

"Not Legal" for Vancouverites to Trade Work for Taxes - October 14, 1895

Council "cannot grant requests" from J. Raney and H. H. Davis asking to be permitted to do certain work and allow the same to stand against their respective taxes: the City Solicitor had given his opinion that this would not be legal. The City Auditor to give the new Tax Collector records of all who had paid and those "unaccounted for." The Tax Collector to keep alphabetized records of who had paid. The City Engineer reported on a number of projects referred to him.

This transcript was made in 2021 by Transcribimus volunteer Gerald Soon

Original handwritten minutes:
COV S31 Vol 6 pages 791 - 800

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[part one:Oct 14 1895 | part one](#)

[part two:Oct 14 1895 | part two](#)

[Volume 6 page] 791

Vancouver October 14th 1895
The Council met on Monday October 14th 1895

Present – His Worship Mayor Collins and Aldermen Coupland, Gallagher, Queen, McPhaiden, Clandenning, Brown, Sanders, Bethune and McDonald.
The Minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

Communication

From James McGeer asking for the Market Hall in which to deliver a lecture.
Referred to the Market Committee

From John Watt & Co submitting the names of Hugh Hackit and S. Harcus as their bondsmen on Robson Street contract.
Moved by Alderman McPhaiden
Seconded by " Queen.
That the Bondsmen be approved and the contract authorized and sealed by the Mayor and Clerk.
Carried.

From the City Auditor certifying to the corrections of the City's Accounts for July and August. Filed

From Miss Geraldine Reid asking for assistance for sending a Mrs. Ramsbottom east.
Filed

From Hodgson & Co asking that the lanes of the City be named.
Referred to the Board of Works

From T.T. Black applying for the position of Police Magistrate; also from the Vancouver Bar recommending that Joseph A. Russell be appointed to the position
Both laid over

[Volume 6 page] 792

From F.C. Cotton, M.P.P. and J.H. Horne Ex M.P.P. explaining the pledges given by the late Hon John Robson regarding Dead Man's Island
Moved by Alderman Gallagher
Seconded by "Clandenning

That copies of these letters be forwarded to the Premier, the Provincial Secretary and Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works.
Carried

From A. MacDonald, City Electrical Inspector stating that the water pipes were not injured through being connected with the electric wires.
Referred to the Water & Light Committee

From Wm Beattie applying for a position in the market.
Referred to the Market Committee

From James McQueen applying for improvements at the corner of Bute & Haro Streets
Referred to the Board of Works

From Edwin Mackin, Secretary of the Free Library explaining matters in connections with G.A. Roedde and the binding contract. Filed

From Wm Ward reporting on the electric lights. Filed

The following Reports were received and read:-

Fire, Market & Police Committee

The Fire, Market & Police Committee met on Friday October 11th 1895
Present – the Full Board,

The following accounts were recommended for payment:-
Askings & Johnson Drayage .50¢

[Volume 6 page] 793

Crowder & Penzer Supplies \$144.39
E. Clough Drayage .50

C.F. Foreman Supplies 2.20
News.Advertiser " 7.00
Cassidy & Co. " 25.16
McLennan & McFeely " 23.37
Thos Dunn & Co " 7.88
C.F. Foreman " 22.20
Leatherdale & Co. Buggy hire 5.00
J.C. Woodrow Supplies 12.82
Clarke & Stuart Supplies 4.13
The W.C.T.U. Fare 5.00
Gas Co. Supplies 1.00
J.Dodson " 1.00
Chas. Nelson " 2.50
T.W. Kerfoot Drayage 1.50
S. James Interpreting 8.00
L.J. Edwards Hire of Wagons 3.00
R. Robertson Supplies 2.25
C.S. Phelps " 4.05
H.A. Mellon Police Court Fees 20.00

Communications

From Louie Jack submitting an account for \$75.00 Moiety in certain Liquor cases
Resolved that Indian Agent Devlin be asked to come over and arrange the matter.

From the Gutta Percha and Rubber Mfg Co and the Toronto Rubber Co acknowledging receipt of
communication from the City Clerk regarding the testing of the hose recently purchased. Filed

Resolved that the City Clerk be instructed to communicate with the Gutta Percha and Rubber Co and the
Toronto Rubber Co offering to pay

[Volume 6 page] 794

for 800 feet of the hose received, the Company having promised to send 200 feet of hose to supply the
place of that quantity of defective hose.

sgd W.H.Gallagher
Chairman

Moved by Alderman Gallagher

Seconded by " Brown

That the item in reference to the payment of H.A. Mellon be referred back to the Committee. Carried

Moved by Alderman Coupland

Seconded by " Gallagher

That the Report as amended be adopted. Carried

Board of Works

The Board of Works met on the 11th of October 1895.

Present – Aldermen McPhaiden, Saunders, McDonald and Queen

Mr. Derragh interviewed the Board in regard to getting filling done in front of the Soda Water Works on Gore Avenue

He was informed that the Board had no funds and unless he could see his way to supply the plank himself it must lay over.

Communications

From C Gardiner Johnson stating his willingness to furnish the plank for a sidewalk on Alder Street to his house if the City will give him the grades etc.

Referred to the City Engineer to give him the position and grade and the Ward foreman to lay it down.

From C.B. McMillan re the condition of Robson Street between Nicola and Cardero Streets during progress of contract for fixing Robson Street

[Volume 6 page] 795

It will be attended to.

From R.S. Forbes et al asking for a crossing etc to their premises corner Jervis and Pender Streets. Referred to the Ward Foreman to put down with old planks.

From G.W. Westcott asking permission to put in hitching post in front of his premises on Cordova Street
Granted (not to interfere with the pavement)

From Mrs. C.A. Rogers re ~~account~~ access to her house at Broughton Street
Resolved that the Ward Foreman attend to whatever is absolutely necessary after that portion of Robson Street if is fixed.

From Mason & Co for permission to put up watch sign at No 64 Cordova Street
Granted (Not to interfere with the pavement)

From J. Buntzen Bus Manager C R & L. Co in reference to the running of cars stating that many drivers prefer the present way of running the cars.
Resolved that this Board recommends the cars be run as ordered by resolution of the Council

From T Neelands stating that the sewer in Block 75 at lot 26, D.L. 541 is not deep enough to allow them to connect.
Referred to the Engineer

From J. Raney also from H. H. Davis asking to be permitted to do certain work and allow the same to stand against their respective taxes.

Resolved that this Board cannot grant these requests as the City Solicitor has already given it as his opinion that such action would not be legal.

From A.T Ingram asking for permission to draw some earth from the lane between

[Volume 6 page] 796

Comox and Pendrell Streets west of Bute Street
Referred to the Engineer

From Hodson & Co in reference to the naming of lanes.
Referred back to the Council

From J.A. Lester asking that access be given him to his premises at 8th Av and Cedar Streets
Referred to the Chain Gang

From Robert Marrion, Plumbing Inspector in reference to the waste water from the motor at the Soda Water Works, recommending that it be connected with the sewer in the lane.
Resolved that the recommendation be approved

From R.A. Musket asking for account access to his house on 3rd av. Fairview; also from Geo Martin, C.M.C. South Vancouver asking for the opening of a road south of Subdivision 472, also from a large number of petitioners asking that Grant Street be opened up westward to False Creek and Clark Drive northward to Hastings Street.

Resolved that all these requests be referred to the early consideration of the incoming Council, there being no funds this year.

The following tenders were received and opened:-

Robson Street grading and fixing up

J. Watt & J. Stewart \$242 (extra earth 30¢ p yd)

D. Gibbons 285. (" " 35 " ")

A. V. McDonald & Co 249.

Resolved that the tender of J. Watt and J. Stewart be recommended for acceptance.

The following accounts were recommended for payment:-

Cassidy & Co. Supplies \$136.68

Evans, Coleman & Evans " 4.20

Van Hardware Co. " 26.25

C. Nelson " .75

[Volume 6 page] 797

Clark & Stuart Supplies \$12.73

Watts & Stewart Haro St 107.76

C. Ry & L. Co Supplies 5.00

Thos Dunn & Co. " 16.50

News.Advertiser " 4.40
E. Clough Drayage 2.00
Van City Iron Works supplies 7.50
Thomas etal. Labor Labor 336.75

sgd D. McPhaiden
Chairman Protem

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

Water & Light Committee

The Water & Light Committee met on Wednesday Oct 9th 1895
Present – Aldermen Brown, Coupland, Gallagher and Bethune.

Communications

From J. Kelly and Fred Jackson complaining that Campbell and Westcott had refused to pay full wages for work done on new main across the Narrows and asking the Committee to see that they were paid.

As Campbell & Westcott have receipts in full from these two men the Committee can do nothing in the matter.

From the Secretary of the Board of Underwriters offering to pay insurance license for the months of October, November and December and stating that the reservoir was not in working order till September.

Resolved that the Board of Underwriters be informed that the water was permanently turned on the

[Volume 6 page] 798

the reservoir on August 5th for commercial use.

From the City Engineer reporting on matters referred to himself and the Chairman at the meeting held on August 28th last;

The following accounts were recommended for payment:-

Thos Dunn & Co. Supplies \$46.72
Crowder & Penzer " 31.89
McLennan & McFeely " 12.89
Con Ry & L.Co. Lights 1559.60
Evans, Coleman & Evans Supplies 59.00
12.85
C.F. Foreman " 6.30
MF Swan & Owners Towing 10.

Van Gas Co Gas 1.
John Boyd & Co Supplies 5.72
Van City Iron Works “ 83.86
B.C.M.T.& T. Co “ .66
Van Gas Co “ 4.00
Hooper etal Labor 848.80

City Engineers Report on matters referred to himself and the Chairman.

A Robinson Keefer Street wanting larger pipe.
No action at present

Norman McLaren re enlarging pipe on 5th Avenue
Recommended that pipe be thoroughly flushed out

Geo W Robertson 9th Avenue wanting hydrant;
Recommended as we have hydrants on hand

Geo Cassady wanting larger pipe on Bridge St. to swill
There are no pipes large enough on hand.

Residents on Seaton Street. Street Lights
Recommend an electric light as there are now none on Seaton Street

sgd Wm Brown, Chairman

The Report was adopted on motion of Alderman Bethune. Seconded by Alderman Brown.

[Volume 6 page] 799

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met on Friday October 11th 1895
Present – Aldermen Bethune, Brown, Clandenning, Gallagher and Coupland.

Communications

From G.I. Monckton regarding a bonus for the construction of a smelter.
Referred to the next year’s Council

From Welsh Bros etal asking the Council to construct a Bylaw to provide funds to pay the creditors of Purdy and Williams on the reservoir contract. Laid over.

The Contract of G. Griffiths with sureties was approved and was authorized to be signed and sealed by the Mayor and City Clerk.

Resolved that the City Auditor be instructed to furnish the City Poll Tax Collector with a statement shewing the number of Poll Tax receipts issued and unaccounted for up to the time the late collector left office and that in future the Poll Tax Collector be required to keep a book alphabetically arranged shewing the parties who have paid and also a book shewing receipts issued to employers of labor.

Resolved that the Poll Tax Collector be required to furnish two bondsmen in the sum of \$250 each, such bonds men to be approved by this Committee

The following accounts were recommended for payment:-

McCarthy, Osler etal Law costs \$200
W.J. Trythall Revising Voters' Lists 40
News.Advertiser Ads 6.85
Carter Bros Labor .95
Telephone Co. Rents 32.50

sgd Alex Bethune
Chairperson

[Volume 6 page] 800

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

Notice of Motion

Alderman Bethune gave notice that at next meeting of Council he would move the following resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Council the salary of the Police Magistrate of the City should not exceed \$1200 per annum and a copy of this resolution be forward to his Hon the Lieut-Governor in Council."

The Council then adjourned

Henry Collins
Mayor

Thos F. McGuigan
City Clerk