

Mr. Putnam said that Mr. Abbott had telegraphed in reply to his despatch that the officials of the road would be able to be here and meet the committee next Tuesday afternoon. If it would be convenient for the committee to meet these gentlemen then he trusted they would feel inclined to do so. He would urge again upon the committee that every person who bids for this property should make known, frankly and freely, who they represent, and that the bids may be simultaneous.

Mr. Marr asked if it was practicable to get in all the other offers by next Tuesday.

The Mayor stated his inability to answer the questions. He could not see any idea or sense in delaying.

Mr. Marr explained that the reason for his motion was to enable other parties, in pursuance to the wish of Mr. Putnam, to come in here and present their bids.

Mr. Noyes moved the passage of the following order :

Ordered, That the Mayor be requested to give notice that the committee will receive proposals for the sale or lease of the city's interest in the Portland and Ogdensburg road on Tuesday next, at 3 o'clock; and it is requested that all persons making bids shall be prepared at that time to inform the committee what interests they represent.

Mr. Noyes, in explanation of his order, said the majority of railroad interests centre in one or two cities. He cited the great roads centering in New York and Boston, and showed how quickly this proposal for bids, if sent out by the Associated Press, would reach the offices of the Great Trunk lines. In his opinion this would be amply sufficient.

Mr. McAleney was in favor of a longer extension of time in which to receive bids. Such short notice would not be sufficient for the railroads of the country to investigate the matter.

At this juncture Mr. Putnam said he wished to be understood in his position. He was not prepared to say but that they would be willing to put in a proposition and allow anyone to put in another at a future time, but his impression was they would wish others to make offers at the same time.

Mr. Fogg asked if any time had been fixed by the Canadian Pacific beyond which they did not care to prolong this negotiation.

Mr. Putnam said "No; he was in favor of the fullest freedom in the bids. His clients had one plan in this matter; the matter of the options in stocks and bonds and terminal facilities went along with the