

Smallpox, vaccination and quarantine house matters dominate Council agenda – May 23, 1892

The services of nurses Sister Frances (of St. Luke Home, 309 Cordova St) and Edith Lyle of the Victoria Salvation Army offered to Vancouver Council for the Small Pox Pest House (quarantine facility). Vaccination made compulsory for children of school age. "Saloons, prostitute houses, Chinese Stores, Shops and dwellings on Dupont Street from Westminster Avenue to Carrall Street were quarantined." Vancouver to pay Victoria \$33.24 for its share of the support of Darcy Island leper colony. John Lovett no longer allowed to run his cattle loose in Fairview.

This transcript was made in 2018 by Transcribimus volunteer **Anonymous**

[original handwritten minutes](#)

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Vancouver May 23, 1892.

The Council met on Monday May 23rd 1892 at 8 p.m.
Present His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen Collins, Scoullar, McGuigan, Odlum, Franklin & Gavin.
The Minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.
The following communications were received and read:

From the City Solicitor stating that a clause should be inserted in all contracts that no assignment or order can be given by the contractor in order to make the resolution of the council effected.
Filed

From the Health Inspector advising compulsory vaccination.
Moved by Alderman McGuigan
Seconded by " Odlum.
That public Vaccinators be appointed and that vaccination be made compulsory as far as children of school age in concerned and further that the appointment of Vaccinators and the fixing of the fee for same be referred to the Board of Health with power to act.
Carried

From A. L. St. George offering a vaporizer for \$12.00
Referred to Board of Health.

From the Market Clerk furnishing weekly report.
Filed

From the School Board asking for the grade of school lots.
Moved by Alderman Scoullar
Seconded by " Odlum
That the matter be referred to the City Engineer with power to act.
Carried.

From J. B. Henderson and Thos. Fitzpatrick complaining about the dangerous proximity of the pest house to their dwellings.

Moved by Alderman Odlum

Seconded by " McGuigan

That the Small Pox Pest House be removed from its present position at a date as early as possible to some place of safety sufficiently far from residences and buildings under course of construction.

Carried

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From John Devine + Son drawing attention to an assignment from W. H. Fraser.

Filed

From Alderman McCraney asking for 5 weeks leave of absence.

Moved by Alderman Gavin.

Seconded by " Scoullar.

That permission be granted.

Carried.

From the City Solicitor stating that the City had power to borrow money on the strength of taxes accruing due.

Filed

From the Secretary of the 1st of July celebration committee asking for a grant of \$2000.00

Referred to Finance Committee

From A. Cecil Green asking the Council to accept his resignation as hospital nurse.

Referred to the Health Committee with power to act

From the Rev Mr. Clinton offering the services of Sister Francis free of charge as nurse at the pest house.

Moved by Alderman Franklin

Seconded by " Odlum

That the Communication be referred to the Health Committee and the thanks of Council tendered for the generous offer.

Carried

From Geo Gagen asking for details as to the origin of the Small Pox

Referred to the Health Inspector to report by next Monday.

From B. Nunnamaker etal asking for City Water on Park Av.

Referred to the F. W + L. Committee.

From Godfrey + co offering the hose wagon for \$525.00 the terms to be \$475.00 cash and balance when mat cushion gong and two lamps are furnished

Moved by Alderman Gavin

Seconded by " Franklin

That the Communication be referred to the F. W + L. Committee
Lost.

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Moved in amendment by Alderman Scoullar

Seconded by Alderman McGuigan

That the wagon be taken over at once on the terms mentioned by Godfrey + co.

Carried

From the Chief of Police reporting on the Electric Lights.

Filed

From Capt Banks of the Salvation Army Victoria offering the Services of Edith Lyle free of charge as a small pox nurse.

Moved by Alderman McGuigan

Seconded by " Odlum

That the thanks of the Council be tendered to Capt Banks.

Carried

From A. M. Beattie offering to lease the Market for 5 years at \$100.00 per month and from Aldermen Collins + Odlum advising Council to accept the offer.

Moved by Alderman Gavin

Seconded by " Odlum

That the matter be referred to the Finance Committee to propose agreement and Submit same to Council.

Carried

The following Reports were received and read

Board of Works

The Board of Works met on Thursday May 19th 1892.

Present Aldermen McCraney, Connon, Gavin Franklin + Scoullar.

It was recommended:

1 That the sidewalk taken up on 8th Av be relaid as soon as possible.

2 That an eight foot sidewalk be laid on Georgia Street for 2 blocks west of Nicola Street on the South Side and that the old plank taken up be made use of in widening the remaining portion to Coal Harbour Bridge.

3 That permission be granted to Mr Emerson to put

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a grating in front of his hotel provided he leaves a four foot passage way in the clear in the sidewalk, and the gating is constructed to the approval of the City Engineer.

4 That arrangements be made for the keep of a horse and buggy for the use of the City Engineer during the summer months.

5 That a crossing be put down on the east side of Carroll Street from the corner of Powell Street to the City Wharf by day work.

6 That tenders be called for the following new work tenders to be sent in by noon on Thursday the 2nd of June:-

(a) Seymour St. 6 ft Sidewalk for 1 block east side from Robson to Smithe.

(b) Georgia St. 8 ft sidewalk for 2 blocks west of Nicola Street and widening balance of existing walk to Coal Harbour Bridge.

6 That the following accounts be paid:-

G. C. Corrigan Surveying Narrows \$57.00

T Bayley Robson St. 110.07

E. C. Britton " " 164.58

H. B. Connacher Keefer St. 445.00

Veysey + co. Blacksmithing 11.00

J + W. Powe " 7.25

Daily Telegram Printing 6.00

W. H. Fraser Hospital 318.76

A. E. Carter Vault 116.00

Thos Veitch sel Grant 119.28

C. P. Telegraph co. Telegrams 10.08

J. Telford Scotia St 171.00

D. McRae Market Sheds 430.50

Gibbons + Myers Carolina St. 270.00

Thos Thomas 14th Av. 264.86

M. A. Harvey Hack hire 5.00

H Lomas etal Labor 635.60

sgd H. P. McCraney

Chairman

Moved by Ald Gavin

Seconded by " Franklin

That the Report be adopted.

Carried

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Finance Report

The Finance Committee met on Friday May 20th 1892.

Present Aldermen Anderson, Collins, Mills + Odium.

It was recommended:-

1 That the following accounts be paid:-

Connor + Glenburn Alexandra Hospital \$186.00

Geo Fuller " " 215.00

W. T. Jackson " " 425.00

Clarkson + Maynes " " 124.00
Bank of B. C. Telegrams 100.79
Bank of B. C. 1st payment on water pipes 52736.15
Palmer Bros. Coal. 18.00
T H Wooton Drayage 1.00
Daily Telegram Printing 34.75
Telephone co. Rent 33.40

2 That the communication from Thos. W. Dyas of the Toronto Mail be filed.

3 That the Chairman and Alderman Odlum be appointed a committee to meet Captain Webster of the Union S. S. Co. to ascertain from him the kind of boat he will put up on the Vancouver-Chilliwack route for \$25.00 a trip and report to Council.

4 That the City Solicitor be instructed to revise the Free Library By-Law.

5 That the grant to the Library be paid monthly
sgd R. A. Anderson
Chairman

Moved by Alderman Collins
Seconded by " Odlum
That the Report be adopted.
Carried

Police Report

The Police Committee met on Tuesday May 17th 1892.
Present Aldermen Collins, Connon, Gavin and Odlum.
It was recommended:-

1 That a committee consisting of Aldermen

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Collins and Odlum be appointed to meet Mr. Beattie re the leasing of the Market and report.

2 That John Lovett be not allowed to let his cattle run at large on Fairview.

3 That the Chief of Police investigate the case of Mrs West with power to act.

4 That Malcolm McLean, night watchman be appointed a member of the Police Force at a salary of \$60.00 per month dating from the 1st of June at that a uniform be ordered for him.

5 That the Chief of Police be authorized to purchase half a dozen pairs of Bracelets.

6 The the following accounts be paid:-
R. V. Winch Supplies \$18.31

Thos Dunn + co " 10.00
John McLaren fares 2.50
M G McLeod " 2.00
W. A McIntosh Supplies 20.64
J. P. Blake " 12.30
Ideal Grocery " 30.99
S. T. Tilley + Son " 3.50
Atkins + Atkins " .58
F. W. Hart " 17.00
San Juan Lime Co " 2.90
Gurney Cab Co. Drayage 3.50
McDonald Bros " 4.00
sgd Henry Collins
Chairman
Moved by Alderman Gavin
Seconded by " Scoullar
That the Report of the Police Committee be adopted.
Carried

Board of Health

The Board of Health met on Tuesday May 17th 1892.
Present His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen McGuigan, Anderson, Gavin + Odlum.

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It was recommended:-

1 That the following account be paid:-

Corporation of Victoria Support of Leper \$33.24

2 That provision be made for a temporary building to be erected at once for the purpose of isolating the small pox patients and that all small pox patients be at once moved to said building

3 That the Saloons, prostitute houses, Chinese Stores Shops and dwellings on Dupont Street from Westminster Avenue to Carrall Street be quarantined

4 That the Chairman of the Board of Health at once communicate with the Minister of Agriculture re the matter of providing the necessary arrangements and appliances for enforcing the quarantine regulations, as affecting the arrival and departure of vessels.

5 That A. Linton's boat house be purchased for the use of the small pox patients for \$450.00 and that Inspector Huntly be authorized to fit it up, as may be required.

6 That a location be secured for a pest house and provision made for the erection of Suitable buildings.

sgd. W. J. McGuigan

Chairman

Moved by Alderman Odlum

Seconded by " Gavin
That the Report be adopted
Carried

Introduction of By-Laws.

Moved by Alderman Collins
Seconded by " Scoullar
That the Rules be suspended and a By-Law introduced to regulate streets and sidewalks
Carried

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The By-Law was introduced and read a first time.

Moved by Alderman Scoullar
Seconded by " Collins
That the Rules be suspended and a By-Law introduced to regulate the erection of buildings Storage of
Gunpowder etc.
Carried.

The By-Law was introduced and read a first time

Motions

Moved by Alderman Odlum
Seconded by " Scoullar
That the following account be paid:-
W. G. Inch. Salary as Hospital Cook \$19.40
Carried

Moved by Alderman McGuigan
Seconded by " Odlum
That the following account be paid:
Daily Telegram Co. Printing \$30.05
Carried

Moved by Alderman Scoullar
Seconded by " Gavin
That the following account be paid:-
Daily Telegram Printing \$6.00
Carried

Moved by Alderman Collins
Seconded by " Gavin.
That the following account be paid:-

Daily Telegram Printing \$2.75
Carried

Moved by Alderman Collins
Seconded by " McGuigan
That the following account be paid:-
Daily Telegram Printing \$10.50
Carried

Moved by Alderman Franklin
Seconded by " Gavin.
That the following account be paid
Daily Telegram Printing \$15.75
Carried

Moved by Alderman McGuigan Seconded by Alderman Odlum.
That the following account be paid.
H. T. Devine + co. Wood \$285.00
Carried

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Moved by Alderman Odlum
Seconded by " McGuigan
That the following account be paid:-
J. W. McFarland Alexandra hospital \$50.00
Carried

Moved by Alderman Franklin
Seconded by " Odlum
That the following account be paid if found correct:-
Thynne, Henshaw + Turner lead pipes \$965.12
Carried

Moved by Alderman McGuigan
Seconded by " Odlum
That the Mayor's remuneration for A. D. 1892 be fixed at \$2000.00 and that it be paid to him quarterly
in payments of \$500.00 each.
Carried

Moved by Alderman Odlum
Seconded by " Scoullar.
That the Finance Committee be empowered to purchase a suitable site for a Pest House, and erect a
suitable building thereon without unnecessary delay.
Carried

Moved by Alderman McGuigan

Seconded by " Odlum

That His Worship the Mayor be authorized to make arrangements with the Bank of B.C. to secure an overdraft not exceeding in the whole the sum of \$75,000 pending the collection of taxes.

Carried

Moved by Alderman Odlum

Seconded by " McGuigan

That tenders be called for the making of the Firemen's Uniforms, said uniforms to be delivered before the first of July.

Carried

Moved by Alderman Odlum

Seconded by " McGuigan

That the men who are engaged in relation to the Small Pox quarantine and other work connected with this disease be paid when discharged on production of Certificate

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signed by the Health Inspector and Chairman of the Board of Health.

Carried

Moved by Alderman Collins

Seconded by " Gavin.

That the question of temporarily admitting the telephone man to the quarantine house on Robson Street be left to the discretion of the Chairman of the Board of Health.

Carried

Consideration of By-Laws.

Moved by Alderman Scoullar

Seconded by " Collins.

That the Street By-Law be read a 2nd time.

Carried.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole on this By-Law with Alderman Collins in the Chair.

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

The By-Law was then read a 3rd time on motion of Alderman Collins Seconded by Alderman McGuigan.

The Council then adjourned till Thursday May 26th at 8 p.m.

F. Cope

Mayor

Thos. McGuigan

City Clerk