

WINTER CAMP IS DISCUSSED

City Council Appoints a Committee to Meet Camp Officers.

WILL HOLD TAX SALE

Finance Committee Decides That Property in Arrears for Taxes Up to the End of 1913 Will Be Sold on October 15—Nineteen Applications For Position of Assessor Are Received.

In the absence of Mayor Smith, Ald. Shatford was appointed Acting Mayor at the meeting of the Council on Monday night, and occupied the chair. The minutes having been read and adopted, the following communications were submitted:

Communications.

From E. D. Watts, drawing attention to a former letter in which he had asked for a share of the city's fire insurance business.—Referred to the Finance Committee.

From Mrs. Ellen Bessette, complaining of the state of the Girouard ditch passing through her property at the corner of Seventh and Schubert Streets, which she claimed is eating away the banks and getting under the foundations of her house, thus flooding the cellar. She threatened an action for damages against the city unless the ditch is put in proper shape without delay.—Referred to the city solicitor.

Reports.

The Finance Committee reported recommending the payment of sundry small accounts.—The report was adopted.

The committee of the whole Council reported recommending that with the consent of Mr. Hammond his resignation as City Superintendent be withdrawn, and his salary from August 1st be \$115 per month.—The report was adopted.

The Finance Committee reported as follows:

"That the taxes for the current year, paid before the expiration of the rebate, amounted to \$39,226, and that the total amount of taxes paid from the date of notice—19th July—to 16th August, amounted to \$42,336.

"In the previous year the taxes collected to the date of the rebate (October 15) amounted to \$47,000.

"Under the circumstances your committee recommend that a sale be held on the 15th of October next, for all taxes in arrears on January 1, 1914."

The report was adopted.

Regarding this report Ald. Costerton said that though the amount received was less than last year, still, considering that in 1914 the notices were out for four months before the time of the rebate it was not so bad. He thought that several thousand dollars would come in before October 15. The Finance Committee did not like the idea of holding a tax sale, but owing to pressure brought by the bank, to which the city owed over \$50,000 on advances, no other course was open. He hoped that many would pay up before the date of the sale. It would be necessary to advertise the sale for 30 days previous to October 15, so that those who paid up their arrears a month before the date of the sale would not be subjected to any extra costs for advertising.

Dr. Duncan, Medical Health Officer, submitted a report on samples of milk taken from the local dealers, all of which came up to the standard of the by-law.

Prison Labor.

Ald. Heggie, to whom had been referred the matter of a city chain gang, reported that owing to the absence from the city of the camp commandant, he had not been able to get all the information desired, but would report fully at the next meeting. A number of prisoners from the camp had been sentenced to hard labor and he thought it might be possible to arrange with the military authorities to provide guards for men doing sentences of this kind without any cost to the city.

Ald. Costerton said that this matter had been in abeyance for some time, and it was desirable that a speedy solution be reached. He moved, seconded by Ald. Smith, that the chairman of the Board of Works be authorized to arrange, if possible, with the military authorities to provide guards for prisoners sentenced to hard labor in the city.—Carried.

The Winter Camp.

Ald. Shatford pressed upon the meeting the necessity of taking speedy action regarding the winter camp for the soldiers. He said that the matter would be decided in the course of a few weeks as to whether the troops would remain here for the winter or be removed to the coast. A determined effort is being made at the coast to have them taken down there for the winter, and he felt that nothing should be omitted that could be done to keep them here. He thought a committee should at once be appointed to go thoroughly into the matter, take the subject up with the camp officers, and secure all necessary information as to the cost of keeping them here. The citizens, he felt sure, would gladly cooperate with such a committee in every possible way.

Ald. Costerton cordially agreed with the proposal, saying that he had lived here 30 years, and believed the bright and dry winter climate to be much preferable for training purposes to the wet and muddy conditions at the coast. When the matter of the cost of transportation, rent of buildings, etc., was taken into consideration he thought that ample arguments could be advanced in favor of keeping the troops here for the winter.

Ald. Heggie and Clement concurred in this view, the chairman appointed Ald. Costerton and Heggie a committee, with power to add to their number from among the citizens.

Applications for Assessor.

Nineteen applications for the position of assessor and collector, rendered vacant by the appointment of J. G. Ed-

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wards to the city clerkship, were read. They were as follows:

R. B. Bell, \$100 per month; R. F. Eastbrook, same salary as predecessor; C. Curtis, "a moderate salary to start"; L. A. Bray, \$100 per month; Geo. Morkill, not less than predecessor; H. A. Wells, \$90 per month; Colin Reid, \$100 per month; Thos. Ross, \$90 per month; P. Dickson, \$100 per month; F. W. Underwood, \$120 per month; J. Gardner, \$100 per month; B. H. Brant, \$100 per month; F. W. Bolston, \$100 per month; W. L. Forester, no salary stated; E. A. Orchard, \$95 per month; J. R. Brown, \$95 per month; Percy Alwen, \$0 per month, P. H. Jacques, same salary as predecessor; Ralph Pearson, \$110 per month.

These were referred to the Hall Committee, in whose hands was also left the matter of filling the position of accountant, left vacant by the resignation of Mr. Steedman, which takes effect on September 15tr.

Ald. Costerton gave notice that at the next meeting he would introduce a tax sale by-law.

Supplies were ordered to be purchased as per the requisition of the storekeeper, and the meeting then adjourned.