

Street Openings.

To the Honorable, the Common Council: Gentlemen—Your Committee on Street Openings has had before it the petition of Newton Beef Company in which is prayed "the closing of the westerly end of Putnam Avenue, from the line of Fourteenth Avenue to the north and south alley, including north end of alley," and on investigation find:

The land which lies north of Warren, south of the railroad, east of Fifteenth and west of Fourteenth, was so platted that a 20 foot alley extended northerly from Warren to the railroad midway between Fourteenth and Fifteenth, with Putnam Avenue extending westerly 70 feet wide from Fourteenth Avenue to this north and south alley. From the north line of Putnam Avenue to the south line of the railroad the alley does not exist other than on paper. At the westerly end of Putnam Avenue the owners of the property which faces Fifteenth Street, have extended garages easterly from their lot line into a part of Putnam Avenue.

The petitioner owns all of the property on the west side of Fourteenth Avenue from the railroad south to the north line of Putnam Avenue, and owns also the lot which is on the southwest corner of Fourteenth and Putnam.

Putnam Avenue serves to give access to and from Fourteenth Avenue by those using the north and south alley as it now exists between Warren and Putnam.

There is no even remote possibility of Putnam Avenue ever being opened westerly from its present ending. That it is of little use is obvious from the fact that it is unpaved, and that upon the south side no sidewalk has ever been laid. The owners of the property which faces Fifteenth Street use it for storage and have, as above suggested, by building garages easterly from their lot line, indicated their willingness to have the public excluded from it. It serves no purposes incident to the alley which was originally dedicated northerly from it, because that portion of the alley no longer exists.

The petitioner proposes to give those using the north and south alley ingress and egress to and from Fourteenth Avenue by the dedication of a 20 foot alley on the southerly side of the lot at the southwest corner of Putnam and Fourteenth.

It need not be pointed out that the petitioner by having a 70 foot street vacated in lieu of a dedication by it of a 20 foot alley will gain what to it is valuable property; yet, by the vacation, the City loses nothing which is of use to it, and on the other hand it gets the advantage of having 50 feet of Fourteenth Avenue frontage with the buildings which the petitioner contemplates to erect thereon put upon the tax roll, and rids itself of any liability which may grow out of its failure to keep this dead end of Putnam Avenue reasonably safe and fit for travel.

We think the prayer of the petitioner should be granted, conditioned on repayment to the City of whatever amount has been by the City expended in paving Fourteenth Avenue past the Putnam Avenue frontage involved, in laying crosswalks, and in laying whatever sewer may extend northerly across the westerly end of the street.

We think also that the petitioner should be required to obtain the consent of the owners of the lot which will

be situated immediately south of the contemplated alley.

This being done, we recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be granted, and herewith submit appropriate resolution.

Respectfully submitted,
 CHAS. A. KOCHER,
 JAMES VERNOR,
 JOHN T. THOMPSON,
 GEO. H. ELLIS,
 WM. A. RICHERT,
 RICHARD O. STARKEY.

By Ald. Kocher:
 Resolved, That the so-called westerly end of Putnam Avenue extending westerly from the westerly line of 14th Avenue, being the portion of Putnam Avenue lying between lots 499 and 500, plat of part of the Godfroy Farm, Private Claim 726, lying north of Grand River Avenue, be and the same is hereby vacated, this resolution to become effective if within 30 days of the date of its passage there is filed with the City Clerk evidence of the payment to the City Treasurer of whatever amount is established by the certificate of the City Engineer as having been expended by the City of Detroit in paving the westerly half of 14th Avenue in front of the portion of Putnam Avenue involved, in laying crosswalks or street intersections on the west side of 14th over Putnam Avenue, and in constructing sewers across the westerly end of Putnam Avenue; and if within the time fixed there be dedicated to the public an alley 20 feet wide, extending westerly from 14th Avenue through lot 499, plat of part of the Godfroy Farm, Private Claim 726, lying north of Grand River Avenue, to the north and south alley situated between 14th and 15th; and if there be filed with the City Clerk the written consent to the dedication of this alley from the owners of lot 498, same subdivision.

Provided, That petitioners file with the City Clerk a good and sufficient bond in the sum of \$2,000.00 to indemnify, save and keep harmless the City of Detroit from any and all costs, damages or expense of any kind whatsoever which may be suffered by the City of Detroit, or which it may be put to or which may accrue against it by charging to or recovering from said city from or by reason of the vacation of the public street herein described.

Further Resolved, That the above vacation be hereby declared for the public use and benefit.

Adopted as follows:

Yeas—Ald. Allan, Auch, Bahorski, Bleil, Bradley, Braun, Burton, Cowan, Cranshaw, Dill, Dodt, Ellis, Glinnan, Guthard, Holden, Hunter, Kocher, Kronk, Kunz, Littlefield, Lodge, Miotke, Mitter, Nowc, Richert, Riopelle, Ross, Schultz, Starkey, Thompson, Vernor, Walsh, Wartell, Wenzel, Wilson, Zink, and the President.—37.

Nays—None.

Health and City Hospitals.

To the Honorable, the Common Council: Gentlemen—To your Committee on Health and City Hospitals was referred the communication from the Board of Health, transmitting proposals for the labor and material in connection with erection of three cottages for tuberculosis patients. Your Committee finds that Norris E. Crisman is the lowest bidder for all work except plumbing and gas fitting, at \$8,357.00, and that A. P. Collard is the only and lowest bidder for all plumbing and gas fitting for the three buildings at \$1,853.00, and that the combined bids of