

Thursday Evening February 26th, 1920.

Council met in adjourned session with President Barnard in the chair.
The roll being called the following members answered to their names: Messrs. Cary, Hall, H. T. Miller, J. H. Miller, Ryan, and Weaver. Present 6, absent 1.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

Mr. Hall submitted the following communications relating to gas propositions.

Alliance, Ohio
February 26th, 1920.

Mr. S. P. Hall,
Alliance, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Hall:

Supplementing our conversation of yesterday regarding supply of natural gas for Alliance, I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter received from Mr. H. H. Scott of Henry L. Doherty & Company, which letter is self-explanatory.

For your information would advise that Mr. Scott has entire charge of all our natural gas companies in Ohio, and you may, therefore, take any statements that he has made in this letter as being final.

I was in New York Friday and Saturday of last week, and talked this matter over with Mr. Scott, so that I have first hand knowledge of the plan which he proposes for furnishing natural gas to Alliance, and if there are any questions in regard to this that you would like to ask, I shall be pleased to answer them to the best of my ability.

It seems to me that under the circumstances it would be folly at this time for the City of Alliance to issue bonds for the building of an artificial gas plant. In making this statement I have no other thought in mind than the best interests of the citizens of Alliance. As you know, this Company has made no effort whatever to oppose the building of an artificial gas plant - we are not now opposing it, as is evidenced by the last paragraph of Mr. Scott's letter. We are, however, very strongly of the opinion that natural gas, if possible, will be infinitely better for the citizens of Alliance than artificial gas, regardless of whether this artificial gas is manufactured in a municipally or privately owned plant. We believe this opinion is shared by the vast majority of the citizens of Alliance, and we further believe that it would be shared by all of them if they all were fully aware of the difficulties connected with the building and operating of an artificial gas plant at this time.

In view of the situation which has now developed, no good can be accomplished by either the City or ourselves in going ahead with the hearing before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio on our appeal on Ordinance No. 181-B passed by the City Council on December 29th, 1919.

Continuation of this litigation will cost the City as well as ourselves money, and we would, therefore, respectfully suggest that you submit to the City Council for their consideration a proposal to repeal the above ordinance.

Very truly yours,

H. G. Bonner,
General Manager.

(Copy of letter)

Dear Mr. Bonner:

It is our understanding that the matter of the City Council authorizing bids for the municipal bonds to build a gas plant will come up on Thursday evening the 26th.

Pursuant to your request we are reporting the steps that we have been taking to obtain a natural gas supply for Alliance after the present arrangement with the East Ohio company expires.

As you know, the Cities Service Co. controls the Medina Gas & Fuel Co. which company is a producing company, a pipe line company and a distributing company for natural gas.

The principal cities it supplies are Mansfield, Kenton, Lima, Celina, St. Marys and Wapokoneta.

At the present time there is a vast amount of leakage in the Medina system, and steps are being taken to eliminate that waste. We can undoubtedly say that the repairs will be made before the summer is over. With the elimination of this waste the Medina Company would have sufficient gas-together with some new developments they have made - to take care of the needs of Alliance.

We are therefore, endeavoring to make an exchange of gas with one of the other natural gas companies. We cannot say at this time that we will be successful in these negotiations, nor can we give an exact date when we can definitely say the negotiations might be concluded.

Another consideration would be the building of a pipe line from the new fields of the Medina Company to Alliance, a distance of approximately 50 miles. This would entail a large expenditure of money, and really would be an economic waste to build such a line, inasmuch as the East Ohio Company's pipe line goes through your City.

We believe it would be a mistake for the City of Alliance to build an artificial gas plant. Even if the City were not contemplating such a step we would not consider the building of an artificial gas plant until we had exhausted every effort to obtain a natural gas supply.

In the light of the above we believe that there is still a possibility of continuing to obtain natural gas for at least another year or two.

It is unnecessary to discuss the relative merits of artificial gas and natural gas, because the superiority of natural gas in heating value is known to almost every one.

In conclusion you are authorized to state to the City Council that if they decide to go ahead with their bond issue we will be glad to discuss the leasing or sale of our distribution system to the City. You are also at liberty to use this letter or any part of it that you may see fit in discussing the matter with your Council.

Very truly yours,

HENRY L. DOHERTY & COMPANY

By. H. H. Scott

THIRD READING OF ORDINANCES.

Ordinance 154-B

Mr. Pennick:

To issue bonds for the purpose of erecting or purchasing gas works for the manufacture of artificial gas to the inhabitants of the City of Alliance, was read the third time. On motion of H. T. Miller, seconded by Ryan, a rate of interest was fixed at $5\frac{1}{4}\%$. The question being on the passage of the ordinance, the yeas and nays were taken and resulted yeas 3, nays 3. Those who voted in the affirmative were Messrs. Cary, H. T. Miller, Ryan. Those who voted in the negative were Messrs. Hall, J. H. Miller, Weaver. So the ordinance not having received the statutory majority as required by statutes was lost.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES.

Ordinance 26-C

Mr. H. T. Miller: An ordinance prohibiting the unlawful manufacture, sale, transportation, furnishing, or possessing, of intoxicating liquors in the City of Alliance and providing the punishment therefor, was read the first time and referred to the Judiciary Committee for immediate action.

ORDINANCE 27-C

Mr. Weaver: To issue bonds for the purpose of purchasing equipment for the Alliance City Hospital was read the first time and referred to the Finance Committee.

On motion of H. T. Miller seconded by Weaver, Council referred back to the fourth order of business, reports of standing committees.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

The Judiciary Committee to whom was referred Ordinance 26-C submitted its report and recommended its passage.

J. H. Miller
H. T. Miller

The report of the Committee was agreed to.

H. T. Miller moved, seconded by Weaver that the statutory rules requiring ordinances and resolutions to be read on three different days be suspended and Ordinance No. 26-C be read the second and third time. The question being on the suspension of the rules, the yeas and nays were taken and resulted yeas 6, nays 0. Those who voted in the affirmative were Messrs. Cary, Hall, H. T. Miller, J. H. Miller, Ryan, and Weaver. So the rules were suspended and the ordinance read the second and third time. The question being on the passage of the ordinance, the yeas and nays were taken and resulted yeas 6, nays 0. Those who voted in the affirmative were Messrs. Cary, Hall, H. T. Miller, J. H. Miller, Ryan, and Weaver. So the ordinance was passed.

Thursday Evening, February 26th, 1920 (Continued)

On motion of Hall, seconded by H. T. Miller, Council adjourned.

Attest:

Chas. Silvers
CITY AUDITOR

Chas. E. Raymond
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL