***City requests Supreme Court inquiry into Police Department regarding omission to take proper steps for suppression of gambling; Finance Committee recommends accepting proposition for consolidation of the B.C. Electric Railway Co’s leases provided lines extend to City Limits on Westminster Avenue and to Cedar Cove on Powell Street; Finance Committee also recommends that no agreement be entered into with Stave Lake Power Co. beyond 1918; Special Meeting of Fire & Police Committee to consider suspension of Officer McAllister by Chief of Police; Council petitions Legislature for more funding to fulfill new obligations under the Public School Act, to build Court House, Provincial Government & City Offices, to establish a Reformatory for boys and for the construction of a road from Howe Sound to the Squamish Valley.***

******The Province February 12, 1901, page 2

This transcript was made in 2024 by Transcribimus volunteer Darlene Ochotta.  
Source: City of Vancouver Archives, Series 31 (COV S31, 715-D-02)  
Volume 10, pages 25-41

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Vancouver February 11th 1901

The Council met on Monday February 11th 1901  
Present His Worship the Mayor and full Board of Aldermen.  
The Minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

**Communications**

From Clubb and Stewart etal asking for the passage of the early closing By-Law in relation to Clothiers etc.  
Referred to the Finance Committee

From Geo. E. Glass etal asking for a sidewalk on 7th Av.  
Referred to the Board of Works.

From John Castile asking for a position  
Referred to the Board of Works.

From Frank J. Cahill etal asking for a sidewalk on 8th Av  
Referred to the Board of Works.

From F. T. Bagshaw asking the City to buy a typewriter  
Referred to the Police Committee.

From Wm Malloch & Co asking for plans to Elevator for City Hospital.  
Referred to the Health Committee.

From Brown BrS. etal, asking that a license of $2500 be imposed on electricians  
Referred to the Finance Committee

From J. P. Wright withdrawing his application for an increase of Salary  
Referred to the Health Committee

From John Healey etal asking for a sidewalk and water on Victoria Drive.  
Referred to the Board of Works and Water Comtee

From C. J. South complaining of cruelty to dogs by the Pound Keeper.  
Referred to the Police Committee.

From C. J. South, Returning officer asking for the use of the Market Shed for Election purposes …

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… Resolved that his request be granted, rent to be fixed at $5000

From the Police furnishing Report on Electric lights  
Filed

From C. G. Johnson asking for the grades [sic]of Ninth Av and Alder Street in front of his premises  
Referred to the Board of Works.

From F. T. Bagshaw asking the City to purchase his improved electric globes.  
Referred to the Finance Committee

From H. T. Thrift of Hazelmere Stating that the Delegates from the Various Municipalities would proceed to Victoria on the 18th to interview the Government re Railway and Bridge across the Fraser River.  
Filed

From W. Blizard asking for the opening up of 6th Av.  
Referred to the Board of Works.

From A. P. Storey asking for the refund of [$]12.80 taxes paid on machinery and also paid to the Provincial Government.  
Referred to the Finance Committee

From the Provincial Secretary reporting the appointment of Messrs Robert Martin and J. R. Seymour as License Commissioners  
Filed

From Messrs Davis, Marshall and Macneill endorsing award of Arbitrators on the damages to property on Lot 22. Block 2. D.L. 200a, the amount being $372.50  
Referred to the Board of Works

From A. P. Horne etal asking for a sidewalk on Georgia Street  
Referred to the Board of Works

From the Waterous Engine Co Stating that new fire engine would be shipped this month.  
Filed

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From R. Marpole agreeing to accept $1000 for preparing lease of Carrall Street corner  
Filed

From T. D. Williams of La Grange Ill sending letter of Sympathy re death of the Queen; also a poem thereon.  
Filed

From Isaac Russell complaining of the car service on Grant Drive  
Referred to the Ry [Railway] Committee

From F. Bayliss asking for a sidewalk on Davie Street  
Referred to the Board of Works

From the Rev L. Norman Tucker asking for the usual grant to the Art Historical Association  
Referred to the Finance Committee

From The Free Library Board asking for a grant of $5600  
Laid over for estimates

From R. Casselman etal, asking for a Sewer in Block 62, 196  
Referred to the Board of Works

The following Reports were received and read: –

**Light, Railway and Tramway Committee**

Light, Railway and Tramway Committee met on Tuesday February 5th 1901  
Present Alderman McPhaiden, Painter, MacDonald and Wood.

The following account was recommended for payment: –

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| B.C. Elec Co. | Lights | $2484.90 |

Communications  
  
From Evans, Coleman and Evans asking for a light on their wharf  
Resolved that they be informed that lights cannot be put up by the Council on private property.

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From the B.C. Elec. Co. asking that the voltage of the incandescent lights be changed from 55 to 110 at a cost of 10 cents for each socket.  
Resolved that light be changed in all Departments where not already done

From W. Odell et al asking for a light on the Corner of 8th Ave. and Granville Streets.[sic]  
Resolved that a light be put in on the Corner of 8th Avenue and Granvills[sic] Street and on 5th Avenue and Granville Street and one at Grove Crescent.

From E. H. Heaps et al asking for the extension of the Street Railway eastward on Powell Street.  
Laid over until Monday next at 4 p.m.

The Board then adjourned until Monday at 4 p.m.  
  
Moved by Alderman McPhaiden  
Seconded by Alderman MacDonald,  
That the report be adopted as read  
Carried.

The Light Railway and Tramway Committee met on Monday February 11th, 1901  
Present the full Board.

A Communication was received from Mr J. Buntzen, Gen. Manager B.C. Elec Ry Co. offering to extend the line on Powell Street to Cedar Cove and on Westminster Avenue to the City Limits on condition that the Council agrees to consolidate the leases.  
Moved by Alderman Wood,  
That this Committee recommend the Council to accept the proposition for the consolidation of the B.C. Elec Ry Co’s leases on the terms proposed in Mr Buntzen’s letter of July 13th, 1900, provided the Company extends its lines to the City Limits on Westminster Avenue and to Cedar Cove on Powell Street, such extensions to be completed and in running order by March1st 1902.

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Moved in amendment by Alderman MacDonald   
That the consideration be deferred until the next regular meeting.  
Amendment lost: Motion Carried.

The Board adjourned.  
sgd D. McPhaiden, Chairman

Moved by Alderman McPhaiden  
Seconded by Alderman Grant  
That the Council meet on Friday at 2:30 p.m. to consider Mr Buntzen’s proposition  
Carried

**Health**

The Health Committee met on Wednesday February 6th 1901.  
Present the full Board

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The following accounts were recommended for payment –

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Donaldson Trading Co. | 6.25 |
| G. Drysdale | 31.75 |
| Can. Gen. Elec. Co. | 19.75 |
| Thomson Bros. | 3.00 |
| Adam Hicks | 3.00 |
| J. Dodson | 36.05 |
| J. S. MacKenzie | 15.75 |
| R. Campbell & Son | 12.00 |
| F. Buscombe | 8.00 |
| R.C. Webber | 5.00 |
| Gas Co. | 8.60 |
| W. D. Brydone-Jack | 5.00 |
| Cleeve Canning Co. | 9.00 |
| Burrard Inlet Meat Co. | 135.28 |
| Mrs Reath | 45.00 |
| R. G. Macpherson | 29.45 |
| W. G. Harvey | .70 |
| C. Webb | 8.00 |
| Thos. Dunn & Co. | 15.83 |
| R. Marrion | 20.00 |
| Hygienic Creamery | 54.50 |
| W. J. Allen | 1.00 |
| M. S. Rose | 6.30 |
| J. P. Wright | 50.00 |
| City Grocery Co. | 280.65 |
| J. Stevens & Son | 29.60 |
| Fader & Co. | 50.42 |
| J. M. Maclean | 95.00 |
| Weeks & Robson | 17.50 |
| Salvation Army | 13.70 |
| D. M. Stewart | 159.43 |

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Mrs. St. Quinton interviewed the Board and asked for an extension of time to connect her premises with the Sewers  
Referred to the Health Inspector.

Communications

From the Ambulance Contractor, Crematory Caretaker, Lodging House Inspector, Medical Health Officer and Health Inspector furnishing reports.  
Filed.

From J. P. Wright asking for an increase of salary.  
Resolved that he be paid $2.00 per day for each working day.

From F. V. Bodwell complaining that the Contractors clearing the one acre of the Cemetery Annex had piled the stumps on his property.  
Resolved that Mr Fox the Contractor be notified that the City will hold back the balance due him until he burns the Stumps

Resolved that the Health Inspector be authorized to print 300 copies of the Laundry By-Law for distribution.

Resolved that Alderman Grant and the House Surgeon be authorized two [sic] purchase blankets required at the Hospital.

Three cases of distress were considered. At present the parties are boarding at the Salvation Army Shelter. It was resolved that they ~~recommend~~ remain there until the Health Inspector communicates with their relatives.

The Drug tenders were referred to Aldermen Neelands and McGuigan and the House Surgeon for examination and report.

The tenders for Groceries, Green Groceries etc. were referred to Alderman[sic] Foreman Grant and Fraser for examination and report.

The Board then adjourned.

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Moved by Alderman McGuigan  
Seconded by Alderman Foreman  
That the report be adopted as read  
Carried.

Sub Committee of Health Committee

The sub-committee for the consideration of tenders met on Monday, February 11th 1901 at 4 p.m.  
Present Aldermen Grant, Foreman and Fraser.

The following tenders were recommended for acceptance

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Meat | S. Fader & Co. |
| Wood | Trudgeon Bros |
| Bread | J. Dodson |
| Green Groceries | Edgett Bros. |
| Fish | J. S. Mackenzie |

The Board then adjourned.

Moved by Alderman Grant  
Seconded by Alderman Foreman  
That the report be adopted as read  
Carried.

**Board of Works**

The Board of Works met on Thursday at 4 p.m.  
Present Aldermen Grant, Cook, McPhaiden, MacDonald and Wood.  
The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted

Mr Ceperley appeared before the Board re the cutting down of Shade trees by City Firemen.  
Mr Ceperley was asked to attend the meeting of the Fire and Police Committee on Tuesday next.

Mr Mallory appeared re alterations to new saloon at the Corner of Hastings and Carroll, objecting to pay permit fee.  
He was informed as to the reading of the By-Law on the Subject.

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Communications  
  
From C. S. Whitehouse re employment on City Works  
Referred to Ward Foreman

From Samuel Harris asking for permanent work in Ward 4 Filed.

From J. C. Brent et al requesting six foot walk on N Side of 8th Ave. Fairview from Cedar to Maple.

From Thos. Morrison et al. requesting the stumping, ditching and grading of 14th Ave from Ontario to Quebec Streets  
Both these were laid over for estimates

From C. J. Mayne et al asking that walk on South Side of Robson from Richards to Cambie be moved out  
Referred to Engineer and Ald. Cook to report.

From Jas. Young asking that walk be renewed from Pender to Dunsmuir on Homer Street and moved out from Street line  
Referred to Alderman Cook and City Engineer to report.

From T. A. Fee asking that lane in rear of Block 70 be graded and surface ~~graded~~ drained.  
City Engineer to look into and report.

From P. J. Largen and A. Shotton re condition of Venables Street  
Referred to Engineer and Alderman MacDonald.

From Cowan, Kappele & McEvoy giving notice on behalf of the Red Cross Brewery Co. re sewage water draining on his property.  
To be notified that owners have already been ordered to connect with sewer by Health Inspector.

From Chas. Moore, Secy. Ship Masters Association re present condition of …

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… Cambie Street Bridge.  
City Engineer to get out estimate of cost of raising same

In reference to resignation of Street Inspector it was moved by Alderman MacDonald that the resignation of Mr Rockett be accepted. Carried  
Messrs Cook, MacDonald and Wood, Aye  
Alderman McPhaiden No

The sidewalk in front of Smith Bros Seaton Street was authorized to be raised to grade

Tenders for supply of Lumber for year were received from Royal City Mills, W. L. Tait, E. H. Heaps & Co, Robertson and Hacket, Hastings Mill Co. All being at retail catalogue price with 10% reduction.

Tenders for hardware were received from Thos. Dunn & Co., McLennan & McFeely, Vancouver Hardware Co.  
They were referred to the Engineer to prepare comparative tabulated list for next meeting.

The following accounts were recommended for payment:–

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Thos. Dunn & Co. | 169.11 |
| Geo. Hardy | 2.00 |
| Robt Clark | 15.00 |
| Thomson Stat. Co. | 12.02 |
| Van. City Iron Works | 153.46 |
| W. L. Tait | 33.47 |
| Hastings Saw Mill | 58.75 |

The Board then adjourned.

Moved by Alderman Grant  
Seconded by Alderman Wood  
That the report be adopted as read.  
Carried.

**Finance**

The Finance Committee met on Friday, Feb 8th 1901

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Present Aldermen Neelands, Painter, Foreman and Fraser.  
The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

The following accounts were recommended for payment:–

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Telephone Co. | 49.06 |
| Mrs. S. E. Moore | 15.00 |
| B. C. Toilet Supply Co. | 1.50 |
| G. Drysdale | 10.00 |

From R. G. Tatlow, M.P.P. who waited upon the Board asking what sums this Riding will require from the Legislature during 1901  
The matter was referred to the Chairman and City Solicitor to report on Monday night.

Mesdames Macauley and McLagan interviewed the Board re the erection of a Memorial to our late Sovereign Queen Victoria  
Laid over for estimates

Communications

From J. C. Marshall, Secy. Trades & Labour Council re Stave Lake Power Co Agreement. Filed.

From W. J. Brandrith, Secy. B.C.F.G. [B.C. Fruit Growers] Assoc. asking what inducements the City will offer the Assoc. to hold their Annual Show for 1901 in Vancouver.  
Resolved that he be asked for further particulars as to date etc.

From Dr Selwyn et al. offering to turn over the property of the Art. Hist & Scien[sic] Assoc. to the City and from Rev. L. Norman Tucker, Pres. of Art. Hist. & Scien. Assoc. stating that such letter was unauthorized  
Laid over for explanations.

From L. & M. Alexander & Co. offering to sell City a Smith Premier Typewriter for $125.00  
Referred to Aldermen Grant & Wood.

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Resolved that Crowder & Penzer’s tender for coal be accepted.

Resolved that the Provincial Government be requested to make a grant of $1,000 in aid of the Orphanage and the usual grant of 50¢ per patient per day to the Hospital.

The Board then adjourned.

Moved by Alderman Neelands  
Seconded by Alderman Painter  
That the report be adopted as read.  
Carried.

Report by the Finance Committee of Negotiations with the Stave Lake Power Co.  
  
The representatives of the Stave Lake power[sic] Company met the Committee on Friday, the first of February.

Mr Peters, representing the Stave Lake Power Company, produced a draft agreement, and the City Solicitor also produced an agreement.  
Certain clauses of these agreements were considered as far as time would then allow[.] the[The] Committee then adjourned until Monday the 4th of February when it again met the representatives of the Company. Before taking into further consideration the agreements the question arose as to what period of time should be granted to the Company, during which it should have the right to erect poles and carry on business in the City. It was pointed out that the rights of the B.C. Elec. Ry Company to operate in the City would expire in the year 1918 and that then the City would have the right to purchase out the property of the Electric Tramway Company. It was considered advisable by the Finance Committee that any rights to be granted to the Stave Lake Power Co. should terminate at the same period of time. After discussion on the point with the representatives of the Company, the Finance [Committee] was informed by them that they could not agree to such an arrangement, and that they would leave the matter over for the present. The representatives then ~~returned~~ retired from the meeting and …

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… the Finance Committee are now waiting to receive from them any proposal they have to make  
The Committee recommend[s] that no agreement be entered into beyond 1918

Moved by Alderman Neelands  
Seconded by Alderman McGuigan  
That the report be adopted as read.  
Carried.

A Special Meeting of the Fire & Police Committee was held on Monday February 11th, 1901 at 3 pm.  
Present the full Board.

The object of the meeting was to consider the matter of the suspension of Officer McAllister by the Chief of Police.

After hearing both parties concerned it was moved by Alderman Cook  
That the Committee having enquired into the suspension of Officer McAllister by the Chief it is resolved that the action of the Chief in suspending Officer McAllister be sustained and it being absolutely necessary that discipline should be observed in the Force that Officer McAllister be discharged and be paid one month wages in lieu of notice.  
  
Moved in amendment by Ald. MacDonald   
That he be suspended only until a general investigation is held.  
Amendment lost. Motion Carried.

The Board then adjourned.

Moved by Alderman Wood  
Seconded by Alderman McPhaiden  
That the report be adopted as read

Moved in amendment by Ald. Neelands  
Seconded by Alderman McPhaiden  
That Officer McAllister be suspended until an investigation is held  
For the Amendment, Aldermen Grant, Neelands, Foreman, MacDonald and Fraser

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Noes: Aldermen Painter, Cook, McGuigan, McPhaiden and Wood  
Amendment lost on casting vote of Mayor  
Motion Carried.

**Unfinished Business**

Moved by Alderman Foreman  
Seconded by Alderman Grant.

[Note: Clerk did not include any notes on this issue.]

**Motions**

Moved by Alderman Wood  
Seconded by Alderman McGuigan.  
Whereas certain allegations have been made as to irregularities in the Police Force more especially as to the omission to take the proper steps for the suppression of gambling in the City.  
And whereas it is in the opinion of the Council that it is in the interests of the City and for the good government thereof that an enquiry should be held into all matters relating to the Police Force and the efficiency thereof.  
Be it therefore resolved that a Judge of the Supreme Court be requested to make an enquiry into the said allegations and into any matters relating to the Police Force and the efficiency thereof that may be brought before him. Carried  
  
Moved by Alderman Neelands  
Seconded by Alderman Cook  
That Chief Justice McColl be the Supreme Court Judge engaged to make the enquiry into the Police Department  
Carried.

Moved by Alderman Neelands  
Seconded by Alderman Painter  
Whereas by the Public School Act the burden of paying all salaries and expenses in connection with the public schools in Vancouver was thrown on the City of Vancouver per capita grant of ten dollars per annum based on the average daily attendance being paid by the Government towards such …

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… expenditure on account of salaries and expenses  
And Whereas the City under the provisions of the said Act is compelled to expend annually the Sum of $100,424.50 for salaries, maintenance[,] interest and Sinking Fund and other necessary liabilities to carry on the public[sic] Schools in the City  
And Whereas the whole burden of this liability is thrown on the City less the sum of $33,000 being the amount of the per capita grant aforesaid  
And Whereas prior to the passing of the said School Act the whole of the expenditure for public[sic] Schools was borne and paid by the Province and therefore the Act making the City liable to pay the sum aforesaid has entailed a taxation of over 4 mills on the dollar on the real property in the City  
Whereas the obligation and burden thus placed on the City is of such an extent and so onerous that it practically prevents many necessary improvements being effected and is seriously detrimental to the interests of the City and citizens  
Be it therefore resolved that the Hon. The Lieutenant Governor in Council be respectfully requested to provide for a greater per capita grant than the said Ten dollars and thus relieve the City to some extent from the many liabilities and obligations imposed upon it by the Said Act.

Whereas owing to the increase of the population and commerce ~~and~~ of the Province and County of Vancouver, the Vancouver Court House premises have become totally inadequate and unfitted to provide for the business and requirements of the County and therefore in the near future the said premises will have to be enlarged and altered  
And Whereas in the opinion of this Council owing to the Central position of the said Court House it would be very much in the interest of the community if the public buildings of the City were located on the same site.  
Be it therefore resolved that the Honourable the Provincial Secretary …

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… be requested to consider the advisability of the Province and City combining to erect adequate and fitting buildings for a Court House, Provincial Government and City offices on the site occupied by the present Court House, the present Court House being adapted and used as far as possible and practicable so that a block of buildings sufficient to provide for the accommodation of the public and in which the public business may be carried on and also an ornament to the City may be erected at as early a date as possible

Whereas the necessity that a Reformatory for boys should be established in the neighbourhood of Vancouver has been acknowledged and a certain sum of money has been set apart for the purpose of defraying the necessary cost of construction of the same.  
And Whereas at the present time there are a number of boys who unfortunately should be confined in a Reformatory and there is no provision at the present for the custody and care of such boys  
Be it therefore resolved that the Hon. the Commissioner of Works be requested to hasten to completion the construction and equipment of the Reformatory as soon as possible.

Whereas a considerable amount of trade could be carried on with the farmers of the Squamish River Valley and the produce of their farms would be available for the use of the citizens of Vancouver, if means of communication were established from the Howe Sound up the said valley  
And Whereas the farmers of the said valley have repeatedly asked for assistance in that behalf  
Be it therefore resolved that the Hon. the Commissioner for Public Works be petitioned to place a sufficient sum on the Provincial Estimates to be presented to the Legislative Assembly to provide for the construction of a Road from Howe Sound up the Squamish Valley to the farms therein …

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… Whereas a certain amount of money has been expended on the Road from the City of Vancouver to Burnett on Burrard Inlet.  
And Whereas it is of great importance to the welfare of the Said City and the surrounding Districts that this road should be completed at as early a date as possible therefore be it resolved that the Hon. the Commissioner of Public Works be respectfully requested to place in the estimates to be presented to the Legislative Assembly a sufficient sum to provide for the opening up and completion of the said Road.  
Carried.

**Consideration of By-Laws**

Moved by Alderman Grant,  
Seconded by Alderman Foreman,  
That the By-Law to amend By-Law No. 258 known as the Bicycle By-Law be recommitted  
Carried.  
The Committee rose and reported the By-Law complete with amendments and on motion of Alderman Grant seconded by Alderman McGuigan, the rules were suspended and the By-Laws [sic] was read a third time.

Moved by Alderman Neelands  
Seconded by Alderman Wood  
That the Council go into Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the By-Law to authorize the leasing of Hastings Race Track Carried.  
  
On motion of Alderman Neelands seconded by Alderman McGuigan the Committee rose and reported By-Law complete with amendments.  
  
Moved by Alderman Neelands  
Seconded by Alderman Painter  
That the By-Law to authorize the leasing of Hastings Race Track be read a third time.   
Carried  
The By-Law was accordingly read a 3rd time

**Notice of Motion**

Alderman MacDonald gave notice that …

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… at the next regular meeting of the Council he would move that the City’s working day of nine hours and Saturday half-holiday be changed to a straight eight-hour working day.

Alderman Foreman gave notice that he would introduce a By-Law to amend the present Ward By-Law by altering the present boundaries so that they will be on a more equitable basis as to population and assessment.

The Council then adjourned until Friday at 2:30 P.M.

T.O. Townley  
Mayor

Thos. F. McGuigan

City Clerk