

1851
January 10

City of Halifax
Province of Nova Scotia

Know all men by these presents that
I Laurence Hartshorn of Halifax and Province of Nova
Scotia City Treasurer as Principal and the Honorable Samuel
Conrad and Hugh Hartshorn Esquire of the said City as Sureties
are held and firmly bound to the said City of Halifax in the sum of
Two thousand pounds of lawful money of the Province aforesaid
to be paid to the said City of Halifax for which payment well
and truly to be made, We bind ourselves, our Heirs, Executors,
and administrators firmly by these presents, sealed with
our seals and dated this twenty sixth day of December in
the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and fifty

L Hartshorn's
Bond
City Treasurer

Whereas His Worship the Mayor
and the Council of the said City have been pleased to appoint
the aforementioned Laurence Hartshorn to be the City Treasurer

Now the condition of the obligation
is such that if the said Laurence Hartshorn shall well and
faithfully execute and discharge all the duties of the said
Office according to the provisions and true intent and meaning
of the act passed by the General Assembly of this Province,
entitled to incorporate the town of Halifax and any other
act or acts of the Legislature or Ordinance or Bye Laws of
the said City, Council or any rules or regulations of the City
Council that may be made relating thereto, and shall duly
account to the City of Halifax for all and every sum or sums
of money whatever which have heretofore been received by
him, or which shall hereafter come into his hands by virtue
of his Office as such City Treasurer, then this obligation to be
said otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue

Signed sealed and
delivered in presence of
Richard Freeman Mayor
Witness to signature of Samuel Conrad
J. S. Clarke to the signatures
of L Hartshorn and H Hartshorn

L Hartshorn
S Conrad
H Hartshorn

Resolution
of Com^r of Streets
rel to John Taylors
A/c

Read following resolution of Commissioners
of Streets relative to John Taylors account
Resolved that the account be submitted to
the City Council at first Meeting with a request that the amount
be paid out of the General funds of the City
True copy
John Watt Chairman
When following resolution introduced

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Resolution
rel. to John Taylors
etc

Resolved that Mr John Taylors account
against Commissioners of Streets amounting to £84.19.9 be paid
from out of General Funds of City, which on being put & passed

Read following Petition and Certificate
of Thomas Shea for House pulled down at Late fire
to His Worship the Mayor of the City of
Halifax

The Petition of Thomas Shea of the City of
Halifax Cooper humbly sheweth

Petition of
Thomas Shea
relative to House
pulled down at
Fire of 11th Dec

That your petitioner is the owner of Certain
Real estate situate on the West side of Colburn Street in this City,
That on the morning of Wednesday the eleventh day of December last past
the buildings erected on the said premises consisted of a dwelling house
of a story and a half in height fronting on the said Street, said building
being about thirty feet in front on the said Street, and twenty eight feet
in depth. There was also on the premises another house at the rear of the
said house, which is now standing on the said premises, That on the
Morning of the said eleventh day of December the buildings to the West
and South of the said premises having taken fire it was deemed necessary
for the preservation of the buildings to the South of your petitioners
property and for the safety of the City Generally that the said buildings
belonging to your petitioner fronting on Colburn Street should be
pulled down. That orders were given, as your petitioner understood by
the proper authorities to have the same pulled down which was done
by one fireman and others inhabitants of this City, That the said house
was not on fire when the said orders were given, nor did the same take fire
during the time of carrying such orders into execution, Your petitioner
has been informed that the orders for pulling the said house down were
given by four fire Wards or magistrates of this City and he therefore con-
sider himself entitled to receive compensation from this City to the value
of the damage done to the said premises, agreeably to the laws of this Province
and your petitioner annexes a certificate hereto of two master Carpenters
of the Cost of replacing the said building in the State in which it was before
it was pulled down

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays Your
Worship to take such steps as to Your Worship shall seem meet for the
purpose of compensating Your Petitioner for the damage he has sustained
in the premises. And Your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray
Halifax 6th January 1851.

By Thomas Shea

We the undersigned firewards of the City of
Halifax Do hereby certify that we were on duty at the fire which took
place

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place on the morning of Wednesday the seventh day of December last past and which consumed the North Barracks and the buildings on the block between the said barracks and Albernall Street that while engaged in such duty we conceived it necessary that the wooden building situate on the west side of Albernall Street and belonging to Thomas Shea should be pulled down in order to prevent the fire from extending along that Street to the Northward that accordingly and in the execution of our duty as fire Wards, and for the safety of the City we ordered the said house to be pulled down, which was done by the fire firemen of the City and others under our superintendance

Malpas January 6th 1851

Sir Adam Peid

Mr. Minwell

Robert Remains

When the following resolution is introduced

Resolution relative to foreign Petition

Resolved that said Petition be referred to same Committee as that of Messrs. Morrison and Wallis, which on being put is passed

The City Council next proceed to take into consideration the Apepment on the Alliance Company where following resolution is introduced

Resolution rel to Apepment on Alliance Ins: Company

Resolved that the City Clerk be requested to call the attention of the Messrs. Young Agents for the Alliance Assurance Company to the 14th section of the Act 12th Victoria Chapter 14 which requires President Secretaries of Joint Stock Companies or Corporations to furnish a written statement of the Net Profits on or before 1st February in each year, and that they be requested to pay the penalty for non compliance therewith which on being put is passed

His Worship the Mayor next brings to the notice of the City Council the salary of the Mayor for present year and having requested permission to withdraw on Motion Alderman Murdoch takes the Chair, where the following resolution is introduced

Resolutions relative to the Mayors Salary

Resolved that the Mayors salary for the present year be three hundred pounds to which the following amendment is introduced

Resolved that the Mayors salary for the present year be two hundred and fifty pounds, which amendment being put is lost 8 voting for it and 9 against it, and the names being called for

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For they stood thus
For the Amendment
Mayer Saylor
Roche
Noble
Smithers
Mitchell
Eyon
McAndrew
Watt 8

Against the Amendment
Mayer King
Silms
Kest
Merrison
Sturmining
Knight
More
Laudlaw
McAndrew 9

Notice to reconsider
foregoing resolution

The original resolution is then put and
carried 9 voting for it and 8 voting against it. Alderman
Roche gives notice for reconsideration of this resolution at next
meeting of Council

Mayer's Salary
fixed at £250
by his casting vote

On Motion His Worship the Mayor resumes the
Chair, and a motion having been made and the Mayor having
consented that the question of the salary of the present year should now
be taken the Motion is then made that the salary for the present
year be £250 and the question being taken there appeared for it 9
against it 9 and there being an equality of votes His Worship the
Mayor is called upon to give his casting vote, which His Worship votes
for £250

The City Council next proceed to take up
the report of the Committee of Public Property relative to New Market (as
introduced Feb 14/51) and the said report having been again read On
Motion the said report is received, when following resolution is
introduced

Resolution
adopting the Plan
re reported upon
by Com of City Property
rel to New Market

Resolved that the Market House be erected
completed and finished according to the Plans and Specifications
marked N/1 by Mr David Aulick the Architect and submitted to
the Council, provided that the Legislature will grant permission to
borrow the further sum of Four thousand pounds to complete the
same, and to obtain the ground required for said Building
which on being put is passed

Resolution
to prepare a Bill
rel to foregoing

Resolved that the Committee of City Property
together with Mr Mayor the Recorder be requested to prepare
a Bill and submit the same to the Legislature in accordance
with the foregoing resolution, which on being put is passed

Read

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Read following letter from William Young
Esquire Chairman of the Committee for revising the laws of the
Province

Halifax 7 January 1851

Sir

The Commissioners for Consolidating and
revising the Statutes of the Province have necessarily turned their
attention to the numerous acts which have been passed since 1758
and are still in force but are confined in their operations to the
Township or City of Halifax. They are upwards of thirty in number
as appears by the enclosed list embracing a great variety of
subjects. Some of them inconsistent with each other, some by
implication or partially repealed, or obsolete though remain-
ing on the Statute Book, and others so obscurely expressed
as to be difficult of Comprehension. The Commissioners beg to
inclose also two of the Chapters of the new Code as illustrative of
the system they have adopted and in which they have aimed
to combine simplicity with clearness. They have found it
impossible however to do more than prepare for the action of
Legislature those of the existing laws which are of universal
application and which will be compressed into one volume.
A second volume will contain a reprint of all the acts relating
that effect particular Counties or Townships, Incorporated
Companies or individuals interests. The whole of the acts relating
to Halifax would thus be reprinted just as they are. a result
much to be regretted as it will lead to embardment and difficulty
and create a necessity for further legislation. Under these circum-
stances the Commissioners beg to suggest to the City Council through
Your Worship the great advantage of having all the acts that affect
the City consolidated into one or two Chapters upon the same prin-
ciple as the new Code. and including of course the acts of Incorporation.
The task will involve a considerable amount of labour and will
require the undivided attention of two or three competent persons.
Should the Council think fit to adopt this suggestion the Com^{rs}
will be happy to afford every assistance in their power though
it may be proper to add that their time will be so fully occupied
till the meeting of the Assembly in perfecting their own department
that they cannot undertake any part of the labour which they
have ventured to recommend as indispensable to be done.

Communication
from W Young Esq
relative to
Consolidating
the Laws

I have the honor to be

Your most obed^t Serv^t
W Young
Chairman

To His Worship
The Mayor

when following resolution is introduced
Resolved

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Resolution
to render to
wise the Laws

Resolved that the Mayor the Recorder be requested to take up the various acts submitted by the Commissioners for revising the acts, and have them consolidated into one or more acts, and that he be authorised to employ such assistance as may be necessary to enable him to complete the said work which on being put is passed

The following resolution is next introduced

Resolution
for Com^{rs} of Street
to expend £20
levelling Snow in
Streets

Resolved that the sum of Twenty pounds be placed at the disposal of the Commissioners of Street to enable them to level the banks of Snow in the various parts of the City, which on being put is passed

M.C.

January 11
Law^r Hartshorn
Sworn into Office
as City Treasurer

Lawrence Hartshorn Esquire having taken the oath of Office prescribed by Law is this day sworn into Office as City Treasurer in presence of His Worship the Mayor,

January 13
Fire Wards
Sworn

P.C. Mill & William C. Manning having taken the oath of Office prescribed by Law is this day sworn into office as Fire Ward for the City in presence of His Worship the Mayor,

January 14
Fence Viewers
Sworn

Peter Grant and Matthew Sound having taken the oath of Office prescribed by Law are this day sworn into Office as Fence Viewers for the City in presence of His Worship the Mayor

January 14
Fire Wards
Sworn

George McKensie having taken the Oath of Office prescribed by Law is this day sworn into Office as Fire Ward for the City in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

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January 16
Peace Viewers
Sworn

William Marble having taken the Oath of Office prescribed by Law is this day sworn into Office as Peace Viewers for the City in presence of His Worship the Mayor

January 16
Mag Reeves
Sworn

Peter Bulger, Samuel Noble, William West and William Campbell having taken the Oath of Office prescribed by Law, are this day sworn into Office as Goat and Mag Reeves for the City of Halifax in presence of His Worship the Mayor

1851

January 17th

A special Meeting of the City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Alderman Ludlow, Mitchell, Mr. McNeill, Smith, , Watt, Morrison, Murdoch, Taylor, Egan, Johns, Roche, Kimmings, , Anderson and Knight

The City Council were summoned to take into consideration the report of the Committee of Conference with Fire Wards the report of the Committee on subject of W^m Samson and Charles Wallis and Thomas Shea's Petition the appointment of Surveyors of Luncheon and the transaction of other business

Read and proceedings of 10 January 1851

Henry Inglis and paid

On Motion Henry Inglis account amounting to £3.3/ is directed to be paid

The City Council proceed to take into consideration the report of Committee of Conference with Fire Department as entered 12 December last (folo 430)

On considering the second third and fourth sections relative to want of additional men and property of granting remuneration where following resolution is introduced

Resolution relative to paying Fire men

Whereas the City Council have become fully impressed with the importance that some measures should be adopted to induce individuals to come forward and enrol themselves as members of the Engine and Fire Companies, and as it appears to the Council that the most effectual mode at present in the power of the Council would be to allow each Member of these Companies an annual sum in addition to the privileges they now enjoy, which annual sum to be hereafter agreed upon Therefore Resolved that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the different Insurance Companies to ascertain what amount they will annually subscribe toward so desirable an object and which this Council conceive will be the means of not only tending to the greater efficiency of these Companies, but at the same time afford additional assistance on so desirable a matter as the preservation of the lives and property of their fellow Citizens which on being put is passed

Resolved that Aldermen Roche, Murdoch and Noble be that Committee, which being put is passed
Ow

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On considering the 5 Section relative to Bell at the North End, the following resolution is introduced

Resolution
rel to Fire Bell
at North End

Resolved that the sum of Twenty five pounds be granted by the Council towards the purchase of a Fire Bell in the North End of the City, whenever twenty five pounds is obtained for that purpose by subscription, which on being put is passed

On considering the 6th Section relative to Sweeping of Chimneys, the following resolution is introduced

Resolution
rel to Sweeping
Chimneys

Resolved that Section be referred to His Honor the Recorder for his opinion and if found that the power is solely vested in the Board of Fire Wards that they be requested to carry the same into effect by granting Licenses to Suit Persons as they may deem competent for this Office parties applying given the necessary security, the rates to be as at present and Parties applying paying the sum of 20/- for a License which on being put is passed

7 and 8 Sections relative to improper use of Hydrant opposite Hamiltons and removal of Hydrant South East corner of Province Building on Motion stands over for next meeting

The following resolutions are next introduced

Resolution
to expend £10
Carrying Hooks
and Ladders to fire

Resolved that the Captain of the Aps Company be authorised to expend to the extent of Ten pounds for the ensuing year for the purpose of Carrying the Hooks and Ladders to fire which on being put is passed

Resolution
authorising Fire Ward
to open Fire Plug
Corner of Albermarl
and Duke Street

Resolved that the Fire Wards be authorised to open the Fire Plug Corner of Duke and Albermarl Streets Ward No 4. Two hours in each day during the winter months for the accommodation of Citizens for which they have the concurrence of this Council provided the same is sanctioned by the Water Company, which on being put is passed

Read following report of Committee on subject of Wm Jamison and Charles Watts Petitions for remuneration for News pulled down at the late Fire

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The Committee appointed to make enquiry into the claims of Mr Wm Jamison and Mr Charles Wallis for compensation for the pulling down their houses situate in Ward No 4 by order of the Fire Wards on the 11 Dec 1850 by leave to report as follows viz

The Committee notified the petitioners to attend before them with the evidence in support of their claims and that on Tuesday and Wednesday the 7th & 8th instant they were so attended accordingly.

That the witnesses adduced by Mr Jamison were sworn and examined before your Committee in open Court and their evidence reduced to writing by the Clerk of the City, and that your Committee are of opinion that the house of Mr Jamison for which he claims damages, being a small house that adjoined his corner dwelling house, was destroyed by an order of fire Wards given according to law and that the progress of the fire southwardly was timely arrested and that the said Jamison is entitled to be compensated by the City for the destruction of his building they therefore recommend that appraisers of such damages be appointed.

That in like manner the witness produced by Mr Wallis were examined under oath and their evidence was taken in open Court before your Committee and reduced to writing by the City Clerk. That your Committee are not of opinion that the fire was arrested by the demolition of said Wallis's house, and that although the order for the same was given according to law yet as the building took fire before such order was fully carried into effect. Your Committee are of opinion that the said Wallis is not legally entitled to compensation from the City as the Act of 1848 & Province Laws p. 38 is express on that point.

Your Committee return herewith the written testimony in both cases for the consideration of the Council if necessary. Your Committee feel bound to add that no blame can justly attach to any of the Fire Wards for their orders in those cases on the contrary that they appear to have acted with the best intentions and to have been in every way faithful and earnest in duty on this trying occasion, which a conflagration that threatened such sweeping havoc, was checked by the most gallant conduct on the part of the Fire authorities, Engine, and Workmen and the Military and Citizens in general.

Signed Wm Roche

To the Worshipful the Mayor
and Aldermen in Council
Halifax January 9th 1851

Wm Anderson
Peter Morrison
R. H. Miniswanzy
John Taylor
Beaman Murdoch Recorder

Report of
Committee on
Subject of Mr
Jamison and
Chas Wallis's
Petition

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When on motion said report is received and following resolution introduced

Resolution appointing appraisers to value W. Jamison's Damages

Resolved that David Calder and William Payfield be appointed to make a valuation of the damages sustained by William Jamison the owner of a house situated in Banack Street and ordered to be pulled down by directions of Four fire Wards at the fire which took place on the morning of the 11 December and that they make return of their proceedings upon oath to this Council by the first day of February next, which on being put is passed

The City Council next proceed to appoint Surveyors of Lumber for ensuing year

Read and proceeding the various returns of Surveyors

Description and Number of feet of Lumber Surveyed at Halifax from 1st December 1849 to 22 April 1850 while the Surveyors were embodied

Return of Surveyors of Lumber

Merchantable Pine Deal	8984
Refuse Pine do	4383
Merchantable Spruce do	18840
Refuse Spruce do	4046
Merchantable Birch, beech, and maple do	4146
Refuse do do do do	1240
Clear Pine Boards and Plank	574
Merchantable Pine Boards and Plank	379571
Refuse do do do do	301273
Merchantable Spruce do do	162016
Refuse do do do	68891
Merchantable Hemlock do do	363115
Refuse do do do	165755
Merchantable Birch, Beech and Maple do	13831
Refuse do do do	2088
Merchantable Oak boards and Plank	3006
Refuse do do do	1968
Clear Pine Weatherboards	645
Merchantable do	..
Refuse Slab boards	49452
Merchantable 2 in dimensions boards Pine	12870
Refuse do do do	4146
Merchantable Spruce Weatherboards	..
Mapogany	..
	<u>1,570,080</u>

Geo Henry Spiller M.L.C.

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The amount and description of Timber surveyed at Halifax from 1st December 1829 to 22 April 1831. while the surveyors were embarked

Merchantable Pine for Timber	7m 8 ^{ft}	
Refuse do do do	0.25	
Merchantable Oak do do	3.18	
Merchantable Dimension Timber		1193.
Refuse do do		89
Merchantable Rauping do		11362
Refuse do do		744
Merchantable Scantling do		8316
Refuse do do		75
	<u>10.6</u>	<u>21,979</u>
Henry Spike Supr.		

The amount and description of Timber surveyed by Henry Spike from 22 April to 1st December 1830

Merchantable Pine for Timber	7m 4 ^{ft}	
Merchantable Birch do do	1.14	
Merchantable Hemlock do do	345.32	
Refuse do do do	53.39	
Merchantable Hemlock Logs	76.10	
Refuse do do	1.9	
Merchantable Dimension Timber		1,862
Merchantable Rauping Timber		8,885
Refuse do do		527
Merchantable Scantling do		2,978
Refuse do do		30
	<u>503.214</u>	<u>14,282</u>
Henry Spike Supr.		

The amount and description of Timber surveyed by Henry Spike from 22 April to 1st Dec 1830

Merchantable Pine Deals		15,145
Refuse do do		18,950
Merchantable Spruce do		49,586
Refuse do do		9,815
Merchantable Birch do		461
Merchantable Pine Boards		217,412
Refuse do do		16,245
Merchantable Spruce do		84,318
Refuse do do		32,270
Merchantable Hemlock do		178,616
Merchantable Birch do		1,516
Refuse Hemlock do		46,966

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Refuse Pick Boards	964
Merchantable Oak do	7806
Refuse do do	2,180
Clear Pine Weather do	224
Merchantable do do	2,350
Merchantable prim ^{im} Pine do	35,805
Refuse do do do	3,072
Refuse Shalboards	217,588
Matuyany	3,526
<i>Total</i>	<u>1079,115</u>

James Spivey Supt.

Surveyed from the 24th April 1850 The following
Quantity of Lumber up to December 18th 1850

No 1 Pine	161,499
No 2 do	224,274
Refuse Pine	215,704
No 1 Spruce	66,256
No 2 Spruce	41,926
Refuse Spruce	43,180
No 1 Hemlock	189,615
No 2 do	98,457
Refuse do	88,541
Refuse Hard Wood	8,419
No Pine Deal	30,795
Refuse Spruce ^{prim} deal	37,611
No Spruce deal	62,886
Refuse Spruce deal	56,539
<i>Total</i>	<u>1363,159</u>

74 Tons and 98 Feet of Timber
By James Sutton Supt.

Surveyed from 24th April up to the first of
January 1851

No 1 Merchantable	145,000
No 2 Merchantable	160,000
Refuse	20,000
<i>Total</i>	<u>325,000</u>

By Robert Graham Surveyor

List of Lumber Surveyed by John Matheson
from the 22nd April 1850 to 30th of November 1850 viz

Merchantable

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Merchantable Pine Timber	1113889
Second Quality do do	26078
Refuse do do	113379
Merchantable Spruce do	311776
Second Quality do do	39090
Refuse do do	42916
Merchantable Spruce do	87774
Second Quality do do	8960
Refuse do do	14842
Merchantable Spruce do do	226648
Refuse do do	9726
Merchantable Pine do do	23777
Refuse do do	49078
Merchantable Hard Wood Plant	14613
Refuse do do do	3526
Total	<u>1415707</u>

Merchantable Sawed Scantling	21884
Refuse do do	2027
Merchantable Mixed Timber	5264
Two of Timber	29175
	<u>52</u>

By John McPherson Surveyor

When on Motion Henry Spoke, John McPherson James Sutton and Robert Graham are reappointed

On Motion William Boyfield is added to the list

On Motion William Lovell and William Anderson are reappointed

Read James Dechman Junior's application for situation of Surveyor of Timber, when no motion is made on the same

Read following letter from Recorder for compensation for consolidating various acts agreeably to resolution of Council

As the consolidating all the local acts embraces a new construction of the whole Act of Incorporation and beyond that a revision and construction of a great number of old laws perhaps 30 or 40 and involves a very serious labour which the Recorder respectfully conceives to be extraordinary duty not contemplated in the regular duties of his office under the Charter, he is ready to undertake it and has made

Surveyors of Timber appointed

Communication from Recorder for remuneration for Consolidating the Acts

Some

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Some progress, devoting all his time to it that is not occupied in his ordinary duty as recorder, but the resolution requiring him to perform this work not referring to any remuneration he is compelled reluctantly to state that he would not be able to give the extra labour and time in question gratuitously but is quite willing to do his best with the understanding that the Council will when he has completed the necessary bills or acts, be disposed to grant him such sum as they may then consider just and reasonable

By Bramish Murdoch
Recorder

in Council Feb. 18th 1851

The following resolution is introduced

Resolution
rel to paying Recorder
for Consolidating
the Laws

Resolved that His Honor the Recorder on completion of the Act he is now employed in consolidating submit his account for said services, when the Council will take the same into consideration and provide for payment thereof, which on being put is passed

W. C. Wallace Mayor

January 22

Surveyors of
Lumber
Sworn

Samy Spite, William Henderson, James Sutton, John McPherson, Robert Graham, and William Bayfield Sworn into Office as Surveyors of Lumber in presence of his Worship the Mayor

1851

January 25

At a Special Meeting of the City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Aldermen Fairclaw, Mitchell, Little, Watt, Moore, Murray, Murdoch, Sayle, Egan, Adams, Roche, Henderson, and Wright

The Council were summoned to take into consideration the Bill relative to the New Market and the transaction of other business

Read the Bill Clause by Clause when following resolution is introduced

Resolved that the Committee of City Property take charge of Bill for New Market House

Resolved that the Committee of City Property be requested to take charge of the Bill just read, hand the same to the Honorable the Attorney General, request him to present it to the House, see the other town and county members and request them to use their influence to have said Bill passed with as little delay as possible which on being put is passed

Read following application from Water Company for use of Fire Plug Halifax Water Company's Office January 25th 1851.

Communication from Water Coy for use of Hydrant in Alburnham St

Sir May I ask permission of your Worship to allow the truckmen the use of the upper Fire Plug in Alburnham Street for a short time for the purpose of drawing water for the use of the Troop in the Citadel

I remain Your obedient servant J. Shawcross Secretary

His Worship the Mayor

Leave Granted

When on Motion said application is granted

His Worship the Mayor brings to the notice of the Council that John Duffus refusing or neglecting to be sworn into Office as a Fire Ward when the following resolution is introduced

Resolved that in consequence of Mr Duffus former services as an Alderman of the City the amount of Fine to be demanded from Mr Duffus be Twenty Shillings to which following

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Following amendment is introduced

Resolutions
rel to Fine from
John Duffus
for refusing to
serve as Fire Ward

Resolved that the amount of fine to be demanded from John Duffus Esquire for refusing to serve as a Fire Ward be two pounds ten shillings, which amendment being put and seven voting for it and seven against it and His Worship the Mayor having given the casting vote against the amendment it is lost

The original resolution is then put and lost 5 voting for it and 9 against it

The following is next introduced

Resolved that the amount of fine to be demanded from John Duffus Esquire be one penny, which on being put is lost 3 voting for it and 11 against it

The following is next introduced

Resolved that the amount pointed out by the Act Five pounds be demanded from John Duffus Esquire for refusing to serve in the Office as a Fire Ward, which on being put is passed 11 voting for it and 3 against it

Ordinance
rel to Common
Read 1st & 2nd time

The Ordinance in addition to an Ordinance relating to the Common is read a first and second time when on Motion said Bye Law is ordered to be fairly engrossed and submitted to Council at next meeting

W. Wallace Mayor

1851
February 7

At a special meeting of the City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Aldermen Laidlaw Mitchell, W. Anderson, A. S. Smith, Noble, Hall, Moore, Morrison, Mundock, Taylor, Egan, Johns, Roche, Murrings, J. Anderson, and Wright

The City Council were summoned to appoint five City Censors, to take into consideration a communication from Commissioners of Schools relative to uniform system of Education by taxation, the Act of Incorporation, and the several other local acts as prepared by His Honor the Recorder and the transaction of other business

Read over proceedings of 25 January

The following resolutions are introduced

Resolutions
rel to Engine House
Masonic Hall

Whereas the period for the removal of the Engine House near Masonic Hall is near elapsed and it becomes absolutely necessary that a suitable place should be provided for the same. Therefore Resolved that a committee of three be appointed to cooperate with the Committee of Five Wards in charge of Property on the subject and report their proceedings to the Council which on being put is passed

Resolved that Aldermen Noble, Smithers, and Mitchell be that committee which on being put is passed

Resolutions
rel. to Hose and
Engine House at
St George Church

Whereas a large quantity of Hose has been ordered cut for the use of the various Engines and it is desirable that part thereof should be placed in the Engine House Number Four and whereas said building is too small to enable the Five Wards to carry into effect so desirable an object, and which building is likewise reported to be out of repair Therefore resolved that a committee of three be appointed to meet the Committee of Five Wards in charge of Property and that they be requested to call in the Churchwardens and Vestry of St George Church and ascertain if additional space of ground can be obtained to enlarge the said Building, or if a new Building be deemed necessary, they submit a statement of the probable amount, and report their proceedings to the Council, which on being put is passed

Resolved that Aldermen Roche, Johns and Murrings be that committee, which on being put is passed

M. Norton

1851
February 7

Report of Com^{tee}
on Mr Fairbank's Com^{tee}
received

On Motion the Report of the Committee on subject
of Mr C. W. Fairbank's communication relative to survey and plans
of the City is received

Report of Com^{tee}
relative to
Thomas Shea's
Petition

Read following report of the Committee on
Thomas Shea's Petition
The Committee on the Petition of Thomas Shea
having heard the evidence of Petitioner under oath which they
return herewith in writing are of opinion that his claim is
correct in all points except that the order to pull down his
house emanated from three firewards only, whereas the law
requires the positive order of four previous to pulling down
any house at a fire. The Committee conceive the case a very
hard one on the petitioner. The Counsel of petitioner requests
to be at liberty to be heard before the Council

Wm. W. Roche
Geo. Taylor
J. H. Anderson
Peter Morrissey
Thomas Maudick Reader
S. L. Shannon Counsel for said Thomas
Shea is heard on his behalf when following resolution is introduced

Resolution
relative to
Thomas Shea's
Petition

Resolved that on view of the loss sustained by
Thomas Shea in the pulling down his house in Alburnham Street by
order of three of the Fire Wards of this City, and for which no agreement
can now by law be made upon the City, in consequence of the order
not having been given by four Fire Wards of the City, that this
Council will recommend the passage of a Special Act for the
purpose of authorizing compensation to the said Thomas Shea for
his said loss, if the Petitioner choose to apply for such an Act
from the Provincial Legislature, and provided such Act be
properly guarded, which on being put is passed

The City Council next take up the Election
of City Clerks

A motion is made that the various applications
upto day be received, which on being put is lost

Read over the various other applications

The City Council then proceed to elect two
City Clerks and the vote being taken there appeared for Mr
William McKay 15 votes Mr McKay is therefore elected one of
the City Clerks

City Clerks
Mr McKay
appointed

The City

1851

February 7th
 City Officers
 Francis Stevens Jr
 appointed

The City Council next proceed to elect the other City Officers and the votes being taken there appeared for Francis Stevens Jr. 11. Mr. J. Wash. 1. Mr. Stevens is therefore elected the other City Officers

Read following communication from Commissioners of Schools of the City

Scheme proposed by the City Commissioners of Schools with the view of bringing about a better regulated and more uniform system of Education in Halifax, by means of Compulsory Education.

The Commissioners of Schools for the City of Halifax in fulfilling the duties of their Commission since their appointment instituted a minute enquiry into the present condition of Education in Halifax, and regret to state that in point both of quantity and quality they found matters in many respects deficient.

It is generally admitted that in every well conditioned community there ought to be, at least, one in every six of the population, receiving education. On the Continent of Europe, in those countries where due attention is paid by the State to the cause of education, this is the average proportion of children at school. On the Continent of America as for example in the States of Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Massachusetts Vermont, Ohio, New Jersey, the number of children at school is much larger, averaging one in every four. Now in Halifax even on a moderate computation there cannot be more than 2000 at school which on the supposition that the whole population amounts to 8000 gives about one in every four leaving 2000 or nearly a half of the children capable of receiving instruction, without education and these generally speaking of that class in the community for which it is the bounden duty and interest of the State to care and provide a good and sound education.

With some creditable exceptions the Commissioners found the general style and character of the education given of an inferior description, and not at all equal to the advanced spirit of the age, there is little or nothing in the shape of a general system pursued, and thus the children in going from one school to another, and in advancing from a lower to a higher grade of instruction are exposed to manifold disadvantages, even the best qualified teachers, in the present state of affairs, are in a great measure unable to do any thing like justice to their professional attainments from the greivous irregularity of the attendance of the children.

From

Scheme of
 Com^{rs} of Schools
 for more uniform
 System of Education
 by Legislation

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 At

1851

February 27 From the great dissimilarity and deficiency of Books from the want of suitable school room accommodation, and above all from one teacher being oftentimes necessitated to carry on the the various branches of education, in some instances ranging from the elementary branches, to the higher departments in Classics and Mathematics.

The Commissioners having ascertained the present state of matters, and having to the best of their ability apportioned the sum of money placed at their disposal by the Legislature, have since had their attention mainly directed to the consideration of a remedy for meeting the existing wants and imperfections and have unanimously agreed to recommend to their fellow Citizens the following outline of a plan which they believe if fairly and fully worked, would be productive of great good in the whole matter of the education of the Young

1. That a uniform system be adopted with a thorough public supervision
2. That a Normal Institution be established for the training of well qualified teachers
3. That provision be made for a more competent and regular remuneration of the Teachers, and
4. That for the carrying out of these measures a general assessment of the rateable inhabitants be resorted to.

For the accomplishment of this plan it is proposed that there shall be 12 District Schools that is two schools for each City ward the one of a Primary and the other of a more advanced character with 4 Teachers for each school 3 male and one female, that there shall be a teacher for Drawing, and another for Music, who shall divide their instructions equally amongst all the schools of the City, and that one of these district schools in the most central situation shall serve all the purposes of a Normal Institution

Supposing that there is an average attendance of 300 Children at each of these schools, there would thus be provision made by the State for the education of 3600 Children leaving about 1000 for private adventure schools, these schools it is further proposed shall be under the entire management of the City Board of Education chosen by the rate payers in each ward

This Board shall act as Trustees of the Schools and have the entire control and regulation of their affairs electing and dismissing school masters, under certain conditions choosing their own paid Secretary, shall also discharge the duties of Superintendent of Education for the City of Halifax and under the direction of the Board, transmit periodical reports to the Government

In the