

MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

THURSDAY, MAY 25TH A. D. 1916, 4 P. M.

PRESENT: Honorable Clinton G. Brown, Mayor, presiding, and Commissioners Lambert, Kearny and Uhr. Absent, Garland.

Minutes of previous meeting were ordered approved.

-----MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS-----

Petition of Citizens protesting against the issuance of bonds for promotion of the San Antonio International Fair was read and held, pending the filing of petition for the Bond Issue.

The following petitions were read and referred to Commissioner of Fire and Police: Lytle & Epstein, for Bill Posters License.

Overland Auto Livery Company, for permit to erect an electric sign.

Pierce Robinsom Undertaking Company, for permit to conduct undertaking establishment at 423 Soledad Street.

Petition of W. Y. Penn, for correction of assessment, was read and referred to Commissioner of Taxation.

Commissioner Kearny, reporting on the proposition of Mrs. Mary Hesse and Mrs E. V. Wilke, offering to deed a strip of land on Bowie Street, recommended that it be held. Adopted.

MA-925

Commissioner Kearny recommended that that the petition of Citizens requesting a change in paving specifications on Austin Street, between Sixth and Ninth Streets, be granted . Adopted.

Commissioner Kearny recommended that petition for the paving of Diaz Street be filed for future reference when other streets are contemplated to be paved. Adopted.

Commissioner Kearny introduced the following ordinance, which was read and adopted by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Brown, Lambert, Kearny and Uhr, Nays, none. Absent, Garland.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF BEXAR

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

AN ORDINANCE -926

LEVYING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS AND TAXES on account of the cost of the improvement of South Hackberry Street, from East Commerce Street to Victoria Street, and to provide for the issuance of assessment certificates and for other purposes.

For full text of this ordinance see Record Book No. page See May 11 -

Commissioner Kearny introduced the following resolution which was read and adopted:

RESOLUTION

ORDERING A PUBLIC HEARING of property owners and others interested in street improvements to be constructed on Austin Street (Carson Street to Sixth Street) approving plat and statement of City Engineer and ordering that special assessments be made and levied,

and for other purposes.

For full text of this resolution see Record Book No. 6 page. /

Commissioner Lambert, reporting on the proposition of the San Antonio Water Supply Company to sell the City land at Brackenridge Park, recommended that the property between gateways No. 1 and 2 be bought on terms mentioned in proposition of Water Supply Company. Adopted.

Commissioner Lambert introduced the following ordinance, which was read and adopted by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Brown, Lambert, Kearny and Uhr. Nays, none. Absent, Garland.

No. 908

AN-ORDINANCE MA-928

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

That the following sums of money be appropriated out of the following funds to pay Merchants Bills of May 1916, to-wit:

Out of the 1915 General Fund for the following Departments:

City Hall Expenditures	\$ 1160.75
Police	1646.82
Health	472.90
Hospital	885.55
Fire	1721.86
Fire Alarm	112.15
Engineering	402.64
Parks and Plazas	1279.51
Street Maintenance	484.05
Street Cleaning and Sanitation	507.34
Market and Market House	25.00
Lights	4612.65
Water	5124.68
Rivers & Ditches	35.00
Plumbing and Sewer Inspection	86.42
Contingencies	524.79
Cemetery	5.00

\$19087.11

1873.58

\$20960.69

Out of Street Paving Fund

This ordinance is hereby declared to be of urgent importance for reasons of public welfare apparent herefrom and the same shall take effect at once.

The following communication from the County Commissioners Court was read and adopted.

Honorable Clinton G. Brown, Mayor, and
Commissioners of the City of San Antonio, Texas.

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to your request after the inspection had on Tuesday, April 26, 1916, by yourself and a majority of City Commissioners and the County Commissioners of Bexar County, Texas, of certain improvements made on the Bexar County Farm, for the purpose of providing adequate facilities for the operation and maintenance of the adjunct to the Robert B. Green Memorial Hospital, where all persons suffering from contagious and infectious diseases shall be treated, we advise as follows:-

Under date of November 14th, 1914, an agreement was executed by and between the City and the County whereby the sum of \$250,000.00 was to be expended for the establishment of a public hospital, for the benefit of persons suffering from any disease, illness or injury to be officially known as the "Robert B. Green Memorial Hospital".

Under clause fifth of said agreement it was provided that out of said bond funds belonging to the County, there was first to be reserved to be expended such an amount as might be necessary to equip properly said hospital, and a further sum of \$25,000.00 was to be reserved to be expended out of said County fund to provide an annex for said hospital where persons suffering from contagious and infectious diseases were to be

received, properly isolated and treated.

Under clause tenth of said agreement it was also provided that said adjunct to said County and City Hospital be erected and located ten miles southeast of said City of San Antonio on the County farm now owned by said County, and said adjunct to be conducted, operated, repaired and maintained as a part of said County and City Hospital, and to consist of certain buildings and other improvements where persons suffering from contagious and infectious diseases were to be received and treated.

As you remember, the reason for the segregation of the contagious and infectious unit of the Hospital was to comply with the reasoning of the most approved authorities in hospital construction and management who insist upon the segregation from the Main Building of the Hospital of persons suffering from such ailments and also from any densely crowded center to prevent, as much as possible, the spread of contagion by having such patients well isolated from the populous districts of the City.

In order to carry out the County's part of the agreement and to establish such contagious and infectious unit of the Hospital, we began our work along the following lines:

Although the sum of \$25,000.00. under the agreement, has been set aside for the County to establish such contagious and infectious unit, no part of such Hospital fund has as yet been spent for such purpose, for the reason that we deemed it wise and best to proceed first with the erection of the plant, keeping strict account of all expenditures had and when same had been completed or practically completed as it is today, to then invite the City Administration to overlook and inspect the work and then determine upon what basis we should charge out of such hospital fund the cost of providing the facilities necessary to conduct such institution. Our accounting department, therefore, established a special contingent fund, into which all items mentioned herein and the money used to defray such items of expense have been charged pending final adjustment with the City, and when the City and County authorities have finally determined upon what basis such \$25,000.00 should be proportioned, we felt we could then repay the County out of such Hospital fund up to \$25,000.00, and if any balance were left over we could recharge it back into the original fund of \$250,000.00. From the above you will see that the County has borne the entire expenditure and we wish to secure our refund, if you approve the expenditures as now submitted to you.

To minimize, as much as possible, economy of operation and maintenance we decided to establish, at two central points, all of the County and City Institutions looking to the care of the sick. At the time the present County Commissioners came into office they found that the former County Administration had purchased something like one hundred acres of land located ten miles southeast of the City of San Antonio on the Salado creek, and had erected upon said land the following improvements:-

Our present detention hospital costing	\$5295.75
Water tank	1264.00
Well	903.97
Fencing	330.99

This institution and the facilities incident thereto will form part of the hospital plan and will be turned over to the Hospital Board for utilization when such body assumes control of our Hospital affairs, but no part of the cost thereof has been charged against the \$25,000.00. fund for the reason that it had been completed and in and in actual use and operation long before the hospital bond issue had been carried.

Shortly after the present administration came into office, it was decided to submit to the people a bond issue looking to the voting of bonds for the establishment of, among other institutions, a new Home for the Aged, and upon the money being voted it was decided by the Court to purchase 165.8 acres adjoining the original County Farm for

the sum of \$12,932.40, and upon this second purchase is now located the present Tubercular Camp, Sun Parlor, Power Plant and other equipment necessary for the operation of the County and joint City and County Institutions located on said tract of land. These two purchases of land now comprise what is known as the Bexar County Farm, consisting of approximately 265 acres of land.

After the acquisition of said land, we immediately began the building of the Home for the Aged, and transferred the Tubercular Camp from its old site near the head of the River to the new farm of 165.8 acre tract selecting therefor, out of said tract, a sunny slope in convenient proximity to the Home for the Aged. This establishment is now what is known as the Tubercular Sanitarium, which consists of twenty-eight modern cottages of the bungalow type, each capable of accommodating two patients. No part, however, of the original cost incident to the building of said bungalows has been charged against the fund because all or practically all of them had been erected before the hospital bond issue was voted. However, in order to modernize and thoroughly equip said cottages, it became necessary to place said cottages upon permanent concrete foundations, wired for electric lights, screened, further renovated by painting, connected with our water supply and suitable gravel walks were constructed for the convenience of the nurses and patients. The total cost of the foundations, painting, etc., as you will note from itemized statement amounts to \$35.04, and since this is distinctly a Hospital proposition we think such fund of \$25,000.00. should bear the total expense of renovation and improvements and it has been so computed.

The first proposition that confronted the Court was the establishment of a water, light and heating for all buildings and various contracts were let aggregating \$19,880.36 to provide such facilities. We believe the \$25,000.00 fund should be charged with two-fifths of this expense, for the reason that the Detention Hospital which will run on the average of forty patients a month and the Tubercular Camp which runs on the average of about forty patients per month will receive not only light and water from this plant but also power will be furnished to operate the laundry that will supply the linen necessary for the operation of such institutions.

The first plan provided for the establishment of the laundry plant in the basement of the Main Building of the Hospital but after more mature deliberation it was later decided that if the laundry were established at the farm, we could utilize the juveniles at the Training school to operate the laundry and thereby not only teach them a useful avocation, but also save the expense of help necessary to operate same. This divorcement also obviates the vibration, odor and other inconveniences incident to the operation of a laundry in the Main Hospital. Accordingly, a contract was let for the establishment of a laundry to be located in the machinery building of our power plant and has cost the sum of \$3,240.00. Installation has been completed and it will be ready for operation in a day or two. We believe a fair proportion of the cost of the Laundry Plant would be to charge the \$25,000.00 fund with three-fifths of the cost of installation of same and this proportion is based on the number of patients for which it will furnish the linen, namely; The Home for the Aged, 125 inmates; The Juvenile Home, 30 inmates (which are distinctly County Institutions) as compared ^{with} approximately 225 patients and help in the Main Hospital building in the City, an average of forty patients in the Tubercular Camp, and an average of forty patients in the Detention Hospital.

To connect the Tubercular Camp, the Home for the Aged, and the Juvenile Home with the Imhoff Sewerage Disposal tank cost \$499.13. We believe said fund of \$25,000.00 should be charged with one-third of this cost, because the average length of sewer pipe was

the same from each institution to connection with the tank.

The most improved treatment of Tubercular ~~xxxxxxx~~ cases provides for lounging rooms and sun parlors so at times when patients become weary of their individual lodgings they may seek rest, recreation and more ample ventilation in the so called sun parlors. To provide such a place for our sick a contract was let for such parlor or lounging room, which provides recreation rooms for men and women, toilet and bath facilities at a cost of \$5,957.49.

We believe it is, of course, right and proper that the \$25,000.00 fund should bear the entire cost of this building since it will be used exclusively by the tubercular patients and it is so recommended.

To provide electric lights for the sun parlor, Detention Hospital and the Tubercular Camp, it became necessary to erect a pole line to carry the electric wires supplying the current. This was done under contract at a cost of \$625.00 and we believe such fund of \$25,000.00 should be charged with the entire amount of the expenditure. Such buildings being utilized exclusively for the care of the sick.

To provide proper facilities for the handling of the dead pending burial we found it would be necessary to erect a morgue on the County property and the same cost \$915.00.

We believe a proper proportion to be charged against the \$25,000.00 fund should be one third since by far the greater proportion of our deaths at the Farm occur in the Detention and Tubercular Departments.

The Detention Hospital by reason of the elevation of the ground upon which it is located could not feasibly be connected with the main sewer and on the advice of our engineers we intend modernizing the disposal of the sewer from this building by the installation of a separate septic tank of ample capacity to take care of the future.

At the present we have no means of determining the exact cost of installation but our advices are now that it will not exceed the sum of \$800.00, and in a few days we will begin construction of such tank and when it is completed the fund should be charged with the entire cost since it is solely a Hospital proposition.

This brings us to a discussion of the part such fund should bear of the second tract of land purchased upon which the majority of the Hospital Buildings are now located and which cost \$12,932.40, no part of cost of original one hundred acres to be included since same were purchased before the Hospital bond issue was voted. We believe a fair proportion would be one third since a number of acres thereof is comprised in the Tubercular tract. A certain acreage has also been set apart for the purposes of a Leprosarium for we believe the time is not far distant when this County will have to assume an additional burden to take proper care of persons in our midst who are afflicted with this dreadful malady. The power, water, laundry and lighting plant is also located thereon. The sewerage disposal tank and its accessories takes up a certain area and we intend further to utilize quite an acreage in providing a farm, for the raising of feed stuffs for our cattle, our inmates at the home for the aged and the Juvenile Home to work the same.

In addition to this Bexar County now has a herd of 15 Jerseys, which must be provided with pasturage. Ninety per cent of the product of the cows, at this time, goes to supply the Detention Hospital and Tubercular Camp and on the opening of the Main Hospital we will have to increase the herd to accommodate the increased demand. No part of cost of this herd, however, has been included.

From the statement that follows you will note we have expended through our contingent fund the sum of \$21,795.85 to this must be added the \$800.00 which we estimate will be expended through our contingent fund the sum of \$21,795.85, to this must be added the \$800.00 which we estimate will be expended for the Septic tank for the Detention Hospital, making a total expenditure of something like \$22,595.85, being as follows

Land		
H. C. Feldman, 165.8 acres.	\$12,932.40	
City's proportion, 1/3		\$4310.80
Sewers		
Geo. Brambaugh, laying pipe	253.30	
S. A. Sewer Pipe Works, pipe	<u>245.83</u>	
	\$499.13	
City's proportion one third		166.38
Sun Parlor		
C. V. Seutter, architects fees	284.70	
Walsh & Burney, Bldg. Contract	4939.58	
Martin Wright, wiring Contract	139.21	
Reiwald Heating & Plumbing Co. Plumbing Contract	m <u>594.00</u>	
Total Cost	\$5957.49	
City's proportion, all		5957.49
Pole Line to Detention Hospital		
Martin Wright, contract	\$625.00	
City's proportion all		625.00
Morgue		
McKenzie Construction Co.	915.00	
City's proportion, one third		305.00
Tubercular Colony		
Martin Wright, wiring	98.00	
C. H. Mueller, paints	95.98	
E. H. Ervin, painting	38.75	
Water pipe	59.81	
Walks	90.40	
Foundations	<u>152.10</u>	
Total Cost	535.04	
City's proportion, all		535.04
Water, Power & Laundry Plant, Water & Power Plant		
Engineering	1270.69	
J. W. Moore & Sons, Contract	9695.27	
S. A. M. & S. Co. Machinery etc	7008.90	
S.A. Tank & Cooperage Co.	<u>1905.50</u>	
Total Cost	\$19880.36	
City's proportion 2/5		7952.14
Laundry Plant		
American Laundry Co.	3240.00	
City's proportion 3/5		1944.00
Detention Hospital		
Septic Tank, estimated	800.00	
City's proportion, all		<u>800.00</u>
City's Total Proportion		\$22595.85

We have written you minutely perhaps and at greater length than necessary.

First, for the reason that when the contract between the City and County was executed looking to the establishment of the joint Hospital only two of the present Commissioners, Mr. Uhr and Mr. Lambert were members of the governing body of the City. Two of your present Commissioners, Mr. Kearny and Mr. Garland, having come into office since that time and we want them to have full information and enlightenment upon every item of expenditure and our reason therefor, and,

Second, because when we had our trip of inspection the other day, unfortunately Mr. Lambert and Mr. Uhr were not present and did not go over the plant in detail. We believe this report full and sufficient, but if these two gentlemen require further information on the subject, we will be only too glad to furnish them transportation to the Farm, so that they may fully inspect the plant and fully advise themselves in the premises, and,

Third, with the hope that the press will give due publicity to this report and the people of the City and County by the reading thereof may thoroughly understand for what purpose and how their money has been expended.

We are anxious to close out this contingent account since we will soon close

our books for the year and we wish to reimburse ourselves for the money expended and now carried in such suspense account and for this reason we urge at your hands prompt and favorable action upon the report.

Yours Very truly,

Commissioners Court Bexar County Texas.

By J. R. Davis, County Judge.

Adopted with the amendment that where "City's proportion" is used on pages 7 & 8 this means that the sums so mentioned are to be charged against the Twenty Five Thousand Dollars of the County bond money retained by the County in accordance with Section Five of the Contract for a joint Hospital made between the City and County.

Commissioner Uhr introduced the following ordinance, which was read and adopted by the following vote on roll call, to-wit: Ayes, Brown, Lambert, Kearny and Uhr. Nays, none. Absent, Garland.

MA-929 An ordinance granting permit to J. W. Flowers to operate Car No. 9402 in Local Street transportation.

Commissioner Uhr recommended that the petitions of Sam Alkek and F. W. Lovett for change in Jitney routes be granted. Adopted.

Commissioner Uhr introduced a resolution extending time time for payment of taxes, but withdrew the same on account of certain provisions of the City Charter prohibiting such extension.

Commissioner Kearny introduced the following resolution, which was read and adopted.
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF BEXAR
CITY OF SAN ANTONIO.

MA-930 RESOLUTION

Ordering a public hearing of property owners and others interested in street improvements ordered to be constructed on Austin Street, (Sixth Street to Carson Street) approving plat and statement of City Engineer and ordering that special assessments be made and levied, and for other purposes.

For full text of this resolution see Record Book No. page *see page 578*

On motion, duly seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

Ed Stiles
CITY CLERK

APPROVED

Clayton Brown
MAYOR