

102-1A

City of Halifax

Council Minutes

March 9, 1857

to

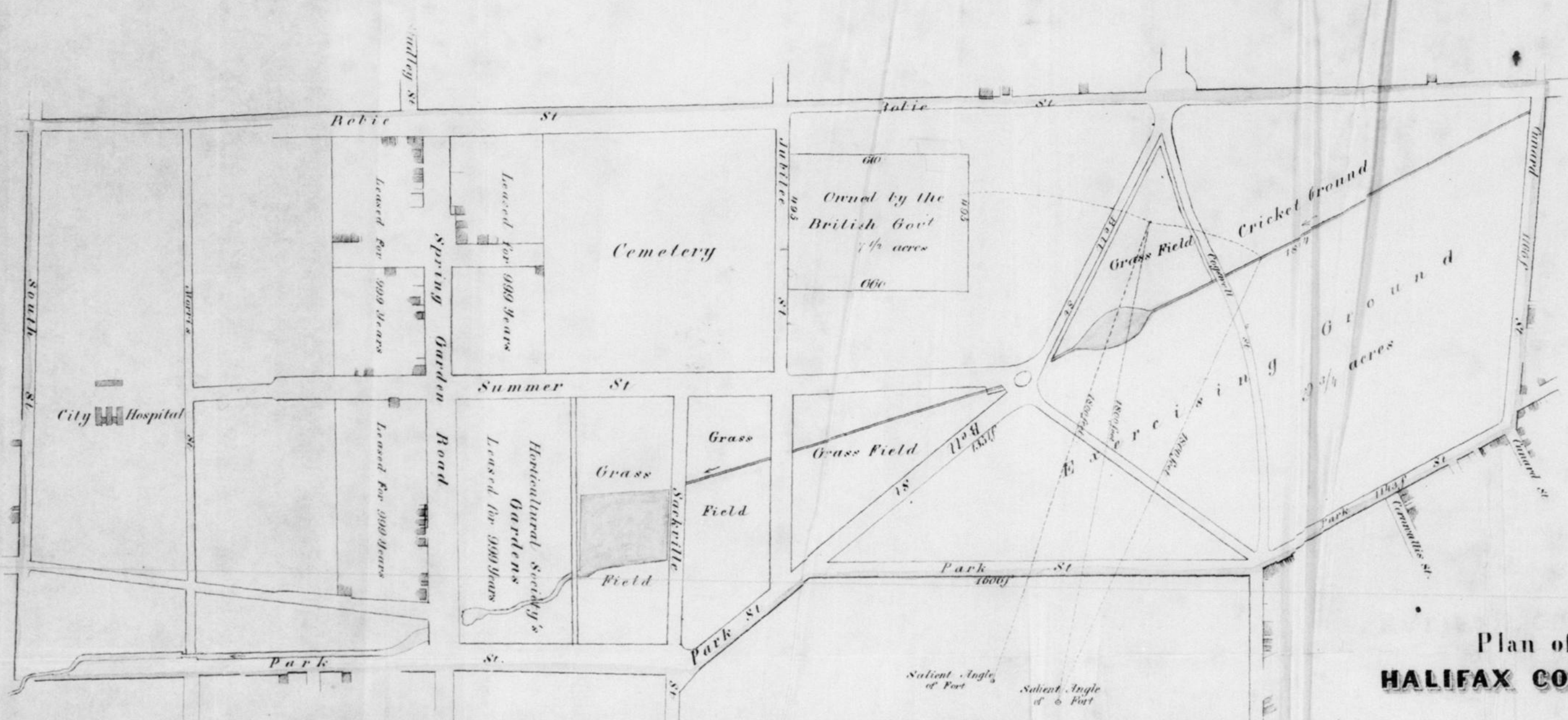
January 6, 1860

Records

of
City Council

for 1857 " 58 and 59

Liber **F**



Plan of
HALIFAX COMMON

Scale 400 feet to an inch

Plan and Survey by
Wm Gossip & Co

July 6, 1859

Genl. Quarter Master Halifax N.S.

HRM ARCHIVES

TEMPORARILY REMOVED TO MICROFILMING

Date removed: Nov. 1 2005

Description: Index to City of Hfx minutes
1857-1860

Removed from: City of Hfx minutes 1857-1860

— In Council —

1857

March 7th

At a Special Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Alderman Anderson, Stairs, Conchoe, Solomons, Bell, Cochran, Morrison, Ross, King, Mackay, Conway, Barry, King, Bongard, and Jennings.

The City Council were summoned to proceed with the matter standing over from previous meetings and the transaction of other Business

Read over proceedings of 27 February

Alderman Ross Chairman submits Report of Committee of Public Accounts of 7 March 1857

Alderman Mackay Chairman submits Report of Committee of Public Property of 6 March received

Communication from Dr. Hume Surgeon of Bridewell rel. to state of Building

His Worship the Mayor submits a Communication from Dr. Hume Surgeon of Bridewell relative to the state of the Building received.

Mayor's Notice to Council of By Law relative to Green Market being in force

His Worship the Mayor brings to the Notice of the City Council that the By Law relative to the regulation of Green Market being now in force His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor and New Executive Council not having objected to the same within the time prescribed by Law, but that he had been waited on by two Members of the New Executive Council on the matter, feels it his duty to bring the subject to the notice of this Council

His Worship the Mayor brings to the Notice of the Council that a Petition is now before the Legislature requesting a Bill be passed to require the City to be assessed to remunerate the loss of John McQuire for cutting down Barrack Street

Moved and seconded that the report of the Committee of Public Accounts this day submitted amounting £126.5.2 be now taken up and read "Motion carried"

1857
March 7th
continued

Committee Room
Batavia March 7th 1857

Committee on Public Accounts
met this day present Alderman Donohoe, Bell,
Cochran and the Chairman

The following accounts were submitted

Report of Com^{rs}
of Public Accou-
nts.

David Calder	£57.11.9	
Genl. W. Johnston	12.10.0	
Robert Malcolm	" 5.6	
Estate of Thomas Lounds	1.3.4 ¹ / ₂	
The Caldwell's	1.5.0	
Mathew Lounds	5.12.6	
Temperance Hall Co.	7.10.0	
J. & C. Longard	4.1.1 ¹ / ₂	
W. S. Symonds & Co.	5.1.6	
Wm. Merrick Low	7.15.3	
Bidwell. William M ^o . Connald	10.14.2	£113. 10. 2

W. Gossip's Feb 14 th	3.0.0	
" " " 21 st	3.0.0	
" " " 28 th	5.5.0	
" " March 7 th	3. 10.0	12. 15. 0
		<hr/> £ 126. 5. 2

Amounting to One Hundred and
twenty six pounds five Shillings and Two pence which
being found correct are recommended to be paid

Signed Peter Ross
Chairman

Moved by Alderman Mackay seconded by Alderman
Morrisey that His Worship the Mayor draw Checks
for above accounts

Moved by Alderman Mackay
seconded by Alderman Jennings that the report of
Committee of City Property this day submitted be
now taken up and read which motion is carried
the same is read (See next Page)

1857
March 9th
continued

Committee Room

6th March 1857

Present, Alderman King, Cochran, Longard, Lounds, Caldwell, and the Chairman
Examined plan and Specification for North Fish Market as amended, whereon it was Resolved that tenders be advertised for from persons competent to build Stone Wharf walls at the north fish Market with stone stairs therein for the convenience of the Publick, in accordance with plan and specifications to be seen at the Office of City Clerk the time for the completion of the work to be extended to the fifteenth day of July 1857.

Report of
Committee City
Property, rel. to
Stone Wharf Walls
South Fish Markt

Resolved that the Committee of City property be empowered to take tenders for the erection of an Iron Railing on the Granite Coping at the North end of the City Market.

The Committee find the internal arrangements in the Green Market unsuitable, the Publick are subjected to much inconvenience, the Committee think that they could make such alterations as would be satisfactory to the Council and to the Publick and hereby ask the Council to give them power to make said alterations.

All which is respectfully submitted

Signed W^m Mackay
Chairman

It is moved and seconded that said report be adopted.

Resol. rel. to Report
being sent back
for alterations

Moved in amendment that the same be not received but sent back to the Committee of City Property, to have the Slips 10 feet instead of 6 which amendment being put is lost 4 voting for it and 9 against it and the names being called for they appeared thus

For Amendment
Alderman Bell
Morison
King
Sunnings

Against it
Ald. Mackay - Donohue
Stairs - Cochran
Lounds - Longard
Conway - King
Barry

The report is then put and carried 9 voting for it and 4 against it

1854
March 9th
Continued

On Motion the Communication of Dr. Hume Surgeon of Bridewell this day submitted is next taken up and read (See Book file) when the following resolution is introduced.

Resolved - rel to
Borrowing a Sum
of Money to build
City Prison.

Whereas this Council are by Law empowered to borrow upon the credit of the City the sum of £5000 for the purpose of Building of a City Prison at Rock Head and whereas the sum of £5000 is now deemed insufficient to meet the expense of a Building upon the Plans furnished by Mr Henry G. Hill which plans has been adopted by this Council in amendment to a more expensive Plan furnished by Captain Barry. For the reasons that when Tenders were taken by this Council the sum of £4995 was required for the simple erection of the building - the Walls to be of Rubble Stone faced with cement - leaving unprovided for the excavation of the Cellar and foundation - The foundation Walls below the surface - Drainage - Sinking Wells - Levelling the Ground - Outhouses - Enclosures Walls to the yard around the Building - The Architects Salary - The Cost of Plans - Furnishing the Prison &c all of which very extensive items of expenditure, as well as the desirableness of having the exterior Walls of Brick and Granite or of Granite Rough in preference to Rubble Stone and Cement will require a large sum And should now be provided for.

It is resolved that this Council do apply to the Legislature for an Act empowering the borrowing upon the Credit of the City, and upon the same terms as the present act relative to the borrowing of the £5000 a further sum of Two thousand pounds, and it is further resolved that until such acts be obtained, no expenditure be made by this Council upon the works of the City Prison. Moved by Alderman Stairs seconded by Alderman Conway to which following amendment is introduced:

Resolved - rel to
advertising for
Tenders for City
Prison

Resolved that there is an imperative and absolute necessity for the immediate erection of a City Prison.

Further resolved that the City Prison Committee are hereby authorised to take Tenders to excavate for Cellar and foundation Walls, and the erection of the external part of the Prison according to Plans and Specification prepared by Mr H. G. Hill.

Moved

1857

March 9th Moved by Alderman Barry seconded by Alderman
continued Jennings, which amendment being put is carried
8 voting for it and 6 against it.

Notice of reconsideration
Alderman Conway gives notice of reconsideration
of above resolution

The following resolution is next
introduced.

Whereas notice having been brought
to this Council by His Worship the Mayor that
a Petition from John McQuinn and others is now
before the Legislature praying that a bill be prepared
to allow the City Authorities to assess for an amount
for the purpose of remunerating the said John Mc
Quinn for loss sustained by him in cutting down
Barrack Street and whereas the said John Mc
Quinn having been fully compensated for the amount
of his contract.

Resolved that this Council
present an Address to the Legislature requesting them
not to grant the Prayer of said John McQuinn's
petition, and that a Committee of three be
appointed in connexion with His Honor the
Recorder for the purpose of preparing said address

Resolution re to
address to Legislat
against Petition
of John McQuinn

Moved by Alderman Ross seconded by Alderman
Bell which on being put is passed 7 voting for
and 4 against.

Committee Alderman Ross, Mackay and
Stairs

On Motion Council rise, 7 voting for it and
6 against it

W. H. P. Mayor

1857
March 18th

At a Special Meeting of City Council
held this day present His Worship the Mayor
Alderman Gounds
Bell Robt King Barry Jennings.

The City Council were summoned
to proceed with business standing over from previous
meetings

There not being a quorum to do
business
Council rise

W. Whately
Mayor

March 23rd

At a Quarterly Meeting held
this day present His Worship the Mayor Alderman
Anderson Gounds Bell Hills King Mackay
Conway Barry King and Jennings.

There not being a quorum to do
business Council stands adjourned until tomorrow
at Two O'clock.

W. Whately
Mayor

1854
March 24th
C.

At an adjourned Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Alderman Anderson, Donohoe, Lownds, Caldwell, Bell, Morrissey, Robt. Mills, Ring, Mackay, Conway, Barry, Ring, Longard and Jennings.

Read over proceedings of 9th, 16th and 23. March

Report of Committee City Property

Alderman Mackay Chairman submits report of Committee of City Property of 11th March relative to 3. 4. 5. 6 Clause and a Letter from Thomas Walsh and T. B. Atkins Esq^r.

Memo of George Henderson re. to opening Hollis St

Alderman Anderson submits Memorial of George Henderson relative to opening of Hollis Street

Letter W. Stairs resigning Seat as Alder^m

His Worship the Mayor submits a Letter from W^m. Stairs Esq^r resigning his Seat of Alderman for Ward 8th One and a Check for Twenty pounds amount of Fine

Presiding Officer appointed

On Motion Alderman Anderson appointed Presiding officer to hold Election for an Alderman for Ward 8th One in place of William J. Stairs Esq^r resigned

His Worship the Mayor communicates to Council the death of W^m. Alexander Grant late one of the Measurers of Coal.

On Motion it was Resolved that the usual notice be given for applications

His Worship the Mayor submits report of City Surveyor to

Communication from J. W. Johnston & Son on behalf of Mr James Blinn.

His Worship the Mayor submits a Communication from J. W. Johnston & Son on behalf of James Blinn one of the late Contractors for building City Prison.

Ald. Barry's Notice re. to employing Horses and Carts to remove Street Soil to Common

Alderman Barry Chairman of Committee of Common puts on the Table a Notice relative to employing of Horses & Carts to convey Street Material to the Common.

On Motion Alderman Conway has leave to withdraw his notice of reconsideration given at last meeting

1859
March 24th
Continued

Moved and seconded that the order of the Day be suspended to appoint a Member of City Prison Committee in place of W^m. Stairs Esq. resigned

Appointment of Ald Anderson as one of Committee City Prison

On Motion Alderman Anderson is appointed one of the Committee

Appointment of the Mayor as one of the Committee of City Prison

Moved by Alderman Jennings seconded by Alderman Edwards that His Worship the Mayor be added to the Committee for erection of City Prison which on being put is carried 10 voting for it and 4 against it and the names being called for appeared thus

For resolution	Against it
Alderman Anderson	Ald. Caldwell
Edwards - King	Wills
Conway - Jennings	MacKay
King - Barry	Donohoe
Bell - Ross	Longard

Appointment of Committee to wait on House of Assembly re. S. Seldons Petition

On Motion Alderman King, Ross and Caldwell appointed a Committee to wait on the Committee of House of Assembly relative to Stephen Seldon Petition relative to his House having been pulled down at the Fire on 1st January last

Motion that By Law re. to Green Market be now in force

Moved by Alderman Jennings seconded by Alderman King that the By Law relative to Green Market passed by the City Council and not objected to by His Excellency and the Executive Council be now in force and carried into effect.

Read the By Law relative to erection of Gates in the City of Halifax 1st Time

On taking up the same for a second reading it is Moved by Ald. Jennings seconded Ald. Anderson that the same stands over for a second reading until next Meeting passed 7 voting for and 6 against it

Letter from Secy of Water Company re. to reservoir on Common

Read Letter from Secretary of Water Company of 31st January relative to reservoir on Common for letter see March file

1857
March 24th
continued

1848 Moved by Alderman King seconded by Alderman Curway that a Committee be appointed to prepare an Address to the Legislature requesting them not to pass said Act passed
Committee Alderman Jennings, Donohue and Bell

Half yearly return
of Inspectors of the
Bridewell

Read Half yearly return of
Inspection of Bridewell of 26 January 1857

Committee appointed to inspect
City Bridewell beg leave to report as follows
They inspected the Bridewell
and found the building in as clean and healthy
a state as it is possible to keep a building of its
class

They inspected the Prisoners Male and
Female and found them all perfect fully content
with their general treatment.

They also inspected the provisions
and found the Potatoes of a very inferior quality
and recommend that there be less Potatoes
and more bread given to the Prisoners.

All of which is respectfully submitted

Signed P. Donohue
William Mackay

Read Communication from Manager
of Gas Company of 17 January 1857 relative to Hollis
Street

A resolution and an amendment thereto
having been introduced on Motion the same are
both withdrawn

Report of Sup of
Streets rel to estimate
for present year

Read report of Superintendent
of Streets of 17 February relative to estimate of
Work to be done the present year when it is moved
by Alderman King seconded by Alderman Barry
that the same be referred to the Committee on Streets
(for report see next page)

Memorial of G. H.
Starr referred to Com
mittee of Streets

On Motion the Memorial of W^r
G. H. Starr this day submitted is referred to the
same Committee.

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March 24th
continued

Stretts Office 19 February 1857

To His Worship the Mayor and
the City Council

The Superintendent in
submitting his annual Report for City improvements
during the present year, has leave to recommend in
Ward One the excavating and embanking South
Street from Queen Street eastward to Pleasant
Street, and a Drain across South Street at the
conjunction with Pleasant Street excavating and
embanking portions of Pleasant Street and improv-
ing the Side Walks - a Sewer across Dawson Street
South of the Royal Engineer Yard - improving Spring
Garden Road and Side Walk westwardly from
Queen Street, improving the Side walk on Hollis
Street and paving the Gutter on the east side,
excavating on Morris Street, and raising the hollow
West of Dresden Row, improving the Side Walks of
Queen Street, Birmingham Street and Dresden Row
and the out Roads generally

In Ward Two, the improvement of the side
Walk Spring Garden Road, and paving the Gutter
also, Dresden Row north of Spring Garden Road -
Similar repairs on Sackville Street excavating and
forming Hollis Street, Side walks and paving continu-
ance of Sewer Northwardly from Dresden Row to Bir-
mingham Street opening the Sewer at the foot of
Salters Street and the out Roads generally.

In Ward Three Macadamizing Water Street
and paving the Gutter from Prince Street to George Street
repairing the centre of Bedford Row, the side Walk on
the Western Side and paving the Gutter, Similar
improvements on Prince Street and George Street,
paving the Gutter on the east side of St Pauls Church
paving Gutter and raising side Walks and forming
Argyle, Grafton and Abernethy Streets.

In Ward Four, Clearing Sewer in Ordnance
Yard and perhaps raising the Side Walks and paving
the South Gutter in Buckingham Street and repair-
ing the Centre with Gravel. Also Argyle Street from
Buckingham Street to Jacobs Hill, improving Jacob
Street by reducing it and relaying the Gutter on the
South side from Grafton to Barrack Street deepening
and relaying the Sewer from Commercial Wharf to

1857
March 24th

to South Side of Jacobs Hill, Sundry Small bits of paving in Water Street and other places

Report of Superin-
tendant of Streets
rel. to estimate
for present year

In Ward Five Repairing Cornwallis Street by Travelling Centre from Water Street to Brunswick Street also Water Street sufficient to keep Centre and Side Walks in repair. Travelling Brunswick and Gottingen Streets raising the Eastern side of Gottingen Street and reducing the Western side from Falkland Street to the Ball Court and paving the Gutters - relaying Gutter in Brunswick Street from Harbours Lane to Sherris Corner and gravelling the Side Walk paving McCulloughs Street from Gottingen Street to Albion Street. Excavating and relaying Albion Street from McCulloughs Street to Gerrish Street and paving on both sides, cutting Branch drains from Albion and City Street into Gerrish Street Sewer reducing the North end of City Street and forming the Street and Side Walk, opening Side Sewer in Falkland Street, deepening and relaying Sewer across Gottingen Street at Junction of Cornwallis Street. Travelling Side Walks from Brunswick to Gottingen Street Westwardly toward the Common past the Ball Court, ditching the Sides and repairing the Centre of the Road from St Andrews Cross to North Street - also repairing the North West Arm Road by Gravel ditching &c and the other Out Roads in a similar manner.

In Ward Six paving the Gutter South Side of Gerrish Street repairing the Side Walk and reducing the Street between Falkland and Brunswick Street. Travelling the Centre of Brunswick Street and Side Walks, and paving the Gutter between Gerrish Street and Orchard Lane. Travelling Gerrish Street, Water Street, North Street, and Lady Hammond Road, clearing ditches on Kempt Road, repairing the Centre with Gravel or broken Stone, a new Culvert across Kempt Road between Rope Walk and North Street Culvert across Street near Isles Fields, clearing side drains on Campbell Road and repairing the Centre and other Roads in the Ward of less importance to the public

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 March 24th
 Continued

It will be perceived that the Streets which I have mentioned - are the principal ones which require improvement - and the last years operations form the best assurance the Superintendent can give - that the Street Funds of this Year will be expended with a due regard to the present and future interest of the Citizens in the repairs of the Streets and Sidewalks of the City.

The Superintendent would further recommend that the improvement of Water St. be continued North or South in the same manner as it has been commenced. Such mode being the best for improving the Streets of a City where the population is unable to bear a tax equivalent to the expense of construction more substantial improvements such as the traffick of Crowded Cities require.

Granite or Russ pavement as it is called in America - in New York and other cities in the Union cost \$5.00 per Superficial Yard exclusive of preparing the Street and Curb Stones - while such improvements as was made in Water Street - after the removal of the earth at the present price of Labour, cost about Fifty Cents per Superficial Yard - and I have every reason to believe the Street will give general Satisfaction if Brick or Stone was made use of as in other Cities for Sidewalks.

One important division of Street improvements is Sewerage, as there are Streets in the City that reforming the surface without drainage - appears almost a misapplication of the Street Funds. more particularly of such description is Gottingen Street in Ward 5th and Albro - Falkland - Crighton and Marnard Streets in Ward 5.

In the Spring of 1856 Gerrish Street was swept of its Surface Material from Gottingen to Water Street and the largest portion of the Ward Funds was expended in replacing the Material which had been swept away in consequence partly of defective Sewerage in Gottingen and Albro Streets again in the Autumn of 1856 the only Culvert across the road to the Common which should have conveyed a part of the Water from the Citadel to Falkland Street remained obstructed. the consequence was the first Flood in the commencement of the Winter, turned more than the usual quantity of Water in the direction of Brunswick Street and Munds Lane, and the River on the Street leading to the Common becoming surcharged the surface

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Material was again swept away, and the Street
 gridiron in Ruts from Albion to Brunswick Street
 about £50 was expended last summer yet the injury
 done to the Street is not yet made good by £20 of
 £50 this circumstance shows the great necessity that
 exists for an Extension of Sewerage in Göttingen
 Falkland & Mansard Streets to receive the surface
 Water, that these Streets may be secure from such
 injurious effects in future these Sewers could be
 constructed for 45/- or 20/- per yard by dunn work
 which is preferable to Contract Work Sewers should
 be paid or flagged where there is not a constant
 run of Water or where there is not a Rock
 Foundation.

The want of a more efficient mode of
 Sewerage in cities has been long experienced and
 has now become a subject of the greatest importance
 it is evident that the present system long contin-
 ued is from the force of imitation - Engineers or those
 in charge of the construction of such Works not
 having ideas in the management of work beyond
 what they have seen their Contemporaries practice or
 those who have preceded them seldom considering
 the necessity of varying the management for Sewers
 in Cities, and the construction of public Works
 as best adapted to the natural advantages where
 a City may be located - the Soil - Water - Climate
 and other material advantages surrounding it
 some of the consequences of such intention alluded
 to is that Sewers become the depositories of substan-
 ces injurious to the public health and that
 Rivers forming Harbours of great importance
 become the receiving Wells - contaminating the
 Waters and in time making the port difficult of
 Entry and except by annual expense for dredging
 would become useless for maritime purposes.
 As Halifax is favoured in capacity of Harbour
 and elevation of the surrounding shores the conse-
 quences alluded to cannot much affect the Harbour
 or Health of the Citizens - but what will very
 materially affect their interests is a heavy tax
 without receiving an equivalent for the amount
 which they may be called upon to pay, such is
 the case to a considerable extent at the present
 time, a large amount being due on public works
 which have nothing to recommend them for such
 a large Expenditure, Sackville Sewer for instance
 is the