

City Hall, City of Lodi
Thursday, September 25th., 1924

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees convened by order of the President at the hour of 7.30 o'clock^{P. M.} on the above date, Trustees, Hale, Mettler, Shattuck and Spooner present; Trustee Roach, although notified, was unable to be present.

President Spooner stated that the purpose of this meeting was to inquire into statements made in "The Lodi News" of September 22nd., 1924 in a report of a sermon delivered on September 21st by Reverend Benjamin Smith at the Christian Church in which it was alleged that "two officials of the City of Lodi were present Thursday night while gambling was going on in the very house that had been raided a few nights before".

The President stated that if this was a fact, he personally desired, and felt that it was a consensus of the opinion of all members of the Board that the persons having knowledge of this act, co-operate with the Board in proving or dis-approving the charge, assuring the accusers, that if the misfeasance of these two un-named officials of the City were proven, that the guilty persons would be discharged. The matter now before the Trustees was to determine in what way to secure this co-operation and a substantiation of the charges made ^{of} or their falsness, it now placing all City Officers and Officials in the light of being frequenters of gambling places.

On motion of Trustee Shattuck, seconded by Trustee Mettler, the following resolution as prepared by the City Attorney, was introduced, passed and adopted :-

- RESOLUTION -

WHEREAS, certain statements or charges have been recently made in the City of Lodi to the effect that certain public officials or police officers of said City were present at a certain gambling house in said City of Lodi on Thursday, September 18th., 1924 (being the gambling house where arrests were made on September 15th., 1924) and that during the presence of said officials or police officers, gambling was conducted and that no arrests were made therefore; and whereas said accusation reflects upon said officials and amounts to a charge against them of maffesance in office;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of said City of Lodi be, and the same is hereby called, and shall be had, on Monday the 29th day of September, 1924, commencing at the hour of eight o'clock in the afternoon of said day at the usual meeting place of said Board to-wit, at the council chambers of said Board at the City Hall in said City of Lodi, for the purpose of inquiring into the truth of said charges and statements, and a proceeding is hereby commenced and instituted by said Board of Trustees for such purpose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following named persons be subpoenaed, to appear before said Board of Trustees, on September 29th., 1924, commencing at eight o'clock in the afternoon of said day, as witnesses and to give testimony concerning the truth or falsity of said charges and statements and concerning any matter to be inquired into at any meeting or adjournment thereof; namely Benjamin Smith, C.C. Litter, Forrest Pelton, H.L. Stephens, J.E. Hopkins and H.M. Leete.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the president and clerk of said Board of Trustees are hereby directed to issue a subpoena or subpoenas, commanding the attendance of said witnesses at the said meeting, to-wit, on September 29th., 1924 at eight o'clock in the afternoon of said day, under seal of said City of Lodi, and that said subpoena or subpoenas be served by the marshal of said City of Lodi or by his deputy upon each of the said witnesses.

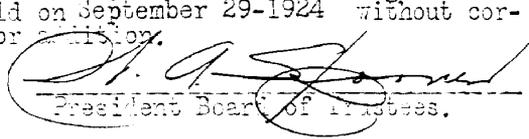
The foregoing resolution was passed and adopted by the following vote:-

AYES: Trustees, Shattuck, Mettler, Hale and Spooner.
 NOES: Trustees, None.
 ABSENT: Trustee Roach.

On motion of Trustee Shattuck, seconded by Trustee Mettler, the Board adjourned.

Attest: 
 City Clerk.

The foregoing minutes were read and approved as read at a special meeting of the board held on September 29-1924 without correction or addition.


 President Board of Trustees.