

**EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR, 1912**

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Eighteenth annual report of the Municipal Government of the City of Franklin for the Financial Year, 1912 by Various

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VARIOUS

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OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR, 1912**



MAYOR SETH W. JONES

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OF THE
Municipal Government
OF THE
CITY OF FRANKLIN
FOR THE
Financial Year, 1912.



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ORGANIZATION

OF THE

CITY GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 2, 1912.

According to the provisions of the City Charter the meeting of the City Council was called on Monday evening, January 1, 1912, and as Monday was a legal holiday, and there being no quorum present, Mayor Jones adjourned the meeting to Tuesday, January 2.

Tuesday evening, January 2, 1912, the City Council met in the Council Room, Mayor Seth W. Jones presiding. A small amount of business was transacted. Mayor Jones thanked the council of 1911 for their courteous treatment and complimented the members on the harmonious manner in which the meetings of the past year had been conducted. City Clerk Frank H. Daniell then administered the oath of office to Mayor Jones and Councilmen Mace C. Heath, Maxime A. Proulx and Daniel Fawdrey and the council of 1912 adjourned to the main hall.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. A. H. Morrill, pastor of the Christian church. Mayor Jones then read his inaugural address. This was followed by the election of officers.

Mayor's Inaugural.

Gentlemen of the City Council:

I am not going to start out with any lengthy preamble previous to what few suggestions, recommendations and criticisms I am about to make, but after careful consideration, I have decided to follow in my remarks my interpretation of the intent of this old motto: "Hew to the line no matter where the chips fall."

In taking this course it is not my intention to point out, misuse or abuse anyone in the least, but rather to

help those immediately concerned, and especially the City of Franklin as a whole, by picturing before you, as I see them, existing conditions for your consideration, none of which are extremely bad, but conditions which I think may be improved in many instances by careful consideration of this body.

I would never feel that I had done my duty should I whitewash existing conditions, as is often done on similar occasions, but on the contrary, by taking the course I am now taking which is in accordance with the dictates of my own conscience, I shall feel that I have done my full duty.

At the beginning of this year, 1912, I desire to reiterate all the recommendations I made to the Council of 1911, which were not adopted, to lay more stress upon some of those recommendations, and also to add new ones for your consideration.

City Civil Engineer.

After a year's experience with city affairs, I am more thoroughly convinced than ever before that we have plenty of work for a competent Civil Engineer, and it is very reasonable to suppose that we can get a more competent man by paying a reasonable annual salary than by hiring by the day as we have done in the past. Competent engineers have told me that it will take over a year of steady work to complete a map of our city, and every person who is in any way familiar with city affairs knows that an up to date map is a very essential thing to have, and there is no doubt in my mind but what it would bring out some taxable property, which is at present escaping taxation, although our assessors have been very painstaking and have tried to get hold of all taxable property.

An engineer might begin work by starting out to make this map, and working on it when not confronted by other work which would need his more immediate attention, such as laying sewer extensions, surveying for street grades, and so on, and after becoming established and acquainted to some extent with the general conditions of our city, it would be better in my judgment to abolish the office of Highway Commissioner, and have the work done by the City Engineer. This course would