

False Creek Filling Up - November 11, 1895

The City Clerk was instructed to communicate with the Marine Department with a view of getting them to make necessary dredging in False Creek "as same is rapidly filling up". A motion of support for the Chief of Police's trying to suppress the opium dens was ruled out of order by the Mayor. The next motion, to not sustain the Mayor's ruling on the matter, was eventually withdrawn.

This transcript was made in 2021 by Transcribimus volunteer Gerald Soon

Illustration: City of Vancouver Archives

Van Sc P132 Northern Northern view of False Creek Flats from Mount Pleasant

Original handwritten minutes: City of Vancouver Archives

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Vancouver November 11th 1895

The Council met on Monday November 11th 1895

Present – His Worship, the Mayor and Aldermen Shaw, Coupland, Queen, Gallagher, McPhaiden, Clandenning, Brown, Sanders, Bethune and McDonald

The Minutes of last regular and special meetings were read and adopted.

Communications

From E. Elworthy, Victoria forwarding copies of the B.C. Board of Trade Report.

Acknowledge and filed

From A.S. Ross asking that the earth dumped on the lane in rear of the Lefevre Block be removed.

Referred to the Bord of Works

From F. S. Barnard, Managing Director of the Con Ry & Light Co notifying the Council his company cannot permit or consent to any reduction or alteration from the terms of the original contract under which they light the streets of the City.

Referred to the Water & Light Committee

From Thos C. Gray and Harvie Robertson offering to lease the Market if it is turned over to the City.

Referred to the F.M.& P. Committee

From James McGeer again asking that the seat of James W Alderman Queen be declared vacant. Filed

From the Chief of Police reporting on the electric lights.
Filed

From F.S. Barnard protesting against the awarding of a contract for lighting the City

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without tenders being invited.
Referred to the Water & Light Committee

From C.D. Crandall, Chairman of the Western Light, Heat, and Power Co. stating that his company was preferred to proceed at on with the contract for lighting the City on the terms outlined in the resolution passed by the Council on the 9th of September 1895
Referred to the Water & Light Committee

From Mason & Co asking for time to connect the premises 1034 Nelson Street with the sewers.
Referred to the Health Committee

From J. Miller declining to accept the proposition made by the Council to the sureties of A. M. Beattie on the Market lease and proposing that two men be chosen one by the City and one by them and abide by their decision

Moved by Alderman Brown
Seconded by " Bethune
That the City Solicitor be instructed to make a written offer to the sureties on the lines indicated by the Council at their special meeting.
Carried

From W.F. Salsbury etal asking for a sidewalk on Hornby Street

Moved by Alderman Shaw
Seconded by " Coupland
That tenders be called for the construction of a six foot sidewalk on the east side of Hornby Street between Hastings and Pender Streets.
Lost

From F. S. Barnard stating that instructions were given to the Street railway conductors to see that the gates were kept carefully kept closed on the Granville Street bridge and if such was done

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there would be no possibility of an accident

Moved by Alderman Brown
Seconded by " Shaw
That a bond be obtained from the Company guaranteeing the City against all loss or damage.
Laid over for one week to allow the City Solicitor to look into the matter.

The following Reports were received and read:-

Fire Market & Police Committee

The Fire Market & Police Committee met on Saturday November 9th at 10 A.M.
Present – Aldermen Gallagher, Coupland, McPhaiden and Sanders

The following tenders were received and considered for blankets

Cope & Young 5 lb blankets \$1.90 per pair

“ “ 6 “ “ 2.25 “ “

McLeod & Cook 5 “ “ 1.65 “ “

“ “ 6 “ “ 2.00 “ “

“ “ 7 “ “ 2.55 “ “

Resolved that the tender of Messrs McLeod & Cook be accepted for supplying 6 lb blankets @ \$2.00 per pair

Overcoats for Police

Wm Murphy \$25.00 each

D. Evans for Chief 25.

“ Sgt & Constable 22.each

If tweed lining is desired \$2.00 to be added to the above tender of D. Evans.

Resolved that Mr. Evans tender be accepted, the lining to be examined.

Gum Boots

G.S. McCorwell Short boots \$2.75

“ “ “ Knee boots 3.25

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G.S. McCorwell Hip Boots \$4.00

Resolved that his tender be accepted if the goods are found satisfactory on examination.

Pants

Kent & Murray \$5.00 & \$5.50

Mortimer Bros 5.50

Wm Murphy 5.00

None of the tenders were accepted

Helmets

Wm Murphy List price as in Kearn’s Catalogue with freight and duty added

Laid over until catalogue is examined

Resolved that the City Clerk be instructed to call for tenders for pants for the firemen, 4 mackintoshes for the police and eight rubber coats for the Fire Department; also horse blankets and rubber blankets Samples to be furnished with tenders.

Tenders to be in by Thursday next at 4 p.m.

Communications

From the Chief of Police recommending that the salary of night watchman Purdy be increased. Resolved that his salary be increased \$5.00 per month dating from the 1st of November and that he be furnished with a mackintosh.

From J. W. Johnston asking for the same salary as the Chief of Police while he acted in that capacity Laid over

From John McLaren stating that his wife had turned all the police clothing in his possession Resolved that the City Council be notified that Messrs McLaren, Haywood and McLeod have not turned in their Mackintoshes and overcoats

From A. Blayney quoting prices for Canadian

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Anthracite Coal.

Resolved that he be asked to quote special rates on carloads lots for nut and stove coal

From W.G. Armstrong, Warden of the New Westminster Gaol rendering an account for boarding prisoners. Laid over

From the Gutta Percha & Rubber Mfg Co stating that they had shipped 200 feet of new hose to replace defective lengths. Filed

From the Chief of Police stating that 3 overcoats 3 rain coats and 2 pairs of hand cuffs were required. Filed

From the City Engineer stating that Fire Hall No 1 had been plastered well but was not as straight as it might be. Filed

sgd W.H.Gallagher
Chairman

Moved by Alderman Coupland

Seconded by " Gallagher

That the Report be amended by adding a clause to authorize the calling for tenders for gum boots and

two pieces of duct 12 x 12
Carried

Moved by Alderman Coupland
Seconded by " Gallagher
That the Report as amended be adopted.
Carried

Health Committee

The Health Committee met on Wednesday November 6th 1895.
Present – the full Board

Communications

From Mason & Co asking that the owner of Block 8.D.L. 185 be allowed until next spring to make connection with the sewers as he is not

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in a position financially to do so now.
Resolved that the request be not granted.

From the Milk Inspector reporting milk tests for the month.
Filed

From Miss Macfie stating that J. Blum who was recently sent to the Old Soldier's home in California owed the hospital \$325 for board and nursing.
Resolved that the City Clerk be instructed to communicate with the American Consul with a view of making an arrangement for the payment of this amount out of monies coming to Blum for pension.

From Miss Macfie furnishing monthly report.
Filed.

From the City Engineer reporting that the Verandah on the east side of the old hospital was in a decayed condition but that the west one was fairly good.
Resolved that he be instructed to prepare plans and specifications for the erection of a new one on the east side and that the City Clerk be instructed to call for tenders for having the work done.

From the Chairman of the Committee reporting having visited the premises of Wm Fraser, the Slaughter houses, Pound house and Crematory and of having given instructions to have any existing nuisances abated.
Filed.

From the Plumbing Inspector reporting having issued 22 permits for the plumbing of 27 houses and that 13 had been connected; also asking for amendments to the Plumbing By-Law.

He submitted a copy of the proposed changes
The Clerk was instructed to have copies struck off for each alderman.

From the Health Inspector furnishing report.
Filed

The City Clerk reported that Harry Lee, J. Hagelberg

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and D. McArthur who had contracts for clearing on the Cemetery grounds had left the City leaving said contracts in an unfinished condition
Resolved that their contracts be cancelled.

From Messrs Brister, Wm Jones and A.J. Kennedy asking for the clearing of an acre on the cemetery ground.

Resolved that Jones and Kennedy be awarded Section 16 in conjunction and Mr Buster Section 17 and that the City Clerk have contracts drawn up fixing the time for completion on the 1st of March next;

The following accounts were recommended for payment:-

C.B.Lockhart Burial \$4.45
News.Advertiser Supplies 6.60
G.I. Wilson " 30.78
W.H. Mason " 26.36
Wm Ralph " 2.50
H. Kersey Work 3.50
Champion & White Supplies 4.00
J.C. Woodrow " 1.05
W. J. McGuigan Inquests 20.
Weeks & Robson Supplies 3.
Chas. Nelson " 3
J.W. Smith Washing 50.52
J.C. Woodrow Supplies 31.37
C.F. Foreman " 83.90
C. Nelson " 46.83

sgd D. McPhaiden
Chairman

Moved by Alderman McPhaiden
Seconded by " Brown
That the Report be adopted.
Carried.

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Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Friday November 8th 1895
Present – Aldermen Bethune, Coupland, Gallagher and Brown.

The following accounts were recommended for payment :-

C.P Telegraph Co \$1.00
Clarke & Stuart Supplies \$7.70
A St. G. Hammersley Disbursements 7.15
W.H. Hooper “ 23.60
Crowder & Penzer Supplies 21.82
A Blayney “ 10.00
H. McGuigan Disbursements .25
Bank of Montreal Express .80
Telephone Co Rents 32.90

Communications

From E. Mackin, Secretary of the Free Library asking for \$1000 to pay for books purchased
Resolved that the City Treasurer be instructed to deposit that amount to the credit of the Board

From Messrs Davis, Marshall, Maneill and Abbott, Solicitors for I. W. Haywood serving a writ on the City
on his behalf. The claim is for \$640 salary and wrongful dismissal
Referred to the City Solicitor to enter an appearance for the City

From R.H. Cooke stating that he could go over and assess all new buildings up to Nov 30 1895 for \$50.00
Filed

From F. Elworthy, Secretary of the B.C. Board of Trade sending advance copy of the Board's Report for
the year.
Filed

From O Evan Thomas asking Council to protect his property and prevent his advertisements from being
torn down.
Referred to the City Solicitor to enquire into

sgd Alex Bethune
Chairman

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Moved by Alderman Bethune
Seconded by “ Brown
That the Report be adopted.
Carried

Board of Works

The Board of Works met on the 7th of November 1895.

Present – the Full Board

Mr. Holt applied to the Board for permission to build an iron and glass extension at the rear of the Dunn Block, the same to have Mansard roof in accordance with Section 9 of the Fire Limit By-Law
Permission granted subject to a proper plan being deposited in the City Engineer's office

Communications

From J.Z. Hall re electric pole in the way in front of lot 15 D 23 D.L. 196
Resolved that the Electric Light Co be requested to have the pole moved to one side.

From Mr Thomson, Manager Hudson's Bay Co agreeing to pay \$6.00 towards lumber for crossing on Water Street.
Filed for reference

From W. F. G. Thynne re crossing etc on Burrard St where Dunsmuir intersects
Resolved that if Mr Thynne supplies the lumber, the Ward men will be instructed to put same down.

From Wm Farrell agreeing to pay \$100 towards the cost of putting a 6 ft walk on trail at Denman Street
Filed for reference

From F. S. Barnard re the gates etc of the Street Ry Co on Granville Street Bridge

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Referred back to the Council for decision

From Fred Allen re opening up the portion of Bidwell Street North of Georgia Street to give him access to his warehouse
Referred to the Engineer to have the chain gang go out there at once.

From W.F. Salsbury etal asking for a 6 ft sidewalk on Hornby Street one block between Hastings & Pender Streets
Referred to the Council for decision

In re paving of portions of Pender, Richards & Seymour Street which weather was referred back to the Board for reconsideration it was resolved as follows:-

That this Board recommends that the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare a By-Law under the Local Improvement Plan for the wood block paving of the two blocks on Richards Street between Cordova & Pender Streets and the two blocks on Seymour Street between Cordova & Pender Streets it being proposed to substitute concrete foundation for cedar planks and to lease out the Pender Street portion for the present.

The Engineer reported that he had seen the C.P.R. engineer re the planking of their track where same crosses Hastings Street.

Re the matter of Mr Davis' fence which is said to encroach on Thurlow Street, the Board recommends that the carrying out of the resolution already passed in the Council relating to the matter.

The following tenders were received and opened

Six Ft Sidewalk on Denman Street
McCurdie & Dickey 11 ½¢ per ft
D.K. Campbell 17" " "

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H. Graham 15¢ per ft
Denton & Sheridan 12 " " "
T Powell 12 ½ " " "
J.D. Fraser 14 " " "

Resolved that the tender of A. McCurdy & R Dickie be recommended for acceptance and that the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign same and attach the City Seal in the usual corner

The following accounts were recommended for payment:-

J. Watt & Co Robson Street \$200.00
E. Clough 2.50
Thos Dunn & Co. 11.11
Van Hardware Co. 13.10
Evans, Coleman & Evans 88.30
Con Ry & L. Co 5.
B.C. Iron Works Co 3.30
The World P & P Co 5.52
News.Advertiser 4.20
Crowder & Penzer Labor 377.65

sgd H.P. Shaw
Chairman

Moved by Alderman Brown
Seconded by " Clandenning
That the Clause in reference to the paving of portions of Richards and Seymour Streets be laid over until next Council.
Carried

Moved by Ald Shaw
Seconded by Ald Clandenning
That the Report be amended and adopted.
Carried

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Motions

Moved by Alderman Bethune

Seconded by " Brown

That the City Clerk write Mr Jordan Victoria and ask what he will sell and deliver coal in January and ask what he will sell, and deliver coal in Vancouver for providing Wharfage accommodation is given him.

Carried

Moved by Alderman Coupland

Seconded by " B Sanders

That this Council does thoroughly approve of the Chief of Police in trying to break up the opium dens in this City.

Motion ruler out of order by the Mayor

Moved by Alderman Gallagher

Seconded by " Coupland

That the ruling of the Mayor be not sustained re the resolution referring to the suppression of the opium dens

Motion Withdrawn.

Moved by Alderman Bethune

Seconded by " Clandenning

That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to affix the seal of the City and execute a release of the Mortgage of Geo Carscollen dated 27th day of November 1893.

Carried

Moved by Alderman McPhaiden

Seconded by " Brown

That the City Clerk be instructed to communicate with the Marine Department with a view of getting them to make necessary dredging in False Creek as same is rapidly filling up.

Carried.

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Moved by Alderman Brown.

Seconded by " McDonald

That the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare a contract between the City and the Western Electric Heat and Power Company in pursuance of the resolution of the Council of the 9th of September last and that a special meeting be balled to consider the same after it is drawn up. Carried

The Council then adjourned.

Henry Collins

Mayor

Thos F McGuigan

City Clerk