Tuesday Feby 8th 1831

The Branch met pursuant to adjournment present John B Morris President and all the members except Mr Maclean.

A message was received from the Second Branch proposing to refer an accompanying petition from John Diffenderffer and others to the Joint Committee on Streets; which was concurred in and the Second Branch informed by message.

Mr Young offered the following which was read a first and by special order the second time concurred in and sent to the Second Branch; the Second Branch returned the same endorsed "Concurred in".

Resolved by both Branches of the City Council, that the petition of Archibald George and others, praying for the erection of Gas lamps in Howard street, presented at the last annual session of the City Council, be referred to the Joint Committee on lighting the City.

Mr Carroll from the Committee delivered the following report and resolution which was read a first time and laid on the table.

The Joint Committee on Education who were instructed to enquire into the expediency of increasing the number of Public school Commissioners from six to twelve, beg leave to report,

That they are not aware of any advantages which would result from the contemplated increase. The duties of School Commissioners have been cheerfully and efficiently performed by the present Board, and it is very questionable whether under existing circumstances, those duties could be as efficiently, or easily executed, were the number increased, as they are at present. They therefore report the following resolution.

James Carroll, Wm Gaw, Munroe, D. S. Baer 1 N

P Laurenson, Saml Moore 2 N.

Resolved by both Branches of the City Council, that it is inexpedient at present to increase the number of the Public School Commissioners.

The resolution for erecting two buoys in the vicinity of Moales Point was read a second time, concurred in, and sent to the Second Branch.

On motion by Mr Carroll the President was requested to appoint a committee on Inspections when Messrs Ridgely Seyler & E Hansbury were appointed.

Mr Carroll offered the following which was read twice and concurred in.

Resolved that the Committee on inspections enquire into the expediency of requiring the Inspector of long and dry measures to keep his office in some central part of the City.

The following communication was received from the Mayor

Balt Feby 8th 1831

Gentlemen of the First Branch of the City Council

I have approved and signed An Ordinance to lay and collect a direct tax for the repairs of Highways and Bridges.

Respectfully yrs Jacob Small Mayor

The following communication was received from the Mayor, which was read and referred to Messrs Ridgely, Hanson and Carroll.

Balt Feby 8. 1831

Gentlemen of the First and Second Branches of the City Council

John Scott Esq Counsellor for the City, having this day returned to Annapolis, in order to attend the progress of the report of the committee in the case of Smith's wharf has requested that the original record of the Port Wardens and Plot relative thereto should be forwarded without delay. As this is an important record, I have thought it prudent to submit the subject to your consideration, in order that the mode of conveyance may be pointed out by you and is respectfully suggested whether it would not be advisable to order that this ancient record should be carefully transcribed into a new book in order to guard against accident.

Respectfully submitted.

Jacob Small, Mayor

The Bill entitled An ordinance to provide for the payment of sundry expenses of the City Court of Balt &c and the Bill entitled An ordinance to provide for certain expenses for the year 1830, were returned from the Second Branch endorsed Bills passed.

The resolution making an appropriation for a copper boiler to the Steam dredging machine, was read a second time, concurred in, and sent to the Second Branch.

The resolution making an appropriation for the several Fire Companies, was returned from the Second Branch, endorsed, Concurred in.

A Bill entitled An ordinance regulating the manner of appointing officers under the Corporation, was received from the Second Branch read a first time and laid on the table.

The resolution permitting James Binys to withdraw his petition was read a second time concurred in and sent to the Second Branch. The Second Branch returned the same endorsed "Concurred in".