

December 28<sup>th</sup>

City Gaugers  
 Andrew Richardson  
 Andrew B. Richardson  
Measurers & Inspectors of Painters Work  
 George Smithew  
 Mphew Studley  
 Henry Merrick  
Weigher of Hay  
 John W. Bask  
Measurers of Masons Work  
 Nicholas Wright  
 Robert Malcom  
 Hugh A. McKeigue  
 James Reid

General Viewers  
 Henry Hoston  
 Henry Merkel  
 John Fiden  
Measurers of Wood  
 Jacob Kessner  
 John Walker  
 Alexander Malcom  
 Cornelius Sullivan  
Goat Hog Reeves  
 Robert Durany  
 Thomas Connolly  
 Joseph Quinn  
 Joseph Connolly  
 John Malowney

The appointment of Measurers of Salt & Grain is deferred.  
 The Council direct the payment of following Accounts by Checks  
 on City Treasurer

Daniel McGuire	16-5-0
Gas Company	3-15-0
Edmund Young	2-12-3
Wm. Merrick for	2-0-6
Gas Company	16-3-9

The following report of the Committee relative to Tunks is read, when  
 the following Resolution is introduced

Resolved, That the report just read be received, and that the  
 Committee be requested to carry into effect the said Report as far as  
 practicable

which on being put is passed.

The following Report of the Committee appointed to obtain  
 information relative to expense of a new Fire Engine is read, when  
 the following Resolution is introduced:

Resolved, That an Engine be imported from England agreeably to the  
 Report of the Committee just read, and that those Gentlemen be requested  
 to carry ~~the~~ Resolutions into effect, which on being put is passed.

Halifax December 26<sup>th</sup> 1843

The Committee appointed by the Council to make the  
 necessary enquiries as to the cost of importing an Engine from England  
 and the United States or elsewhere beg leave to report

That from the information obtained by them on the subject  
 both from England and the United States, they would strongly  
 recommend to the Council to import an Engine from London

The expense of an Engine of the size recommended by the Fire Department would cost including ten lengths of hose of 40 feet each length, according to an estimate received from Mr W. Kelly about the sum of £250 Sterling, - while an Engine from the United States of the same size without any lengths of hose would cost from \$1000 to \$1200

The Committee herewith respectfully submit for the consideration of the Council the information obtained by them on the subject.

(Signed) William Caldwell  
(Signed) Arch Sinclair  
(Signed) Henry Poyer

On taking into consideration the subject of the Tenders for the various kinds of Work, and Materials, that may be required for the use of the City, as also the Advertising and printing.

Resolved, That the following Gentlemen be appointed to receive Tenders for all such Work and materials as may be required for the use of the City and report thereon. Messrs Faubault, Moy, Sinclair, Spike and Winters.

The petition of Michael Soblentz relative to assessment on City Hotel is read, which on motion is withdrawn.

A Petition from John Jennings and others, Measurers of Salt and Grain is read, which on motion is dismissed.

The following Petition from Sarah Adams is read:

"To His Worship the Mayor and City Council

The petition of Sarah Adams humbly sheweth, That your petitioner is an aged woman and has nothing to depend on for a livelihood but the very small rents received from his property which is now old and in bad repair, that on the evening of which the fire took place in Albemarle Street a shed and fences surrounding her premises was pulled down and her premises otherwise damaged, for the purpose of preventing the spread of the devouring flames, that your petitioner ever grateful for the kindness of the Inhabitants for their exertions in saving her premises still begs to solicit some small assistance towards putting up the fences round her grounds, and as in duty bound will ever pray.

(Signed) Sarah <sup>the</sup> Adams <sub>mark</sub>

when the following Resolution is introduced.

Resolved, That the sum of Five Pounds be given to Mrs Adams to enable her to put up her fences which were pulled down to stay the progress of the Fire in Albemarle Street on the evening of the 23<sup>rd</sup> inst. That this grant is not to be taken as a precedent, but has only been made under the peculiar circumstances set forth in her Petition which on being put is passed. The Council then adjourned

Wm. Smith Mayor

Halifax January 15<sup>th</sup> 1844.

Graham having taken the Oath required by Law is this day sworn into office as Special Constable to serve and execute all Summons and Warrants directed to him by Lawrence - - Martshorne Esq. City and County Treasurer.

Halifax January 22<sup>nd</sup> 1844

At a Special Meeting of the City Council held this day Present, His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen Storey, McKilay, Allison, Caldwell & Bell, Messrs Anderson, Pryor, Spike, Fairbanks, Sinclair, Black, Jennings, Hunter, Hemmison, Rhind, Winters and Rugg.

The City Council were summoned to take into Consideration the Resolution relative to equalizing the pay of Constables the report of the Committee relative to Tenders, a Letter from Chairman of Firewards on same subject, the appointment of a Committee as to the best mode of cleaning the streets, the appointment of a Fire Ward for Ward No 2

Read over proceedings of 28<sup>th</sup> December 1844.

Read following report of the Committee of Tenders.

The Committee appointed to receive Tenders for all such work and materials as may be required for the use of the City and report thereon have agreed to report as follows:

That the Committee met and decided upon addressing letters to the Commissioners of Streets and the Fire Department, requesting information for their guidance, as to the work and materials required for their respective departments, as in their opinion could be more advantageously obtained for the use of the City by contract than by private bargain.

The Letters received in reply to these enquiries the Committee submit herewith for the information of the Council.

The Committee fully concurring in the opinion of the Chairman of the Fire Department, as to the impracticability of furnishing a Specification of the Work and Materials usually required for the Department, upon which persons disposed to contract therefore could base their Tenders, came to the conclusion that the interests of the City as well as its preservation against Fire, will be best secured by leaving every expenditure connected with the keeping that department in a state of the utmost efficiency to

The prudent and promised economical management of the Committee for that purpose.

The Committee have acted on suggestions of the Commissioners of Streets and advertised for the various articles recommended by them, as well as such others as appeared to them necessary, they have also advertised for Tenders for Printing City Notices and Planks, and also for the requisite supply of Stationery.

The subject of cleansing and keeping clean the streets and gutters of the City has occupied the serious consideration of the Committee - important not only as involving a heavy annual expense - but as regards the health and comfort of the citizens, the Committee submit, whether some alteration in the present mode adopted for effecting this object could not be advantageously made. This service, hitherto inadequately performed, the Committee deem of sufficient importance to bring before the Council for their consideration, previous to advertising for Tenders for the performance of it the present year the Committee are of opinion that Contracts should be taken for each Ward separately, the Contractor being bound to cleanse, convey away, and deposit in place or places to be approved of the Commissioner of the Ward all the filth collected therein, and further to furnish a place of deposit for all Privy Soil conveyed from the Ward for which he is Contractor, - receiving the same to his own use, as a remuneration.

The Committee request the directions of the Council as to any further Contracts, previous to advertising for Tenders therefor

All which is respectfully submitted

- (Signed) Mr B. Fairbanks, Chairman
- "     Ac P. Sinclair
- "     Henry Spike
- "     John Winters
- "     William Story junr

Read the following Letter from Chairman of Firewards

Halifax 12<sup>th</sup> January 1844

James J. Clarke Esq<sup>r</sup>

Sir,

Consulting with many of the Gentlemen Firewards, on the subject of your letter, they were of opinion with me, that no workmanship or description of articles required for the Fire department can possibly be estimated for or anticipated, every thing depends on the extent of damages sustained at Fires which no one can possibly imagine or foresee. The other service, protecting the pumps during winter is an annual charge, although trifling. The Firewards are impressed with the necessity of Economy

January 22<sup>nd</sup>

in every particular for the good of the City therefore no alteration or repairs will be made under my sanction to any extent whatever. When exigencies occur I shall report them for the consideration of His Worship the Mayor and City Council, and if necessary estimates can be obtained and Contracts entered into as circumstances require.

I am therefore totally at a loss to suggest any improvement or alteration that can possibly be useful to the present efficient state of the departments

I have the honor to Remain, &c. &c.

(Signed) J. Lee.

Chairman of the Board.

Read the following Letter from Commissioners of Streets.

"The Articles below mentioned the Board of Commissioners of Streets would recommend to be supplied by contract. viz.:

Timber, of all kinds, chiefly 2x8 inch Hemlock Plank, & 6x7 inch Ranging Timber

Iron Work, viz. Gates, Hammers, Crowbars, new pickaxes, sledges and all other new Iron work that may be required to be made here. The sharpening of tools requiring particular skill and care it is thought best not to contract for.

All other Iron work that is purchased from the Stores, it is thought best to leave to the selection of the overseer under the direction of the Chairman.

**Truckage.** The Commissioners see some difficulty in making an absolute rule on this subject but would advise that wherever the Commissioners of any Ward may deem it beneficial to the public service, they may either contract by the load or by the day.

**Cleaning the Streets.** Much dissatisfaction has been expressed respecting this service and the Commissioners would suggest whether or not tenders for cleaning each Ward separately would not be a better mode.

Although several of the Contracts have not yet expired, it is submitted whether the whole of the Contracts had not better be advertised for at the same time, stating the period at which each service should commence.

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1844.

(Signed) H. Bell, Chairman.

Read Advertisement in Morning Herald of Friday last.

The following Resolution is next introduced:

Resolved, That the Report just read be received and

and adopted, excepting as to cleansing of the streets, which will stand over for further consideration of the Council.

which on being put is passed.

Resolved, That the Commissioners of Streets be a Committee to ascertain the best mode of cleansing the streets of the City, and report thereon at next meeting of Council.

which on being put is passed.

Resolved, That the Tenders published in the Morning Herald of Friday last be published in the Sea and Recorder Newspaper, and also that one set of Handbills be struck off.

which on being put is passed.

Read the following Report of the Committee appointed to Report upon the conduct of Measures of Salt & Grain:

Report:— The Committee to whom was submitted the Complaint of the Measures of Salt and Grain beg leave to report, That your Committee required the attendance of the Supervisor and the Measures who served for the past year with a return of the work performed, and the remuneration earned by each. Upon interrogating them separately your Committee do not ascertain any sufficient ground of complaint to exist against the Supervisor of the past year, the measures uniting in expressing their good feeling toward Mr. Johnston, but as he resides at a distance from the centre of the City it renders it very inconvenient to apply to him, the Measures therefore wish Mr. Kelly appointed supervisor for the current year, and as Mr. Johnston unites in this wish and has signed the recommendation in his favor, your Committee would recommend the appointment to be made.

A reference to the return made of the earnings of each measure during the past year, shows a considerable disparity in amount which has arisen from the extreme age of Mr. McKie, and the age and infirmities of Mr. Newen, rendering attention to the duties of their office frequently impossible, and your Committee would beg leave to call the attention of the Council to the inefficiency of these two individuals to perform the duties required of them.

All of which we respectfully beg leave to submit.

Halifax 8<sup>th</sup> January 1844.

(Signed) Edward Allison, Chairman

David Rugg

Adam Keenon

William Story Junr

John Winters.

(The)

— January 22<sup>nd</sup> —

The following Resolutions are introduced:

Resolved, That John Kelly be appointed Supervisor of Measurers of Salt & Grain in place of Alexander Johnston, who has given up said situation.

which on being put is passed.

Resolved, That the Council at its next meeting will fill up the situation of two Measurers of Salt and Grain in place of Mr. Milkie and Mr. Stevens, but that in consideration of their past services, that Mr. Milkie and Mr. Stevens be continued as Measurers to be called upon in their turn not to divide with the other Measurers but be entitled to whatever they may respectively earn, and upon condition that they make return to the Supervisor, which being put is passed.

John Strachan Esquire appointed Fire Ward No 2 in place of Gilbert A. Smith Esquire who has paid his fine.

The City Council direct the payment of the following accounts by Checks on the City Treasurer:

Robert N. Shinnings	\$ 11. 8. 8
Matthew Young	19. 0. 2
James Ham	5. 5. 0
Andrew Bitcher	10. 0. 0
Dr. Avery	1. 10. 0

The Councils attention is <sup>now</sup> drawn to the Amendment Act, and whether any amendments are necessary, when the following resolution is introduced:

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to draft revisions of the Act of Incorporation on the several subjects that have been brought before the notice of the Council, and that they submit the same to the Council at its next meeting preparatory to applying to the Legislature for amendment to the Act, and that Alderman M. Kinlay, Alderman Allison, Messrs. Pryor, Neumann and Fairbanks be that Committee. which being put is passed.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to confer with the Magistrates of the County relative to their making a provision for the County poor, not resident in the City, and that Alderman Allison, Alderman Bell, and Mr. Pryor be that Committee. which on being put is passed.

Resolved, That the order to the City Appeals be for the present suspended, which on being put is passed.

Resolved, That His Worship the Mayor, and the Committee appointed to advertise for Tenders for such Articles and Work as may be required for the use of the City, be authorised to receive said

Tenders, accept the same and take such security as they conceive necessary for the respective contracts, which on being put is passed.

Resolved, That Alderman Allison, Alderman Caldwell, and Mr Black be a Committee to examine into the Conduct of Measurers of Coal and report thereon.

which on being put is passed.

The City Council then adjourned.

Keith Mayor

Halifax February 5<sup>th</sup> 1844.

At a Special Meeting of the City Council held this day, Present, His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen Story, McKeilay, Allison, and Bell, Messrs Anderson, Pryor, Spike, Sinclair, Black, Jennings, Hunter, Newmeon, Rhind, Winters and Sugg.

The City Council were summoned to take into consideration a report of the Committee relative to Measurers of Coal, to fill up the vacancies of Measurers of Salt and Grain, also of Coal, the payment of some accounts, the appointment of Fire Ward to one, in place of Joshua Lee Esquire removed to Ward to two, application from Councils Committee, report of Commissioners of Streets, and the transaction of other business.

Read over proceedings of 29<sup>th</sup> January.

His Honor the Recorder read a draft of a Memorial to the Legislature relative to certain amendments deemed necessary to Act of Incorporation, when the following Resolution is introduced:

Resolved, That said Memorial be fairly engrossed, signed by His Worship the Mayor, on behalf of the City, and that the Committee of City Council appointed to prepare said Memorial be requested to attend to the progress of the same through the Legislature, and all other amendments or revisions deemed necessary to the various Acts now in force.

which on being put is passed.

To the Honorable, the House of Representatives for the Province of Nova Scotia, in General Assembly now Convened.

(The)



"The Memorial of the City Council, for and in behalf of  
the City of Halifax,

Respectfully Sheweth.

"That, the predecessors of your Memorialists did, under and by virtue of the "Act to Incorporate the Town of Halifax" cause a rate or Assessment to be made on the said City, and directed the same to be levied under their construction of the said Act, having first heard and decided all the appeals therefrom, agreeably to the Acts of the Province for that purpose provided.

"That before the said Assessments could be realized and while in the course of collection, several Certioraris were issued from the Supreme Court moving up the said Rate or Assessment and putting a stop to the collection of a great portion thereof upon points of law taken against the said rate or Assessment, and against the construction to the said Act by the City Council then in office.

"That the said points of Law have not as yet been fully heard and argued, but are still pending and undecided in the said Court to the great detriment of the said City and against the full and beneficial operation of the said Act.

"That to obviate the ambiguities upon which the said points were raised, and if possible to bring about an uniformity of construction and adjustment of all differences then existing between the Council and the Citizens so opposing the assessment as aforesaid, application was made in behalf of the said City to the Legislature last year and certain amendments of the said Act were obtained, but your Memorialists regret to observe that uncertainties in the said amendments admitting of different constructions as to the Assessments on Banking, Fire, & Marine Assurance Associations and Joint Stock Companies still exist which have given rise to further law proceedings in the said Supreme Court of a very expensive character. On this subject therefore your Memorialists are desirous that your Honorable House may pass other amendments of the said Acts now in force, explanatory of the true intention of the Legislature as to assessing such Banking Associations and Joint Stock Companies, and whether the ability and capacity of such Companies and Associations beyond the Real Estate as therein mentioned, does not mean a rate and Assessment to be made on the Capital actually in use to be assessed like real Estate as mentioned in the 5<sup>th</sup> section of the said amendments

having due regard to the actual profit derived by such Company or Association on their business for the preceding year. And your Memorialists beg leave to state that they think this to be the true meaning and at all events the just and equitable construction of the said amendments. Your Memorialists are also anxious that Your Honorable House would frame the amendments now sought for in such manner as to terminate, if possible, the very heavy law proceedings now in course of adjudication.

Your Memorialists beg leave further to state that the Acts of the Province now in force relating to Fires and Firewards in the said City are very imperfect, inasmuch as that sufficient power is not vested in the Firewards, Justices, or other City Officers to enforce the services of parties assembling at Fires when frequently with such power much property might be saved and the fire extinguished. Your Memorialists would therefore suggest that an Act should pass authorizing the Mayor, Firewards, Aldermen, and all Justices of the Peace to require the services of those who may attend at any Fire which may hereafter happen in the said City, who are mere idle Spectators and not usefully engaged in the preservation of property, or extinguishing or preventing the progress of the Fire upon pain of being immediately committed to Gaol by such Officers, or any of them, upon disobeying the orders, or refusing to give their names, or otherwise complying with the reasonable requests of such Officers.

And Whereas discontent and inconveniences frequently arise from the mode prescribed by the 17<sup>th</sup> Section of William 1, Chapter 11. for the employment of Surveyors of Lumber in the City of Halifax, whereby the Seller of that article has the choice of such Surveyor; and whereas the several Companies or Bodies of City Officers are by a Resolution or Bye Law of the said City under the direction, in many respects, of a Supervisor appointed over each respective class or body of such Officers, Your Memorialists conceive that the evils complained of would be remedied by adopting the same course with regard to the Surveyors of Lumber and that in the employment of such Surveyors the Supervisor to be appointed by the City Council should assign the several Surveyors to employment as it occurs, so as to give to each individual an equal portion of the work as well as the emolument of their Office. Your Memorialists therefore request that such an amendment of the said Acts may pass as that neither the Seller nor the buyer may have the choice of the Surveyor in the first instance.

February 5<sup>th</sup>

or unless a dispute arises, and for the Settlement whereof the Act has already provided.

Your Memorialists are also anxious that the Act relative to the inspection of Smoked Herrings shipped from this Port may be so altered as to give the City Council authority to appoint a sufficient number of Inspectors for the City of Halifax, as such an Amendment would prevent the many evils now practised upon the Importers of that article into this City.

And your Memorialists as in duty bound will ever pray.

Halifax February 1844.

(Signed) A. Keith  
Mayor.

The following order to City and Ward Assessors having been read the same is directed to be sent to them without delay:

Office of City Clerk  
Halifax 5<sup>th</sup> February 1844.

"Gentleman,

Whereas the City Council have by a Resolution of 26 December last ordered the sum of Four Thousand two hundred and fifty pounds to be assessed or levied on, or be collected or raised from the Inhabitants of the City for and towards City purposes for the ensuing year, I have it in command from the City Council to direct you to proceed and make up said assessment on the Inhabitants of the respective Wards in the following manner, viz: in the most just and equal manner you the said Assessors, can devise by an equal pound rate on the Real Estate whereof such Inhabitants shall be respectively in the occupation or possession, regard being had to the value of the Rent of said Real Estate, and further according to the ability or capability of any such Inhabitant to pay towards said Assessment, and in making any assessment on any Banking, Fire or Marine Assurance Company or Association or Joint Stock Company, as to the amount to be taxed or assessed for their ability or capability beyond the Real Estate they shall respectively occupy or be in possession, you will have regard to the amount of the actual profit derived by said Company or Association in their business of the preceding year.

I have it further in Command from the City Council to inform you that said Assessment must be returned to this office on or before the tenth of April next

(S)

I have the Honor to be,

Meprs  
 Wm. A. Slooe 3  
 Thomas McKee 3 City Appraisers  
 Gentlemen, Your most Obedient Servant  
 (Signed) James A. Clarke  
 City Clerk.

Charles McKeary, Ward No 1  
 Thomas C. Kinnear " " 2  
 William McAggy " " 3  
 Robert Romans " " 4  
 Wm. J. Woodill " " 5  
 Henry Wilson " " 6

The following Report of the Committee to enquire into complaint made against the Coal Measurers are read, as also minutes of evidence.

— Report —

The Committee nominated by the Council to enquire into complaints made against the Coal Measurers, Beg to report,

That having given notice to the Supervisor and Measurers to be in attendance, they met at the Mayor's Office on the 25<sup>th</sup> January and called before them the Supervisor and each of the Measurers then present, and having separately examined them, are induced to believe Mr. Holland and all the Measurers (with the exceptions annexed) to be diligent, careful, and attentive, to their duties, and are of opinion that if the parties complained of were equally attentive, that the public would have but slight reason for complaint.

The Supervisor and all the Measurers having united in complaining of the negligence of P. Corcoran which was strengthened by complaints made against him at the Police Office, and he in his defence having failed to remove the unfavorable impression from our minds, we cannot recommend his being reappointed.

Dennis Curran is also complained of for want of attention, it appears that he has other employment, and does not depend upon his earnings as a Measurer for a livelihood. We are of opinion that the public would be better served by appointing another in his stead. Curran was not examined by the Committee, being at present out of the Province, and we believe without having obtained leave from His Worship the Mayor.

Henry Inglis is also complained of by the Measurers. They state that he is frequently called away from his duty as a Measurer to serve as a Constable, and as this absence is temporary he usually divides with his brother Measurers the earnings of the week. Inglis is admitted to be a very correct and attentive Measurer, but we

— February 5<sup>th</sup> —

are of opinion that he should be required either to attend his turn of duty, or that he be not again sworn into Office, Inglis being at present ill, unable to attend the Committee.

It appearing to your Committee that much inconvenience to the public may be obviated by allowing the Measurers of Coal, Salt and Grain, to aid each other when either body of Measurers are fully employed and ascertaining from both that they were desirous of such a privilege, we are induced to recommend the arrangement to the Council believing that it will prevent the detention occasionally experienced from an insufficiency of either body.

From the return handed us we find the whole quantity of Coal measured during the Year to be 12,158 Chaldrons, the average earnings of each measurer to be £30.8.0

All of which we respectfully beg leave to submit.

Halifax 30<sup>th</sup> January 1844

(Signed) Edward Allison, Chairman

" William Caldwell

" B. L. Mack

When the following Resolution is introduced:

Resolved, That the Report just read be received and adopted, with the exception of exchange of Measurers which on being put is passed

Read following Memorial from Measurers of Salt and Grain

Halifax 29<sup>th</sup> January 1844

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council, Gentlemen, As we the undersigned, Measurers of Salt and Grain most respectfully request to be admitted to Petition Your Worships on a subject relative to the appointments of the same.

Whereas we consider there would a great difficulty arise in the regulations of the Company in allowing any one of them to have their own earnings and give them an undue advantage over the Company as their earnings for a short time might be more than their dividend for a year. As regards Mr. Wilkie the Company would prefer allowing him £20 for the Year in case he lives and to be paid quarterly as for his great age and want of hearing we consider him totally unfit to do the duty, and as Your Worships thought fit to approve of me as Supervisor of that Company I could not conscientiously appoint him to a burgo of Salt or Grain without apprising the parties of his inability to take charge of the same. As regards Mr. Stevens he not complying with the rules of the Company, and as Mr. Johnston

our late Supervisor has this last Spring in presence of Mr. McCann one of our Measurers ordered him for duty which he declined, making some excuses with regard to the weather and a short time afterwards seeing there was likely to be something worth while coming to the Company he came out without being ordered and took charge of a Grain vessel so as to come in for his part of the whole earnings of the Spring and accordingly did so, and as he has broke through the rules of the Company by lending or hiring his Salt Tubs and giving no return of the proceeds thereof to the Company which is a violation of the Rules of the Company as all money earned that way has been divided in the Company as our late Supervisor can prove by our own returns and his Books, and also this last fall when the weather became cold he told Mr. Jennings and Mr. Palmer that he would not come out any more to do duty as his health might be impaired then afterwards lent or hired his Tubs to Mr. Fyler and put the earnings of them in his own pocket. And as the Company is creditably informed that he has been left a large sum of money by the death of his father-in-law that in our opinion makes him independent of the Company to do as he pleases. Now Gentlemen if your Worship's please to give us two good duty men in place of Messrs. Milkie and Stevens the duty would be done with satisfaction to the Public; and if your worship would empower the Supervisor to call upon one or more of the Coal Measurers if there be an occasion as we would be willing to assist them also.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

- (Signed) John Kelly
- John Jennings
- Alex. Johnston
- Thomas McCann
- John McStay
- John Palmer.

And it appearing that Mr. Milkie has consented to accept said annuity, and that Mr. Stevens has resigned, the City Council proceed to fill up said vacancies, when the Ballot is taken and there appeared for Cullen 8, Robb 9, Aull 7, Lefsel 9, Brown 1. - William Robb and James Lefsel are appointed Measurers of Salt and Grain.

The City Council next proceed to fill up the two vacancies of Coal Measurers in place of Patrick Corcoran and Dennis Ferran removed, when the Ballot is taken and there appeared for Neville 13, Cullen 6, Berrigan 4, Edwards 1, Sheridan 3, Donnell,

Byrne 1, Wade 3, Fraser 1, — Thomas Neville and James Cullen are therefore appointed Measurers of Coal.

The City Council next proceed to appoint a Measurer of Wood in place of Alexander Malcom deceased, when there appeared for Reagh 1, Donell 1, Sheridan 1, Walsh 1, — Thomas Reagh is therefore appointed Measurer of Wood.

Henry Pryor Esquire is appointed Fire Ward for Ward No. 1, in place of Joshua Lee Esquire removed to Ward No. 2.

The City Council order payment of the following accounts by Checks on City Treasurer.

Sir James Kempt	£125.0.0
Stephen Pogg	12.10.0
John Spry Morris	12.10.0
Hon. Crossfellins	12.10.0
Abion Insurance Company	37.10.0
Governors of King's College	25.0.0
Jacob Curry	£30.0.0
William McKay	3.17.6

The Council then adjourned.

Keith Mayor

Halifax February 8<sup>th</sup> 1844.

Henry Pryor Esquire having taken the Oath prescribed by Law is this day sworn into office as Fireward for the City of Halifax (Ward No. 1) in place of Joshua Lee Esquire removed to Ward No. 2, in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Halifax February 9<sup>th</sup> 1844.

William Holland, John Stirling, Joseph Findlay, Malcom Douglas, John Donnell, Patrick Connor, Samuel King, Henry Inglis, Thomas Neville, and James Cullen having taken the oaths prescribed by Law are this day sworn into office as Measurers of Coal in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Halifax 10<sup>th</sup> February 1844

John Walker, Jacob Kousner, Thomas Seagh, and Cornelius Sullivan having taken the Oaths prescribed by Law, are this day sworn into office as Measurers of Wood in presence of Alderman Allison.

10<sup>th</sup> February John Kelly, John Jennings, John Palmer, Alexander Johnson, John McKay, William Robb, James Lepell and Thomas McCann are sworn into office as Measurers and Weighers of Salt and Grain, in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Halifax February 13<sup>th</sup> 1844

At a Special Meeting of the City Council held this day Present His Worship the Mayor, Alderman Story, McKimlay, Starr, Allison, Caldwell and Bell. Messrs Anderson, Pyra, Spike, Fairbanks, Sinclair, Black, Jennings, Hunter, Hummer, Rhind, Winters and Rugg.

The City Council were summoned to take into Consideration a resolution of Cemetery Committee, the report of Commissioners of Streets, as to the best mode of cleaning the same, the resolution relative to equalizing pay of Constables, an application from Messrs Stairs others relative to charge on Storage of Gunpowder.

Read over proceedings of 5<sup>th</sup> February 1844

A resolution of Cemetery Committee is read:-

Extract from the Minutes of the Committee of Cemetery.

January 31<sup>st</sup> 1844

Resolved, That the sum of One Hundred Pounds be borrowed by the Cemetery Committee to pay off the debts due by them for work performed at the Cemetery, subject to the approval of the Council.

A True Copy (signed) N. Bell, Chairman.

When following Resolution is introduced:

Resolved, That the Cemetery Committee be authorised to borrow the sum of One Hundred pounds to meet the foregoing Resolution of Cemetery Committee.

Which on being put is passed.



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February 13<sup>th</sup>

The following Extract from the Records of the Commissioners of Streets is read:

Halifax 28<sup>th</sup> January 1844

"The Cleansing of the Streets was brought under consideration when it was Resolved, That Contracts be taken for Wards No 1 and 2 together, for wards No 5 & 6 together, and for Wards No 3 and 4 Separately, and that the same person or persons be not allowed to take more than one Contract as thus arranged, and that the Contractors find a place of deposit for night Soil and other manure, as may be approved by the Commissioners of Streets and Health Inspector, and that the Contractor be required when cleansing the Streets to clean the Sidewalks and gutters, sweeping the pavement of the gutters when collecting the manure, and removing all nuisances, such as Dead Cats or rats or any other filthy offensive matter that may be found in the Streets." (Signed) H. Bell, Chairman.

When the following Resolution is introduced:

Resolved, That the foregoing Report be received and adopted and that the Commissioner of Streets be requested to advertise for Tenders for the performance of said Work and report thereon, which on being put is passed.

The Resolution introduced by Alderman Starr on the subject of equalizing the pay of four Stables is read, and the same having been discussed, Mr Alderman Starr, by consent of Council, withdraws the same

The following Communication from Messrs Stairs and son and others relative to reduction on rate of Storage of Gunpowder is read:-

Halifax 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1844

Sir, We beg leave respectfully to intimate that jointly with others we addressed the City Council in June 1842, asking for a reduction of the charge made by the City Authorities for keeping Gunpowder in the Magazine to which communication the City Council were pleased to reply, under date of 29<sup>th</sup> June 1842, stating "that the Magazine being still in Debt the rate of Storage cannot be reduced, but that when the liabilities are paid the present application of William Stairs and son and others shall receive the most favorable consideration." The object of now addressing you is to call the attention of the City Council to our application of June 1842 as well as the answer with which it was favored, and we would respectfully state for the information of the City Council, that the charge heretofore made, say one penny per lb, is equal to a tax on the description of Gunpowder

most in use, of twenty per cent, which added to the Provincial duty of 5% makes the tax excessive, so much so as to lessen so far as the article of Gunpowder is concerned the trade; - were the charge reduced dealers would be the better able to compete with the illicit trader or Smuggler, through whose means very considerable quantities of Gunpowder are brought into the Parts of the Bay of Fundy, and Gunpowder being an article of the first necessity in several branches of Industry, should be furnished to consumers at the lowest possible rate - The safety of the City requires that the rate of Storage should be as moderate as existing circumstances will allow, as Parties to avoid an excessive charge, may be induced to secrete in their premises unreasonable quantities of Gunpowder to the endangering the safety of the City. In 1842 the receipts by the City Treasurer, for Storage of Gunpowder were £86.19.2 and in 1843 £110.17.0 - The Act passed in 1827, authorising the Building of a Magazine, makes it imperative for the vendors of Gunpowder to place it there, - and it will be found on reference to the Act that the City Council are empowered to exact such a rate of Storage as in their own discretion may seem fit and proper. We therefore hope that this Communication may receive a favorable consideration.

We remain, Sir, Yours respectfully  
 (signed) Wm. Hairs ofon  
 Bejonett & Brown  
 Edward. Mho. &c.

To His Worship the Mayor

When the following Resolution is introduced:  
 Resolved, That the rate of Gunpowder be reduced to one half penny per pound, not to be subject to any additional tax for the second year, - which on being put is passed.

Read letters from Agents of Alliance Fire Insurance Company, The Hartford & Protection Insurance Companies, and Actua Fire Insurance Company, in answer to communications of His Worship the Mayor, as to what amounts these Companies feel disposed to contribute towards the payment of a new Fire Engine ordered from England. (See file of Feb'y 1844)

The Council then adjourned.

A. Keith Mayor

Halifax March 16<sup>th</sup> 1844

At a Special Meeting of the City Council held this day, <sup>Present,</sup>  
His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen, Stoy, McKeilay, Allison,  
Caldwell, Bell, Messrs Poyer, Spike, Foubanks, Sinclair, Black  
Jennings, Hunter, Heumson, Rhind, Winters and Rugg.

The City Council were summoned to take into consideration  
an act for lighting the City with Gas, - and the transaction  
of other business.

Read over proceedings of 13<sup>th</sup> February 1844. -

The City Council order payment of following accounts

Gas Company - 15-3

Daniel McGuire 6-5-0

Read the Act for lighting the City of Halifax, when following  
resolution is introduced,

Whereas the City is now considerably in debt, the taxation heavy  
and the Assessment peculiarly hard upon the middle and lower  
classes therefore Resolved, That at the present time it is inexpedient  
and would be injudicious to assess the Inhabitants for the general  
lighting of the City with Gas, in the manner now proposed to be  
done by the Bill about to be introduced to the Legislature, -  
especially as the existing Law gives the power to do so when a  
Majority of the residents in each Street require it, beyond which  
in the present state of the City and its funds the Council would  
be unwilling to coerce their fellow Citizens, -

Which on being put is passed unanimously, - and that Messrs  
Allison, Heumson, and Foubanks, be a Committee to wait on  
Mr Uniacke with said Resolution. -

The Council then adjourned

A Keith Mayor

Halifax 21<sup>st</sup> March 1844

Nicholas Wright Robert Malcom, Hugh W. McKenzie, and James Reid having taken the oath prescribed by Law are this day sworn into office as Measurers of Masons Work in the presence of His Worship the Mayor.

21<sup>st</sup> March. George Anderson, Joseph Hamilton, Thomas Mc Murray and William Maxwell having taken the oath prescribed by Law are this day sworn into office as Sealers <sup>and Inspectors</sup> of Leather for the City of Halifax in the presence of His Worship the Mayor.

23 March 1844 - Henry Hoskins & Henry Merkle having taken the oath prescribed by Law are this day sworn into office as Fence viewers in the presence of His Worship the Mayor.

23 March 1844 - Thomas Connolly, Robert Duway, & John Maloney having taken the oath prescribed by Law are this day sworn into office as Coat and Negroes, in the presence of His Worship the Mayor.

23 March 1844. John Tucker Junior having taken the oath prescribed by Law is this day sworn into office as Fence viewer, in the presence of Alderman Stong.

