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2. Date. 24-4-37
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

P. J. J.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No.	677	Press
	86-87	Mis.
Dated	20-5-	19-1877

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 86. Read the following letter from the Officiating President of the Municipal Commission, Madras, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort St. George, dated Madras, 6th April 1871, G. No. 128:—

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 18 of the Madras Municipal Act of 1867, I have the honour to forward, herewith, for publication in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements on account of this Municipality from the close of the past year up to the 28th of February last, together with the Minutes of the Proceedings of the General Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 31st ultimo, at which the same was approved of.

2. I have to solicit the especial attention of Government to a proposal to light Madras with gas, which was one of the subjects discussed at the Meeting, and with regard to which the following Resolution was passed by the Commissioners, viz.:—

“That, with reference to the draft memorandum of agreement forwarded by Messrs. King, Stephenson, and Taylor, through Messrs. McDowell and Co., on the subject of establishing gas-works in Madras, referred to a Committee for report at the General Meeting held on the 31st January 1871, the Commissioners approve of the Committee's recommendation and authorize the President to forward the draft agreement to Government, and inform them that they are disposed to look favourably upon the proposals made by Messrs. King, Stephenson, and Taylor, subject to certain modifications in the rates they propose for public and private lights; but that, before proceeding to discuss these with them, they are desirous of ascertaining the views of Government on the subject, and more especially with reference to the concession they seek from Government and the Municipality.”

3. In pursuance of the above Resolution, I now beg to forward the draft of the agreement specifying the terms on which Messrs. Stephenson, King, and Taylor are prepared to establish gas-works in Madras. These do not differ materially, with one exception, from those contained in a proposal made by the same gentlemen on the 12th December 1865, on which Government passed an Order in the Public Works Department, No. 3332, on the 1st December 1866, approving generally of the scheme.

4. The exception referred to above is that, in their former proposal, there was no mention made of the gas-works in the Fort being taken over by them, whereas, in the one now submitted, it is proposed that they should do so. They would appear to have added this condition with reference to paragraph 6 of the Order of Government, No. 3832, already referred to.

5. The Commissioners are unanimously of opinion that it is very desirable gas should be used in the public lights of the town, if it can be supplied at such a price as will enable them to apply it to any considerable number of lamps. The cost per annum of a single light, as given in the first schedule of the draft agreement, even if advantage were taken of the proviso attached to Clause 7, is too high to allow of their doing this; but they have reason to believe that Messrs. Stephenson, King, and Taylor are prepared to accept lower terms, not only for public, but also for private lights, than those named in the draft agreement.

6. As it would be premature for the Commissioners to enter into negotiations with them on the subject of a reduction in the price to be charged for gas, without having previously ascertained the views of Government in regard to the proposal

20th May 1871.

generally, and more especially with respect to the concessions which Messrs. Stephenson, King, and Taylor ask for at the hands of Government and the Municipality, the Commissioners request that they may be favoured with these, and would respectfully request that, in the event of Government being disposed to grant all or any of the concessions sought for, they will make their doing so contingent on the Municipality being able to come to terms with them.

No. 87. ORDER THEREON, 20th May 1871, No. 679.

Ordered that the Minutes of the Proceedings of the General Meeting of the Municipal Commissioners, held on the 31st March, be published, with the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements, in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

2. The Commissioners request an expression of the views of Government on the proposal, now renewed by Messrs. King and Stephenson, for lighting Madras with gas, and they desire that any grant by Government of the concessions sought by these gentlemen may be made contingent on the result of negotiations to be opened regarding the proposed rates for public lights.

3. The concessions asked for from Government are—

(i). The grant of exclusive privileges to the proposed Company in respect of the supply of gas.

(ii). The grant of a site for gas-works near Burghall's Stables.

(iii). The transfer of the Fort gas-works at a valuation.

(iv). The exemption of plant, materials, and coal from Customs duties.

4. The use of gas in the Presidency City is a purely municipal question, with which the Government will not interfere. If the Company should come to terms with the Municipality, the Government would not decline to grant a site for the gas-works if one can be selected without prejudice to the health and convenience of the citizens and conformably to the wishes of the Municipal Commission. But the Government desire that the Municipal Commissioners will carefully consider, with reference to the rates for public lights, which might be arrived at in communication with the promoters of the scheme, whether the municipal resources are in such a condition as to justify the assumption of additional burdens. Though the Commissioners are not bound to take the gas, they will, no doubt, find themselves constrained to do so should the Company commence its operations. The liabilities which the Commissioners have assumed and intend to assume, in connexion with the water works, the proposed market, and other projects of improvement, are very considerable, and should not be increased without caution.

(True Extract.)

Acting Chief Secretary.

To the President of the Municipal Commission, Madras.

„ Collector of Madras.

„ Revenue Department.

„ Public Works Department.

Exd. J. Wright.

Madras, 5th April 1871

G.M. 128.

From

J. O. Koch Esq.
Offg. President
Municipal Commission,
Madras.To, The Honble R. S. Ellis, C.B.
Chief Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George.

Sir, Pursuant to the provisions of Section 18 of the Madras Municipal Act of 1867, I have the honor to forward herewith for publication in the Fort Saint George Gazette, a Statement of Receipts and Disbursements on account of this Municipality from the close of the past year up to the 28th of February last together with the Minutes of the Proceedings of the General Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 31st ultimo, at which the same was approved of.

I have to solicit the especial attention of Government to

Govt of 118711 30 APR 1871.

PUBLIC.

To

THE PRESIDENT OF THE
MUNICIPAL COMMISSION,Madras,
&c., &c., &c.

Dated May, 20th.

Recd.

Ans.

G. O., 20th May 1871, No. 675

MAY.
Nos. 86-87.

Directing that the Minutes of the Proceedings of the General Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 31st March, with the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for January and February last, be published in the Gazette, and certain remarks offered with reference to the proposal to light Madras with gas.

to a proposal to light Madras with Gas, which was one of the subjects discussed at the Meeting, and with regard to which the following Resolution was passed by the Commissioners. *Text:-*

That with reference to the draft memo of Agreement forwarded by Messrs King and Stephens ^{and Taylor} through Messrs. W. C. Dornell & Co. on the subject of establishing Gas Works in Madras, referred to a Committee for report at the General Meeting held on the 31st January 1871, the Commissioners, approve of the Committee's recommendation and authorized the President to forward the draft Agreement to Government and inform them that they are disposed to look favorably upon the proposals made by Messrs King and Stephens ^{and Taylor} subject to certain modifications in the rates they proposed for public and private

218
private lights, but that before proceeding to discuss these with them they are desirous of ascertaining the views of Government on the subject and more especially with reference to the concession they seek from Government and the Municipality."

3. In pursuance of the above resolution I now beg to forward the draft of the Agreement specifying the terms on which Messrs. Stephens, King & Taylor and ~~proposed~~ to establish Gas Works in Madras. These do not differ materially, with one exception, from those contained in a proposal made by the same Gentlemen on the 12th December 1865, on which Government passed an order in the Public Works Department N^o 3832 on the 1st December 1866 approving generally of the scheme.

The

4. The exception referred to above is that in their former proposal there was no mention made of the Gas Works in the Fort being taken over by them whereas in the one now submitted it is proposed that they should do so. They would appear to have added this condition with reference to para 6 of the Order of Government No 3832 already referred to.

5. The Commissioners are unanimously of opinion that it is very desirable Gas should be used in the public lights of the town, if it can be supplied at such a price as will enable them to apply it to any considerable number of lamps. The cost per annum of a single light as given in the first schedule of the draft agreement, even if a disadvantage were taken of the proviso attached to clause 4, is too high to allow of their doing this, but they have reason to

378
to believe that Messrs Stephenson King and Taylor are prepared to accept lower terms not only for public but also for private lights than those named in the draft agreement.

6. As it would be premature for the Commissioners to enter into negotiations with them on the subject of a reduction in the price to be charged for Gas, without having previously ascertained the views of Government in regard to the proposal generally and more especially with respect to the concessions which Messrs Stephenson King & Taylor ask for at the hands of Government and the Municipality, the Commissioners request that they may be favoured with these, and would respectfully request that in the event of Government being disposed to grant all or any of the concessions sought

ought for, they will make
their doing so contingent
on the Municipality being
able to come to terms with
them.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Most Obedient Servt.,

John C. Koch.

Offg. President
Municipal Commission.

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gas and they desire that any grants by Government of the concessions sought by these gentlemen may be made contingent on the result of negotiations to be opened regarding the proposed rates for public lights.

3 The concessions asked for from Government are

(I) The grant of exclusive privilege to the proposed Company in respect of the supply of gas.

(II) The grant of a site for gas works near Birghall's Station.

(III) The transfer of the Port Gas works at a valuation.

(IV) The exemption of plant, materials and Gas from Customs duties.

A The use of Gas in the Presidency city is a purely municipal

municipal question, with which the Government will not interfere. If the Company should come to terms with the Municipality, the Government would not decline to grant a site for the Gas works if one can be selected without prejudice to the health and convenience of the citizens, and conformably to the wishes of the Municipal Commission. But the Government desires that the Municipal Commission will carefully consider with reference to the rates for public lights, which might be arrived at, in consultation with the promoters of the Scheme, when the Municipal resources are in such a condition as to justify the assumption of

of additional burdens.
 Though the Commissioners
 are not bound to take the
 law, they will no doubt
 find themselves constrained
 to do so, should the Com.
 proceed to commence its opera-
 tions. The exhibition which
 the Commissioners have as-
 signed and intend to assume,
 in connection with the water-
 works, the proposed market,
 and other projects of improve-
 ment, are very considerable
 and should not be commenced
 without caution.

LD

The Resident Municipal Council
 Collection of Madras
 Revenue Department
 Public Works Department

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter
 Appointing Resident of the bank
 Commission, Madras, 4th April 1870
 N. 78.

Order thereon April 1870 N.

See note at End.

J. D. S.

N.

Ordered that the minutes
 of the proceedings of the general
 meeting of the Municipal Com-
 mission held on the 1st March,
 be published, with the statement
 of receipts and disbursements,
 in the Fort St. George Gazette.
 2. The Commission
 regarding expression of the
 views of the Municipal Council
 proposed, now under con-
 sideration, and the Municipal
 Council, for lighting the streets with
 gas. The Commission that the
 grant by Government of the
 concessions

And we could only give
a monopoly of gas Substr.
& custom - 100

The first would require
an act of the Legislature. As
to the second, the Government
believes that the land referred
to is now taken up for the
purpose of a park. The collector
of Shadish will report on the
point. The third will be
considered in the Public Works
Department. The statements
of the Supreme Government
will be ascertained as regards
the demand and supply of
another subject.

His Excellency the Governor
in Council is therefore not in
a position to pass final
order at present. He resolves
to instruct to the Municipal
Commissioners that he is
generally favorable to the
scheme and to authorize them
to enter into communication
with the promoters on the
subject.

Better say. The
Comm^{rs} are at liberty
to arrange what.

I do not like the
character of this
arrangement - but
must take the
fact - the Municipi-
cality & for this
need not take it -

The basis should be
for part of the Mun-
cicipality to
take a certain
quantity, on a
fixed minimum.

- The President Municipal Commission^{ers}
- Collector of Shadish.
- Revenue Department.
- Public Works Department.

subject of the proposed rates.
The Government will make
their action in the matter con-
tingent on the Municipality
being able to come to terms
with the promoters on the
understanding that any re-
duction which may be allowed
in favor of the Commissioners
shall be referred to Govern-
ment, and that a proportion-
ate adjustment shall be made
in the rates for the supply of
gas to private consumers.

Handwritten initials/signature.

This would enable
the C^o to collect on
a certain amount
of allowed custom & the

Cont. of 1871 } 20 pages.

Public

To

The Rev. Mr. L. G. Brown
Madison
Va.

Dated May 20 }
Recd. 1871, No. 679.

Nos. 88. 87.

Directing that the Minutes
of the Pres. of the Genl.
Meeting of the General Assn.
on the 31st March, with the
Statement of receipts and
disbursements for January
& February last, be published
in the Liberator, and contain
remarks appended with re-
ference to the proposal to
publish such as will find.

This should be
circulated.

L & P