

- November 24th 1913 -

The council met in adjourned session with President Hull in the chair.

The roll being called the following members answered to their names.

Messrs. Barnard, Gubb, Lower, Voss, Yarney
Present 5. Absent 2.

The minutes of the previous meeting was read and approved.

The following communication from the Trustees of the Sinking Fund was read to council.

To the Honorable Council,
City of Alliance, Ohio.
Gentlemen:-

We beg to call your attention to the bonded debt of the City of Alliance, Ohio, especially to the special assessment debt, which amounts to \$197,550.12 at this time.

The special assessment bonds are no part of the cost of conducting the city's business. They are not revenues. Special assessments simply means recovering amounts previously spent. Stated in general terms, the theory of assessments is, that the city lays out money for improvements, benefiting particular sections of the city and then levies assessments against the property benefited to recover the money so spent. When all assessments have been collected, there should be just enough money to pay off the bonds originally sold to raise funds for the assessable improvements.

Under the statutes of Ohio, bonds issued to improve a particular street, are made a general obligation of the entire city. When the assessments are not paid, the Sinking Fund Trustees are required to redeem said bonds and make up the deficiency from the General Sinking Fund, which is raised by general taxation. The sinking fund is raised by levy on all the property of the corporation. This levy is based on the general bonded debt. The special assessment bonds are not considered, nor should they be, as they are to be paid by special assessment collections.

The City Council in all its legislation has provided and issued bonds for the City's portion, which has amounted to 2% and the street intersections, and the benefited property owners should pay the balance. The city's portion of these improvements are general obligations of the entire city.

During this year, your trustees have redeemed \$74,332.98 special assessments bonds, while the collections from special assessments to pay these bonds have been \$52,079.48. Consequently, we have been compelled to take from the general sinking fund \$22,253.00, which was raised to pay general bonds at maturity, and not special assessment bonds. And it is to this that we desire to call your attention that, by this condition of affairs the finances of the City will be impaired instead of redeeming general bonds at maturity. If a city fails to provide for the retirement of its bonds at maturity either by amortization through its sinking fund, it places itself at an obvious disadvantage in offering its bonds for sale. Under sound financial methods for retiring its bonds at maturity, there is no reason why any city should not be able to borrow money freely on favorable terms for permanent properties and improvements. Of course, the bonds falling can be refunded or the time of payment be extended; but we do not regard this as sound. While we do not favor the issuing of bonds to take care of accumulated shortages, otherwise known as deficiencies, the conditions are such at this time that relief is necessary to put us on a sound financial basis and lock the door before the horse is stolen, and would recommend that your Finance Committee investigate this matter, with the view of providing a relief by issuing refunding bonds.

Wm. Stalcup Pres.
A. G. Atkinson Pres.
The Mayor
B. F. Weybrecht

The communication was referred to the Finance Committee.

The following communication was read to court.

Ohio State Armory board
Nov. 12th 1913.

Chas. O. Silver, Esq.
City Auditor
Alliance, O.

Dear Sir

I have just received your inquiry of the 9th, inst. as to armory fund heretofore set aside for construction of one company armory at Alliance.

This sum was set aside early in November, 1912, with the understanding that land was in process of conveyance. Later the board learned that the contemplated land was not to be conveyed, at least for some time. Therefore, to prevent the fund lapsing it was necessary to transfer this fund to another site and this was done in June, 1913. At the time of the transfer the board had no immediate expectation of getting a state site at Alliance. It was necessary to begin construction in order to save the fund from lapsing for disuse.

Yours cordially

B. G. Bargar

Sir, Ohio State Armory board.

The following communication was received from W. H. M. Masten

Mount Union College.

Office of the President

Nov. 24th 1913.

Members of the Council of the City of Alliance,

Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Trustees of Mount Union College, I hereby petition your honorable body to furnish the power for two lights on Union Avenue at the entrance to the College grounds.

The ornamental gate-way to the grounds will be located on Union Avenue, and the College will furnish lamp standard.

Union Avenue at this particular location is very dark, and these lights would render a much needed service to the public.

Yours respectfully

W. H. M. Masten
President

On motion the communication was referred to the committee on Public lights.

The following communication was referred to the ~~the~~ was read to council.

Mount Union College.

Alliance O.

Nov. 24, 1913

Members of the Council of the City of Alliance,
Gentlemen -

On behalf of the Trustees of Mount Union College, I hereby petition your honorable body to enact such legislation as will forbid the use of poles on Cullman Avenue, crossing the campus of the College between State Street and Simpson Street.

While no one at this time is seeking to place poles on this boulevard, we are particularly desirous that anything unsightly shall be prevented and that all wires on this street be required to be placed under ground.

Appreciating your attention to this petition, and thanking you on behalf of the College, I remain

Yours respectfully
W. H. M. Master
President

The communication was referred to the com. on Streets - Alleys

The following petition was presented to council.

Petition for vacation of street.

To the Honorable Council of the City of Alliance and State of Ohio.

The undersigned owners of lots in the City of Alliance, Ohio being the adjoining property owners of Cullman Avenue from Vincent Street to Simpson Street respectfully petition your Honorable Body that said Cullman Street between the south west line of Vincent Street and the north west line of Simpson Street may be vacated for the reason that it is no longer of use to the public and its vacation will not be detrimental to the general interest

The Cullman Avenue, which we hereby petition your Honorable Body to vacate will be platted between the same points but in a different

location passing over lots No 2862, 2811, which are owned by the undesigned and the purpose of this vacation is to carry out the general plans of beautifying the city as laid out by Mt. Union-Leno College, and Waller M. Ellett of our city

Wm. Guign

Mon W Guign

Owners of lots No 2858, 2815,
2814, 2813, 2859, 2860,

Reports of standing committees

The com on Finance submitted Ord No 1676 - 1677 - 1679.

Wm. Yarnney
Peter Voss

The question being on agreeing to the report of the com which report was agreed to.

Ord No. 1679

Mr Yarnney. An ordinance to provide for transfer from one appropriation account to another. was read the first time.

Ord No. 1676

Mr Voss. To issue bonds in the sum of Fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars, for the purpose of purchasing or acquiring real estate in the city of Alliance, State of Ohio, and erecting thereon a city hospital. was read the first time.

Ord No. 1677

Mr. Barnard. To issue bonds in the amount of \$75,000.00 for the purpose of erecting a Public Building in the city of Alliance, Stark County, Ohio, to be provided with offices for the officials of the said city of Alliance, and with a public hall, for the use of the citizens of said city. was read the first time.

The following ordinances and resolutions were introduced

Ord No. 1678

Mr Voss. To remit special assessments levied against certain property located on Liberty Street and Mill Street in the City of Alliance, O. was read the first time

Referred to Judiciary com and com on assessments.

Ord No 1679

~~Mr Yarnney. An ordinance to provide for transfer from one appropriation account to another~~

Ord No. 1680

Mr Yarnney. An ordinance to accept Guigns plat of Melton Street was read the first time

Referred to com on calling

Voss moved, seconded by Lower. Council
adjourned.

Allist

Clerk.

J. W. Hull President.

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