

City of Winston Government Meetings Notes

Town of Winston: 1900-1906

HIGHLIGHTS

Water supply overview 1877-1903

1900 - Water shortage; First Board elected under new charter, O.B. Eaton, Mayor; Blue laws discussed; Sewage in Salem Creek; Water meters proposed;

1901 - Water clerk requested; Assassination of President McKinley noted

1902 - Street light contracts; Twin City Hospital Association requests more money; Engineer Magruder resigns; Water supply study; Request to pave Liberty St; New passenger station; City Engineer Capt. Robert Henry

1903 - Construction of second water plant; New fire engine arrives; Saloons; Ordinance regarding weeds on sidewalks; Fire Chief Riggins resigns; Grace Court Park given to city; Carnegie Library;

1904 - New contract with Fries Mfg and Power Company; R.L. Greenlee, City Engineer; Reservoir disaster; New stand pipe for water supply

1905 - New water works completed; Old water works abandoned; Fire Chief McCrary resigns, replaced by A.J. Gales; Mayor Eaton's report; Building permits now required; Woodland Cemetery site purchased

1906 - Refuse collection begins; Concrete sidewalks required; New Fire Company approved; Private drainage ordinance; Police Chief Crutchfield dies; Fire Chief Gales dies, R.C. Taylor named Chief; J.A. Thomas named Chief of Police; W-S Southbound Railway granted right of way; Chatham Manufacturing to erect mill; J.N. Amber named City Engineer

1877-1903

WATER SUPPLY

In August, 1877, J. C. Buxton held a conference with the officials of Salem to discuss the possibility of joint action between Winston and Salem in a proposition to consider some means of providing a water supply to serve both towns. This joint action was not undertaken; however, in 1878, the citizens of Salem organized the Salem Water Supply Co., with Dr. J. F. Shaffner as President. This company established the Water Works on Bath Branch (near the present site of the Salem Fine Arts Center) pumping the water from wells at this location to a reservoir at Belews Creek St. at Chestnut Street (the present site of a parking deck behind City Hall South).

In 1880, a group of citizens in Winston organized the Winston Water Co. They purchased about 65 acres of land around the old Belo Pond on Peters Creek. This is the area now on Northwest Blvd just east of University Parkway. A pump house was built about 100 feet below the dam, to which water was brought through the head race from Belo's Pond to provide power to operate the water pump. Water was obtained from two deep wells located below the dam and near the pump house. The minutes of the Board refer to these wells as "tubular wells." The Belo Pond had no relation to the water works other than to furnish power to operate the pumps. There was no water treatment process used at this time, since the water supply came from the two deep wells and was pumped directly into the 10 inch water line running to the brick reservoir on Trade Street near 8th Street. This 10 inch water line ran from the pump house to a point about the present intersection of Oak and 12th St., then to the intersection of Trade and 10th Street, and up Trade Street to the reservoir. The Company extended water mains on the town streets as rapidly as available funds would permit.

The City of Winston bought stock in the Winston Water Company and gave other financial support to assist the Company to expand and improve the water system. A rental fee of \$20 per year was paid by the City for each hydrant in the system, there being about 50 hydrants installed. As a stockholder, the City exercised considerable control over the operation of the water system.

At a meeting of the Board on April 17, 1894, Alderman W. E. Franklin moved that the Water Works Committee be authorized to confer with the Directors of the Winston Water Co. and ascertain the lowest price at which the water works could be bought, and to employ an engineer to examine the system and submit a report. Judge Thos. J. Wilson was President of the Water Company, and Jas. A. Gray, Geo. W. Hinshaw and P. H. Hanes were Directors. In 1893, legislation was enacted to enable the City of Winston to own and control the Winston Water Works.

Town of Winston Directing Board: 1900-1906

As of June 18, 1894, the Winston Water Company had a bonded indebtedness of \$24,000 and a floating indebtedness of \$14,000. The private stock holders agreed to sell the City of Winston all the property franchises, rights and privileges of all kinds belonging to the Company for the price of \$56,000, this price representing the actual cost without interest to the shareholders of the Company, exclusive of the shares already owned by the City. The \$56,000 included the bonded and floating indebtedness of the Water Company.

In order to provide funds for the purchase of the Winston Water Works Co. it was necessary for the City to have a bond referendum. It was decided to create an additional bonded indebtedness in the amount of \$160,000. Of this amount, \$60,000 was for funding the present floating indebtedness of the City, \$56,000 was for the purchase of the Water Company, and the remaining \$44,000 was for improvements to the water system.

Following the usual procedure required under the City Charter, citizens submitted a petition to the Board of Aldermen asking that an election be held on the issuance of the above amount of bonds. This petition was signed by 91 citizens and tax-payers representing ownership of property with a valuation of at least 33 1/3 per cent of the proposed \$160,000 bonded indebtedness. The list of signers reads like a Who's Who of Winston including R. J. Reynolds, James A. Gray, C. B. Watson, C. J. Ogburn, J. L. Ludlow, R. F. Gray, J. C. Buxton, B. J. Sheppard, M. D. Bailey, T. L. Vaughn, W. C. Wright, J. A. Neely, Philip Hanes, W. B. Pollard, G. L. Dull, James. K. Norfleet, H. D. Poindexter and R. E. Dalton.

The Board of Aldermen accepted the petition and set the election for August 7, 1894. The results were:

Ward	Approved	Not Approved	Total Registration
First Ward	176	3	203
Second Ward	206	2	240
Third Ward	380	15	531
			974

The list of purchased equipment included:

64 3/4 acres of land around Belo's Pond

Two large wells with a daily flow of 200,000 gallons of water.

1 Water Power Pump and fixtures with a capacity of 300,000 gallons per day.

Brick Reservoir on lot fronting 100 feet on 8th St. and running north about 240 feet.

4-1/4 miles of various size (4" to 10") water mains.

58 hydrants and 24 gate valves.

Immediately, the City began to plan for improvements. An additional 72.19 acres was purchased to protect the water shed according to survey and map made by R. L. Greenlee, Engineer, in October, 1904.

The Water Committee investigated the stream flow on Peters Creek (then called Belo Creek) at the point where Galloway's Branch joined Belo Branch. This branch which runs from Peters Creek north just east of the present Lime Avenue, continuing on across 24th, 25th, and 27th Streets, terminating at Shorefair Drive just west of Pine Hall Brick. The intersection of these two branches was almost 2000 feet upstream from the Belo Pond Dam. This investigation showed that after a very long dry spell these two streams were flowing 412,000 gallons per day.

The City constructed a stone masonry dam, about 150 feet long, across Peters Creek just below Galloway Branch. Another similar dam about 100 feet long was built across Peters Creek about 175 feet above the other dam. These two dams provided a storage basin about 175 feet by 200 feet in size. From this storage basin, or impounding reservoir, water was conveyed through 2000 lineal feet of 10 inch spiral riveted pipe (called cast iron pipe on Greenlee's map) to a new pump house just below the Belo Pond dam. This storage basin had a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons. A note on Greenlee's map states that the 10 inch pipe from the storage basin furnished 200,000 gallons in 24 hours, and the two wells below the pond dam furnished 150,000 gallons in 24 hours.

The minutes of December 16, 1895, recorded that since Oct 1, 1894, a storage pond had been built north of Belo's Pond capacity 1,000,000 gallons, into which there is a daily flow of 550,000 gallons of water a low water mark.

The old Reservoir wall had been made six and one-half feet thicker from the bottom and raised fourteen feet higher, thus increasing the water pressure 18 feet or 7.92 pounds per square inch. It was considered unsafe to fill the old Reservoir above a point six feet below the top of the wall.

On June 5, 1899, J. A. Magruder, City Engineer and Supt. of Water Works, reported ... "The old power pump has been overhauled and made almost as good as new. One of the wells has been walled up with brick in order to strengthen the old walls. 115 new consumers have been added to the list, making the total number 527. The average daily consumption of water has to be 291,000 gallons, making a total of 106,581 gallons for the year. The entire system is in good order. The pumps and all the machinery have been well cared for and are doing excellent work. We are sadly in need of a Receiving Basin at the Pumping Station, in which to store filtered water; in order to always have on hand 1,000,000 gallons of clear water in addition to the capacity of the Reservoir. I therefore advise and urge that the basin be built as soon as the condition of the City Treasury will admit."

On February 5, 1900, the Water committee authorized the construction of a circular brick basin with concrete bottom, near the pumping station, to hold approximately 1,000,000 gallons, the cost not to exceed \$25,000, the work to commence in the month of April and pushed with all due dispatch to completion. The map made by R. L. Greenlee in 1904 shows this clear water basin to have a diameter of 140 feet and a capacity of 800,000 gallons. (6-388)

1900

SMALL POX COMPULSORY VACCINATION

January 15, 1900-At this board meeting there is a great deal of discussion regarding a small pox epidemic in the county. The Minutes quote the City Attorney "that this City was in great danger and that steps should be taken a once. He did not believe that a system of quarantine could be made practical and that the only sure preventative was vaccination which could by law be made compulsory, but did not advise such action unless the Board proposed to enforce it." (6-282)

The Aldermen agreed that public sentiment did not favor compulsory vaccination and suggested that action be deferred until a mass meeting of the town was called to fully discuss the "dreadful effects of an epidemic of small pox." 2000 circulars were printed for a meeting to be held the next night at the courthouse.

On January 17, the Board met in called meeting to consider the compulsory vaccination ordinance that had been unanimously endorsed at the mass meeting. (6-384) An ordinance was enacted requiring all citizens to be vaccinated within 10 days. If a person was unable to pay, the City would absorb the expense.

On January 23, a case of small pox was confirmed in a room in the Gray Block. The Superintendent of Health recommended that "steps be taken at once to remove the patient to the small pox hospital and also send to the detention house all persons exposed to the disease by reason of visiting the room." (6-385) The "pest house" or detention facility was adjacent to the Piedmont Park property on Liberty St. near 28th. This location was on the very outskirts of town.

A further ordinance regarding the vaccination of trades people who worked in the town was ordered on January 31, 1900. (6-386)

The vaccination program and its costs are the subjects at two more meetings before the end of February 1900.

The last of the patients were reported discharged in July 1900. (6-407)

While there was never an epidemic, due in no small part to the vigilance of the Health Committee, there were isolated small pox cases being reported in 1908.

POLICE ELECTED

March 5, 1900-The semi-annual election of city employees was held. F. G. Crutchfield was again named Chief of Police. Nine Patrolmen were also named. Lewis Evans, was elected janitor at City Hall, S. J. Lamb, Policeman and Supt. Streets and Sanitary Work and W. F. Keith, Sanitary Officer (6-394)

ALDERMAN POLLARD'S DEATH

Alderman W. B. Pollard died on April 23, 1900, but since a municipal election was only days away, no successor was named. (6-397)

1900

BOARD

The first Board of Aldermen, elected in May, 1900, under the provision of the new City Charter were:

First Ward: F. C. Brown, J. K. Norfleet, E. H. Wilson

Second Ward: J. W. Byerly, T. P. Styron, J. H. Hill

Third Ward: W. H. Marler, F. J. Liipfert, J. Jacobs.

On the first meeting of the new Board on May 14, O. B Eaton received nine votes as Mayor on the first ballot and was elected. (6-401)

W. E. Franklin was elected Secretary and Treasurer by acclamation. This was the first time a Board had elected a Secretary and Treasurer who was not a member of the Board of Aldermen. It is not surprising that the Board set a precedent in taking this action, because Franklin had already proven himself to be an excellent Secretary and Treasurer by serving in these positions during the previous two years while he was also serving as Alderman from the First Ward. Franklin kept precise, accurate, well-written detailed minutes of the Board.

The new City Ordinances called for the appointment of eleven Standing Committees: Finance, Water, Light, Sanitary, Sewerage, Police, Building, Fire, Market, Graded School and Street

Philip Hanes was elected a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

J. A. Magruder was re-elected City Engineer and Supt. of Water Works at a salary of \$900 per year. (6-402)

SEWAGE IN SALEM CREEK

June 5, 1900- Mayor Eaton reported that there were complaints from citizens in Salem about the condition of the place where the Tar Branch outfall sewer dumped into Salem Creek. The matter was referred to a Committee. (6-404)

BLUE LAWS

Chapter 4, Section 23 of the City Ordinances, reads, in part:

"But drug stores may be kept open at all times but no cigars, tobacco, soda water, mineral water, or any goods except for medical purposes shall be sold on the Sabbath at any place within the corporation of the City."

At a meeting on June 5, 1900, a motion was made to amend this section by striking out the words "cigars and tobacco" after the words "but no" and inserting the word "cigarettes". Five Aldermen voted for the amendment and the three other members present voted against the change. (6-404)

50TH ANNIVERSARY STREET FAIR APPROVED

June 14, 1900-"Colonel Webb stated that it was the intention of the Piedmont Park Company to have in connection with the annual horse show in October next a street fair and celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the incorporation of the City. Col. Webb on behalf of the Fair Association asked that they be allowed the use of certain streets for this purpose and that such shows and attractions as are allowed space on the streets be released from paying the city license tax. Mr. E. H. Wilson made a motion that the requests be granted and that the selection of the streets to be used and the character of shows and attractions thereon be left with the Mayor and Street Committee." (6-405)



There were several streets fairs around Court House Square during this time. In this one, Main St. between 3rd and 4th is at right with the Winston Town Hall in the background. (Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

NEW SCHOOL PROPOSED

July 18, 1900- The Board heard a request for a new graded school to be built in East Winston. A site had been donated and it was proposed that a school could be built for \$3,000.(6-408)

SALARIES OF MAYOR AND SECRETARY

August 7, 1900- The Board fixed the salaries of the Mayor and the Secretary and Treasurer at \$700 per year each. (6-410)

However, on January 1, 1901, Mayor Eaton stated that he was now in a position to give the City's business his entire service if it was the pleasure of the Board to make such an arrangement. He further stated that it was important for the Board to take action on this without delay. The Mayor then retired from the Council Chamber and the Board discussed the matter. The Board decided to secure the services of Mayor Eaton as Purchasing Agent for a term of one year, and to pay the sum of \$300 per year for this service, in addition to his salary of \$700 as Mayor. Mayor Eaton accepted this proposition and thanked the Board for its consideration. (6-426)

WATER SHORTAGE

When the Winston Water Company was founded in 1880 the population of Winston was 2,854, but by 1900 the population of Winston had increased to 10,008. The improvements to the water system after the purchase of the Water Company by the City had scarcely kept abreast with the rapid growth of the City. In September, 1900, the extreme hot and dry weather had greatly diminished the supply of water and made it necessary to curtail the use of the available water. The Board adopted an ordinance stating "That all consumers of City Water are, from and after the passage of this ordinance, forbidden to use the City Water for the purpose of sprinkling lawns, yards, streets, and sidewalks and for other unnecessary purposes, until official notice to the contrary through the public press be given. Anyone violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined \$5 for each offense."(6-413)

WATER METERS PROPOSED

On October 23, 1900, Alderman F. J. Lipfert, a member of the Water Committee, submitted a report showing that much more water was used than was paid for under the present system of charges. He further reported that the Committee had given the water question considerable thought and investigation and was of the opinion that the adoption of a full meter system would result in a great saving of water. The cost of installing the meter system was estimated at something more than \$5,000. The Board adopted this recommendation. (6-418)

J. K. Norfleet, the other member of the Water Committee, reported on November 15, 1900, that he in company with Mr. Lipfert, had visited Danville, Va. and examined their water system and make of meters used there. He was of the opinion that the City should adopt at once a full meter system. (6-420)

The rates were set in September 1901:

- Minimum monthly rate 50 cents for 2,500 gallons or less
- 200,000 gallons or less per month 20 cents per month
- 200,000 to 300,000 gallons per month 19 cents per month
- 300,000 to 400,000 gallons per month 17 cents per month
- 400,000 to 500,000 gallons per month 15 cents per month
- 500,000 to 600,000 gallons per month 13 cents per month
- 600,000 gallons or more per month 10 cents per month
- 25% added to all bills not paid on or before the 10th day of the month

Following the month of consumption. (6-431)

1901

FIRE DEPT. ELECTION

On February 5, 1901, the Fire Department recommended and the Board of Aldermen approved the election of H. L. Riggins, Chief; J. B. McCrary, Asst. Chief; and J. S. Dunn, Secretary as officers of the Fire Department. (6-129)

On March 13, 1901, Capt. A. J. Gales of Steamer Co. No. 1 reported that their fire engine was 19 years old and should be replaced. The Board instructed a Committee to examine the engine and see if it would be practical to have it repaired and put into good condition. (6-436)

POLICEMEN ELECTED

F. G. Crutchfield was again elected Chief of Police in March along with nine patrolmen. W. F. Keith was re-elected Sanitary Officer. (6-435)

SPRUCE STREET EXTENDED

April 2, 1901-"W.L. Mooney was present and asked that Spruce Street from Seventh to the Boulevard be opened. He stated that the cost would be small and that he could raise subscriptions to the amount of \$30.00 to help in the work. The matter was referred to the Street Committee for investigation. (6-437)

WATER DEPARTMENT CLERK

May 7, 1901-"Mr. Jacobs states that since the new meters had been installed, the work in the water works department had been largely increased and he made a motion that the City pay as much as \$20 on the salary of Chas. J. Williams, Mr. Marauder's assistant. The motion carried." (6-442)



One of Winston's two fire pumpers decked out for a parade. (Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

June 4, 1901-"Mr. Magruder made a statement regarding the allowance granted Chas J. Williams, Clerk in the Water Department, claiming that the amount allowed, \$20 per month, was much less than he could afford to work for and that he did not feel as though he should be called upon to make up the difference.

"Mr. Marker made a motion that the amount be increased to \$25 per month, with the understanding that should the revenue for the Water works continue to increase in the next three months to justify same, the amount would be further increased to \$30 per month." (6-445)

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY

President William McKinley was shot at Buffalo, New York, on September 6, 1901, and died the next day.

Citizens of both Winston and Salem held a mass meeting at the Court House on Saturday, September 7, 1901, at which time this resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Whereas, an infamous, cowardly and dastardly attack has been made upon the honored President of these United States with an infamous attempt to take his life: "Resolved, That we, the citizens of Winston-Salem, N.C., in mass meeting assembled, condemn and in most unequivocal terms denounce the impious act and the would-be assassin.(6-455)

"Resolved 2nd, That we desire and approve of such speedy and severe punishment as so great a criminal deserves, and such as will be an object lesson to others.

"Resolved 3rd, That anarchists and nihilists are a menace to society and good government, and that some law should be enacted under which they can be exiled, imprisoned or prevented from endangering the life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in this fair land of ours.

"Resolved 4th, That we appreciate the goodness and greatness of our honored President, the friendly spirit he has always manifested to the South, and his excellent record in peace and war, and that we devoutly and earnestly pray that his life may be spared.

"Resolved 5th. That we extend our tenderest and sincerest sympathy to Mrs. McKinley and the family of the President in this hour of great trial and severe affliction.

"Resolved 6th. That copies of these resolutions be furnished Mrs. McKinley and the press, and that copies be spread upon the minutes of the Boards of Aldermen of both cities, the Chamber of Commerce and other societies and organizations."

Then short talks were made by Messrs. Clement Manly, J. C. Buxton, R. B. Glenn, M. L. Mott, E. B. Jones, J. B. Whitaker, Jr., Judge H. R. Starbuck, District Attorney Holton and J. S. Fitts, an African-American businessman who represented the black community.

ALDERMAN STYRON RESIGNS

Oct 23, 1901-Alderman T. P. Styron resigned, and was then elected Clerk of the City Market. Styron lived on Trade Street near 8th Street, and operated a small grocery store on Trade Street directly across from the Brick Reservoir. W. G. Cranford was elected Alderman in the Second Ward to fill the unexpired term of Styron. (6-461)

1902

STREET LIGHT CONTRACT

January 17, 1902- The Board approved a contract with the Fries Mfg. and Power Company for 36 incandescent street lights of twenty-four candle power each at a cost of \$12 per light per year. (6-470)

PASSENGER STATION INADEQUATE

Feb 2, 1902-"Resolved, That it is the unanimous opinion of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Winston, that the Southern Passenger Depot is not in keeping with the enterprise and progress of our City in that it gives to visitors a wrong impression of our town, that it is totally insufficient to give necessary comfort and convenience to the traveling public.

"It is also the opinion of this Board that the immense revenue derived by the Southern Railway Company from the business transacted at this point, entitles the Citizens of Winston-Salem to a large, convenient and comfortable Passenger Station." (6-473)



The Twin City Hospital was located on Brookstown Ave.
(Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

TWIN CITY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

March 4, 1902-Drs. Dalton and Bahnson, members of the Executive Board of the Twin City Hospital Association, urged that the City increase its annual donation. They stated that the Town of Salem had agreed to double its appropriation if Winston would do likewise. The Board agreed to increase its appropriation to \$500 if Salem would appropriate \$250. (6-475)

R.J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY TAX DISPUTE

April 1, 1902-"The Finance Committee was instituted to settle with the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company for the balance due by that company on 1900 tax amounting to \$901.13 and authorized to sign a contact guaranteeing and protecting the said company against any loss by reason of any law suit that might be brought by the Town of Salem."

This was in reference to tobacco owned by the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and stored in the Town of Salem, and involved the legal question as to which town could tax the tobacco--the City of Winston where said Company had its principal office and place of business, or the Town of Salem, where the tobacco in question was actually stored. A legal opinion rendered by Watson, Buxton and Watson stated "it seems that Salem has the right to collect the tax on such property as if stored in that town, regardless of where the principal place of business of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company is."(6-477)

The original legal opinion is included on this page of the Minutes Book as a typed letter. Obviously businesses were using typewriters for correspondence by this time but it would be more than 10 more years before the Board Minutes were typewritten.

NO ELECTION IN 1902

No election was held in 1902 in order to comply with State law that no municipal election can be held the same year of General State Election. Therefore the Board elected in May, 1900 carried over to May, 1903.

ENGINEER MAGRUDER RESIGNS

May 7, 1902- J. A. Magruder, City Engineer and Supt. of Water Works, asked that his name be not considered for reelection, stating that his private business affairs demanded his individual attention.

FRESH MEAT PRICES IN CITY MARKET

May 16, 1902-Following a complaint that the prices of meat at the Market House were too high, the Market Committee reported "After investigating the market conditions we find that there has been some good reasons for the advance in the price of fresh meats. There has been a considerable advance in the price of cattle as well as in grain and good food stuffs of all kinds. About the same prices prevail in Salem, Greensboro, and other markets.

"In view of these facts and to give the public some relief we have agreed to recommend to the Board a reduction of 25% in stall rents for the next four months and the market men have agreed to make prices as follows:

"Soup Bones and Shanks, 4 to 6 cents per pound; Stew-6 to 8 cents per pound; Roast- 10 to 12-1/2 cents per pound; Steak-10 to 12-1/2center per pound.

"After June 1, 1902, W. F. Snipes agrees to make prices from 6 to 12-1/2 cents. All the market men say they expect a reduction in the price of cattle in July and should it come they will reduce their prices in the same proportion.

"The Committee recognizes the importance to the people of a well-kept and well-regulated market where good, wholesome meat can be had at all times at reasonable and legitimate prices." (7-62)

LITTERING ORDINANCE ADOPTED

June 3, 1902-"Any person firm or corporation who shall place or cause to be placed on the streets of the City of Winston any glass, glass bottles, tin cans or other refuse tin of any description shall for each offense be fined \$5.00(7-7)

PAY FOR INJURED EMPLOYEE

June 3, 1903-"...recommend that Bud Riggs a sanitary driver be allowed full pay for time lost on account of being kicked by a mule while in discharge of his duty." (7-7) The recommendation was approved.

MANUAL DEPARTMENT IN SCHOOLS PROPOSED

June 26, 1902-"Prof. C. F. Tomlinson, Supt. of Schools, addressed the Board on the subject of a Manual Department in connection with the schools. He explained what Manual Training was; what it was not. He was very much in favor of establishing this Department in all the Schools, including the colored school. He was of the opinion that the instruction would cost something like \$1000 and the equipment not more than \$250." (7-8)

REQUEST TO PAVE LIBERTY STREET

July 1,1902-"Mr. D. Rich, on behalf of himself and other citizens residing on South Liberty Street, addressed the Board and asked that Liberty Street from Third Street to the Salem line (First Street) be placed in good condition, that is, that curbing be laid and the street Macadamized as per plan heretofore submitted to the Board. After full discussion, Mr. Marler made a motion that action be deferred until a future meeting, which carried." (7-10)

The subject was addressed in a called meeting on July 24, 1902 and the paving, curbing and sewer extension was approved. (7-14)

SOFT PAPER, PLEASE!

July 11,1902-"Be it ordained - that any person who shall be found guilty of using any other material than soft paper in any water closet connected with the City Sewer lines shall be fined \$5.00 for each offense." (7-12)

CITY OFFICERS ELECTED

September 2, 1902-Results of the semi-annual election:

Chief of Police, F. G. Crutchfield;

Eight Policemen were elected.

Janitor,City Hall Building - Jno. P. Penry

Officer in Charge of Streets- S. J. Lambe

Sanitary Officer - W. F. Keith

For a term of Two Years from September 1, 1902-Thomas L. Farrow - City Tax Collector (7-20)

NEW FIRE ENGINE PROPOSED

Oct 13, 1902-"A petition was read from the members of the Fire Company No. 1 and Citizens of the City asking that a new Fire Engine be purchased. Capt. A. J. Gales, Capt. of the Company, was present and addressed the Board on the subject. Mr. Norfleet made a motion that the Mayor and Secretary correspond with the Company constructing Fire engines and ascertain on what terms the old engine could be exchange for a new one and report to a full meeting of the Board." (7-23)

Capt. Gales had initially requested the engine on March 13, 1901 and reported that the old Fire engine was then 19 years old. (6-436)

NEW WATER SUPPLY NEEDED

October 13, 1902- F. J. Lipfert, Chairman of the Water Committee, addressed the Board on the subject of Water Works improvements, stating that there was a sufficient supply of water for present demands, but that the supply was evidently diminishing and the consumption increasing. His committee was of the opinion that steps should be taken at an early date to secure a greater supply. Mr. Lipfert further stated that after careful consideration the committee thought it would be wise to employ an Engineer to survey and examine the various water sheds within reasonable distance from the City. His committee had consulted Prof. J. L. Ludlow, an authority on Water Works construction. The cost of the services of Prof. Ludlow would be something like \$1000, which cost would include a full report and recommendations. The Board authorized the Water Committee to get a proposal from Engineer Ludlow and report back to the board. (7-25)

NEW PASSENGER STATION

Oct 13, 1902-"Resolved by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Winston that a permanent easement be granted to the Southern Railway Company to a strip of land 15 by 200 feet, extending from Third to Fourth Streets, and being the Eastern portion of Chestnut Street, to be used for a proper approach to a new Passenger Station to be erected by the Southern Railway Company. It being understood that no part of the buildings of said company, shall be erected on said strip of land, but that the same shall be used said company for both proper street or sidewalk purposes and for a suitable approach, and it is further understood that the said Railway Company may shed said 15 feet of ground provided that no posts be placed beyond the curb line of said sidewalk." (7-23)



Union Station, Winston-Salem, N.C.(Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

On March 18, 1903, the Board of Aldermen agreed to participate in the cost of buying a 15 foot strip of land to widen Chestnut Street on the West side, between Third and Fourth Streets, this property to cost about \$2400.

"Resolved, that the City will widen Chestnut Street from Third to Fourth Streets, 15 feet, provided the Southern Railway Company will erect a Union Passenger Station to cost \$30,000.000, and that said Southern Railway Company will pay the sum of \$1000 towards the cost of widening said Chestnut Street."(7-52)

On April 7, 1903, Col. A. B. Andrews, Vice-President of the Southern Railway Company, advised the City that the Railway Company had accepted the proposition. (7-53)

The Passenger Station was located on a narrow piece of property on the east side of Chestnut Street between Third and Fourth Streets. This station replaced the first Passenger Station or Depot, serving both Winston and Salem, located on the east side of Depot Street, now Patterson Avenue, between First and Second Streets. It was constructed in 1889.

On July 7, 1904, the Board passed a series of Ordinances dealing with conduct at the station including loitering in the reception room, spitting on the floor or furniture and traffic concerns of vehicles for hire on Chestnut St. (7-143)

WATER SUPPLY STUDY

December 2, 1902- J. L. Ludlow submitted a proposal for engineering services , "I will make a full and complete investigation of all the available sources of water supply within a distance of eight miles from the City Hall, and prepare a comprehensive report on the same embracing the character and extent of the supply that may be obtained from the various sources, and approximate estimates of the cost of works and pipelines required to deliver the water to the City, together with such recommendations regarding an improved and adequate water supply to meet the present and future needs of the City as the results of my surveys and investigations may appear to warrant.

The surveys that will be made at my own expense for the purpose of making this investigation and report, will embrace a sanitary survey of the various water sheds as well as the area thereof and the measuring and estimated flow of the various streams at such points as it may appear possible to obtain a public supply, and the distance from the City of such point together with the relative elevation thereof. In making my investigations and study of the matter, I will give property regard to the present water works plant and equipment and its continued use as a component part of a new and enlarged supply from other sources. In my report, I shall endeavor and expect to place you in possession of all the data and information relative to the available water supplies in this immediate vicinity from a strictly hydraulic and sanitary engineering standpoint, considered jointly with the commercial features that may properly enter into the problem, all in such manner and form as to enable you to properly determine the means and manner of meeting the present and increasing demands of an additional public water supply for the City intelligently and satisfactorily and to the economic and best interest of the City, its present and future requirements.

My compensation for the investigation and report as set forth above to be the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000)."

Ludlow further told the Board that his report would also contain the estimated cost of supplementing the present water supply as well as a new supply altogether, together with his recommendations as to which would be the most practical. The Board authorized him to proceed. (7-30)

April 17, 1903-Mayor Eaton presented Mr. Ludlow's report which was read in full. The City Engineer Capt. Henry, was instructed to make a survey for a pipe line from Frazier Creek to the pumping station and to secure necessary rights of way. (7-56)

There is no doubt but that Mr. Ludlow submitted a very thorough and comprehensive report, but unfortunately it was not copied in the minute book The only details concerning Ludlow's report are some pencil notes on a sheet of City letter-head stationary:

- April 14, 1903
- Board Meeting
- Mayor's residence
- Mayor present
- Every member present
- Mayor presents water question
- Mr. Lipfert made statement on Prof. Ludlow report.
- Ample water in 1/2 dozen places, especially Frazier Branch most available and development at least cost.
- \$20,000 buying the place, taking water and carrying to filters. 500,000 gallons per day, 12 hours.
- Erection walls at W. W. Natural basin, 400 foot dam - Option non 160 acres \$3625.
- 21 people to square mile on water shed.
- 1/2 inch cul. to 2/3 wood
- 2-1/4 miles to pump station.
- Question which the Board will take option 30 or 90 days.
- Committee authorized to secure option on best terms possible.

These sketchy notes and the action of the Board in ordering the survey for a pipe line to the old pumping station would indicate that it was proposed to build a 400 foot dam and impounding reservoir on Frazier Creek and to pipe the water to the water works at Belo's Pond. Apparently this was only one phase of Ludlow's plans, and that an alternate plan was adopted, including the building of an impounding reservoir (with much smaller dam) on Frazier Creek and the building of a complete water treatment and pumping facilities on the Frazier Creek property.

POLICE SALARIES INCREASED

Dec. 2, 1902-"The members of the Police Force presented a petition asking that their salaries be increased during the winter months. On the recommendation of the Police Committee, the salary of the Chief of Police was increased \$10 per month and that a Regular officer \$5.0 per month from December 1, 1902 to May 1, 1903. The salary of the Supt. of Streets was also increased \$5 per month and the salary of the Secretary and Treasurer \$10 per month for the same length of time."(7-32)

CITY ENGINEER CAPTAIN ROBERT HENRY

December 18, 1902-"Mr. Norfleet stated that the Water Committee had in hand several applications for the position of Supt. of Water Works, and that they could secure the services of Capt. Robert. Henry, who was recommended to be a first class engineer as well as a good businessman. His services could be secured for \$87.50 per month. Many members of the Board were of the opinion that an Engineer should be employed. Mr. Brown made a motion that Capt. Henry be employed and that a contract be made with him defining his duties, he also to be under the direction of the Chairmen of the Water, Street, and Sewerage Committee, and that he be required to furnish a bond in the sum of \$1000.

"The motion carried. The Mayor and Water Committee instructed to complete the contract with Capt. Henry." (7-34)

The contract of Capt. Henry, City Engineer and Supt. of Water Works, expired on January 1, 1904, at which time he asked for a salary of \$150 per month, but finally mace a proposition to continue for six months (to July 1, 1904) at \$125 per month. The Board accepted this offer.

1903

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

February 3, 1903-The members of the Fire Department submitted their recommendation for officers of the Fire Department: H. L. Riggins, Chief of Fire Dept.; J. B. McCrary, Asst. Chief; James S. Dunn, Secretary and Treasurer (7-44)

1903 BOARD

The municipal election was held on May 5. The winners were:
First Ward: F. C. Brown, W. E. Beck, G. C. Hine
Second Ward: George T. Brown, W. G. Cranford, J. L. Cooper
Third Ward: J. K. Norfleet, F. J. Liipfert, W. T. Brown
(There is an Alderman Brown in each of the three wards.)

At a meeting of the new Board on May 11, 1903, Mayor O. B. Eaton was reelected for the next two years. (7-59)
The Board then approved the members of the twelve standing Committees as recommend by Mayor Eaton. Also elected were:

- D. J. Lewis Hanes, Supt. of Health for 2 years. salary \$300.
- Watson, Buxton, and Watson, City Attorneys, salary \$400 per year.
- W. E. Franklin, Secretary and Treasurer, salary \$900 per year

The salary of the Mayor was fixed at \$1200 per annum, he was to perform the duties of Auditor and Purchasing Agent in addition to the duties of Mayor (7-61).

CONSTRUCTION OF CITY'S SECOND WATER PLANT

May 25, 1903-The Water Committee reported that progress was being made on the development of the new water plant. However, the committee was of the opinion that the construction of the new plant was of so much importance, and in order to get the very best results and build a plant second to none in the state, the City should have the benefit of expert information in making the plans.

They stated that while the City Engineer was a first class engineer and thoroughly competent to build the works, yet he had had no practical experience in this line, and that a Consulting Engineer should be employed.

The Committee further reported that Prof. Ludlow had personally prepared the plans and supervised the construction of many of the very best plants in the South, and that his services would be invaluable on the proposed City Water Works project. Prof. Ludlow had been consulted about this and he offered to do the engineering work and supervision for a fee of \$500 and 1% of the Cost of Construction, exclusive of land purchases. The Board authorized the Committee to secure the services of Mr. Ludlow. (7-63)

NEW LA FRANCE FIRE ENGINE

June 4, 1903-"Capt. Riggins, Chief of the Fire Department, was present and announced the arrival of the new Fire Engine, stating that same had been tested and proved satisfactory. Capt. Gales was also present and stated that the Engine was according to contract. Mr. La France, representing the La France Fire Engine Co. (of Elmira, New York) was present and addressed the Board."

Town of Winston Directing Board: 1900-1906

The cost of the new Fire Engine was \$4,000, and the City executed three notes in favor of the La France Fire Engine Co., in the sum of \$1,333.33 each, payable on June 4, 1904, June 4, 1905, and June 4, 1906. (7-64)

\$100,000 BOND ELECTION

July 17, 1903-The Board of Aldermen approved the holding of an election on August 31 to issue \$100,000 in bonds to be used for extension of the Water System, the Sewer System, and the improvement of the public streets. (7-75)

The results of the election were: (7-83)

Ward	Approved	Not Approved	Total Registration
First Ward	103	1	145
Second Ward	104	9	151
Third Ward	100	0	128
Totals:	307	10	424

SALOONS

July 30, 1903- Ordinance passed requiring all saloons to be closed on Sunday. This ordinance also applying to restaurants, lunch counters and cigar stands connected with saloons. (7-68) Apparently those restaurants that could open for limited times on Sunday were opening their saloons during the same time.

These saloons were issued licenses for a term of twelve months from July 1:

- Holbrook and Winfree, Trade Street
- Douthit and Bodenhamer, Third Street
- I. E. White, Third Street
- Geo. Roedigar, N. W. Corner Third and Church
- M. Kabre and Co., S. W. Corner Third and Church
- Shermer & Phillips, Depot Street
- P. A. Davis, Third Street
- Frank Eddleman, Corner Church and Fifth Streets
- Paul Henning, Corner Chestnut and Fifth Streets (7-68)

SEWER FOR SCHOOL

June 30 1903-"W. E. Beck, Chairman of the Sewer Committee, reported that contracts had been let as follows for the connecting of the West End School Building with the sanitary sewer."(7-69)

This project consisted of building a long row of water closets and installing necessary plumbing fixtures. These were constructed along the south side of 4-1/2 St. just north of the main school building.

POLICE SALARIES RAISED

July 2, 1903-The Police Committee recommended that the salary of the Chief of Police be increased to \$70 per month and the salary of regular police to \$55 per month. (7-71)

ORDINACE REGARDING WEEDS ON SIDEWALKS

July 2, 1903-"...all persons residing in the City of Winston, shall be and are required to keep the sidewalks in front of their premises in a clean condition and shall regularly remove all grass and weeds therefrom. Anyone violating the provisions of this ordinance shall be fined \$1.00 for each offense." (7-72)

FIRE CHIEF RIGGINS RESIGNS

August 6, 1903-Capt. H. L. Riggins tendered his resignation. It was tabled at that time, but accepted his resignation on September 3, 1903 Capt. J. B. McCrary, Asst. Chief, was designated to assume charge until Capt. Riggins' successor was elected. (7-79)

CONSTRUCTION OF WATER PLANT

September 7, 1903-The Board authorized the Water Committee to proceed with the work, making such contracts and purchases as were necessary. (7-87)

On March 15, 1904, Chairman J. K. Norfleet of the Water Committee reported to the Board that \$25,000 had been spent to date on the Water Plant, and that it would require about \$40,000 to complete the Plant as first contemplated, and about \$62,000 to complete the plant in first class shape, which would include new pumps, boilers, Stand Pipe, necessary buildings, Manager's Residence, and the overhauling enlarging and extending the pipe lines inside City Limits proper. The Committee was authorized to proceed to complete the plant in first class shape in every particular. (7-127)

GRACE COURT GIVEN TO CITY

Nov. 3, 1903- "Mr. A. H. Eller, representing citizens residing on the Boulevard beyond the terminus of West Fourth Street and himself, acting with authority from the President of the West End Hotel and Land Company, tendered the City the plot of ground lying on the north side of the Boulevard, known and designated on the maps of said land company as "Grace Court" to be beautiful and used by the City for park purposes." The property had been named after Grace Buxton, the wife of former Mayor J.C. Buxton who was President of the West End Hotel and Land Company. (7-95)

Buxton came before the Board in April 1905 to officially make the gift. (7-190)



**A postcard view of Grace Court Park.
(Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)**

November 6, 1903- Mayor Eaton reported that Mr. J.D. Wilson who had been reinstated as janitor of the City Hall building (after being accused of drunkenness on the job), reported for duty, but was not in a condition to attend to same, whereupon Mr. Cranford moved that this office of Janitor be declared vacant. (7-100)

THE ANDREW CARNEGIE LIBRARY

December 21, 1903- Andrew Carnegie had offered to the City of Winston-Salem \$25,000 to build a Public Library for the use and benefit of both Winston and Salem. A joint committee appointed by the Board of Aldermen of Winston and by the Board of Commissioners of Salem reported to their respective Boards that it was not convenient at that time to accept the gift on the terms proposed by Mr. Carnegie.

However, under a new proposal, Mr. Carnegie agreed to give the City of Winston the sum of \$15,000 provided the City would appropriate \$1500 per year for the maintenance and support of the Library, and provide a suitable site for the building. The City of Winston accepted this offer, appropriated the sum of \$1500 and authorized the erection of the library building on the West End Graded School property, on the northwest corner of Fourth and Broad Streets. (7-106)

This location appeared to be too remote in the opinion of many citizens and they voiced their objections. (7-117)

J. C. Buxton, Chairman of the Library Committee, reported to the Board on February 16th. 1904, the lot at the corner of Cherry and Third Streets could be bought for \$2000. Some of the Board members thought that this lot was not large enough and that additional adjoining property should also be acquired, if possible. (7-122)

At a meeting on March 5, 1904, the Board authorized the purchase of the property from Mr. James A. Gray at the price of \$2000, "the same to be used for Public Library Building." Seven Aldermen voted for this purchase and two voted against. (7-127)

Buxton reported on April 17, 1905, that the new Library Building was almost completed and that it would be in order to appoint a committee to take charge of the library, appoint a Librarian, Janitor, and to attend to other matters looking to the opening of the Library. He further suggested that in as much as the Library was without books, it would be wise for the committee to appoint three or more ladies of the City to cooperate with the committee. This suggestion met with general approval of the Board, and Mr. Liipfert made a motion which carried, that the present Library Building Committee be continued as the Library Committee for a period of one year, with power to elect a Library and to co-operate with them. (7-190)

1904

NEW CONTRACT WITH FRIES MFG. AND POWER COMPANY

In January 1900, the Fries Manufacturing and Power Company assumed control of the properties of the Winston-Salem Street Railway and Electric Company, and entered into various contracts with the City of Winston relative to street lighting, street railway, etc.

The Board signed a contract with the Fries Mfg. and Power Co., on January 20, 1904, to furnish the street lighting:

- (1) - 70 Arc Lights of 1200 Candle power, at \$60 per annum, for each light
- (2) - Additional Arc Lights, on or before March 31, 1907, of the number of 100 arc lights of 1200 Candle power, at \$60 per annum each, for a term of years ending March 31, 1917.
- (3) - Lights for the City Hall, Market and Fire Dept. No. 2, for a term ending March 31, 1917, at a price of \$35 per month.(7-114)

AUDITORIUM FIRE ORDINANCES

February 4, 1904-The Elks Auditorium on the corner of 5th and Liberty streets was the first big concert hall in Winston when it opened in 1903. Its size and the number of people it could hold concerned the fire department. On this date, the Board enacted ordinances directly related to the structure include "That admission to the Auditorium shall be limited to seating capacity provided; That when necessary standing room on the first floor only may be permissible." No chairs were allowed in the aisles and management was to provide a man at every exit door. "It is further required of the management that extra caution is to be



The Elks Auditorium, Winston's biggest venue for vaudeville acts opened in 1903 at the corner of 5th and Liberty streets. It was also the location for school graduation exercises.
(Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

observed at every matinee or day performance as an assemblage at such time is largely composed of ladies and children. That no person present at any entertainment or performance shall be permitted to indulge in any unnecessary noise by whistling or otherwise rendering themselves disagreeable to the audience or performers. (7-118)

Ironically, it would be destroyed by fire when the Neal Hotel next door burned in 1916.

SLATER HOSPITAL

February 16, 1904- The Board agreed to a donation of \$200 to Slater Hospital. (7-121)

AMBULANCE PROPOSED

March 3, 1904- The City Physician ..."advocated the purchase of a combination Police Patrol and Ambulance wagon. He was of the opinion that the Physicians would be glad to pay for the service of the ambulance instead of the hire of a carriage which they often did. The matter was referred to the Police Committee. (7-123)



Slater Hospital was in Columbian Heights
(Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

LOITERING PROHIBITED

April 7, 1904- "It shall be unlawful for one or more persons to loiter or congregate in the front, rear or side of any saloon in the City of Winston fro the purpose of passing away the time, discussing the topics of the day or for any other purpose. (7-131) The fine was \$5.00.

PLESS FOY

During this period the name of Pless (or Ples) Foy is mentioned several times in the Minutes. Foy is described as a "blind colored man" who was obviously much beloved in the City. The minutes state that he fell in a hole and asked the city the pay his doctor bills, which they did. On another occasion, he hit his head on a telephone pole and the city paid those medical bills too. On August 11, 1904, he requested the Board to release him from paying his property tax for the year 1903. "The Board declined to do this but a collection was taken from the members of the Board for his benefit amounting to \$3.10 the same being in excess of the amount of his tax which will be added as a payment in his take for year 1904" (7-146)

R.L. GREENLEE, CITY ENGINEER

July 25, 1904-The Board appointed Mr. R. L. Greenlee as City Engineer, at a salary of \$1200 per year. Greenlee served as City Engineer and Supt. of Water Works until about January 1, 1906. He made a survey and a map of the City Water Works on Peters Creek at the old Belo's Pond. (7-145)

BRICK RESERVOIR BREAKS

A called meeting was held at 9 AM on November 2, 1904. Mayor Eaton presided and every member of the Board was present. The minutes of this meeting, recorded by W. E. Franklin, Secretary, tell the story about the breaking of the City Water Reservoir on Trade Street near 8th Street (7-162)

Mayor Eaton stated that the meeting had been called to take necessary action in regard to the bursting of the City Reservoir which occurred this morning about 5 o'clock, causing much loss of property and the lives of nine persons.

Capt. Henry, Supt. of Water Works, was present. He stated that the Reservoir was in use as usual but that it was being supplied from the new station instead of the old station. That there were no water gauges connected with the Reservoir from the new station and that he had been sending a watchman to the Reservoir at night in order to inform the fireman at the station as to the height of water in the Reservoir. That on the night of November 1, 1904, he sent a young man by the name of Mr. Dean to the reservoir, and that Mr. Dean reported that he had informed Mr. Bugher, the manager of the pumping station, by phone at 8:30 PM, that water in reservoir was within two feet of overflow pipe, and to stop running.



Photo showing the collapsed north wall of the reservoir. The standpipe at left was already being used as part of the town water supply. (Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

Mr. Bugher, the Manager of the Pumping Station, was called in. He stated that the message was received from Mr. Dean about 8:30 PM and that he immediately instructed his fireman on duty to slow the pumps and not to pump beyond the usual consumption at night, which is about 150,000 gallons, and that before leaving the station he was certain that the pumps were not working at a greater speed than necessary to lift this amount of water, and which could not fill the reservoir to the overflow pipe, and he instructed his fireman to continue this speed and no faster throughout the night. He stated that he believed that the fireman had obeyed orders, as he had always found him to be thoroughly reliable.

At 5:20 that morning, the north wall of the reservoir had collapsed, demolishing the home of Martin Peoples who lived next door, and emptying about a million gallons of water into the street. The water rushed east down the steep hill at Trade St and then followed the ravine to Belo's pond.

The mighty crash of concrete sounded too much like an earthquake. One man looked out his window to see a huge river coming down the street carrying parts of houses and rubbish. Some people were crushed under the bricks and stone and some were swept away by the powerful force of the water. A total of eight houses were destroyed.

The fire alarm rang about 6:00 from Town Hall and hundreds rushed to the reservoir to assist the injured and to locate missing people. One man escaped injury by clinging to a fence while William Adams and his wife rode out the flood on their mattress, landing safely 500 yards from their home. A boy whose mother was crushed to death in the collapse of the wall was saved because the bed on which he was sleeping was in an upper room under the roof, where the two sides came together in a peak. When large stones hit the house, the low roof dropped over the bed and the boy slept through the catastrophe

Several people were swept away from their homes east toward the railroad junction, which was covered with water and debris. When the concrete settled and the water stopped flowing, nine people had been killed and ten injured.

The disaster was freely discussed by the Board, and it was agreed that everything possible be done at once to relieve the suffering and the distressed.

The Mayor was authorized to detail Police Officers and all other employees of the City, with instructions to carry out the work and supply all necessary aid and assistance.



Spectators and workmen stand on the collapsed north wall of the reservoir. (Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

It was also the sense of the Board that every loss should be as speedily and effectually repaired as soon as possible, to settle with the people damaged on fair terms, if possible, but in order to guard the City's interest it was thought wise to employ additional counsel. Aldermen W. T. Brown, F. C. Brown, and J. S. Casper were appointed a Committee and authorized to take the necessary steps in this matter of additional counsel.

Mayor Eaton was authorized to look after the proper preparation and burial of all the dead.



Spectators, including a woman in the center, stand inside the remains of the reservoir. (Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

Aldermen Norfleet, Liipfert and Brown, with the Mayor added, were appointed a Committee with power to adjust and make a settlement of all personal property loss and damage claims, and all personal injury and death claims.

Aldermen, Liipfert, Cranford and Hine were appointed a Committee to get estimates and authorized to make settlement of all claims for buildings destroyed and damaged.

Alderman Norfleet made a motion which carried that everything be done to guard the City's interest, but as far as the public was concerned, to be perfectly frank and give out all information concerning the disaster.

Belo's Pond was searched for bodies as was the devastated neighborhood along Trade Street. Newspapers reported that

by midmorning, a crowd of several thousand had gathered to view the scene.

The *Western Sentinel* newspaper called the collapse "the most horrible catastrophe in the history of Winston-Salem". The *Union Republican* termed it. "The saddest Chapter in our history and the *Winston-Salem Journal* called it "Winston-Salem's greatest tragedy.

All the equipment from the plant near Belo's pond was moved to the Winston Lake pumping station

The ruins of the reservoir stood for several years until small businesses and homes gradually reclaimed the neighborhood.

The area devastated by the disaster of November 2, 1904 has been completely obliterated. When the extension to Martin Luther King Jr. was built in 2000, city workers reported finding brick from the old reservoir. In the path of the rushing water is now a church.

Belo's Pond has disappeared in a grassy field east of the ABC Store on Northwest Blvd. Peters Creek is just a trickling branch that has been channeled and bridged alongside the road. Most people who live in the area have no idea that they are on the sight of Winston-Salem's worst disaster in the last 100 years.

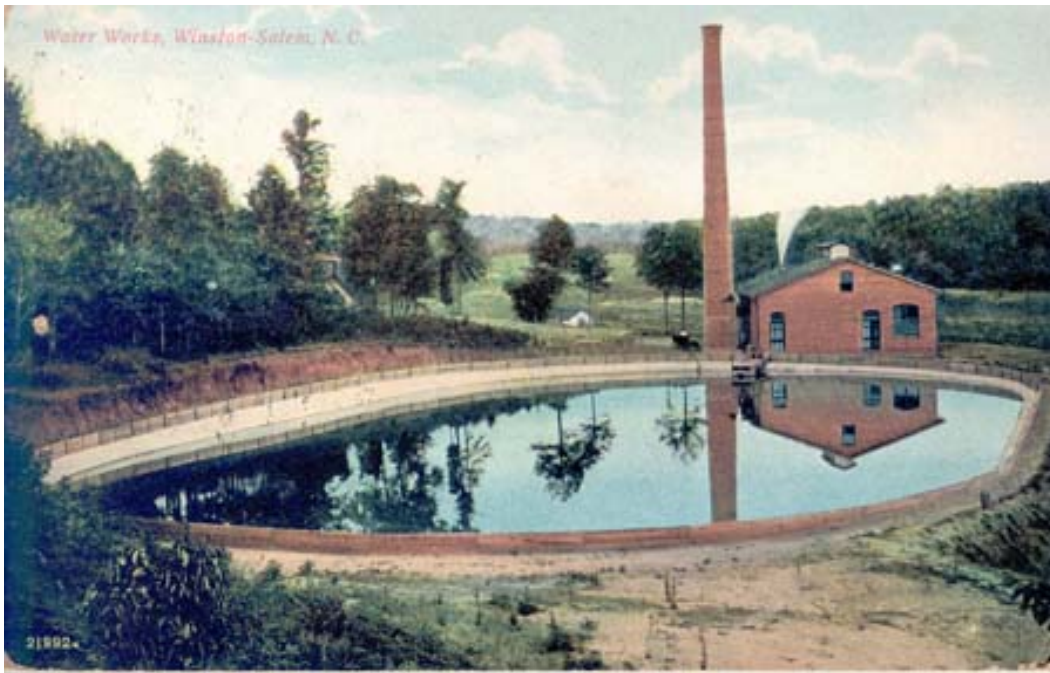
NEW STAND PIPE

A new water stand pipe had already been erected nearby on the north side of West 8th St. This circular stand pipe was 80 feet high with an internal diameter of 25 feet, having a capacity of about 290,000 gallons when nearly filled. It consisted of sixteen rings of rolled riveted iron plates varying in thickness from 13/16 inch at the bottom to 1/4 inch at the top plates. Rivets were 1/2 inch to 1-1/8 inch. The stand pipe stood on a circular concrete base finished flush with the ground level. This stand pipe was abandoned and removed when the present 1,000,000 gal. elevated water tank was erected at the corner of Ninth and Chestnut Streets.

HEALTH ORDINANCES PASSED

Dec 2, 1904- A number of ordinances were passed at the request of the Board of Health. These dealt with communicable diseases including typhoid fever, Scarlet Fever and Consumption or Tuberculosis. It also spelled out the required disinfectant of a residence in which one of these diseases was found and ordered that the city pay for this if the patient was unable to do so. (7-167)

1905



A modern water works was quite an asset in 1905. This postcard shows the new facility on Frazier Creek. (J.R. Snider postcard collection)

NEW WATER WORKS COMPLETED

January 2, 1905-The Water committee reported "...the completion of the new Water Works Plant and to submit herewith certain figures as to cost of construction, value of the City's investment from an income standpoint and also the saving it should affect to insurers, if the Insurance Companies will give us proper credit for the splendid equipment.

"You will remember that our first idea was a partial or temporary development at a cost of from Fifty to Sixty Thousand Dollars, but after careful consideration we recommended and you directed a complete and first class development. This we have made at a cost to the City of \$105,000. We take pleasure in calling your attention to the fact that the amount expended is \$5000 less than Mr. Ludlow's estimate of the work, which was \$110,000.

"It is perhaps not only out of place to state further that we have completed for the City a 2,000,000 gallon daily water supply for \$105,000, where the old supply of 400,000 gallons daily, cost the City, purchase and improvement, \$117,000.

Town of Winston Directing Board: 1900-1906

"We made this comparison to show that we have gotten good value for the money expended. We have selected the very best of all machinery purchased and all material used and have developed a water supply not for a few years, but sufficient for a City of 50,000 people.

"Just here allows us to say that our water shed has experienced this year the most severe and longest continued drought known in years and accurate tests made showed our stream to be flowing more than 2,000,000 gallons per day, during the last day of the dry spell.

"We have purchased about 436 acres of land, 326 acres of which drain towards our water supply and must be held by the City for its protection, the remaining 110 acres can be sold for cost if thought best to sell or can be cultivated on shares as is now being done at some profit to the City--the land growing in value all the time.

"Our first work was the construction of the dam, impounding about 200,000,000 gallons of Water. From the pond the water is carried by gravity to the filter plant the capacity of which 1,000,000 gallons per day and from there it flows by gravity to the clear water basin which holds 2,500,000 gallons.

"You will note that we do not pump from pond or filter--saving one lift of water by steam and thus effecting a big saving of cost over most water works plants. From the clear water basin we lift the water with three compound pumps, two of which were moved from the old plant and have a capacity of 1,000,000 gals. per day. The new McGowen pump has a capacity of 2,000,000 gallons per day and together with the small pumps when worked at 180 pounds pressure can deliver 2,000 gallons per minute or when worked at 21-pounds could throw twelve standard streams, from hydrants, 100 feet high through 1-100 feet of hose.

"Our boiler capacity is 345 horse power, consisting of three new boilers, 115 horse power each, constructed especially for the water works under specifications made by Mr. J. L. Ludlow, C. E.

"We have laid 29,035 feet of new water mains and placed 23 new double vent hydrants of latest patter -- 19,462 feet of the mains and 22 hydrants were placed in the City Limits, thoroughly supplementing our old system and making our pipe lines now equal to any emergency for fire fighting.

"Now a word as to the total cost to the City of both old and new water works. While it is hardly fair to consider the cost of the old plant which was sufficient in its day, but was outgrown and had to be abandoned, still we will charge the Water Department with the entire amount that has been spent by the City in buying out the Winston Water Company, improvement made thereon and cost of present development.

Purchase of old plant	\$56,000.00
Improvement to May, 1896	46,400.00
Improvement to May, 1904	<u>\$14,600.00</u>
Total	\$117,000.00
Cost of new work	<u>105,000.00</u>
Total	\$222,000.00
Amount of interest on Investment	11,100.00
Water rents last quarter	4,883.00
Estimated rents for 12 months	19,500.00
Operating expenses for 12 months	<u>6,944.73</u>
Total	\$12,555.27
Less interest on entire investment	<u>11,100.00</u>
Net Profit	\$ 1,455.27

"To this might properly be added Hydrant rent which is paid annually by all Cities not owning their water works. 144 Hydrants at \$25 each, per annum \$3,600.00

"Water is furnished free to the City Officials, Municipal Building, Y.M.C.A., Hospital, for street sprinkling and also for all private fire protection, such as tanks, stand pipes, and sprinkler systems.

"However, the biggest advantage to be gained by the tax payers from the new Water Works should be the saving in Insurance which we are now entitled to and we respectfully recommend that a Special Committee be appointed to lay the matter properly before the Insurance people.

"Currents to consumers are low -- in fact much lower than any private company could afford no charge -- and the consumption will no doubt be largely increased in the next twelve months.

"We hope that it will be the policy of future Boards to expend each year a reasonable amount in extending the present pipe system, so that the entire population may be supplied with pure water, at as near cost as possible by the City."(7-170)

Average Daily Water Pumpage (1904)

Month – 1904 Avg. No. Gallons Pumped Daily

January	420,000 Gallons
February	440,000
March	464,000
April	449,000
May	430,000
June	401,000
July	318,000
August	(not given)
September	388,000
October	(not given)
November	(not given - Reservoir broke on Nov. 2)
December	697,000 gals.

OLD WATER WORKS ABANDONED

The old waterworks site on near Belo's Pond was considered a prime industrial site. F.E. Fries of Salem inquired about buying the site in early 1905. In November 1905, the city offered to give the site to a Mr. Thompson if he would build a million dollar lace manufacturing plant on the site as he proposed. (7-231)

This story of the old water works - the one on Peters Creek at Belo's Pond and the other on Frazier Creek -- has been related in considerable detail in order to preserve some record of those old water plants which no longer exist. Both of these old plants have long since been abandoned and obliterated, with the exception of the old dam and impounding reservoir on Frazier Creek, now the dam and lake of Winston Lake Park.

FIRE CHIEF McCrARY RESIGNS

Fire Chief J. B. McCrary, who succeeded Chief Riggins when he resigned on September 3, 1903, submitted his resignation on February 2, 1905. Capt. A. J. Gales was then elected Chief, and R. C. Taylor was made Asst. Fire Chief. Jas. S. Dunn continued as Secretary and Treasurer of the Fire Department. (7-177)



**The Twin City Hospital was located on Brookstown Ave.
(Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)**

SNOW REMOVAL FROM SIDEWALKS

Feb 2, 1905-"...all property owners or occupants of property fronting on or surrounded by sidewalks within the business district of the City of Winston, be required to remove all snow and sleet from such sidewalks and that the work be completed by 8:30 o'clock A.M. when the precipitation is at night, and immediately after or during the precipitation if the same interferes materially with pedestrians. Anyone violating this ordinance by failing or refusing to comply therewith, shall be fined \$5.00 on conviction before the Mayor."(7-178)

TWIN CITY HOSPITAL APPROPRIATION

On recommendation of the Finance Committee the annual appropriation to the Twin City Hospital was increased to \$1200, payable monthly beginning with the month of April, 1905. On special request of the Hospital authorities, the Mayor was appointed Ex-Officio member of the Board of Managers of the Hospital. (7-185)

NEW POST OFFICE BUILDING ENDORSED

April 21, 1905- The Board requested the US Government to go forward with a proposed Post Office and Federal Office Building. "We do hereby request the honorable Secretary of the Treasury that advertisement be made for bids for the construction of the Public Building at Winston-Salem, NC on the site at the corner of Fifth and Liberty now owned by the Government."(7-192) This is the first use in the Minutes of "Winston-Salem" which was the approved title by the post office since 1901. The building was completed in 1915.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

The Municipal Election was held on May 2, 1905. Those elected were:

- First Ward - S. R. Galloway, A. S. Hanes, Sterling Smith
- Second Ward - J. K. Norfleet, F. J. Liipfert , W. T. Brown
- Third Ward - Geo. T. Brown, J. L. Casper, W. G. Cranford

The newly elected Board met on May 8, and O.B.Eaton was again elected Mayor. (7-193).

At this meeting, Mr. A. H. Eller addressed the new Board, saying that he had been commissioned to present to the presiding officer, Mayor Eaton, a beautiful gavel, made from a tree which was on the estate of Washington at Mount Vernon, the gift of a man who served three terms as Alderman; for four years Postmaster of Winston, besides holding other offices of honor and trust. The speaker referred to Manager E. H. Wilson, of the Bell Telephone Co. The gavel was borne to the Mayor by Chief Crutchfield, the Board's sergeant-at-arms. The gavel bore this inscription: "To the City of Winston, by E. H. Wilson, May 8, 1905."(7-198)

The gavel has since disappeared.

MAYOR EATON'S REPORT

Immediately before assuming his fifth year as Mayor, Eaton made a lengthy report on the accomplishments of the past administration, along with statistics on the achievements of the City during previous years including:

Street Improvements

- 5,500 Sq. yds. Belgian blocks pavement constructed
- 22,000 sq. yds. Macadam paving
- 4 miles granite curbing installed
- Several thousand feet Belgian block gutters and terra cotta drain piping
- Belgian Block paved streets included:
 1. Church St. from Third to Fourth Sts.
 2. Fourth St. between Church and Chestnut Sts.
 3. Fifth Street between Church and Liberty Sts.
- Macadamized streets:
Third, Fifth, Summit, West Fourth, Pond, Broad and Spring Streets.

Total expenditures for street work during the two year period amount to \$45,000.

Street Lighting

"The street lighting department has kept up with the growing needs of the City. Our City has never been as well lighted as now at a small cost per light. You now have 70 - 1200 candle power arc lights at \$60 per light per annum; 61 - 24 candle power incandescent lights at \$12 per annum, and 40 gas lights at \$31 per light per annum."

Sanitary Sewers

More than two miles of new sewers have been constructed during the past two years, at a cost of over \$6000.

There have been over 200 new connections to the sewers.

"You have also wisely provided for the refunding of all subscriptions made by citizens toward the cost of sewer lines several years ago, and a portion of this cost has been paid."

The Water System

"The Water System likewise has been very greatly enlarged and improved. A new pumping plant has been installed, having a capacity of three million gallons per day, or two thousand gallons per minute. About 30,000 feet of new water mains have been added, all at the cost of \$105,000.

"The total number of metered taps is now 900, this being an increase of at least 60 per cent. The aggregate of the water rents has risen from \$800 to \$1500 per month.

"Your work in the development and perfecting an ample water supply will commend itself most heartily to the people. This whole plant has been splendidly developed and is most desirable equipped. The system as it stands today represents an investment to the City of something like \$225,000."

The Fire Department

"The Fire Department has been under your control for only two years and has been successfully handled. It is a necessary and important department of City Government and is well equipped and well prepared to do efficient work."

The Police Department

"Next comes good order. We point with pride to the good order that prevails in our city. It not only speaks well for the faithfulness and efficiency of our police force, but for the morality and law-abiding spirit of our entire citizenship. The police department is not self-sustaining, owing to the operation of the state law which provided that all fines and forfeitures shall go to the county school fund. Still you have found it necessary to provide and keep a full force."

Valuations

Water Works	\$225,000
School Buildings	80,000
City Hall	75,000
Sewerage	44,000
Library	17,000
Hospital-	1,000
Street Improvements	300,000

The report ended with this:

Winston - A Solvent City!

That is a fair slogan for the present and the future. A city with a happy prosperous people, with its assets not merely to fill the stern material wants of citizens, but also those which "fill the mind with noble images" - the educational."(7-194)

The new Board appointed fifteen Standing Committees. The three new committees added were: Park, Cemetery and Conference. (7-199)

BUILDING PERMITS REQUIRED

Aug 4, 1905- "... it shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect any building within the corporate limits of the City of Winston, without first submitting the plan of the same to the Mayor and Chairman of the Street Committee and receiving a written or printed permit, signed by the Mayor and said Chairman, to erect same."(7-214)

COUNTY FAIR PROPOSED

September 7, 1905-Colonel Webb addressed the Board "concerning a County Fair to be held the first week of October. He stated that it would be an important occasion for Winston inasmuch as this would be the largest and best fair ever held." Special features include a "first class horse show." He also stated that the ceremonies for the unveiling of the Confederate Monument on Courthouse Square would be held October 3.

Webb suggested that the Mayor request all business houses and manufacturing plants to close at noon on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Fair Week. (7-218)

600 Confederate veterans attended the monument unveiling. A scheduled parade was cancelled due to bad weather.

WOODLAND CEMETERY

Sept 7,1905-The purchasing a site for a City Cemetery was discussed and the recently appointed Cemetery Committee was instructed to see if a joint arrangement could be made with the County. (7-219)

The Cemetery Committee reported to the Board on December 21, that a suitable site for a Cemetery had been found near the Piedmont Park property. This tract of land, containing about 11-1/2 acres and known as the Phelps place, was now owned by Mr. T. M. Benton and could be purchased for \$1000. The Board approved the purchase. (7-236) This is the current Woodland Cemetery property.



North Trade Street during Tobacco Market time about 1905. (Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

FIREFIGHTING GEAR REQUESTED

Nov 2, 1905-Capt. R. L. Hopper, of Fire Company No.1, requested that the members of his company be provided with rubber coats and boots. He stated that this company consisted of 20 members and that it was very important that they be provided with this equipment. (7-226)

Nov 2, 1905- Mr. T. E. Vaughn asked for the exclusive right to fish in the new reservoir if he and his associates would stock the pond. Referred to Water committee (7-227)

1906



The Carnegie Library was conveniently located across the street from the Winston High School. This building is still in use as Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church. (Forsyth County Public Library Photo Collection)

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OPENS

February 14, 1906- The Library, approved by the Board in 1902, opened on the corner of 3rd and Cherry. It was built using funds from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. The city had bought the lot from James Gray for \$2,000.

REFUSE COLLECTION BEGINS

March 1, 1906-"All trash deposits in Sections of the City, not within the fire limits, shall not be placed on the streets but deposited on the premises until removed by the City trash wagons." This was the beginning of back yard collection of household refuse in the residential sections of the City. (7-245)

Town of Winston Directing Board: 1900-1906

The 1906 ordinance provided for the collection of trash deposited on the streets in the main business or fire limits, in the central part of the City.

At the meeting of the Board on April 5, 1906, a communication was read from a Mr. Wright desiring to establish in the City a plant for the destruction of garbage. The matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee. The Sanitary Committee was authorized to purchase a pair of mules and employ extra hands for the Sanitary Department. (7-250)

CONCRETE SIDEWALKS REQUIRED

March 1, 1906-Ordinance approved stating "...all persons owning lots on Liberty Street, between Third and Sixth, on Fourth Street, between Cherry and Chestnut Streets, on Third Street between Liberty and Chestnut Streets, on Main Street, between First and Fifth Sts., on Trade, between Fourth and Fifth, and on Fifth Street, between Cherry and Liberty, where sidewalks constructed of brick are now established, shall, when required to relay said sidewalks on account of the worn or disturbed condition thereof, construct the new side walks of concrete under the direction of the street committee."(7-249)

LIBERTY HOSE COMPANY

March 1, 1906-A petition was presented, signed by a large number of citizens and property owners of the Third Ward, requesting that the Liberty Hose Company be properly equipped for fire fighting and recognized as regular members of the Winston Fire Department. The Hose Company submitted an estimate of the cost of the entire equipment, including lot and building, amount to \$1966, of which amount the Hose Company would provide \$361.

The matter was fully discussed by the Board, and it was the general opinion that if these young men were willing to serve the City practically without pay, they should not have to provide their own equipment. The Board approved a motion that the station equipped, the Company installed, and that the City purchase two Chemical Fire engines when a general reduction of 10% was granted in insurance rates by the South Eastern Tariff Association. (7-244)

On May 3, 1906, the Board recommended that a building be erected for them on the North Winston Graded School lot. (7-255)

POPULATION OF WINSTON AND SALEM

According to Census Taken By Walsh Directory Company.

Areas of City

	White Males	White Females	Colored Males	Colored Females	Totals
Winston, in limits	3357	3341	2649	3120	12,467
Winston Suburbs	446	397	562	603	2,008
Totals	3083	3738	3211	3723	14,475
Salem, in limits	1797	2424	218	290	4,729
East Salem	129	136	27	27	319
Waughtown	392	367	41	58	858
Centerville	182	162	68	61	473
South Side	495	502	116	137	1,250
Happy Hill			91	113	204
Salem Hill			37	44	81
Columbian Heights			220	253	473
Totals	2995	3591	818	983	8,387
<u>Grand Totals</u>					
Winston	3803	3738	3211	3723	14,475
Salem	2995	3591	818	983	8,387
Total	6798	7329	4029	4706	22,862

The total cost of the census was \$225, of which amount Salem was to pay \$75 (7-258)

PRIVATE DRAINAGE ORDINANCE

June 7,1906-"Be it ordained - That any person, firm or corporation who owns lots in the City of Winston through which run natural drain-ways, shall be required before filling up said lots, to construct a proper pipe line or culvert at his own expense, under the direction and supervision of the City engineer.

"The property owner is further required to obtain a permit from the City Engineer who shall pass on the size necessary and the character of the works to be done. Anyone violating this ordinance shall be on conviction before the Mayor, be fined \$50.00." (7-259)

CHIEF OF POLICE CRUTCHFIELD DIES

Mayor Eaton official announced the death of Capt. F. G. Crutchfield, Chief of Police, on July 1, 1906. The Mayor addressed the Board at some length on his life and character, and closing his remarks, said: "Capt. Crutchfield has left the richest legacy man can leave to man, the memory of a good name."(7-264) His obituary from the newspaper is included in the Minutes Book.

FIRE CHIEF GALES DIES

Fire Chief A. J. Gales died in New York City in June, 1906. (7-264) On July 5, 1906, the Fire Department announced the election of Mr. R. C. Taylor as Chief of the Fire Department and Mr. R. L. Hopper as Asst. Chief. These elections were confirmed by the Board. The death of both the Fire Chief and the Police Chief within a month must have caused something of a phenomenon. (7-266)

STREET RAILWAY APPROVED

July 5, 1906-The Board granted a right of way to the Winston-Salem Street Railway Company to run its railway lines on or across the street within the corporate limits of the City of Winston. (7-267)

CHATHAM MANUFACTURING COMPANY

Aug 2, 1906-Judge H. R. Starbuck stated that the Chatham Mfg. Co. would at an early date commence the erection of a large Woolen Mill Plant, east of and near the trestle of the N. C. Midland Railway Company, within the city limits, and requested the Board to open and macadamize a street 40 feet wide from the boulevard, near the intersection of Buxton Street, to a point on said Railroad, crossing same, 1200 feet in length. He stated that the grading would cost about \$1600, a ten foot wide truckway about \$1000, and property damage \$400, making a total cost of about \$3,000. The Board approved the request. (7-271)

J.N. AMBER, CITY ENGINEER

Sept 24, 1906-A letter was read from J. N. Ambler accepting the position of City engineer and Supt. of Water Works for the term beginning January 1, 1907, at a salary of \$1800 per annum.

Mayor Eaton stated that he recently visited Roanoke and Salem, Virginia, where Ambler was currently employed and made some inquiries concerning his ability, and inspected his work. From information given he was satisfied that Mr. Ambler was a thoroughly competent man in his line and could fill the position acceptably.

Alderman George Brown made a motion which carried that Mr. Ambler be elected for one year, as City Engineer and Supt. of Water Works, beginning on January 1, 1907, at an annual salary of \$1800.(7-279)

FIRE BOOTS REQUESTED

Oct 8, 1906-Chap Bodenhamer, Captain of Fire Company No. 2, requested that the members of that company be furnished with rubber boots. The Board instructed the Fire Committee to buy the boots. (7-281)

FIREMEN'S PAY INCREASED

Dec 6, 1906-Mr. R. L. Hopper, Asst. Chief of the Fire Department requested that the salaries of the employees of the paid Fire Department be increased. He asked that the drivers' salaries be increased from \$35 to \$40 per month, and the salary of the Superintendent be increased from \$55 to \$60 per month. Alderman W. T. Brown's motion to advance salaries of drivers to \$40 per month carried (7-290)

ROCK QUARRY PURCHASED

December 6, 1906-"The matter of purchasing the gravel pit and rock quarry property lying in the western part of the city and now owned by Mr. W.N. Reynolds was discussed at some length. The Street Committee had carefully studied the needs of the City for this material and had investigated the property from all standpoints and recommended its purchase at the price of \$3,500. On motion the Street Committee was authorized to make the purchase." (7-291) This quarry would be used to pave streets and provide fill. It was closed and ordered auctioned off in lots in November 1909. (8-137)

The auction was not held until August 17, 1910 when the property now known as "Terrace Heights" was sold to representatives of Winston Realty for \$12,100. (8-275) A portion of the quarry face is still visible on West End Blvd.