpayers of this city to lighten, so far as lay in our power, their heavy burden of taxes. As a consequence the administration of the past year has no important public improvements to point to as a result of their work. The reduction of the city's floating debt I think will be far more satisfactory to most citizens than any extensive improvements with its consequent expense.

The prevailing hard times of the past has caused a great many to appreciate a rest from the steady drain on their resources, caused by street improvements, sewer assessments, taxes, etc. I cannot avoid the belief that the economical administration of the city's affairs during the past year has had some bearing on the fact that the city's 6 per cent bonds are sought after at a large premium and that the city's warrants now bring nearly par.

Much as I personally would like to see considerable work done in grading and improving streets, and important as I think some sewerage system would be in certain parts of the city, I still think a continuance of the same policy followed during the past year should be adhered to, for at least the coming year, in the interest of the city and its taxpayers.

Unless the most of us are deceived another year will show such a decided improvement in financial matters, and property will have so far regained its former value, that improvements taxed to the same will not seem such a burden as now. The most important expenditure during the past year has been for the purchase of additional land for cemetery purposes. This was something that decency demanded and the need of which could no longer be ignored. Under this purchase the city has acquired title to nearly three acres adjoining the present cemetery for \$412. An ordinance has also been passed by the council regulating the use of the city cemetery and appointing a committee from the council to control the same. Under direction of this committee the old cemetery has been surveyed, platted and as far as possible brought into orderly shape. The new land is now being surveyed and platted. When finished it will be a credit to the city. Another matter that has had the attention of the council during a great part of the past year, has been the revision of the city ordinances and codification of the same. In my opinion the work has been well done by the committee having the same in charge. Some new ordinances have been drawn up, old ones revised, and quite a number of obsolete and conflicting ones repealed. The committee has made arrangements, I believe, to have their work printed in pamphlet form for distribution. One of the new ordinances has been recently passed upon by the county judge in the case of a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, brought before his court on account of a person arrested and convicted of a violation of the ordinance imposing a license on solicitors. The judge held in this case, that the ordinance was invalid and unconstitutional, on the ground that it was a re-

striction on interstate commerce. Without a personal knowledge of all the law on the subject, I do not wish to question the soundness of the decision in this case. It does seem, however, to be at variance with all ideas of right, that a city cannot regulate solicitors and peddlers simply because they come from another state.

It, in the judgment of the council, there may seem good reason to think that possibly this ordinance may be technically unsound, I would urge on you the importance, in justice to the merchants and business men of Oregon City who maintain at considerable expense their stores, and who bear their share of the taxes imposed by the city, of framing an ordinance that will compel these peddlers to at least pay such an amount as will repay the city for the police surveillance necessary, and in a measure protect our local merchants.

The city's case, for the recovery of its share of road tax paid within the city, the exclusive control of which was granted the city under the charter, but so far withheld by the county court, has been decided by the circuit court favorably to the city. The county has, however, appealed the case to the supreme court where it now remains. The attorneys for the city look for a prompt and satisfactory decision for the city. Under the provision of the charter the water commissioners should pay into the city treasury 30 per cent. of the gross proceeds of their collections. On account of the extra heavy expense incurred by them, in the construction of the new reservoir, the council has allowed them to retain this amount for the time being. The commissioners have now paid all their floating debt and have begun making monthly payments toward the settlement of the amount now due the city. They expect in the course of eight or ten months to have all that is now due the city paid. During the past year the long standing claim against the East Side Railway Company, on account of street assessment unpaid by them according to terms of their franchise, and for the collection of which a law suit has been pending for several years unsuccessfully, has been finally settled through the efforts of the last council in a manner, fairly satisfactory, considering all the difficulties encountered.

I will not at this time attempt to give anything more in the way of a financial statement than a comparison of receipts and expenditures for the years 1896 and 1897. Your attention however is asked to the recorder's financial exhibit which will be read here this evening. The exhibit will show a decided improvement. The city's receipts exceeded the expenditures \$1710 during 1897. This is not taking any account of what is due from the water commission for the past year amounting to \$2084. During 1896 the expenditures exceeded the receipts something over \$700. Such an improvement is indeed worthy of mention and I hope this council will endeavor to make even a better showing the coming year.

In closing I wish to thank the members of the last council for their kind cooperation in all measures that I have thought best to suggest during the past year and hope for a continuance of the same during the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
E. G. CAUFIELD, Mayor.

**City Recorder's Report.**

Oregon City, Or., Dec. 31, 1897.  
To the Honorable, the Mayor and City Council of Oregon City.

Gentlemen: In accordance with the provisions of Sec. 48 of the city charter, I herewith submit my annual report of the financial transactions of the city during the year 1897, the present financial condition of the city and a brief resume of the transactions of the office of the city recorder during said year.

**FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.**

In pursuance of instructions voted at meetings of the city council held during the year 1897 warrants were ordered drawn on the general fund to the amount of \$7987.86 for purposes herein set forth:

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| Portland General Electric Co., for electric lights.....  | \$2047 20 |
| Geo. A. Harding, electric lamps  | 7 33      |
| Chas. E. Burns, salary as chief  | 720 00    |
| fees, property sales   | 1 25      |
| E. L. Shaw, salary as night watch  | 720 00    |
| T. F. Ryan, salary as recorder   | 300 00    |
| " compiling ordinances   | 40 00     |
| H. E. Straight, salary, treasurer  | 160 00    |
| W. I. Risdon, H. Gilbert, Wm. Kidd, J. W. Kelly and M. F. McCown, special police                           | 18 00     |
| C. H. Dye, fees, city prosecutor   | 20 00     |
| L. L. Porter, fees for collection of street assessment G. E. Hayes   | 30 68     |
| L. L. Porter, for surrender of contract for collection of assessment for street improvement of E S R R Co. | 250 00    |
| L. Dieckleman, cleaning Main St.   | 162 85    |
| Work on city streets, such as repairing, cleaning, etc.  | 1172 48   |
| Smyth & Howard, crushed rock   | 175 00    |
| Labor Exchange, crushed rock   | 41 70     |
| Geo. Broughton, lumber for streets and repairs   | 477 50    |
| Wm B Foyser, two manholes in sewer   | 60 00     |
| Oregon City Iron Works, covers for manholes in sewer   | 35 00     |
| Paul Hemmelgarn, meals at city jail  | 56 40     |
| For nursing and relief to sick with contagious diseases  | 32 75     |
| Expenses of general election   | 53 70     |
| M M McGeehan, for site for cemetery purposes   | 412 00    |
| Mrs H L L Clark, rent of city pound  | 20 00     |
| Expenses of pound, feed, killing and burial of dogs, etc.  | 22 67     |
| J W Brown and Chas Albright, wood at city hall and jail  | 14 50     |

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| Hook & Ladder and Hose companies, yearly allowance  | 125 00    |
| Expense of firemen's election                       | 6 00      |
| Supplies for fire department                        | 57 85     |
| Wolf & Zwicker, three hydrants                      | 67 20     |
| Courtna, publishing ordinances, notices, etc.       | 91 13     |
| Press, publishing ordinances, notices, etc.         | 118 13    |
| Enterprise, publishing notices                      | 2 90      |
| Herald publishing notices                           | 1 00      |
| Morning Oregonian, publishing notice of bond sale   | 3 80      |
| Pope & Co, repairs to city jail                     | 2 15      |
| T S Lawrence, labor on city hall                    | 6 50      |
| Geo Blount " " "                                    | 31 87     |
| John Hutton " " "                                   | 33 75     |
| E W Scott " " "                                     | 5 25      |
| Theo Kraeft " " "                                   | 21 50     |
| A Walker, labor and material on city hall           | 136 20    |
| F C Gadke, labor and material on city hall          | 34 15     |
| G H Bestow & Co, labor and material on city hall    | 11 60     |
| Wilson & Cooke, supplies for city hall              | 24 07     |
| Bellomy & Busch, supplies for city hall             | 5 25      |
| C N Greenman, material for city hall                | 5 00      |
| Oregon City Iron Works, material for city hall      | 24 40     |
| G R H Miller, use of jack screws                    | 3 00      |
| Peter Nehren, cleaning carpets, etc                 | 5 00      |
| Pope & Co, repairs to pipes at city cemetery        | 2 50      |
| Correcting tax roll for assessor                    | 20 00     |
| Hollanden & Potter, dog tags                        | 8 00      |
| Sundries for nails, brooms, stamps stationery, etc. | 83 68     |
| Total warrants drawn                                | \$7987 86 |

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| Summary of purposes for which said warrants were drawn: |           |
| Lighting the city streets and hall buildings            | \$2054 50 |
| Police department                                       | 1459 25   |
| Street work, sidewalks, bridges                         | 1754 85   |
| Expense of fire department                              | 256 05    |
| Repairs to city hall building                           | 383 17    |
| Publication of ordinances and notices                   | 217 96    |
| Salaries of recorder, treasurer and city prosecutor     | 480 00    |
| Crushed rock  | 216 70    |
| Attorney's fees for collections                         | 30 68     |
| East Side Railway account                               | 250 00    |
| Cemetery purposes                                       | 414 50    |
| Miscellaneous purposes                                  | 470 20    |
| Total   | \$7987 86 |

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| The receipts of the year are as follows:   |           |
| Taxes collected by sheriff   | \$5334 18 |
| Licenses for saloons   | 4400 00   |
| " shows and theaters   | 50 00     |
| " dogs   | 53 25     |
| " second-hand store  | 24 00     |
| " junk peddler   | 3 00      |
| " meat peddler   | 20 00     |
| " auctioneer   | 10 00     |
| " merry-go-round   | 20 00     |
| " bowling alley  | 15 00     |
| " spindle wheel  | 6 00      |
| " solicitor  | 2 00      |
| " skating rink   | 1 70      |
| " billiard, card rooms   | 126 70    |
| " express and drays  | 133 70    |
| " "  | 4 50      |
| Sale of horses at city pound   | 4 50      |
| East Side Railway Co, on account of assessment for Main street improvement and freight car | 1100 00   |
| G E Hayes, Seventh St assessm't  | 136 80    |
| J Jones, Main street assessment  | 79 40     |
| Paid on notes  | 170 53    |
| O T Co, rent account   | 176 50    |
| O C in case of Broughton vs city   | 22 70     |
| Fines in recorder's court  | 8 00      |
| H C Stevens, for lot 1 in blk 9  | 500 00    |
| Water commission, on account   | 100 00    |

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| Total amount of receipts                              | \$12497 96 |
| Total amount of warrants drawn                        | \$7987 86  |
| Interest on bonds of city                             | 2800 00    |
| Total   | \$10787 96 |
| Amount of receipts in excess of warrants and interest | \$1710 00  |
| Cemetery fund—  |            |
| January 1st, 1897, cash in treasury                   | \$130 07   |
| Received from sale of lots during year                | 184 55     |
| Total   | \$314 62   |

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| Warrants have been drawn on the cemetery during the year as follows: |          |
| D W Kinnaird, surveying and making plat                              | \$116 00 |
| Glass & Prudhomme, three registers                                   | 34 40    |
| Oregon City Press, 2000 permits, reports, etc                        | 13 00    |
| Balance in the treasury  | \$163 40 |
| Seventh street improvement—  |          |
| Cash on hand last report   | \$ 77 23 |
| Received on assessments  | 81 68    |
| Note of M E church   | 353 25   |
| Total  | \$512 14 |

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| Warrants drawn as follows:             |          |
| D W Kinnaird, superintendent, etc      | \$ 89 00 |
| Smyth & Stuart, contract               | 713 63   |
| Smyth, Stuart and Shepherd, extra work | 22 55    |
| Newspaper notices                      | 33 85    |
| Rebate to property owners              | 68 92    |
| Total                                  | \$927 92 |

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| Warrants redeemed  | \$435 56   |
| The assessment of the M. A. Stratton Estate is still unpaid.                                 |            |
| Unredeemed Warrants—   |            |
| As shown by the city recorder's books the following warrants on general fund are unredeemed: |            |
| Warrants issued in 1890  | \$ 21 25   |
| Warrants issued in 1891  | 50         |
| Warrants issued in 1892  | 60 25      |
| Warrants issued in 1893  | 27 25      |
| Warrants issued in 1894  | 36 90      |
| Warrants issued in 1895  | 9464 13    |
| Warrants issued in 1896  | 7054 75    |
| Warrants issued in 1897  | 7390 32    |
| Total  | \$24055 65 |

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| Summary report—General fund.               |            |
| Cash in treasury January 1, '97            | \$ 45 60   |
| Received by treasurer during the year 1897 | 12407 96   |
| Total                                      | \$12543 56 |
| Warrants paid by treasurer during year     | \$6910 14  |
| Interest on warrants redeemed              | 1137 09    |
| Interest paid on bonds of City             | 2800 00    |
| Cash in treasury                           | 1696 33    |
| Total                                      | \$12543 56 |

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| Warrants outstanding Dec. 31, 1896 (treasurer's report) | \$21509 12 |
| Warrants issued during year                             | 7987 86    |
| Total   | \$29496 98 |
| Warrants paid by treasurer during year                  | \$6910 14  |
| Warrants outstanding                                    | \$22586 84 |
| Cash in treasury, notes and accounts due the city:      |            |

|                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Cash in treasury                      | \$1696 33  |
| Due from board of water commissioners | 3980 07    |
| Due on notes from different persons   | 1562 42    |
| Due from E S R R Co                   | 5850 00    |
| Total                                 | \$13088 82 |

Making the actual floating indebtedness of city \$9498 02. There is also a claim against the county on account of road funds at present being adjudicated in supreme court, that amounts to \$7304 10.

Which if allowed will leave the floating indebtedness of the city \$2183 92. Plus interests on outstanding warrants.

There has been twelve cases brought in the recorder's court for violation of ordinances of the city during the year and fines to amount of \$186 were imposed, \$8 of which was paid, and the balance was worked out by imprisonment or by suspension of sentence during good behavior, and one case which was decided against the city in a case of habeas corpus brought before Hon. G. E. Hayes, county judge.

Respectfully submitted,  
THOS. F. RYAN,  
Recorder.

**RECORDER'S MONTHLY REPORT.**

To the Honorable, the Mayor and City Councilmen of Oregon City.

Gentlemen: I respectfully submit the following report showing the transactions in the office of the recorder for the month of December 1897.

There has been four cases brought during the month in the recorder's court for violation of city ordinances, as follows:

Dec. 3, Ed. Sullivan "Drunk and Disorderly" pleaded guilty and was fined \$6.00 or in default of payment to work three days on the city streets. In default in payment was worked on streets.

Dec. 13, Ed. Sullivan "Drunk and Disorderly" pleaded guilty and sentenced to pay fine of \$30.00 or 15 days work on streets was worked one day and balance of sentence suspended on agreement to leave city and never return except to work out sentence.

Dec. 15, James Conley "Drunk and Disorderly" pleaded guilty and was sentenced to pay fine of \$5.00. Fine paid, prisoner discharged.

Dec. 28, C. W. Cottam "Soliciting and selling of goods without a license" pleaded "not guilty" stood trial and was found guilty and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$25.00 or be committed to jail. Refused to pay fine and was committed to jail but was released on writ of habeas corpus brought before the county judge.

**WATER COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.**

To the Honorable, the Mayor and City Council of Oregon City, Oregon.

Gentlemen: We submit the following report, showing the condition of the city water works together with a statement of receipts and disbursements for the past six months:

We have laid during the year, 1600 feet of new six-inch main on Seventh street, and relaid 1600 feet of four-inch main on Jackson and Thirteenth streets. On Harrison street, 400 feet of two-inch cast main, 250 feet two-inch galvanized main, 200 feet of one and a half-inch galvanized main.

On J. Adams street between Ninth and Tenth, 200 feet of two-inch galvanized main. Fifteen tappings requiring some 400 feet of three-quarter-inch galvanized pipe has also been laid. Three new hydrants have been set.

As the union pump has been running continuously since the spring of 1894, with but slight repairs it will be necessary to overhaul the same this spring and replace brasses and reset valves which have become very much worn. This will require several days' stoppage and considerable expense, but is necessary to be done before the dry season.

The reservoir, pumps and mains with all the accessories of the water works are in good repair and operating satisfactorily.

If the council will assist the board to make some changes required by the board of fire underwriters it will be possible to get a lower fire insurance rating for the city commensurate with the good fire protection the city now enjoys. This is a matter that all taxpayers are concerned in rather than the water consumers and the necessary expense should therefore be borne by the taxpayers.

|                                    |           |
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| Receipts.                          |           |
| Collections for month of July      | \$ 483 85 |
| " " " August                       | 593 60    |
| " " " September                    | 722 55    |
| " " " October                      | 500 25    |
| " " " November                     | 555 70    |
| " " " December                     | 740 00    |
| Total from July 1 to Dec. 31, 1897 | \$3505 95 |

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| Disbursements.  |          |
| Wolf & Zwicker iron work, repairs to pump                                 | \$ 94 70 |
| Oregon Iron & Steel Co., cast water main                                  | 805 16   |
| John Honeyman & Co., use of eccentric pattern                             | 5 00     |
| Oregon City Press, printing notices                                       | 2 90     |
| Corbett, Failing, Robertson & Co. cotton waste                            | 8 00     |
| O. C. Herald, printing notices  | 1 50     |
| Interest on water bonds, July 1st to Dec. 31st, 1897                      | 300 00   |
| Outstanding warrants redeemed from July 1 to Dec. 31, 1897                | 753 47   |
| Interest paid on redeemed warrants from July 1 to Dec. 31, 1897           | 89 67    |
| O. C. Enterprise, printing and notices                                    | 6 90     |
| Pope & Co., labor \$79, 7 tappings \$10.49, material \$154.75, tools 50c. | 250 77   |
| Charman & Co., paints   | 6 10     |
| George Broughton, lumber  | 4 05     |
| C N Greenman, freight and draying   | 8 75     |
| Telephone line  | 76 92    |

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| O. C. Courier, printing notices   | 4 50   |
| J Jones, carpenter work   | 4 10   |
| W H Howell, six month's salary as Supt.   | 270 00 |
| O. C. Iron Works, repairs, material   | 77 58  |
| T L Charman, secretary salary \$50 commission on collections \$175.20 expense account, telephoning, stationery, etc. \$8.10 | 253 30 |
| P. G. E. Co., electric lights   | 14 70  |
| Labor on hills mains  | 34 59  |
| Labor on pumps and at station   | 55 00  |
| Paid Oregon City on account   | 400 00 |

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| Total for six months ending Dec. 31, 1897 | \$3457 17 |
| Balance in treasurer's hands to date      | 48 78     |
| Total                                     | \$3505 95 |

**INVENTORY OF MATERIAL.**

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| 12 ft. 3-in., 36 ft. 4-in., 48 ft. 6-in., 38 ft. 8-in., 24 ft. 10-in. cast iron water pipe, total value                            | \$ 81 25 |
| 250 ft. 6-in. old pipe   | 60 00    |
| 1 6-in. and 1 10-in "Y," 2 4-in., 2 6-in. 1 10-in. elbows: 1 4-in. and 1 6-in. "Y"; 6 4-in., 3 6-in., 3 8-in. and 2 10-in. sleeves | 60 00    |
| 1 1/2 sets of gears  | 25 00    |
| 12 inch air chamber  | 10 00    |
| Old belting  | 25 00    |
| Clamps, 6 6-in.  | 6 00     |
| Clamps, 6 4-in. \$4, 10 2-in. \$3.75   | 7 75     |
| Service cocks, 12 1/2-in. \$12, 6 1-in. \$9  | 18 00    |
| 100 corporation cocks  | 40 00    |
| 12 street service boxes  | 12 00    |
| Iron rods and old irons  | 10 00    |
| 2 eccentric yokes for pumps  | 40 00    |
| One four plunger pump  | 250 00   |
| Total  | \$645 00 |

**INVENTORY OF TOOLS.**

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|---|----------|
| Two tapping machines                              | \$100 00 |
| Revolution counter                                | 10 00    |
| Lead seal and seals                               | 3 50     |
| Four wrenches                                     | 6 00     |
| Three tamping irons                               | 6 00     |
| Three steel bars                                  | 7 50     |
| Axe 75c, 3 picks \$1, 3 shovels \$1, oil can, 80c | 3 25     |
| Tool box  | 3 50     |
| Lead melting, furnace and pot                     | 20 00    |
| 8-in. ladle \$1, vice \$4.50, 50 ft. hose \$10    | 15 50    |
| Two stone hammers                                 | 4 00     |
| Total   | \$179 25 |

**APPROXIMATE VALUE OF WATER WORKS.**

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| Worthington low pressure pump, water wheel, station, flume and penstock, total | \$11500 00 |
| Union pump, high pressure  | 5620 00    |
| Water mains on the hill  | 16000 00   |
|  |            |