

## RAINIER BUILDS A TOWN HALL

June 6, 1891.....

For these first five years since becoming an incorporated Town, the Board of Trustees had met in the Blanchard & Muckle Store and at the home of Dean Blanchard or where ever they got together.

Now they decided they needed a town hall and W.H.King and W.J.Deitz of their group were appointed to locate a suitable lot for building.

At their next meeting in July, the lot committee reported and a lot was chose in the Moeck Addition for the price of \$100. A committee of W.H.King and J.E.Brou was appointed to draw up plans and make an estimate for a building 20 X 30 X 14 f

On August 1st the plan committee reported and their plan was accepted, and bids were to be called for. They met again a week later and there were four bids to be considered, namely..... J.E.Brouse \$435 ....A.L.Richardson \$590... Bearce & Perry \$535...Louis A Carpenter..\$460. After discussing the matter, the Board decided that they would discard the bids and build the hall themselves. Our Board of Trustees were...Geo.F.Moeck... President

Joseph Smith	Recorder W.J.Muckle
W.J.Deitz	Treasurer Dean Blanchard
J.E.Brouse	Marshal J.J.Braim
W.H.King	

Some changes were allowed in the plan and when the Trustees met again in September at a special meeting to pay the building bills we find these paid;

J.E.Brouse for foundation stone.....	\$40.00
Smith & Sons for lumber .....	123.76
J.J.Braim for sash and doors .....	36.07
hauling sand .....	5.00

And on November 23 1891 H.B.Hedges..163.00 for building the hall.

Now they had a <sup>TOWN</sup>city hall and in the following year our Town Fathers began to discuss a Town Jail. In December of 1892 they called for sealed bids for erection of a jail 16 X 20 feet, adjoining the city hall and continuous with roof. In February of 1893 the bids for jail building were rejected and the matter laid on the table. The new jail building was discussed again in meeting of May 1st and on May 8th bids were received from..A.L.Richardson \$395 and Wm. Doublebower for \$400. Jail was added to Town Hall.

Crowded conditions in the little white schoolhouse on the hill made it necessary to erect a new school and George Moeck gave the school district the present site of the elementary school, across the road, east of the new town hall.

In September of 1894 W.M.Perry asked the city if the Trustees would let the school use the town hall for school purposes, for two months time.

In March of 1896, the Marshal was instructed to put sash locks on windows and to board up under hall porch to store wood and to keep the hall clean. And in July of 1897 the Recorder was ordered to see that a water closet be installed in the Town Hall. And in January 1898 the Marshall was ordered to purchase a large Rochester light for the Town Hall.

There is a recording of the town hall being rented to a Mr. Day for dancing school...rented at times that did not interfere with town business.

1904 The new school proved too small for the growing number of pupils so the building had to be enlarged by four more rooms. The school board again asked the Trustees of the town for the use of the Town Hall. And on Feb. 1 1904 the town election was held in the Doherty building down town. Again in August 1904, the school board asked for use of the city hall while school construction was going on and this was granted as long as no Town business was interfered with.

Those who were pupils ~~of~~ during the use of the Town Hall can remember the grunts and the calls made by the drunks held in the jail in back.

In August of 1906, the school again asked to use the Town Hall for a short while and it was granted.

The Town hall was too far from the center of the business district... too far for the Town Marshal to attend his patients in the jail, so in April of 1907 the Trustees decided to put the Town Hall up for sale. *And just too small for present needs -*

In a special election of August 1908 that revised the Town Charter, a change was made in our system of town government.

Rainier becomes now a CITY with an elected Mayor and six Councilmen with various appointed committees.....

On April 3rd meeting of our CITY COUNCIL in 1909, selling the old town hall and securing a lot in a more favorable location was discussed, and on another meeting in April 14th, Lot 1 Blk 17 was suggested for a new City Hall and to house a fire station.

April 28th 1909 Old Town Hall sold at public auction to M. Ellis for the sum of \$925.00

Note..This town hall is the same building that has been remodeled and is now the home of the Assembly of God Church.