the next twenty years to come, may be obtained from other sources, and at a cost trifling indeed in comparison with the cost of introducing the Gunpowder. This has been clearly demonstrated by reports based upon actual surveys, measurements, and estimates.

2dly. Should it even be decided that the Gunpowder must be introduced, would it, I ask, be wise or expedient in the present condition of our finances, to incur so vast a debt as this would entail?

Your honorable body certainly are aware that the bonded debt of our city is now nearly $7,000,000, and her faith is pledged in the shape of guarantees for $7,000,000 more.

Now whilst I as an individual would interpose no obstacle, should she find it necessary, nor stand in the way of her will and pleasure, should she decide to double or quadruple said debt, yet I cannot give my official assent to so considerable an increase of burden upon our already overloaded tax payers, when it is evident that her object may be completely accomplished at so much less cost.

Thirdly – Should the citizens decide upon the introduction of the Gunpowder, let us look for a moment at our position. Your bill obliges the commissioners to proceed with the enterprise immediately, and what provision has been made for money?

The estimated cost is $4,500,000. You may issue the balance of water stock unappropriated under the grant from the State to issue $2,000,000, for the purchase of the Baltimore Water Company's rights and privileges, which is $640,000, leaving to be provided, the sum of $3,860,000.

How is this sum to be raised? I do not presume to answer this question; I cannot answer it. The friends of the project say that city bonds or stock shall be issued; but you are aware, that to issue this stock, permission must be had from the Legislature of our State. Can this permission be had? Perhaps so – possibly not – it is by no means certain; and would it be wise to enter upon so gigantic an undertaking under such circumstances? Surely no member of your honorable body would undertake an individual enterprise exposed to such a contingency.

Gentlemen, I have no wish to impede wholesome legislation; on the contrary am desirous of promoting by all possible means, the prosperity, comfort and happiness of my fellow citizens. yet I feel that in extending to me the chief magistracy of their city, they constituted me to an important extent the conservator of their pecuniary as well as civil affairs, and I will never be persuaded, cajoled or intimidated into giving my official sanction to any measure which my judgment condemns. I am governed by no sinister motives – have neither friends to reward nor foes to punish. I will speak, think and act upon correct principles, so far as I am able to comprehend them, regardless of any man's censure or praise.

Respectfully yours,
Samuel Hinks, Mayor

On motion of Mr. Thompson, the vote on the adoption of the preamble and resolutions returned by the Mayor without his signature thereto, was reconsidered.

The question recurring, "Shall the preamble and resolutions be adopted notwithstanding the objections of the Mayor?" it was determined in the negative by the following vote, the yeas and nays being required by Mr. Wright:

Yeas – Messrs. President, J. H. Boyd, Suter, Kraff, Thompson, Regester, Lepson, Woods, Nicholls – 9

Nays – Messrs. France, Mullen, F. H. B. Boyd, Crawford, Harker, Cox, Wright, Quail, Counselman, White – 10.

A report and resolutions from the joint committee on ways and means, relative to the fees charged to the city of Baltimore by the State's attorney for Baltimore county in removed cases from the Criminal Court of Baltimore to that jurisdiction, was received from the Second Branch and read.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, the resolutions were read a second time by special order and concurred in