

**BOARD MEETING**  
**March 24, 1873**  
**Court House**

The Mayor and Aldermen met at the Court House in Dyersburg this 24<sup>th</sup> of March 1873 pursuant to adjournment.

Present Mayor Clark, Aldermen Pinner, DeBerry, McAllister, Coker, Sampson and Doyle and Marshal Nichols.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, approved and signed.

On motion the sum of six dollars and fifty cents was allowed and ordered to be paid to F. H. Earle for repairs on sidewalks and bridge all the Aldermen voting for it.

Ordered by the Mayor and Aldermen that all obstructions, building or fences in the streets, as defined and marked out in the survey made by E. G. Sugg, and adopted by this Board on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 1872 be removed within fifteen day and that the Marshal give every person whose fences, buildings or other property may be in or on the streets as so defined as aforesaid, written notice of this ordinance.

Ordered that C. J. Coker, W. E. DeBerry and J. C. Pinner be and they are hereby appointed to confer with D.R. H. McGaughey in relation to improvements on the streets and that they report to the Board at the next meeting.

The committee, to wit: Pinner, Sampson and Doyle, appointed to consider and report in detail, on the ordinances and for the government of the town reported the following which was taken up Section by Section, and all unanimously adopted and ordered to be spread on the minutes and is in the words and figures following to wit:

**DYERSBURG, MARCH 24, 1873**  
**BY-LAWS**  
**And**  
**REGULATIONS**  
**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE**  
**TOWN OF DYERSBURG**  
**DYER COUNTY, TENNESSEE**  
**ADOPTED MARCH 24, 1873**

- Section 1.** This Corporation shall be called and known by the name “Mayor and Aldermen of Dyersburg.
- Section 2.** The Officers shall be seven Aldermen, one of whom shall be Mayor: one Recorder and Treasurer and one Marshal who shall be elected annually.
- Section 3.** It shall be the duty of the Mayor and Aldermen to fill all vacancies which may occur by election by their own body for the current year.
- Section 4.** The Mayor, Aldermen and officers shall all be duly sworn before entering upon the duties of their respective offices.
- Section 5.** The Recorder and Treasurer and the Town Marshal shall each give bond and security in such sum as the Mayor and Aldermen shall fix for the faithful discharge of their duties.

- Section 6.** The Mayor and Aldermen shall appoint a Committee to settle with the Recorder and Treasurer and Marshall annually or oftner if deemed proper, who shall inspect their respective vouchers and report in detail to the Board.
- Section 7.** It shall be the duty of the Mayor to preside at all meetings of the Mayor and Aldermen – to call meetings when deemed necessary – to see the by-laws observed – to sign all warrants drawn on the Treasury and keep a record thereof – to punish by fines (between one and fifty dollars) all persons who shall be found guilty on trial before him of violating any By Law, Ordinance or Regulation of the Town and to punish by fine, without trial, any contempt committed before him when acting officially.
- Section 8.** It shall be the duty of the Recorder and Treasurer to keep a correct record of all proceedings of the Board – to collect the taxes on all privileges for which a license is required – to keep and account for all moneys belonging to the Mayor and Aldermen – to counter sign all warrants drawn on the treasury and keep a record of all they moneys paid out – and to settle when ever required.
- Section 9.** It shall be the duty of the Marshal to arrest, either with or without warrant, all persons violating any By-Law, Ordinance or Regulation of the Town, and bring them forthwith before the Mayor for trial (unless in the night-time when he may commit them to jail until morning) to collect all fines and cost-assessed by the Mayor and to collect and pay over, whenever ordered, all taxes imposed by the Mayor and Aldermen to kill proud sluts, pigeons, etc., when required by the By-Laws – to report all nuisances, obstructions to streets, dangers of fire and defects in streets and thorough-fares, and generally to preserve the peach, quiet and direct orders of the Town.
- Section 10.** The regular meetings of the Mayor and Aldermen shall be held at the Court House on the first Thursday night in every month; but special meetings may be called at any time by the Mayor for the transaction of any business.

## REGULATIONS

- Section 11.** No person shall be guilty of fighting, cursing, hallowing, or noisy riotous or obscene disturbances with the corporate limits.
- Section 12.** No fire arms shall be discharged within the corporation limits unless really necessary.
- Section 13.** Stallions and Jacks shall not be exhibited within the Corporation, unless at a place provided for the purpose, under a license.
- Section 14.** Horses shall not be run through town in harness or under saddle, nor tied to houses, fences or ornamental trees, or led, driven or rode on the pavements or side walks, nor suffered to run at large upon the streets.
- Section 15.** No vehicles shall be left standing with horse or mule teams hitched to them. Nor allowed to stop on the Cropings.
- Section 16.** There shall be no vehicle, wood piles or other obstructions placed or left in the streets or alleys of the town.
- Section 17.** There shall be no nuisances placed either in or on the streets or alleys.
- Section 18.** Plows, implements and other obstructions shall not be allowed to remain on the pavements or sidewalks.

- Section 19.** The owners of all property fronting on the Public Square shall place pavements in front of their property as the Mayor and Aldermen order.
- Section 20.** Owners of all property in town shall place sidewalks in front of their property when and where directed by the Mayor and Aldermen.
- Section 21.** The pavements shall be of uniform widths and of uniform height, so as to make no offsets.
- Section 22.** No unlawful farming shall be permitted within the town limits.
- Section 23.** No person shall remove or deface signs, or move other property, or do other mischief in the Town.
- Section 24.** No person shall cut, deface or damage shade or ornamental trees, houses or awnings within the Town.
- Section 25.** No handbills, posters or advertisements shall be torn down, mutilated or defaced, except by the owners of property on which they are posted without his consent, or after this date has elapsed.
- Section 26.** All persons shall implicitly obey such sanitary regulations as may be from time to time adopted.
- Section 27.** All persons shall implicitly obey the precautionary instructions of the Fire Warden within five days after notice.
- Section 28.** No person shall leave ashes standing in any wooden vessel, nor empty them near any building.
- Section 29.** No person shall resist the Marshal in making arrests, but all persons shall promptly assist him whenever called upon for that purpose.
- Section 30.** No person shall rescue or attempt to rescue any person arrested by the Marshal.
- Section 31.** No Theatrical, Gymnastic or other shows (Library and Scientific Lectures Exhibitions of the Fine Arts, and Concerts by local Bands excepted) shall be exhibited without license.
- Section 32.** The exercise of any business taxed by the laws of the State shall be under license to be obtained from the Recorder on such terms as shall be fixed by the Mayor and Aldermen.
- Section 33.** All the houses, lots and other taxable property within the Corporation limits, shall be subject to such annual tax as shall be levied by the Mayor and Aldermen.
- Section 34.** The Mayor and Aldermen may levy such tax as they deem proper on dogs, or prohibit them by other ordinance, from running at large within the Corporation limits when deemed necessary.
- Section 35.** The Mayor and Aldermen may levy and collect wharfage, to improve the landing.
- Section 36.** No proud sluts, or tame pigeons shall be allowed to go at large in the town, but it shall be the duty of the Marshal to kill all such dogs as the town regulations condemn.
- Section 37.** All violations of the Ordinances shall be punished by fine between one and fifty dollars.

- Section 38.** The Recorder shall be entitled to fifty cents for each Privilege License issued by him to be paid out of the revenue collected.
- Section 39.** The Marshal shall be entitled to one dollar for every arrest and twenty five cents for every necessary witness summoned to be paid by the defendant.
- Section 40.** The Marshall shall be entitled to five per centum for collecting and paying over the fines and current taxes, and such rate as the Board may fix for collecting special taxes.
- Section 41.** The Mayor and Aldermen may allow and pay the offices and Aldermen such salaries as they may deem proper.
- Section 42.** In the temporary absence or sickness of the Mayor or any other officer, the Board may appoint one protempore.

**Ordered by the Board that the By-Laws, Ordinances and Regulations as adopted be published and that the Recorder have one hundred copies printed.**

**On motion the following taxes were assessed for the year 1872, to wit:**

**On all houses, lots, land and personal property taxed by the State – forty cents (40) on the one hundred dollars.**

**On Merchants, Grocers, Tipplers, Druggists, Billiard Tables, Theatrical and Gymnastic Shows, Circus and Menageries a Privilege tax of Ten Dollars.**

**On all Bakers, Book Stores, Barbers, Milliners, Photograph & Picture Galleries, Jewelry, Peddlers and Serving Machine Agents a privilege tax of Five Dollars.**

**On Exhibitions of Slight of Hand, Mesmuric, Spiritualistic or other shows not heretofore enumerated, a privilege tax of Five Dollars for each exhibition.**

**On each poll a tax of one dollar is levied for 1873 by unanimous consent.**

**On Livery and Sale Stables, a Privilege Tax of Ten Dollars.**

**On motion by Board adjourned until the first Thursday night in April next, the regular time of meeting.**

**Charles P. Clark, Mayor**

**Attest:**

**W. C. Doyle, Recorder**