

August sixth, eighteen hundred and fifty-three, the Board adopted an official seal, and the City Council, at a subsequent date, adopted the same, substituting the words "City of Oakland" for "Town of Oakland."

August twenty-seventh, Mr. Carpentier notified the Board that in pursuance of his contract with the city he had expended about twenty thousand dollars on wharves, and that he was prepared to make further outlay, but deemed it unnecessary. At the same time he proposed to abandon the collection of wharfage, provided the Board of Trustees would undertake to perpetually keep all the wharves in good order and repair. The proposition was not accepted by the Board.

At this time there was a demand on the part of many of the people that the water front property should be recovered from Carpentier by legal process, the action of the Board of Trustees having been denounced and considered by many to be illegal, if not dishonest. The popular element was not represented until after the incorporation of the city and the election of the second Council, under the Charter of eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

The corporate existence of the City of Oakland began March twenty-fifth, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, at which date an Act incorporating the city was approved by the Governor. At the election for corporate officers, held immediately thereafter, three hundred and sixty-eight votes were cast, and the following officers were elected: Mayor, H. W. Carpentier; City Marshal, John Hogan; City Clerk, J. R. Dungleinson; Assessor, J. S. Tubbs; Councilmen—E. Gallagher, A. D. Eames, J. Kelsey, Geo. M. Blake, W. C. Josselyn, A. Marier. This Council had before it the important work of passing the first ordinances for a city rising in importance and having before it a future then deemed most bright and promising.

April ninth, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, the first message of the Mayor, H. W. Carpentier, was transmitted to the Council, and is the most comprehensive document of the kind recorded in the archives of the city. After dwelling at great length upon the local legislation which should be taken, and