

MILTON INCORPORATES

According to available records, Milton Post Office was opened in 1874. The city was named and organized on January 4, 1886; and a governing body set up January 11, 1886, called the Board of Trustees, consisting of Mayor A. M. Elam, and trustees, Ben Arthur, S. K. Coe, W. S. Frazier, W. S. Brown and J. T. Morie.

Ordinance No. 1 was adopted providing for the name of Milton City and an official seal. (This ordinance was repealed and clarified by ordinance passed by the Board of Trustees March 10, 1890, but the name Milton City was retained and the character of the city seal was prescribed.)

With the establishment of Milton City as a civic entity, the Board of Trustees moved rapidly to improve the community.

A few excerpts from the Recording Journal are indicative and interesting; T. W. Berry, recording.

1886

Jan. 11, Additional officers provided, City Treasurer, City Marshall. Regulation of sale of liquor, and restrictions on gambling.

Jan. 18, Order of business governing meetings of Board of Trustees were adopted.

Feb 1, A Road Poll Tax was levied, and office of Street Commissioner was established.

Feb 22, U. Garrad under bond, was granted a liquor license for a period of six months. Bills allowed: \$15 to pay for City Charter, \$6.30 for city seal, \$16 for a plow.

March 15, Ordered City Marshall to collect Road Poll Tax from all Chinese in City Limits between the ages of 21 and 50 years. Compelled Chas. Gano to remove his dead horse from the City limits.

March 22, Paid \$2 hall rent to W. S. Brown. Voted \$50 to buy a site for City Jail. Paid Phelps and Arthur \$8.40 for a table and chairs.

March 29, Ordered construction of City Jail, and recorded title to land.

May 17, City Jail reported finished. Contract, George Church, paid \$50 on account, and balance of \$48 covered by a warrant due in six months.

Sept. 14, Paid J. D. Phelps \$5.25 for assessment blanks and levied a three mill tax

on all assessed property within the corporate limits.

Nov. 1, City Marshall instructed to “see the streets and alleys are made decently clean”.

Nov. 29, Provisions made for first City election: Judges, D. J. PHELPS, Dan Sheets, and Crockett. F. G. Hull and James Elam clerks. Recorder to post notices.

Dec. 27, Paid D. J. Phelps .75 cents for help on road, and W. C. Starkey .50 cents for paper.

This briefly is the record of the Board of Trustees, during Milton City’s first year of City Government.

1887

As a result of City Election, the year opened with following City Officers in charge: Mayor F. J. Morie, Trustees Elam, Phelps, Berry, Pierce and Brown. City Recorder F. G. Hull, City Marshall A. B. Evans, Treasurer J. B. Frazier. In the year that followed we have presented only the highlights of Board activity.

April 18, Oregon Improvement Company again notified to construct ditches along side their lumber flume. Property owners on Main Street directed to keep irrigation ditches open and M. V. Wormington ordered to repair his well.

July 13, Request of C. C. Cunningham for license to sell liquor in less than gallon quantities was denied, 33 names on petition requesting, 39 names on petition of remonstrance.

Oct. 17, Committee appointed to secure right-of-way through the Wm. Nichols property for water system line.

Dec. 19, Bills allowed to J. B. Mahana for surveying water course. J. B. Wilson 1 day \$5, rail fare \$1.50, board .50 cents, express on instrument .25cents.

That was it for 1887.

1888

W. C. Starkey was the new mayor. Trustees were A. M. Elam, D. J. Phelps, N. Pierce, E. Kirkland and J. L. Frazier. D. D. Plant was Treasurer and T. W. Berry Recorder.

Feb. 13, Oregon Improvement Company requested to state their time and intention of removing that part of their flume running through Milton.

Feb. 27, Committee reported that the Oregon Improvement Company intends to remove their flume during the coming summer and fall.

May 8, City Road Poll Tax removed.

May 14, Call issued for bids on water works.

June 18, Bid of John Corkish on water system accepted.

June 25, E. D. McLaughlin was employed as City Attorney.

July 23, The following citizens were appointed as a Board of Trade for Milton City: H. L. Bowman, S. C. Stone and T. W. Berry.

Aug. 29, Rates for water users set up.

The main step forward for Milton in 1888 was the installation of a City water system, and the establishment of use and rates governing it.

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