

City street lighting quality called into question – September 10, 1888

J. Humphries, chairman of the Board of Works reports "That the present electric light for street lighting is a humbug and expensive and would recommend...a more modern and economical system of electric light for street lighting." Mrs. Roberts appointed hospital matron at \$60 per month. Medical Association suggested regulations for the medical staff at the hospital.

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[original handwritten minutes here](#)

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Vancouver September 10th 1888

The Council met on Monday September 10th 1888 at 7:30 P. M.

Present His Worship Mayor Oppenheimer, Aldermen Brighthouse, Clark, Couth, Dougall, Humphries and Oppenheimer.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

Communications

From J. J. Blake, City Solicitor re the claim of Walter Dufour for a refund of \$20.00 on Auctioneer's License. Filed.

From J. J. Blake re Congregational Church property. Filed.

From J. J. Blake re the closing of park on Forbes Street. Referred to Board of Works.

From John M. Browning re the Lease of the Recreation Grounds. Referred to Finance Committee.

From T. T. Black claiming \$150.00 for cost for sitting on cases under the Indian Liquor Act. Referred to City Solicitor with instructions to report to Finance Committee.

From Deputy Attorney General re Indian Liquor Fines. Referred to City Solicitor.

From J. J. Tierney et al asking for the use of the City Hall for holding meeting. Granted.

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From E. Crow Baker asking for extra compensation for Lot sold to the City. Referred to the Board of Works with power to Act.

From J. W. McFarland Secretary of Vancouver Water Works Co making a proposition regarding the placing of hydrants and the supply of water for the City. Referred to F. W. & L. Committee.

From Department of the Interior re the Fore shore rights on False Creek. Filed.

From T. M. Merrill et al praying that a street be opened up Southward from Seventh Avenue to City Boundary. Referred to Board of Works.

From W. J. Stanley asking permission to erect a Directory in the corner of Carrall and Cordova Streets. Referred to Board of Works.

From Robert Watson et al asking that Hornby Street between Drake and Pacific be opened up full width. Referred to the Board of Works.

From the Secretary of Vancouver Electric Illuminating Co declining to extend their present contract for two months on the same terms as at present. Referred to F. W. & L. Committee.

From Alderman Coldwell asking for six weeks leave of absence. Granted.

From Sentell Bros re the filling up of Hastings Street. Referred to Board of Works.

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From E. Stevenson et al praying that the City Market be erected on Lots 1 to 10 Block 12, District Lot 196. Laid over.

Accounts

The following accounts were read and referred to their respective Committees.

Campbell and Martin \$9.45
Vancouver Drug Co 35.50
Electric Illuminating Co 192.75
Charles Nelson 9.15
News Advertiser 27.05
Hy. Arkell 20.37
Thos. Dunn & Co 126.34
Stevens & Son 228.90
E. McDonald 23.00
G. L. Allan 3.25
Royal City Planing Mills Co 395.74
W. J. Smith .50 cts
Moodyville Saw Mill Co 34.82
Telephone Co. 37.00

Thomson Bros. 5.65
Hayes & McIntosh 46.18
A. Hambrook .50 cts
Henry Butler 2.50
Stikeen Joe 5.50
F. W. Hart 37.50
John Scuitto 27.06
S. T. Tilley 25.40
Tattersall's Stables 15.50
McLennan & McFeely 3.10
Van Volkenburgh & Bro 14.75
W. Beavis 2.75
John Owens 20.00

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John Stickeen 6.00
R. B. Higginson 2.00
Leask & Johnson 88.00
E. S. Scoullar & Co. 89.05
J. J. Blake .50 cts
Queen Bros. 27.00
F. X. Martin 84.48
Starrett & Leatherdale 3.00
Wharfage Co. 15.00

Reports

F. W. & L. No 17

The Fire, Water and Light Committee met on Thursday August 30, 1888 and beg to recommend:-

1. That the present system of electric lighting be tested with a view of ascertaining whether we have the candle power bargained for.
2. That the Vancouver Electric Illuminating Co be asked to extend their contract for street lighting for two months after the expiration of the present contract on the same terms.
3. That the Vancouver Water Works Co be asked to put in writing the proposition made to the Committee of the Council appointed to confer with them on the water works question and that they be requested to kindly supply a number of maps showing the position of mains throughout the City.

The regular meeting of this Committee

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has been changed to 3:30 P M instead of 4 o'clock.

Sgd., J. Humphries, Chairman

Moved by Alderman Oppenheimer seconded by Alderman Brighthouse. That the report of the Fire, Water & Light Committee be adopted. Carried.

The Chairman of the Fire, Water and Light Committee submitted the following report

3:30 o'clock

Regular hour of meeting of Fire, Water and Light Committee none of the members present except the Chairman, who beg to submit the following report for the acceptance of the Council.

I. That the Chairman has taken into consideration the location of hydrants as suggested by the Council and herewith submits a map of distribution hoping that Council will see fit to act in the matter so that the promoters of the water works can proceed with the work immediately.

II. That the present electric light for street lighting is a humbug and expensive and would recommend that the Board be authorized to enter into a contract with some company that will furnish a more modern and economical system of electric light for street lighting.

Sgd., J. Humphries, Chairman

Moved by Alderman Brighthouse seconded by Alderman Oppenheimer.

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That the report of the Chairman be laid over. Carried.

Finance No 19

The Finance Committee met on Friday August 31st and September 7th and beg to recommend:

1. That the hospital furniture be insured for \$1600 in one of the Companies represented by Mr H. T. Ceperley at a premium of 4 ½ per cent for three years.

2. That the following improvements recommended by the Board of Works be proceeded with:-

- (1) Ninth Avenue from Westminster Avenue to North Arm Road.
- (2) Seventh Avenue each about 924 feet
- (3) Dunlevy Avenue to False Creek
- (4) Jackson Avenue to False Creek
- (5) Columbia Avenue two blocks
- (6) A six foot sidewalk on Howe Street from Nelson to Helmcken
- (7) The grading of Beatty Street from Pender to Dunsmuir
- (8) The building of an approach across Georgia Street to Howe Street sidewalk.
- (9) The grading of Bute Street from Georgia to Seaton

3. That the following accounts be paid Davie & Pooley, Legal opinion \$10.00

Messrs Dunn & Ferguson having furnished a bond to the satisfaction of this Committee we have instructed

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the City Treasurer to pay them the balance of the account due Wm. Harkins for the construction of Sewers.

We recommend that a uniform complete be furnished John Clough caretaker of the City Hall.

Sgd. R. Clark, Acting Chairman

Moved by Alderman Dougall seconded by Alderman Clark. That the report of the Finance Committee be adopted. Carried.

Health No 17

The Board of Health met on Friday August 31st 1888 and beg to report that a communication has been received from the Vancouver Medical Society outlining a scheme for the appointment and organization of a medical staff for the new City Hospital.

Your Committee has considered this scheme and beg to recommend that the following rules and regulations be adopted by Council:

City Patients

1. There shall be a medical staff of five physicians who shall have charge of City Patients.
2. This Staff shall be elected by the Council from such candidates as shall made application for the appointment.
3. Their services shall be given gratuitously.

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4. Whenever the staff is reduced to four by resignation or other cause an election shall at once take place of one physician from amongst such candidates as may present themselves so as to bring the number up to five and the staff shall afterwards be maintained at the number of five by filling up vacancies by election as they occur.

5. All numbers of the medical staff must be duly registered medical practitioners of the Province of British Columbia.

6. Each number of the staff shall in succession take charge of the cases admitted into the Hospital for one week at a time and he shall retain charge of every case admitted under his care and shall be responsible for its treatment as long as such case remains in the hospital.

7. The Physician of the week shall attend daily at the hospital at certain fixed hours to be hereafter fixed by the medical staff to receive such patients as may apply for admission and to attend to outpatients

and he shall likewise attend at once upon any summons to accidents or other urgent cases received at the hospital.

8. Each Physician shall have a deputy or substitute who shall hold himself in readiness to act during the temporary or unavoidable absence of the physician in charge.

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9. The deputy or substitute shall be the physician next in order on the rota and he shall turn over any case to which he may be called to the physician of the week as soon as the latter shall be in attendance in case of the absence of the deputy or substitute physician any other member of the staff may be called upon and shall at once give his services.

10. An Attendance Book shall be kept at the hospital in which each physician shall enter the date and time of his admit and his length of stay in the hospital.

The Secretary or Clerk of the Hospital shall make monthly returns to the Council of the attendance of the physicians.

Neglect of duty on the part of any member of the medical staff shall subject such member to an admonition from the Council. In case of any gross or continued neglect any physician shall after due warning be called upon to resign his appointment or in extreme circumstances shall be subject to dismissal by the Council.

11. The Medical Staff shall constitute a body to be called the "Medical Board" who shall hold a meeting once a month for the purpose of discussing the condition and management of the hospital and of making such recommendations to the Council as the circumstances of the hospital may require, three members of which shall form a quorum.

12. The attendance of members at the meeting of the Medical Board shall in like

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manner with the medical visits be entered in the Medical Attendance book at the hospital.

13. The Clerk of the Board of Health shall notify the Medical Board whenever questions bearing on hospital matters are to come before the Board of Health and the Medical Board shall be empowered to depose two of its members to wait upon the Board of Health, for deliberative and explanatory purposes only.

Private Patients

14. Any duly qualified practitioner of the Province shall be entitled to attend at the hospital any private or paying patient whom the patient in question may select.

15. No Medical practitioner shall have a seat on the Medical Board on the ground of his attendance upon paying patients at the hospital.

16. Every physician attending upon paying patients in the hospital shall be entitled to make customary charge for his services which shall be defrayed by the patients themselves and no practitioner shall have any claim upon the hospital or City funds for any services rendered to private patients in the hospital.

C. P. R. Patients

17. The Medical officer of the C. P. R. Co shall be entitled to attendance at the hospital any such patients as may be admitted under arrangements made

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between the C. P. R. Co and the City Council.

18. The Medical Officer of the C. P. R. Co shall not be entitled to a seat on the Medical Board by reason of his attendance upon the C. P. R. patients.

19. The Steward of the hospital will keep a register of all patients admitted with the hospital and the bills due the City from paying patients to be charged and collected before leaving the hospital and all bills for C. P. R. patients shall be rendered to the C. P. R. Co and collected monthly.

Matron

Applications for the position of Matron were received from Helen L. McKeller, Mrs. A. B. Miller, Mrs Ward and Mrs Roberts.

We beg to recommend that Mrs. Roberts be appointed to the position at a salary of \$60.00 per month.

The following accounts are recommended for payment:

E. S. Scoullar & Co. \$7.50
Brown's Market 32.62
Vancouver Wine Co 17.15
F. C. Birks 19.50
Coroner Ferris 36.00
Dr. Bodington 10.00
Van Valkenburgh & Bro 3.74
Hayes & McIntosh 35.60
D. McCallum 3.00
St. Luke's Home 29.15
Dr. Bell-Irving 10.00
J. M. Stewart 3.00

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Evans Mason & Co. \$133.38

Sgd., R. Clark, Acting Chairman

Health No. 18

The Board of Health met on Friday September 7th 1888 and beg to recommend:-

1. That the following accounts be paid:

C. P. R. Co Freight on Drugs \$6.98

Vancouver Transfer Co. Livery 10.00

2. That the contracts for furnishing the new City Hospital be awarded to Jacob Sehl and Messrs McLennan and McFeely the lowest tenderers in their respective lines.

3. That the Clerk of this Board be instructed to inform the members of the Vancouver Medical Association that applications for membership on the medical staff of the new City hospital will be received by this board up to noon of Friday September 14th 1888.

4. That an audit be made of the accounts of the old city hospital to date of closing of same and that all outstanding accounts be collected.

5. That the City Clerk be instructed to furnish the new city hospital with the necessary books and stationery and that proper accounts be kept of all transactions in connection with the same.

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6. That the Board of Works be asked to fence with a closed board fence the hospital grounds forthwith.

Sgd., R. Clark, Acting Chairman

Moved by Alderman Brighthouse seconded by Alderman Oppenheimer. That the reports of the Health Committee be adopted. Carried.

Gas Fitting

The following tenders were received for putting in gas fittings in the City Hospital.

C. D. Rand \$150.00

E. S. Scoullar & Co. 150.00

McLennan & McFeely 140.00

Moved by Alderman Brighthouse seconded by Alderman Couth. That Alderman Clark and Dougall be authorized to arrange for lighting up the City Hospital. Carried.

Works No 29

The Board of Works met on Friday August 31st 1888 and beg to report that the following tenders have been received:

Hastings Street Sidewalk

Johnson & Ellison per ft 31 ½ cts
Bell & Taylor per ft 31 ½ cts
D. McAlister per ft 30 cts
F. Foubert per ft 24 ½ cts

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City Morgue

Bell & McKenzie \$495.00
James Stanford 400.00
Duncan McRae 616.00

City Hall

Bell and McKenzie
Building \$2290.00
Painting front of old hall 15.00
Yard fence per ft \$1.50
James Stanford
Building \$2090.00
Painting old hall 15.00
Yard fence Lump sum 50.00
Clarkson & Mayne
Painting front of old hall 15.00

We recommend that the contracts be awarded as follows:-

James Stanford for City Hall, Fence, Morgue and painting front of old City Hall
F. Foubert, Hastings Street Sidewalk.

We recommend:

1. That Mr. Edmonds be asked for a deed of school lots.
2. That the City Engineer be instructed to report upon the cost of laying a sidewalk on Burrard Street from Georgia Street to the School house.
3. That as James Foster has withdrawn his tender for the improvement of Dunlevy Avenue that the contract be awarded to Messrs

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Goodmurphy and McLellan the next lowest tenderers.

That a crossing be laid on the corner of Homer and Georgia Streets and a two plank sidewalk on Georgia Street west from Homer to a lane about 120 feet as prayed for by James Struthers.

That the following accounts be paid:

Joseph Dixon, estimate on school \$300.00
E. S. Scoullar & Co. Ventilators 22.00
McDonald & Cameron, Hastings Street 702.00
H. Connacher, Oppenheimer St 262.80
“ Heatley & Hawkes Av. 352.80
Goodmurphy & McLellan, School Lot 70.30
A. Bunker, Eveleigh Street 75.00
Boyd and Clandening Abbott St 571.48
Boyd and Clandening Carl Av. 610.40
James Hartney, Nelson St. 252.00
James Hartney, Section 6 Park Road 1605.60

Re Mrs. Carlson's Communication, The City Solicitor is of the opinion that the city having let the contract for the grading of Seaton Street to a contractor, such contractor is alone liable for trespassing on adjoining lands and placing the earth taken from streets thereon, unless the Corporation expressly or impliedly authorized or directed the trespass to be committed.

Sgd., S. Brighthouse, Chairman

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The Board of Works No 30

The Board of Works met on Saturday September 8th 1888 and beg to recommend:

1. That John Hurst's Salary as Park Ranger be fixed at \$50.00 per month.
2. That D. F. Adams be appointed to Superintend the construction of False Creek Bridge at a Salary of \$100.00 per month, and that he be engaged subject to immediate dismissal if necessary.
3. That D. McAlister be awarded the contract for sidewalking Hastings Street East. F. Foubert having withdrawn his tender.
4. That the City Engineer be instructed to report upon the cost of stiffening False Creek Bridge and constructing a foot walk six feet wide, on the west side thereof.
5. That the Provincial Government be asked to sink a well and supply a pump for the school house on the South Side of False Creek.
6. That Lorne Street be repaired provided the funds are forthcoming.
7. That lumber and nails be supplied to the fire engineer for the improvement of the Fire Hall.
8. That the Chairman of the Board of Works be authorized to improve Hastings Road.

9. That another fifty five hundred dollars

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10. be appropriated for the gravelling of the Park Road.

11. That a man be employed to repair streets and sidewalks where required.

12. That the following accounts be paid

Mat King Street Repairs \$15.00
James Fenton Street Repairs 15.75
James Barton Street Repairs 9.00
F. G. Melvin Street Repairs 7.00
D. McAlister Street Repairs 6.00
W. L. McDonald, Jackson Av. etc 46.40
Tierney & McDonald, 5th & 6th Av. 475.42
Hugh McDonald, Burrard St 906.40
Frank Padurano, Sixth Av. 282.40

Sgd., S. Brighthouse, Chairman

Moved by Alderman Dougall seconded by Alderman Clark. That the report of the Board of Works be adopted. Carried.

By-Laws

Alderman Clark introduced a By-Law to purchase a market site etc which was read a first time.

Alderman Clark introduced a By-Law to change the name of Dupont Street East of Westminster Avenue to Princess Street which was read a first time.

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Fire Limit By-Law

Alderman Humphries moved that the Council resume the Committee of the Whole on the By-Law to amend Fire Limits By-Law, Alderman Humphries in the Chair.

The By-Law was read clause by clause and reported to Council as complete with amendments.

The By-Law was then read a third time on motion of Alderman Clark seconded by Alderman Dougall and ordered to be signed sealed engrossed and gazetted.

Pound By-Law

Alderman Humphries introduced a By-Law to prohibit cattle, horses etc from running at large, which was read a first and second time.

Committee of Whole

The Council went into Committee of the Whole on Dog By-Law and Pound By-Law which were incorporated into one with Alderman Humphries in the Chair.

The By-Law was read clause by clause after which the Committee rose to report progress and asked leave to sit again.

Motions

Moved by Alderman Humphries seconded by Alderman Oppenheimer. That the Board of Works be empowered to purchase

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10,000 feet of 1 ½ inch lumber to be delivered as required, such lumber to be used for the construction of sidewalks or for such other purposes as the Council may direct. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Oppenheimer seconded by Alderman Brighthouse. That the Mayor and Chairman of the Finance Committee are hereby authorized to ascertain upon what terms they can negotiate a loan of \$250000 on forty year debentures for the purpose of either purchasing or constructing water works. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Brighthouse seconded by Alderman Oppenheimer. That the Board of Works ascertain the cost of making the necessary preliminary surveys for a pipe line from Coquitlam River and Seymour Creek to bring water to Vancouver. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Brighthouse seconded by Alderman Oppenheimer. That the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare a notice to be inserted in the British Columbia Gazette and the Local papers to the effect that the City of Vancouver will at the next sitting of the Legislature apply for a Charter to bring water into the City. Carried.

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Moved by Alderman Oppenheimer seconded by Alderman Brighthouse. That the Vancouver Electric Illuminating Company be asked if they can guarantee that their machinery now in use has sufficient power for lighting streets as said company proposes. Carried.

The Council then adjourned.

D. Oppenheimer, Mayor

Thos. F. McGuigan, City Clerk