

Relief work rates settled – January 28, 1895

Rates for relief work were established at \$1.75 for married men, \$1.25 for single men, and \$2.50 for foremen. Proposal for Council to contribute \$500 toward a food and shelter home was overturned 6 - 4.

Council opposed Hon. Theo Davie's proposed amendment to the Vancouver Charter. Davie's amendment would have prevented Vancouver from building or developing City gas works, water works, electricity, railways, etc. unless they first purchased the assets of any company providing those services within the City of Vancouver.

This transcript was made in 2020 by Transcribimus volunteers Rachel Tsui

original handwritten minutes:

City of Vancouver Archives

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Vancouver January 28th 1895

The council met on Monday January 28th 1895.
Present His Worship, the Mayor, and Aldermen Shaw,
Coupland, Queen, Gallagher, McCraney, McPhaiden
Wm Brown, Bethune, Thomas and W.P. Brown.
The minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

Communications

From Oppenheimer Bros. protesting against the proposed change of the fire limits.
Referred to the Board of Works.

From H.A. Bell making suggestions regarding help for the unemployed.
Referred to the Board of Works.

From Angus McDonald applying for reengagement as electrical inspector.
Moved by Alderman Wm Brown
Seconded by " McCraney,
That Angus McDonald be appointed electrical inspector for the City.
Carried

From the Secretary of the Library Board furnishing annual Report.

Filed

From W.H. Goodwin, asking for the grading of a portion of Railway Street.

Referred to the Board of Works.

From W.H. Goodwin, quoting rates for the insurance of the police force.

Referred to the Fire, Market & Police Committee

From Neville Smith, asking for a sidewalk on Bute St.

Referred to the Board of Works

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From A. McC. Creery et al, asking for a sidewalk on Beach Avenue.

Referred to the Board of Works

From James Scott applying for a position on the Fire Department.

Referred to the Fire, Market & Police Committee

From Wulffsohn & Bewicke, asking that the police protect their houses near the west end school.

Referred to the Fire, Market & Police Committee

From Geo Biggar, asking for the payment of insurance premiums on certain members of the Police Force

Referred to the Fire, Market & Police Committee

From the Chief of Police reporting on the Electric lights
Filed

From Davis, Marshall, MacNeill and Abbott claiming damages on behalf of W.H. Mellish

for infringement of

wood contract.

Referred to the City Solicitor

From F. C. Cotton, drawing attention to the proposed amendments to the City Charter.

Laid over for motions

From F.S. Barnard making an offer for lighting the city.

Referred to the Water & Lights Committee

From F.S. Barnard making an offer for the Street Ry to be laid on Hastings Street.

Referred to the finance committee.

From Jacob Eligh resigning his position as Police Officer.

Moved by Alderman Wm Brown

Seconded by " Queen

That his resignation be accepted
forthwith
carried.

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From G.R. Gordon, Secretary of the School Board
asking that the sum of \$51,652 be placed in this
year's estimates for school purposes.
Referred to the Finance Committee

From Wm Lyman etal, asking for the opening up
of part of Barnard Street
Referred to the Board of Works

From A. M. Beattie, asking for assistance in carry-
ing out the terms of the market lease.
Referred to the Fire, Market, & Police Committee

From James Fleming, Secretary of the Nationalist
Association condemning the action of the Hon
the attorney General regarding the proposed amend
ments to the City Charter.
Laid over for Motions

The following reports were received and read-
Board of works.

The Board of Works met on Thursday January 24th 1895
Present the full board
Communications
From D. Gibbons, applying for the position of foreman of
one of the relief gangs when the works start up.
Laid over.

The petitions of I. Oppenheimer etal, asking for var
ious street improvements were all laid over un
til the estimates are considered.

From T.H. Condell, asking that the chain gang
be sent out to clear away the stumps and stones off
the sidewalk portion of the street facing his lots

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corner Columbia Street and 18th Avenue, and also
asking for grades.

Resolved.

That the chain gang be sent out as requested, and that the matter of grades be referred to the City Engineer

The petitions of J.Z. Hall asking for a drain on Columbia Street, and, also that of Milton Dick et al, asking that 10th Avenue West of Carolina street be graded were laid over until the relief work is commenced.

From J. W. Horne et al asking that the easterly line of the fire limits be changed back to the original line namely on the line of the lane in the rear of Carrall Street Lots on the the (sic) east side.

Resolved.

That this Board recommends that this petition be granted subject to no old buildings being allowed to be removed to the limits referred to in said petition and all new buildings erected therein to be sanctioned by the board of Works before erection will be permitted and that a bylaw to provide for this change be introduced and passed.

Resolved

That the matter of J. McLuckie's deposit for depositing building material in front of the Garden Block which he asked to be refunded to him be referred to the City Engineer to look into and make report.

Resolved

That the letter of J. Devine regarding certain grades on Westminster Avenue be referred to the City Solicitor for an opinion, as to how far the City is liable.

Resolved.

That the lane in Block 13 D.L. 541 be planked with old plank by day work.

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Resolved.

That the old sidewalk in front of the Arcade building on Cambie Street be replaced by a sidewalk of dressed lumber and that the W.A. Mace's bond be released.

Resolved

That the City Engineer be authorized to have [the] ditch filled in at the City Hospital grounds

and that the chain gang be set to work to grade the grounds lately fenced in.

Resolved.

That the finance Committee be requested to place the sum of \$5000 to the credit of this Board for relief work namely one thousand dollars for each ward.

Resolved

That for the present the crushed rock be placed on Howe Street

Resolved

That tenders be called up to Thursday the 14th Feb for two street sprinklers

The following tenders were awarded.

Lumber. G. Cassady & co.

Wire nails . Thos Dunn & Co.

Cut nails. Vancouver Hardware Co.

The following accounts were recommended for payment,

D. McGillivray Paving \$307.27

B.C. M T & T Co. Supplies \$7.27

W.L. Tait 87.17

Union S.S. Co. Boat Hire 8.00

D. Mckinnon supplies 60.00

sgd H.P. Shaw

Chairman

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Moved by Alderman Wm. Brown.

Seconded by " Shaw.

That the clause in reference to the delivery of crushed rock on Howe Street be referred back to the board for reconsideration

Carried

Moved by Alderman Queen

Seconded " Bethune

That the report, as amended be adopted.

Carried

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Friday January
25th, 1895

Present the full Board

The following tenders were awarded:

Feed, Crowder & Penzer

Stationery Clarke & Stuart

Printing . News. Advertiser

This tender is accepted on condition that
all the work is done in the City, and that the tender
er be required to quote a rate for debentures in
quantities not exceeding 25.

General Groceries F. Filion

Green Groceries C.S. Philp

Fish A.M. Tyson

Fire Supplies (drugs) Chas. Nelson

Milk Bridge & Hunter

Advertising The World & News Advertiser

Wood Mrs. T.J.Janes

Burials C. B. Lockhart

Meat Laid over for explanations

Coal, Crowder & Penzer

Drugs Referred to the health committee

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Binding Tax books & assessment rolls, News Advertiser

Bread, tenders to be called again.

Resolved.

That all successful tenderers be required
to sign an agreement and put up a bond as a
guarantee for the proper fulfilment of the contracts

The following accounts were recommended for pay-
ments:

Legislative Assembly, Charter amendments \$200.25

City Printing Works Supplies 6,00

Communications

From F. C Cotton MPP drawing attention to pro-
posed amendments to the City Charter

Laid over to be considered in open Council

From Davis, Marshall & McNeill, asking for a settle-
ment of the Gore Avenue question.

Laid over.

From Oppenheimer Brs., asking for the refund of taxes
claimed to be overpaid by them in D.L. 182.

Referred to the Assessor to get plan of the CPR right of way through these lots.

From the Rev. C.J. Oleson claiming that he was charged more than his proportion of the taxes on lots 17 & 18 block 103 D.L. 196

Referred to the assessor to adjust on the basis of this year's assessment.

From the manager of the Bank of Montreal claiming \$15.00 for solicitor's fees.

Referred to the City Treasurer to enquire into.

From the board of works, asking the finance committee to appropriate \$5000 for relief works.

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Resolved

That one thousand dollars be appropriated for each ward for the purposes mentioned

Resolved

That the City's bank account be transferred to the Bank of B.N.A, and that the Mayor and City Clerk be empowered to make whatever financial arrangements that may be necessary with said bank for providing funds for carrying on the city's business pending the collection of taxes.

D. McGillivray who was present promised to have the cement stored on Alexander Street insured without delay.

Sgd H.P. McCraney
Chairman

Moved by Alderman Gallagher

Seconded by " Coupland

That the clause in the report in reference to the changing of the City's bank account be referred back
Lost.

The clause in reference to the awarding of the general grocery contract was referred back.

Moved by Alderman Bethune

Seconded by " McPhaiden

That the report as amended

be adopted
Carried

Motions

Moved by Alderman McCraney
Seconded by " Queen
That the following persons compose
the Free Library Board for 1895:- Alderman
Wm. Brown, J.M Duval, C.A. Coldwell, E. Odium
Geo Walker, Wm Towler & R. Macpherson
Carried

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Moved by Alderman Queen
Seconded by " W.P. Brown
That the wages to be paid on relief work
be fixed at \$1.75 all around.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Coupland
Seconded by Alderman McPhaiden
That married men be paid \$1.75 per day
single men \$1.25 and Foremen \$2.50
Amendment Carried

Moved by Alderman Bethune
Seconded by " Wm Brown
That \$500.00 be paid in the estimates for
a food & shelter home, as proposed by the Sal-
vation Army to erect in this city; said money to be
paid over on the completion of said food and
shelter home.
Lost

Ayes Aldermen Gallagher, Wm Brown, W.P. Brown
and Bethune.
Nays Aldermen Shaw, Coupland, Queen, McPhaiden
McCraney & Thomas.

Moved by Alderman Coupland
Seconded by " Gallagher
That the City Clerk be instructed to
prepare a statement giving the names of all the
City Employees, placing each one in his de-
partment, the salary each one receives, and the

duties each one performs
Carried

Moved by Alderman Wm Brown
Seconded by " Bethune
That whereas a notice of motion has been
given by the Hon Theo Davie that he proposes

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to amend the Vancouver City Charter by adding a clause
which would practically have the effect of preventing the
City of Vancouver constructing and maintaining water, gas
or electric light works, street railways or tramways with
out first having purchased from any company operating
the above in the city all their plant and works.

And whereas the city at present has the power
granted by Charter to construct and maintain the above
works without first having purchased any existing
company's works.

And whereas the Gas Company at present oper-
ating in the city are operating under an act of the
assembly passed in 1886 by which act they had
a monopoly granted them for five years from 1886
and no longer.

And whereas the Water Works company incor-
porated in 1886 has sold all its plant and works
to the city.

And whereas the Street Railway Company have a
contract at present with the city which contract con-
tains terms as to the purchase of its property and
plant.

And whereas under the powers vested in the City
a by-law has been voted on to construct and main-
tain an electric light plant in the city and a ques-
tion has arisen whether that by-law received a suf-
ficient number of votes to carry it under the pro-
visions of the Municipal Act and City Charter
and that question is still before the courts.

Be it resolved that as the terms of monopoly granted
the gas Co. has expired, that the water works
Cos works have been purchased by the City,
the street Railway Co is operating under an
agreement with the city, and the citizens have
voted on a bylaw to authorize the construction

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of electric lights works in the city and the question whether that bylaw has received a sufficient number of votes has still to be decided by the courts the House of Representatives be urged not to pass the proposed amendments into Law. And that a delegation consisting of the following: His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen McCraney and Gallagher and such other parties as the Mayor may select be requested to proceed to Victoria and lay the matter before the Hon Mr. Davie and the members of the House with the object of preserving the interest of the citizens

Carried

Notice of Motion

Alderman D. McPhaiden gave notice that at the next meeting of the council he will introduce a bylaw for extending the time for the completion of the Burrard Inlet and Fraser Valley Railway and for other purposes respecting the same.

The City Clerk furnished Alderman Gallagher with a statement showing the amount of money paid out on the Reservoir contract etc.

The Council then adjourned
Henry Collins
Mayor

Thos McGuigan
City Clerk