

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

of the Meeting of the Mayor and City Commissioners of Ottawa.

Ottawa, Ill. April 6, 1921. Regular meeting of Council of the City of Ottawa, Illinois.

Moved by Commissioner Palmer that the minutes be approved as read.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented the following petition from John Shea.

Ottawa, Ill. April 6, 1921. To the Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners:

I, John Shea, request a permit from your honorable body to move a home one-half block east on Fremont street and one-half block south on Columbus street.

Moved by Commissioner Palmer that the petition be granted upon signing of bond, proceeding to be under Commission of Streets and Public Improvements.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented the following correspondence with Public Utilities Commission.

Dear Sir: During the last week in January of this year G. E. Doying, then secretary of the commission, wrote to me relative to a report that I had made request for concerning an investigation previously made at Ottawa by an employee of the commission relative to the wires of the Northern Illinois Light & Traction Company at Ottawa.

The investigation was made at my request after a girl had been killed by electrical current from an iron.

At that time in reply to my letter it was stated that a certain section of the statute prohibited the commission from making public this report.

Section 18 of the Public Utilities Act was quoted. A reading of this section will show that it does not cover reports of this kind.

The commission had adopted a rule not to give out reports covering investigation of accidents.

If this rule is now in effect and lived up to the commission will not make a report to us covering this matter.

However, I am advised that six months prior to the accident mentioned the commission had ordered the Northern Illinois Light & Traction Company to correct certain conditions at Ottawa as to wires, said conditions being in violation of the rules as established by the commission.

That the Northern Illinois Light & Traction company had promised to make the corrections at once, but had not made any effort to comply with the suggestion of the commission at the time of the accident above referred to, and that the accident was directly caused by this faulty condition.

The citizens of Ottawa in general believe that the condition referred to still exists, and I have many inquiries relative to same.

I feel that at this time the commission should be able to advise me as to whether this condition has been corrected or not, and if it does not know to have an inspection made at this time and find out.

If conditions exist at Ottawa at present that may be dangerous to the people that use electrical current, I feel that formal complaint should be made at this time by the city.

If it is not within the scope of the commission to ascertain the facts upon before an advised, I will have an inspection made by the City of Ottawa.

Yours very truly, GEORGE V. B. WEEKS, Mayor.

Honorable George V. B. Weeks, Ottawa, Illinois.

Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of the 25th inst. I beg to advise you that while Section 18 of the Public Utilities Act, as quoted in my letter of Jan. 31, 1921, does not specifically cover the matter of divulging information concerning investigation of accidents, all employees of the commission are under strict instructions not to give out any such information unless so directed by the commission.

The commission further sentences to adhere to a ruling in force that copies of reports of accidents shall not be given out.

With respect to the present condition of the wires of the Northern Illinois Light and Traction Company at Ottawa, I find that the commission was advised under date of January 29, 1921, by the superintendent of the utility that they were practicing through grounding their transformers and requested certain advice as to the remainder of the work to be done.

This advice was given under date of February 7, 1921, and our wires are of the quality satisfactory.

In view of your recent letter, however, the commission has directed a further investigation to be made and if it is found that the company is not complying with the rules of the commission, prompt action will be taken to enforce the rules.

Very truly yours, G. E. TRAVINO, Assistant Secretary.

Moved by Commissioner Bradley that correspondence between City of Ottawa and Public Utilities Commission relative to grounding of wires of Northern Illinois Light and Traction Company be received and recorded.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented a communication from J. J. Chambliss, Chief of Police, relative to the accident mentioned at Ottawa as to wires, said conditions being in violation of the rules as established by the commission.

That the Northern Illinois Light & Traction Company had promised to make the corrections at once, but had not made any effort to comply with the suggestion of the commission at the time of the accident above referred to, and that the accident was directly caused by this faulty condition.

The citizens of Ottawa in general believe that the condition referred to still exists, and I have many inquiries relative to same.

I feel that at this time the commission should be able to advise me as to whether this condition has been corrected or not, and if it does not know to have an inspection made at this time and find out.

If conditions exist at Ottawa at present that may be dangerous to the people that use electrical current, I feel that formal complaint should be made at this time by the city.

If it is not within the scope of the commission to ascertain the facts upon before an advised, I will have an inspection made by the City of Ottawa.

Yours very truly, GEORGE V. B. WEEKS, Mayor.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1900-00, 1901-02, 1902-03. Includes Park Commission, Goose Creek Diversion, Fox River Main Street Bridge, East Centre Street, Court Judgments.

Respectfully submitted, W. W. CURTIS, City Clerk.

Moved by Commissioner Bradley that report of City Clerk be received and recorded.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented the following report of Edwin J. Cassidy, City Treasurer, for the month of March, 1921.

Ottawa, Illinois, April 1, 1921. The following is the report of Edwin J. Cassidy, City Treasurer, for the month of March, 1921.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Amount, Total. Includes Receipts (March 1-31, 1921) and Disbursements (Public Affairs, Accounts and Finance, Public Health and Safety, Streets and Public Improvements, Public Property).

Respectfully submitted, E. J. CASSIDY, City Treasurer.

Moved by Commissioner Bradley that report of City Treasurer be received and recorded.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented a report of Street Supervisor, as follows:

Ottawa, Ill. April 6, 1921. To His Honor the Mayor and Commissioners of the City of Ottawa, Gentlemen:

I herewith present my report of labor for the month of March, 1921. Hauling chimes, First street, \$23.80; Hauling chimes, First avenue, 2.00; Repairing Fox River bridge, Main street, 2.80; Finishing sewer, West Washington street, 1.80; Finishing sewer, Clinton street, 1.40; Repairing sewer, West Main street, 23.40; Hauling chimes, Jones street, 22.00; Cleaning catch basins, 22.40; Cleaning ditch, Walnut street, 3.50; Grading North street, 2.80; Grading De Sta. street, 2.80; Grading Joliet street, 5.00; Grading Marquette street, 2.50; Hauling chimes, La Salle street, 11.20; Hauling chimes, West Lafayette street, 11.20; Grading Currier street, 2.80.

Total \$156.80. Respectfully submitted, P. J. COSTELLO, Street Supervisor.

Moved by Commissioner Palmer that report of Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements be received and recorded.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented a report of Chief of Police, as follows:

Ottawa, Ill. April 1, 1921. Report of Chief of Fire Department. To the Honorable Mayor and Commissioners, City of Ottawa, Gentlemen:

The following is my report for the month of March, 1921. Number of inspections, 75; Number of chimneys inspected, 69; Number of chimneys found in bad condition and ordered repaired, 9; Number of buildings inspected, 75; Number of basements ordered cleaned, 8; Electric wiring found in bad condition and ordered repaired, 19; Fire alarm during the month: Earl Huerber, 1225 Douglas street, cause, spark, loss, \$5; Mrs. George Stevens, east end of Center street, cause, lightning, still, no loss; Columbus street bridge, tree fire, cause, electric wire, still, no loss; P. H. Rochester, 212 Madison street, cause, electric wire, still, no loss; King & Hamilton, lumber yard, cause, heater, still, no loss; Fire alarm box 31, Columbus and Superior streets, false alarm; Canal and Jefferson streets, cause, rubbish, still, no loss; David Heller, 121 West Van Buren street, cause, gas heater, loss, \$25; A. J. Materhorn, 411 Madison street, cause, unknown, loss \$1500; C. B. & Q. R. Co., Johnson street, cause, unknown, still, loss, \$50.

Electric light pole, Center street and Second avenue, cause, electric wire, still, no loss; Joe Helmer, auto, Elm and Huron streets, cause, spark, loss, \$75; O. Hadley, 512 Filmore street, cause, spark, loss, \$25; Harry Kelly, auto, Kalchats of Columbus hall, La Salle, cause, electric wire, loss, \$25; Gas plant, Webster and Walker streets, cause, combustion, loss, \$10; Tree fire, Illinois avenue and Elm street, cause, electric wire, still; Number of alarms, 16.

Respectfully submitted, J. O. BOESSENIN, Chief of Police Department.

Report of Chief of Police. Ottawa, Ill. April 1, 1921. To His Honor, Geo. V. B. Weeks, Mayor, and Commissioners of the City of Ottawa, Gentlemen:

I herewith submit my report of the police department of the City of Ottawa for the month of March, 1921. Number of arrests, 8; Sent to Kankakee, 1; Number paid fines, 3; During the above month the fines collected by me amounted to \$59, all of which I turned over to Edwin Cassidy, Treasurer of the City of Ottawa.

Moved by Commissioner Bradley that report of City Clerk be received and recorded.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented the following report of Edwin J. Cassidy, City Treasurer, for the month of March, 1921.

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Respectfully submitted, E. J. CASSIDY, City Treasurer.

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Respectfully submitted, JAMES CROWE, Chief of Police.

Report of Plumbing Inspector. Ottawa, Ill. April 1, 1921. To His Honor the Mayor and Commissioners of the City of Ottawa, Gentlemen:

The undersigned Plumbing Inspector begs leave to submit his report for the month of March, 1921, as follows: Miscellaneous inspections of plumbing and sewerage, 63; Excavating permits, 17; Plumbing permits, 10; Inspections of sewer connections, 7; Inspection of plumbing work by water test, 2; Final inspection of plumbing work, 2; Complaints, 10; Penalties were as follows: Water closets, \$ 6.00; Bath tubs, 2.00; Wash basins, 1.00; Sinks, 6.00; Sewer connections, 4.00; Sewer connections, 1.00; Future connections, 1.00; Two master plumber plate examinations, 100.00.

Total amount of fees collected, \$120.00. Respectfully submitted, W. M. WILSON, Plumbing Inspector.

Report of City Sealer. Ottawa, Ill. April 6, 1921. To the Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners, City of Ottawa, Illinois, Gentlemen:

I herewith submit report of Sealer's office for month of March, 1921. Gas readings for month of March: March 1-34 RTU; March 2-52 RTU; March 3-57 RTU; March 4-57 RTU; March 5-53 RTU; March 7-53 RTU; March 8-50 RTU; March 9-50 RTU; March 10-55 RTU; March 11-57 RTU; March 12-57 RTU; March 14-57 RTU; March 15-56 RTU; March 16-56 RTU; March 17-56 RTU; March 18-54 RTU; March 19-57 RTU; March 21-56 RTU; March 22-57 RTU; March 23-57 RTU; March 24-56 RTU; March 25-56 RTU; March 26-57 RTU; March 28-57 RTU; March 29-57 RTU; March 30-57 RTU; March 31-57 RTU.

Average for month, 56.5 RTU. Number of inspections, 15. Adjustments, 4. Respectfully submitted, W. O'CONNELL, Dep. Sealer.

Moved by Commissioner Douglas that the reports of the Commissioner of Public Health and Safety be received and recorded.

Motion carried. Mayor Weeks presented the following report of the Commissioner of Public Health and Safety for the month of March, 1921.

Ottawa, Ill. April 1, 1921. To His Honor, Geo. V. B. Weeks, Mayor, and Commissioners of the City of Ottawa, Gentlemen:

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Respectfully submitted, JAMES CROWE, Chief of Police.

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Total amount of fees collected, \$120.00. Respectfully submitted, W. M. WILSON, Plumbing Inspector.

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