

1855

December 2nd
Continued

Read Petition of Francis Stevens
and others this day submitted, relative to opening
of the Bye Roads &c (See file)

Petition of Francis Stevens

when following resolution is next
introduced

Resolved rel. Petition
of Francis Stevens

Resolved that the Petition of
Francis Stevens and others with reference to the opening
of Public Streets be referred to a Select Committee of one
from each Ward - Moved by Alderman Swinney
seconded by Alderman Morrissey passed,

Committee rel. to
Petition of Francis Stevens

Committee, Aldermen Cogswell, Barnstead, Moir
Thompson, Mignowitz and Kichey -

Report Special
Committee rel. to
Road Tax and
City Rates

Read following report of Special
Committee relative to Road & City Assessments -
unrecollected when on Motion said report is approved
and adopted and the following Gentlemen appointed
the Committee in accordance therewith

Committee on
City Assessments
and Road Tax

Committee Aldermen Fay, Barnstead, Thompson
Wills, Conway & Bell -

- Report -

The Committee appointed by the
City Council to Report upon the unpaid City Rates and
Road Taxes, agreeable to Resolutions passed by the
Council on 29th June & 12 Nov^r last.

By leave to report as follows on the unpaid
Rates for 1854 viz^t

36 Warrants have been issued & returned	
no effects amounting to	61 - 13 - 6
12 Co issued & to return yet made	16 - 0 - 3
10 parties not properly notified	1 - 8 - 2
96 Co have left the City	162 - 9 - 8
49 Co not to be found	37 - 13 - 6
34 Co Dead	44 - 13 - 2
42 Co very poor or destitute	31 - 15 - 4
5 Co not liable	6 - 7 - 1
1 party assessed on property rented out the City & Comis ^r Poor	3 - 10 - 6
One by Three parties now Bankrupt, the estates paying Dividends	39 - 2 - 4
Am ^t remitted by City Council to Peter Ross	18 - 4 - 0
Co to Hon ^r Collins	16 - 2 - 0
One from estate late David Allison	6 - 10 - 0
One from parties having accts against the City	7 - 2 - 0
Amounting in all	663 - 11 - 6 over

1858

December 27th Continued Out of which we do not anticipate that more than Seventeen pounds will likely be recovered, exclusive of amount due from the Bankrupts above mentioned, with regard to which your Committee would beg to suggest that some action be taken at once for the recovery of the same. The Committee would also suggest for the consideration of the Council, that in cases of Bankruptcy where parties have become Bankrupt subsequent to being assessed for City Rates and assigning their property over for the general benefit of the creditors, that the City Treasurer be authorized to become a party to any such assignment on behalf of the City, whenever the sum exceed a certain amount.

The Committee would call the attention of the Council to the sum of £44¹ 15⁰ 2 assessed upon persons now deceased which from a defect in the assessment Act it seems cannot be recovered from their Estates.

For Road Tax for 1857 we find the sum of Two hundred & thirty four pounds remaining unpaid out of which we do not consider that more than Ten pounds will be recovered.

Warrants are now being made out against defaulters for City Rates and Road Taxes for the present year, and will be issued by the City Treasurer early in January.

In conclusion, we would recommend that a standing Committee be appointed upon City Rates and Road Taxes, consisting of One Alderman from each Ward, to meet at least once a month or oftener if necessary.

All of which is respectfully submitted

Halifax Dec^r 27th 1858

Sig^d Philip Thompson
Chairman

The following resolution is next introduced

Resolved that the sum of £25 be paid out of the funds of the City in aid of the Halifax Dispensary and that His Worship the Mayor be authorised to draw a check for said amount. Moved by Alderman Twining seconded by Alderman Jennings. Passed.

On Motion

"Council Rise"

Henry J. Mayor

Resolved - to paying
£25 to Halifax
Dispensary.

1858

December 27th

City Treasurer Sworn

Laurence Hartshorne Esquire is this day sworn into Office as City Treasurer for ensuing year in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Fire Constable Sworn

John Pugh is this day sworn into Office as Fire Constable for Ward Three for City in the presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Henry Taylor Mayor

December 29th

Fire Ward Sworn

Joseph Wier is this day sworn into Office as Fire Ward for Ward One in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Henry Taylor Mayor

30th

Dr. Sam Buskirk is this day sworn into Office as one of the Board of Health in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Henry Taylor Mayor

31st

Weighers & Measurers of Salt & Grain Sworn

John Martin as Supervisor. Thos McCann, James Aull, Ambrose Keating, James Mahoney, James Cullen, William Blythe, William Robb sworn into Office as Weighers and Measurers of Salt & Grain in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Measurers of Coal "Sworn"

William J. Madden Supervisor Charles Major, Mark Maddison, John Connell, James Breslow, A.S. Smith, Andrew Kibbet, William Bilby Samuel King sworn into Office as Measurers of Coal for City in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Measurers of Wood Sworn

Thomas James Supervisor Colin Wilson and Henry H. Parker sworn into office as Measurers of Wood in presence of His Worship the Mayor.

Henry Taylor Mayor

1858

December 29th

James Leddy is this day sworn into
Office as Fire Constable in presence of His Worship the
Mayor

Henry Taylor
Mayor

1859

January 5

Measurers of
Lumber

James Sullivan & John McPherson sworn
into Office as Measurers of Lumber in presence of His
Worship the Mayor

Measurers of
Painters Work

John Murphy & Maurice Downey are
this day sworn into office as Inspectors & Measurers of
Painters Work in presence of His Worship the Mayor

Sence Viewer
Sworn

John Mumford sworn into Office as
as a Sence Viewer in presence of His Worship the Mayor

Surveyor of Brick
and Lime
Sworn

James Reid sworn into Office as a
Surveyor of Brick & Lime and Mason Work in presence of
His Worship the Mayor

Henry Taylor
Mayor

1859

44

449
1859

January 17th

At a Special Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Aldermen J. W. Cogswell, Caldwell, Lounds, Barnstead, Twining, Thompson, Mair, Mignowitz, Conway, Jennings Bell and Richey.

The City Council were summoned to appoint a Surgeon to Bridewell, a Measurer of Salt and Grain, to consider Business to be brought to the notice of the Council and the transaction of other business.

Read over proceedings of 21st December.

Report Special Committee relative to Act of Incorporation

Alderman Cogswell submits report of Special Committee relative to Act of Incorporation

Alderman Thompson Chairman submits report of Committee of Public Accounts

Report Special Committee relative to Plan for Engine House - Be.

Alderman Mignowitz submits report of Special Committee for Building of a New Engine House with an account of Mr. William Hindley for Plan

Alderman Twining Chairman submits report of Committee on Hacks & Trucks.

Visiting Dispensary £25 voted

His Worship the Mayor informs the Council that he had carried out the instructions of Council in transmitting £25 voted to the Visiting Dispensary Committee.

Read answer of William Murdoch Esq^r relative thereto, (see file)

Letter J. W. Ritchie relative to Common - 28 Dec 1858

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads Letter from J. W. Ritchie Esq^r on behalf of Major General Trollope relative to the Common,

Halifax 28th December 1858

Sir

I have had the honor on several occasions of addressing you on the subject of the difference which exists between the Military Authorities and the City Council regarding the Common, but I have hitherto failed to elicit from the Council any definite answer to my repeated applications. General Trollope feels called upon to have the matter definitely settled. I should prefer to know what the

1859
January 1st
Continued

determination of the City Council is on the subject before involving the City in litigation and if recourse to law should become necessary as the question at issue is merely a legal one. I have already suggested the propriety of having a case made and argued before the Judges of the Supreme Court to which proposal no reply has been given

The Military authorities have therefore no alternative left them but to have the fences which have been erected in violation of law removed without further delay -

But I can't help thinking that it would be better if the question were first settled in the way I have proposed

Your Obt. Servant
Sigs J. W. Ritchie

His Worship
The Mayor

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads Letter from Chairman of Committee of Common in connection therewith

Halifax 28th December 1858

Dear Sir

Letter Chairman
Committee of Common
rel. Letter J. W.
Ritchie -

His Excellency the Lieut Governor having expressed his anxiety that the dispute between the Citizens and the military authorities in reference to the Common might be amicably arranged, I have only to say on behalf of the Committee that we all share that anxiety and would if possible avoid litigation.

The Committee at present see no reason to deviate from the views submitted in their report, but in deference to the wishes of His Excellency they are willing that your Worship should delay the commencement of legal proceedings for a short time - in the hope that some arrangement might be proposed which they might consider themselves at liberty to accept without detriment to the rights of the Citizens.

Signed on behalf of the Committee of Common

His Worship
The Mayor

Sigs John A. Bell
Chairman

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads Letter of W. W. Dickson and others Agents of various Fire Insurance Companies (See Next Page)

1859
January 14th
Continued

Halifax 10 January 1859

Letter W.
Dickson re-to
Gunpowder in
Store in City

Sir

Having reason to believe that large quantities of Gunpowder are kept within the limits of the Firewards in this City contrary to the Law of the Province which restricts the quantity in any one place to Twenty five pounds under a penalty of Five shillings per pound for any excess. We beg on behalf of the Fire Insurance Companies whom we represent to call your attention to the eminent danger both to Life and Property resulting from this infringement of the Law, and beg respectfully to suggest that one or more of the Fire Wardens should be requested and empowered to inquire into the way in which Gunpowder is now deposited and kept within the City, and in proper cases to make complaint under oath pursuant to the 25th Section of the Act in the revised Statutes - Chap. 99.

We have the honor to be
Your most Obedt Servants

To
His Worship
The Mayor
Halifax

Sig^{ts} W. Young for Alliance Comp^y
John Wesson President Acc. Co.
William Gare. Agent Phoenix Co.
Charles W. Dickson L.L. Co.
Hugh Hartborne Royal Ins Co
Arch^d Scott agent Straith
Samuel W. Myers Gray
Agents
Times & State Co of London

Letter of Mayor
to Chairman of
Fire Wards

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads Letter to Chairman of Fire Wards

Mayors Office
Halifax January 14 1859

Sir

I herewith enclose you a copy of a Letter received by me from the Presidents and Agents of the different Insurance Companies relative to unlawful quantities of Gunpowder kept in Store in the City.

I shall be most happy to render any assistance in my power as Mayor to carry out any resolutions which the Board of Firewards may adopt.

I have the honor to be
Sir

P. Murray Esq^r
Chairman
of Fire Wards

Your obedient Servant
Sig^{ts} Henry Pryor
Mayor

1859
January 17th
Continued

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads Letter from Commissioner of Crown Lands of 15th January 1859, also Letter from Honorable the Provincial Secretary of 12 January 1859 relative to Grant of Water Lot in front of Queens Wharf.

Department of Crown Lands
Halifax January 12th 1859

Letter from Commissioner of Crown Lands and Provincial Secretary relative to Grants of Water Lot in front of War Department

Sir
I have the honor to enclose to you a Copy of a Letter received from the Provincial Secretary relating to a Grant of a Water Lot in front of the Queens Wharf recently passed to the War Department in order that the same may be communicated to the City Council

To
His Worship
The Mayor

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient Servant
(Signed) Saml. P. Fairbanks
Comm^r of Lands

(Copy)
Provincial Secretary's Office
Halifax January 8th 1859

Sir
With reference to your letter of 30 June, and to the Memorial of the City Council of Halifax praying for relief in consequence of a Grant passed to the War Department in 1858 I have to acquaint you for the information of the City Council, that His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor concurs with his advisers in the opinion that it is not in his power to afford relief in the mode suggested by the Memorialists, or otherwise, no sufficient cause having been shewn for rescinding the Grant, -

I. P. Fairbanks Esq^r
Comm^r of C^r Lands
do do do

I have &c.
(Signed) Charles Supper

Report Special Committee appointed relative to the Fire 28 Dec^r 1858

His Worship the Mayor submits report of Special Committee appointed to make an investigation relative to the Fire on the 28th December 1858

His Worship the Mayor informs the Council that he caused 300 Copies of report relative to the Financial affairs of the City to be printed in Pamphlet Form.

January 11th
Continued

Moved by Alderman Cogswell seconded by Alderman Twining that the amount of Mess^{rs} Brown & Sons be paid by Check on City Treasurer, "passed"

The following resolution is next introduced

Resolⁿ - rel. to h^ol^d of thanks to His Worship the Mayor for his report on financial affairs.

Resolved that the thanks of the Council be given to His Worship the Mayor for his able report on City Affairs. Moved by Alderman Thompson seconded by Alderman Caldwell,

"His Worship the Mayor withdraws - Alderman Bell called to take the Chair - when foregoing resolution having been put is passed unanimously -

"His Worship the Mayor resumes his seat"

Resolⁿ - rel. to erection of Wooden Buildings

Alderman Cogswell submits a resolution relative to erection of Wooden Buildings for the consideration of Council at next Meeting.

Resolⁿ - rel. to relief to be afforded to Fishermen.

Alderman Cogswell submits a resolution relative to relief to be afforded to Fishermen - for consideration of Council at next Meeting -

The following resolution is next introduced

Resolⁿ - rel. to the Chairman of Committees and Officers submitting a report at the close of each year

Resolved That it shall be the duty of the Chairman of the several standing Committees or Officers of the Corporation to submit a report of the Department under their charge at the close of each Civic year in order that the information contained in such reports may be available for a general Annual report on the affairs of the City - to be prepared by the Mayor - Moved by Alderman Bell seconded by Alderman Jennings - passed.

The following resolution is next introduced

Resolⁿ - authorizing the Mayor to borrow the Money to complete City Prison

Resolved That the Mayor be authorized to borrow the Money required to complete the City Prison pursuant to Law - as the same may be required from time to time. Moved by Alderman Twining seconded by Alderman Jennings, Passed

The following resolution is next introduced

Resolved that the lower half of the Windows of the Market be closed with Shutters to protect the Sillmates of the Building. Moved by

1859

January 17th Moved by Alderman Cogswell to which following
Continued amendment is introduced.

Resol. rel. to the windows of Meat Market - That the above resolution be referred to the Committee of City Property to report upon. Moved by Alderman Jennings seconded by Alderman Hay which amendment being put is carried 10 voting for it and 3 against it - the original is therefore lost -

Notice rel. to Non payment of City Assessment by the Halifax Building Association - His Worship the Mayor next brings to the Notice of the Council the Non payment of City Assessment by the Halifax Building Association.

Resol. appointing Surgeon to the Bridewell - Council next proceed with the order of the day.

Moved by Alderman Jennings seconded by Alderman Lownds that Dr. Hume be appointed Surgeon of the Bridewell - passed -

Election of Measurer of Salt & Grain - Council proceed to election of Measurer of Salt & Grain

Read over the various applications It is Moved and seconded that Robert Motton be elected

Alderman Hay asks leave to introduce a resolution in connection with the appointment - leave granted 9 voting for it and 5 against it When resolution (505) is introduced.

(This resolution being out of order by permission of Council is withdrawn)

Call of Council is made at 4 to 5 o'clock -

Return of Commissioners of Poor to 31st December 1858 - The return of Commissioners of Poor to 31st December 1858 is submitted to the Council when on Motion same is referred to Committee of Public Accounts - (In file)

Report Committee Public Accounts 14th January 1859 - The Report of Committee of Public Accounts of 14th January 1859 is next read. (See next Page) when it is Moved and seconded that His Worship the Mayor be requested to draw checks for said accounts (passed)

The Quarterly return of Clerk of License to 31st December 1858 is next read and referred to Committee of Public Accounts to report on.

1859
January 17th
Continued

Halifax January 14th 1859

The Committee of Public Accounts met this day
Present Alderman Bell, Jay Torriestall and the Chairman
The following accounts were presented -

<u>City Prison</u>		
Thos. Boggs & Co to 31 st Dec ^r (Powder &c)		£ 17 ⁰ 13 ⁰ 9
Joseph Jennings 11 th Dec ^r (Lumber)		4 ⁰ 8 ⁰ 5
<u>Bridewell</u>		
Wm. McDonald balance for December	9 ⁰ 0 ⁰ 5	
Wm. Pythe 31 st Dec ^r for Meat	5 ⁰ 14 ⁰ 2	
R. Noble & Sons 10 Dec ^r Shirts &c	" 12 "	
J. G. Archibald 31 Dec ^r Bread	" 12 "	
Thos. Boggs & Co " Sundries	4 ⁰ 6 ⁰ 4	
J. W. Caldwell 24 Dec ^r Ale	" 10 "	
C. O. Hunter 28 Dec ^r Supplies	61 ⁰ 8 ⁰ 7	82 ⁰ 6 ⁰ 6

Report Committee
Public Accounts
January 14th 1859

<u>City</u>		
Halifax Water Company Nov 1 st for 3 ³ Plugs & Hydrants 3	652 ⁰ 10 ⁰ 0	
A. W. McKinnay 31 st Dec ^r Stationary	25 ⁰ 15 ⁰ 7	
Wm. Lowndes to 6 Jan ^y 1859 (Carpenter)	19 ⁰ 10 ⁰ 7	
James Bowers & Son 27 th Dec ^r Printing, Mayors Seal	7 ⁰ 0 ⁰ 0	
J. Elliot & Sons Dec ^r 21 st Ventilators	4 ⁰ 10 ⁰ 0	
Donald & Watson " Rep. Gas Pipes	" 15 ⁰ 4	
Wm. Crawford " 28 Rep. Clock	" 10 "	
Sanders & Brown " Mason Work	" 12 ⁰ 6	
Croughton & Wasswell 11 Police Buttons	2 ⁰ 14 ⁰ 0	
W. O. Hefferman May 11 th Chairs & Table	2 ⁰ 2 ⁰ 6	
James Gossip 10 Stationary	" 13 ⁰ 3	
J. Cullerton Oct 21 Buckets	" 8 ⁰ 0	
Simon Cummins Dec ^r 28 Brooms	" 6 ⁰ 3	
Eleanor Warren Carting Ashes to 31 Dec ^r	2 ⁰ " "	
" " Do Rubbish 29 Dec ^r	1 ⁰ 6 ⁰ 3	731 ⁰ 14 ⁰ 5
		830 ⁰ 3 ⁰ 1

Amounting in all to Eight Hundred and
thirty pounds three shillings and one penny.
All of which have been found correct
and recommended to be paid.

The following accounts
have also been laid before us viz
Wm. Hindlays acct for Plans
& Specifications for New Engine House £ 15 - which has not
been certified by the Chairman of that Committee and which
we think a large charge -

Four Accts from James Hunter
Gas Fitter, not certified by any officer of the City, these
accounts are for 1856, 7 & 8 and amount to £ 2⁰ 18⁰ 6

1859

January 1st
Continued

An Account from Halifax Water Company for Repairs to Plugs & Hydrants amounting to £182.8 not certified by any City Officer, but by the Superintendent of the Company.

The Committee would recommend, that in all such cases as the two last named, where Accounts cannot be certified by any Officer of the City - that the Principal or acknowledged Agent, or officer, of any individual or Company, be required on rendering such Account, to swear to the correctness of the same before the Alderman presiding at the time such accounts are rendered.

The Committee would also recommend that in future, all accounts against the City be rendered quarterly instead of as at present, vizt 31st March 30th June 30th Sept^r and 31st December.

All of which is respectfully submitted

(Signed) Philip Thompson
Chairman

Report Special Committee for New Engine House relative to Wm Hindlay etc for Specification

On Motion the report of Special Committee for erection of a New Engine House for payment of Mr William Hindlays account for Plans and Specifications amounting to £15.0.0 is next taken up and read, when it is moved and seconded that said amount be paid (passed) (see file)

Report Committee on Hacks & Trucks

On Motion the Report of Committee on Hacks & Trucks this day submitted is next taken up and read, when it is Moved by Alderman Conway seconded by Alderman Jennings that said report do lie on the table for future consideration,

The Report of Special Committee relative to the Charter or Act of Incorporation is next read

Report Special Committee relative to Act of Incorporation

Halifax January 1st 1859

Your Committee appointed on the 15th of October 1851 for the purpose of further revising the revised Act of Incorporation of 1851, also for the amending of the late Assessment Act and the Act relating to Streets and sewers within the City and to report thereon to the Council at as early a date as possible beg leave to Report

That since the date of the Resolution they have held Ten Meetings, generally

1859

January 17th
Continued

of some hours duration, and have given their best attention to the revision of the laws, making such alterations and additions as they thought likely to meet your approval.

At these Meetings they constantly had the valuable and indeed necessary aid of His Honor the Recorder, to whom they are also indebted for bringing the laws before you in their present shape as they recommend. During the revision of the Assessment act they had the benefit of the advice of Mr. Barry the City Assessor who attended by invitation. As each section of the Laws will now come again before you for reconsideration, your Committee are unwilling to occupy your time with any further preliminary remarks merely expressing a hope that their suggestions may have the effect of lessening the labour of the task which now devolves on you.

(Signed) Charles Cogswell
Chairman

The Draft of same is submitted by His Honor the Recorder who proceeds to read various clauses of same.

The Hour having expired since the call of Council, Alderman Morrissey having come in -

The resolution of Alderman Sims this day submitted, and the resolution of Council of 24th December having been again read, Council proceed to election of a Measurer. By Weigher of Salt & Grain and the names being taken were as follows,

Election of Mr
R. Motton as a
Salt & Grain
Measurer

For Robert Motton 12 Britton Spike 1
Mr. Motton having received a clear Majority of votes is duly elected, to the Office of Measurer of Salt & Grain -

On Motion,

Council rise

Henry Pryor
Mayor

1859
January 24th

(At a Special Meeting of City Council held this day present His Worship the Mayor Aldermen May. Pugsley, Cogswell, Caldwell, Towns, Barnstead Thompson, Moir, Mignowitz, Horriestall, Conway & Jennings, Ritchie,

The City Council were summoned to take into consideration the Act of Incorporation, and the transaction of other Business -

Read over proceedings of 17th January

It is Moved and seconded that Alderman Mignowitz's name be struck out of the Minutes of last Meeting he not being an applicant for the situation which motion on being put is passed,

Alderman Cogswell submits a Report of the Committee of Half Yearly Inspection of Bridewell -

His Worship the Mayor submits a Letter from S. W. Ritchie Esq^r relative to injuries sustained by William Carey - read the same -

Letter W. Ritchie relative to injury sustained by W^m Carey -

Galifax 21st January 1859

Sir

M^r William Carey has requested me to address you on the subject of an injury he has sustained from obstructions placed in Brunswicks Street,

Heaps of earth and Stones have been allowed to remain there, and last night, there being nothing to call M^r Careys attention to the danger, he was thrown out of his sleigh and in addition to a serious injury he sustained in his person, the sleigh, horse and harness were much injured. I trust the City will make him all the Reparation in their power and I will feel obliged by your early attention to the subject -

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your obedient Servant
(Signed) S. W. Ritchie

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads Report of Superintendant of Streets relative to the same - (See Next Page)

His Worship the Mayor reads his answer to W^m Ritchie. (See Next Page)

1859
January 24th
Continued

Streets Office
22 January 1859

Report Supt. of
Streets re. to the
injury sustained
by Mr Carey

The Superintendent of Streets begs leave to report for the information of His Worship the Mayor that the heaps of earth in Brunswick Street referred to in Mr Ritchie's letter, had been occasioned by the excavation of a drain to convey the water across the street from the Hydrant.

The drain was finished on Thursday last and all earth and Stone removed on Friday morning. Since the work commenced every precaution has been taken for the safety of the public - much to the hindrance of the work progressing as rapidly as it might have done - and at a loss to the Contractor - nearly one half the Street has been clear for the public travelling since the commencement of the work and the Gas at all times lighted a few feet from the excavation the night of Mr Carey's casualty more than one half the Street was perfectly clear.

Respectfully submitted
(Signed) James Pollock
Superintendent of Streets.

Letter of Mayor
to Mr Ritchie

His Worship the Mayor reads his answer to Mr Ritchie (See Letter Book)

Resol. re. to Mr
Carey injured

When following resolution is introduced
Resolved that the Aldermen of the Ward be a Committee to enquire into the late accident to Mr Carey in Brunswick Street and report to this Council at the next Meeting. Moved by Alderman Thompson seconded by Alderman Conway - passed.

His Worship the Mayor informs the Council that in accordance with the request of Council he had caused 200 Copies of the Fire Ward Act to be printed which would cost 40/-

Moved by Alderman Lounds seconded by Alderman Jennings - that the order of the day be suspended and that the report of Committee relative to Inspection of Bridewell - this day submitted be taken up - passed - same is read -