

1858
March 26th

Continued

Moved by Alderman Pugsley seconded by Alderman Noble that said Bill be published in the City Papers one insertion. passed

Alderman Caldwell submits a resolution by way of Notice relative to^{the} continuation of City Watch

On Motion Council adjourns to meet on Monday next at two o'clock.

Henry Taylor
Mayor

March 29th

At a Special Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Alderman Noble, Pugsley, Thomson, Caldwell, Lovnds, Morrissey, Twining, Mills, King Moir, Conway, Barry, Morrisall, Longard, Jennings and Bell,

The Council were summoned to take into consideration the Bill now before the Legislature relative to the Railway

Read over proceedings of 26th March

His Worship the Mayor states that he had obtained from the President of the Honorable the Legislative Council the act relative to the Railway and had submitted it to the Council's Committee

Alderman Twining Chairman of the Special Committee to whom was referred the act now before the Legislature relative to the Railway submits the following report

Report Committee
rel. to Railway
Assessment

The Committee to whom the resolution relative to the assessment on the City of Halifax for a portion of the interest on the expenditure made on the Railway have been submitted, report that they have had the matter before them and that the Committee have come to the following resolution thereon.

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Lieut. Charles Twining

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Continued

Report Committee
rel. to Railway
Assessment.

Whereas the Memorial of the City Council relative to Bills before the Legislature in 1854 passed at a Meeting of the City Council March 6th 1854 and sent to the Honorable House of Assembly and Honorable the Legislative Council sets out that this Council affirming the principles embodied in certain resolutions previously adopted by the corporation and considering that the interests of the City imperatively demand the immediate construction of the lines of a Railway contemplated by the Bill now before the Legislature in order to retain the business of the Western Counties the Gulf Shore and Prince Edwards Island and which otherwise it is to be feared will be diverted into other channels and viewing with much satisfaction the proposition set forth in said Bills reserving to the City of Halifax Stock in said railways to the extent of One Hundred thousand pounds.

In accordance with a resolution of the City Council passed at a meeting held on the third day of March inst Your Petitioners respectfully request that the House will make such provision as to them may seem expedient in order to enable this Council to issue a certain amount of City Debentures not exceeding the sum of One hundred thousand pounds currency. (Under such regulations and in such a manner as may hereafter be agreed upon) for the purpose of defraying the cost of their Interest or Stock in the said undertaking, but always provided that the terminus of the said Railway shall be within the City of Halifax

And whereas the Railway contemplated by the Bills then before the Legislature have since been commenced, but not yet been completed.

Therefore resolved that it is the opinion of this Committee that the amount for which the City is liable only is in proportion to the amount that £100,000 will bear to the total cost of constructing the Railroad to Victoria Beach to the frontiers of New Brunswick and to the Port of Pictou as set forth in the Act 14 Victoria Chap 1 - the minutes of City Council of 6 March is again read when it is moved by Ald. Caldwell seconded by Alderman Conway that said report be adopted which on being put is passed unanimously.

Moved by

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Continued

Moved by Alderman Morrissey seconded
by Alderman Lounds that the same Committee withdraw
and in connexion with His Honor the Recorder prepare
a Memorial to the Honorable the Legislative Council
on the subject now under consideration passed unan-
-imously

The Committee having withdrawn
return into Council and submit the following Memorial
the same is read when it is Moved by Alderman Caldwell
seconded by Alderman Barry that said Memorial
be adopted. "passed unanimously"

To the Honorable the Members of Her
Majestys Legislative Council now in Session assembled.

The petition of the Mayor and
Aldermen of the City of Halifax in City Council command

Respectfully Sheweth

That this Council having had
under its consideration an Act now before the Honorable
Legislative Council for the purpose of assessing the City
for a portion of the interest of the Railway Expenditure
and also a resolution prepared by Committee appointed
for the purpose of examining the City Records relative
thereto which resolution is as follows

Whereas the Memorial of
the City Council relative to Bills before the Legislature
in 1854 passed at a meeting of the City Council March
6th 1854 and sent to the Honorable House of Assembly
and the Honorable the Legislative Council sets out

That this Council affirming the principles embodied
in certain resolutions previously adopted by the Corporation
and considering that the Interest of the City imperatively
demand the immediate construction of the lines of rail-
way contemplated by the Bills now before the Legis-
-lature in order to retain the business of the Western
Counties, the Gulf Shore and Prince Edwards Island
and which otherwise it is to be feared will be diverted
into other channels and moving with much satisfaction
the proposition set forth in said Bills reserving to the City
of Halifax Stock in said railways to the extent of
one hundred thousand pounds.

In accordance with a
resolution of the City Council passed at a meeting held on
the third day of March inst. Your Petitioners respectfully
request that the House will make such provision as
to them

Memo of City
Council re. to
Railway Bills
now before Legis-
-lature

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March 29th
Continued

to them may seem expedient in order to enable this Council to issue a certain amount of City Debentures not exceeding the sum of One hundred thousand pounds Currency, (under such regulations and in such a manner as may hereafter be agreed upon) for the purpose of defraying the cost of their interest or stock in the said undertaking, but always providing that the Terminus of the said Railways shall be within the City of Halifax.

For and on behalf of the
City Council

Sigs. Henry Pryor Mayor

and Whereas the Railways contemplated by the Bills then before the Legislature have since been commenced but not yet been completed

Therefore resolved that it is the opinion of this Council that the amount for which the City is liable ^{is} only in proportion to the amount that £100,000 will bear to the total cost of constructing the railroads to Victoria Beach to the frontiers of New Brunswick and to the port of Pictou. as set forth in the act 17 Victoria Chapter 19.

While your petitioners admit that there may be some question whether the City Council which passed that Memorial had any authority to pledge the City for the sum of £100,000 yet your Petitioners are willing to carry out in good faith what they believe was the feeling of the majority of the Citizens

Your Petitioners therefore respectfully request that your Honorable House will be pleased to amend such act so as to make it conformable to the terms of the said Memorial and that such assessment be made in the proportion to the amount that £100,000 will bear to the total cost of constructing the railways to the frontiers of New Brunswick, Victoria Beach and Port of Pictou as contemplated by the said Act of 17 Victoria.

And your Petitioners as in duty bound with ever pray

Sigs. Henry Pryor
Mayor

Halifax
29th March 1858

His Worship the

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Continued

His Worship the Mayor submits a Letter from Benjamin Dier Esq. M. P. and Chairman of Committee of Honorable House of Assembly relative to the City Act now before that body and informs the Council that in consequence of said communication he in conjunction with some of the Members of the Committee of Public Accounts as also with some other Gentlemen of the City & Council had waited on the Committee of the Honorable the House of Assembly and that after some consultation the answer received from the Committee of the House was that after the City Council had come to the conclusion of the amount necessary to be assessed on the City, the House of Assembly would consider the same.

His Worship the Mayor next submits the following communication from the City Treasurer, the same is read.

Halifax 29th March 1858

Dear Sir

After the remarks made this morning by members of the Committee of the House of Assembly, with respect to my position in having paid Warrants in cases where no funds for the specific services for which they were drawn (when in hand) I beg most respectfully to call your attention to the fact, that I am already in advance about £700 and that on the 31st Inst there will be due one months pay to the Constables and Night Watch a Quarters Salary to the City Officers and six months interest on the Old Street Debt of £9000 besides other claims on the City which I may not now foresee, and all of which are to be met from the Assessment hereafter to be made.

Under these circumstances I feel very desirous to know the pleasure of the City Council in the matters to which I have referred and I trust they will believe that however I may have erred in paying Warrants in anticipation of funds I have been solely actuated by a sincere desire to expedite the public business, and uphold the credit of the City.

I am

Dear Sir

Your obedient Serv^t

Sig^d L. Hartshorne

City Treasurer

His Worship
The Mayor
&c &c &c

Communication
from City Treasurer
rel. to City Funds

1858
March 29th
Continued = duved

When following resolution is introduced

Resol. rel. to the
appointment of
Committee on the
probable expenditure
for year 1859.

Resolved that a Committee be
appointed for the purpose of preparing a statement of
the probable expenditure of the City for the year 1859 with
all probable retrenchments and report the same to the
City Council and also make suggestions relative to the
City Prison and City Hospital and with power to confer
with the Committee of the House of Assembly.
Moved by Alderman ~~Swining~~ ^{Thomson} seconded by Alderman
Swining. Passed
Committee Alderman Pugsley, Thomson, Swining
Wills, Barry, and Bell.

Resol. rel. to the
discontinuance of
Night Watch

The following resolution is next
introduced
Whereas great complaints have
been made by the Citizens of the large amount of
expenditure incurred by this Council - and the
enormous sum required to be assessed for the
Current Year
Be it therefore resolved that this
Council discontinue the night watch after the first
day of April inst. Moved by Alderman Caldwell
seconded by Alderman Swining to which following
amendment is introduced

Amendment
rel. to above.

Resolved that Six Watchmen
be kept on duty for the present, which amendment
being put is lost 5 Voting for it and 10 against it.
The original is then put and carried 10 Voting for it
and 5 against it and the names being called for
they appeared thus

For Resolution	Against it
Alderman Caldwell - Jennings	Alderman Lounds
Pugsley - Thomson	Conway
Foble - Bell	Barry
Wills - King	Morrissey
Moiv - Swining 10	Longard. 5

On Motion His Worship the Mayor
is requested to take charge of the Memorial this day
passed in City Council and submitted to the
Honorable the Legislative Council through one of its
Members
"Council rise"
Harry Taylor
Mayor

1858

April 3rd

At a Special Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor, Alderman Noble, Thomson, Caldwell, Lounds, Morrissey, Twining, King, Conway, Barry, Longard, Jennings and Bell.

The City Council were summoned to take into consideration the report of Special Committee to confer with Special Committee of House of Assembly on the Financial affairs of the City.

One of the Gentlemen having withdrawn, there not being a quorum to do business Council stands adjourned until Monday next at Three o'clock.

Henry Pryor
Mayor

1858

April 5th

At an adjourned Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor, Alderman Noble, Thomson, Caldwell, Lounds, Morrissey, Twining, Wills, King, Moir, Conway, Barry, Horneball, Longard, Jennings and Bell.

Read over proceedings of 29 March and 3 April

His Worship the Mayor informs the Council that he had submitted the Memorial of the Council to the Honorable the Legislative Council in accordance with the wish of the Council on the subject of the Railway Assessment Act.

Alderman Twining Chairman of Special Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of the Honorable the House of Assembly on the subject of the Financial affairs of the City, submits the following report the same is read:

Report Special
Committee re
Estimate for year
1859

Estimate

1858
April 3
Continued

Estimate for 1859
of City Expenses

The Mayor	\$ 250.00.0
Recorder	200.00.0
City Clerk	200.00.0
Assistant City Clerk	175.00.0
8 Constables	640.00.0
City Marshal	100.00.0 and fees
12 Watchmen	750.00.0
Sailor	20.00.0
City Assessor	100.00.0
Ward Assessors	40.00.0
Inspector of Weights	25.00.0
City Treasurer	500.00.0
Reporter	40.00.0
Keeper of Bridewell	150.00.0
Health Inspector	100.00.0
Board of Health	500.00.0
Medical officer for Bridewell	50.00.0
Keeper of City Court House	50.00.0
	<u>\$ 3570.00.0</u>

Estimate of City
Expenses for the
Year 1859

In the above estimate the Committee have not included the following items of annual charge.

Keeper of Fish Market	\$ 40.00.0
Do. Meat Market	85.00.0
Do. Market Clock	25.00.0
Collector of License	150.00.0
Superintendent of Streets	200.00.0
Clerk of Streets	175.00.0
Keeper of Common	52.00.0
	<u>\$ 727.00.0</u>

The Committee think that the expenses of the Market House and the Common should be deducted from the revenues derivable from those sources, and the balance only should appear to the credit of the respective accounts. From the rents of the Market and the Common a surplus accrues which forms a sinking fund for discharging the Debentures issued in their behalf.

The Clerk of License is paid by a Commission on the amount received and the balance only should be carried to the credit of the city.

The Salaries

1858

April 5th The Salaries of the Superintendent and Clerk of Streets
 Continued are charges on the road fund, the balance of which is avail-
 able for the purpose intended after deducting the cost of
 collection and other incidental expenses. A suggestion
 has been made for abolishing the office of Clerk of the License
 and transferring the duty to the City Treasurer. The chief
 duty of the Clerk of License appears to be to collect the amount
 of the Licenses which by Law, are required to be paid in
 advance, before the Licenses are issued. This matter
 will come under the consideration of the Council before the
 reappointment of that officer.

Estimate of
 City Expenses
 Continued

A suggestion has been made
 touching the Clerk of the Superintendent of Streets, with a
 view to reduction in the expense of this office, also the
 combination of offices of keeper of Market, Health Inspector,
 and Inspector of Weights. This subject will be brought
 before the consideration of the Council.

It is further proposed that
 the Medical officer appointed by the Board of Health
 should be required to attend the Bridewell without increase
 of Salary

Amount required for 1859 Brought forward		£3570.0.0
Bridewell	£400.0.0	
Water	450.0.0	
Gas	400.0.0	
Printing & Stationary	250.0.0	
Fire Department	800.0.0	
Commissioners of Poor	1250.0.0	
Repairs of City Property	300.0.0	
Fuel	<u>50.0.0</u>	4500.0.0
Annual Interest on Old Street Debt	£9500.0.0	£570.0.0
Do on Rockhead Farm	12.0.0	
Do on City Prison	300.0.0	
Do on Do	200.0.0	
Do on City Hospital	<u>300.0.0</u>	1382.0.0
		£9452.0.0
Add for loss in Collecting	£500.0.0	
" Contingencies	<u>648.0.0</u>	1148.0.0
		£10,600.0.0
By Probable Receipts		<u>2,000.0.0</u>
		£8,600.0.0

The Assessment

1858
April 5th
Continued

The Assessment for 1859 will probably not exceed the above sum and will be further reduced if practicable.

As the revenue derived from the assessment is not usually realized until late in the year the Treasurer has suggested the expediency of opening a cash account with one of the Banks to the extent of \$2000 in order to have a fund to meet current expenses, and to pay Constables, Watchmen and other officers who cannot wait for their Salaries, such Bank Account to be closed at the end of each year.

Estimate of
City Expenses
Continued

As regards the City Prison the Committee are of opinion that such a Building was indispensable, as the present Bridewell is not suited for the purpose and is incapable of repair or improvement.

The Committee think the building now in course of erection is not larger than what is required in order to classify and separate the inmates, whose reformation is, or ought to be one object of the punishment inflicted. No profit should be anticipated from the sale of the present Bridewell, as well it ceases to be occupied as such the property will be required by the Poor House establishment.

The Committee see no objection to a combination of the County Jail with the City Prison, and to an appropriation of the fund provided by law for the erection of the Goal, to the aid of the Prison provided the County authorities will come in to the agreement, and provided also that the distance from the Court House is not considered too great. Should this combination be effected some additional arrangements will be required for the accommodation of Debtors, who ought not to be classed with criminals. Some further expense might also be saved by uniting the offices of Keeper of the Prison and Jailor.

They would however suggest in the meantime the propriety of passing the present Bill and if the proposed arrangement should be effected the money applicable to the building of the Goal may be appropriated to the payment of the Debentures for the Prison. In reference to the City Hospital the Committee have no doubt that such an institution is much needed, but they are of opinion that the proposed plan is far too expensive for the present means of the City. Getting aside however, the repudiation of the Contract entered into by the late Mayor and Council, which the Committee cannot deem just or right, it is further to be borne in mind that a large sum has been already expended on the present works, and the Council might experience some difficulty in making a satisfactory settlement with the Contractor, in case the undertaking was

was

1858

April 5th was abandoned. In such event, the large sum already continued expended would be a total loss. On the other hand should the building be completed, the money now applied to the maintenance of our temporary hospital which is a very inefficient one, would be available for the support of the New Establishment and as in other parts of the world Hospital money - as it is termed - is collected from the shipping, a small tax might thus be levied on vessels belonging or resorting to the Port of Halifax. By these means a sufficient sum might probably be raised for the support of the Hospital on a respectable footing.

Estimate
Continued

The Committee are further of opinion that a portion of the South Common might be sold or leased, and a considerable sum realized from such source toward the completion of the Hospital as well as for general purposes. The part of the Common on which the Hospital is commenced is of small value, the ground being very rough and broken, and it is very doubtful whether the sale of the remainder would be at all effected by changing the site as has been proposed.

Taking all the circumstances into consideration the Committee therefore recommend the expediency of modifying the plan of the Hospital, so as to complete the Building under the present Contract upon a reduced expenditure. The Committee are led to believe that a Building sufficient for the wants of the community for many years, might be provided at a much smaller sum than the amount at present contemplated.

Halifax April 5th 1858

Sign Charles Swearing Chairman
John A. Bell
James Thomson
John L. Barry
John Wills

Alderman Thomson submits a Memorandum of his suggestions on the Financial affairs of the City when it is Moved by Alderman Wills seconded by Alderman Conway that the same be read passed. the same is read. (See next Page)

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April 5th
Continued

I concur in the report made by the Committee but I think that the suggestions should be carried out, by which a saving would be made as follows.

By the combination of

Head the Inspector	£ 100
Clerk of Market	75
Inspector of Co	10
Inspector of Fish Market	40
Inspector of Weights	50
	<u>£ 275</u>

One person could perform these duties for £ 150
£ 125

By the abolishment of the following offices

Clerk of License	£ 150
Assistant City Clerk	125
Clerk of Board Health	25
Medical officer Budewell	50
	<u>£ 350</u>

By Clerk of Streets £ 175
Office could be performed
By City a peep at an expense of 50
£ 125
£ 580

By 4 Constables £ 320
£ 900

Sigs James Thomson

The following resolution is next introduced

Resolved that the report be adopted with the exception of the last 10 1/2 lines, and that the Committee be authorized to confer with the Committee of House upon the same Moved by Alderman Conway seconded by Alderman Moir which on being put is passed 11 Voting for it and 3 against it and the names being called for they appeared thus

For resolution
Alderman Noble - Barry
Wills - Morrissey
Lounds - Swinling
Moir - Bell
Conway - King
Forrihall

Against it
Alderman Caldwell
Thomson
Sennings

Moved by

Resolved to the Estimate for 1859

Memorandum of Ald. Thomson on Financial affairs

1858
April 5th
Continued

Moved by Alderman Jennings seconded
by Alderman Caldwell that the suggestions of Alderman
Thomson this day read in Council do lie on the Table
for further consideration. passed

Return of Clerk
of Licenses

Read Quarterly return of Clerk of
Licenses to 15th March when on Motion same is referred
to the Committee of Public Accounts.

The Report of Superintendent of Streets
of 22 March on Motion stands over for the present.

Read By Law relative to employ-
ment of Bridewell men a second time

By Law relative
to Bridewell
Men.

Read By Law relative to employ-
ment of Bridewell men a third time - when on motion
the same is directed to be engrossed and transmitted to
the Governor and Council for approval.

The following resolution is next
introduced

Resol. rel. City
Clerk making
return of Summons
and Capias

Resolved that the City Clerk make
a return to the City Council of the number of Summonses
Capias and of the number of Executions issued and of
the amount for which said Executions issued for the
year ending 31st March 1858 Moved by Alderman
Barry seconded by Alderman Conway passed.

Alderman Caldwell submits
resolution by way of Notice relative to turning off Gas
and Water

"On Motion Council rise"

Henry Taylor
Mayor

1858
April 19th
Continued

At a Special Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Alderman Noble, Fugley, Thomson, Caldwell, Lounds, Morrissey, Cochran, Twining, Wills, Moir, Conway, Barry, Morristall, Longard, Jennings and Bell.

The City Council were summoned to prepare an address to Her Most Gracious Majesty on subject of Railway assessment, also a Memorial to the Honorable the Legislative Council on subject of Fire Ward Act. To appoint a Presiding officer for holding Election in Wards Number Two and Three, and the transaction of other business.

Read over proceedings of 5 April

The City Council proceed with the business of the day

The following resolution is introduced

Resol. - rel. Memo-
to Her Majesty
against Railway
Bill

Resolved that a Committee of three Alderman with His Honor the Recorder be appointed to prepare a Memorial to be submitted to Her Majesty remonstrating against the passage of the Bill imposing a Tax on the City of Halifax to the extent proposed by the said Bill. Moved by Alderman Caldwell seconded by Alderman Morrissey, which on being put is passed.

Committee Alderman Caldwell, Thomson, Noble and His Honor the Recorder.

On Motion the same Gentlemen are appointed a Committee to prepare an address to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor on same subject.

Memo. Hon. Legislative
Council on Fire Ward
Act

Council next take up the subject of Memorial to Honorable the Legislative Council on subject of Fire Ward Act now before that body, when following resolution is introduced

Resol. rel. Committee
to prepare Memo-
on Fire Ward Act

Resolved that a Committee be appointed for the purpose of preparing a Memorial to the Honorable the Legislative Council against the passage of the Fire Ward Act. Moved by Alderman Thomson seconded by Alderman Morrissey passed unanimously

Committee Aldermen Thomson, Bell, Morrissey with His Honor the Recorder.