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—from the files of the Capitol Hill Beacon

During the same month a contract with the American-LaFrance fire engine company was made for a combination chemical engine and hose wagon costing \$1,350, or exactly \$1,000 more than the first layout had cost. In September, 1909 an ordinance granting a franchise to Oklahoma Gas and Electric company for installation of the street lights was passed and read in part:

“Such lights will be all-night lights and burn each and every night except the three full moon nights of each lunar season when said lights will not be required to burn unless stormy or cloudy.”

Lights in the town hall, jail and fire station were to be furnished without charge by the company.

Capitol Hill citizens presented a petition to the board in **November, 1909** for the purpose of calling an election to become a city of first class, providing a form of government and re-districting the wards and to change the name of the town. The petition was referred to the city attorney. Annexation to Oklahoma City was completed before action on the petition was made,

During the month Capitol Hill’s board of trustees again considered annexation with Oklahoma City voting on **November 17, 1909** to institute suit “against the necessary parties to prevent the consolidation of Capitol Hill with Oklahoma City.” The motion carried unanimously.

Oklahoma City had called such an election of its citizens for **December 6, 1909**.

Capitol Hill’s board of trustees, meeting on that same day, apparently had by that time changed their mind on the annexation question. A motion was placed before the board asking that the attorneys be instructed to halt action in the suit. On roll call the motion carried. After this action the following resolution was passed.

Mike Donnelly said there was a vote by Capitol Hill citizens in a Town meeting. He said there were about 300 registered and the vote was 117 to 80 in favor of annexation.

“A resolution endorsing the annexation of Capitol Hill, Oklahoma, to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma:

“Be it resolved by the president and the board of trustees that we hereby endorse the annexation of Capitol Hill to Oklahoma City in accordance with the petition now before the city council of Oklahoma City.”

Attorneys of Capitol Hill were then instructed to work in connection with the town board relative to bringing about consolidation of Oklahoma City and Capitol Hill.

In the election held by Oklahoma City to determine annexation of Capitol Hill, the vote was recorded as 1,407 for annexation and 188 opposing.

Capitol Hill residents were not allowed to take part in this voting.

Capitol Hill old timers still recall many of the problems faced by the struggling town government. Too, opinion is still divided on many points, though the decision long ago was reached.

Residents of the day showed high interest in their city government and every meeting of the board was attended by every citizen who could reach the meeting hall.

They crowded inside the hall until every inch of space had been taken, and then they stood outside on the long stair steps in a line packed solid from ground floor to the door of the second story hall.

So ended the six-year span of Capitol Hill as a separate city. A final meeting of the board of trustees was held on January 19, 1910 when records of the minutes reveal the board had little left in way of unfinished business. In that meeting a committee was appointed to audit all books and accounts of the town of Capitol Hill and deliver them to Oklahoma City.

