

OFFICE CITY COLLECTOR, February 7th, 1912.

J. J. HOPEWELL, Esq., Clerk of Works.

Sir,—I enclose herewith a memo. of meter rates charged on dwellings and stores since 1st May, 1908, to November, 1911, with a comparison of what would have been collected under the flat rate.

R. THEAKSTON, City Collector.

	Meter.	Pipe Rate.	Total.	Flat Rate.
1908-09.....	\$7308 10	\$3779 45	\$11087 55	\$10835 23
1909-10.....	6330 34	3835 26	10165 60	11568 33
1910-11.....	7347 17	4270 98	11618 15	12547 99
To November, 1911.	4665 60	3219 84	7885 44	9797 77
			<u>\$40756 74</u>	<u>\$44749 32</u>

Moved by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman Rankine, that the reports of the Committee on Works, Feb. 22nd, 1912, and City Engineer, Feb. 21st, 1912, be adopted.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Kelly, that the debate on this question be closed at 10.30 o'clock. Motion passed.

Alderman Douglas asked that the question be divided into two parts, i. e., that the recommendation relating to a reservoir and the distribution mains be first put to vote, and that afterwards the matter of seeking legislation to cover the expense be voted upon. Agreed to.

The question being so divided, the first part is put and passed, twelve voting for the same and two against it, as follows :—

For the Motion.	Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Whitman, Connolly, Gates, Douglas, Clarke, Kelly, Hines, Hawkins, Martin, Corston, Rankine—12.	Aldermen Scanlan, Hoben—2.

The second part of the question, relating to the borrowing of \$100,000.00, is put and passed unanimously, the following Aldermen being present and voting, viz. :—Aldermen Harris, Whitman, Gates, Connolly, Douglas, Scanlan, Clarke, Hoben, Kelly, Hines, Hawkins, Martin, Corston and Rankine—14.

Read report Committee of Fire Wards on improvement of the Fire Department.

FIRE DEPARTMENT IMPROVEMENT.

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, March 5th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—A few years ago when the Fire Department was so inadequately

equipped that it was unanimously admitted it should be improved, considerable expenditure was made for applicances. Notwithstanding the outlay then occasioned, it must be recognized that the buildings in the City are advancing in number, size and height to an extent greater than the additions made to the fire fighting forces, or, as the Chief expresses it, "the growth of the City is getting ahead of the Fire Department."

Recent serious fires in the City have shewn conclusively that the repeated requests of the Chief for more improved equipment should no longer be ignored, and that the Department is seriously in need of better facilities to do its work.

2. The Chief for a number of years has been constantly reporting that the steam fire engine Chebucto is ineffective for fire duty, and is put out of commission at nearly every fire it attends, and costs on an average about \$200.00 a year to be kept in repair. It has been thirty-seven years in service. It is recommended that a new engine be purchased to replace this old machine.

3. The Chief has been for some time considering the matter of self-propelled, instead of horse-drawn apparatus for the Department. While your committee and the Chief have considerable information on the subject, the committee is not prepared to make a recommendation in regard to it. The committee, however, has every day to face the increasing cost of horses, forage and labor, and the added expenses incidental to the upkeep of horses, including the necessity for stabling room in the engine houses requiring larger buildings, systems of ventilation, and constant repairs. Your committee is of opinion that if the City instead of purchasing a horse-drawn steam fire-engine would procure a motor-driven combination water pump, chemical and hose apparatus, an annual saving of \$1600.00 would be effected in cost of maintenance.

The cost of a 600-gallon steam fire-engine is estimated at \$6,500.00. The cost of the combination engine suggested above is estimated at about \$11,200.00.

It is recommended that the larger amount be provided for in the proposed borrowing bill, so that if it is eventually decided to install a self-propelled machine the funds will be available. In any event, it will be for the Council to decide later upon the kind of apparatus to be provided.

4. When making up the estimates last December, your committee recommended that the steam fire-engine "Battenburg" be put into commission at Islesville engine house. The recommendation was not concurred in by the Finance Committee or the City Council, but your committee again repeat their request, and desire to point out to the Council the necessity for better protection in the north end of the City.

5. The serious need of adequate ladder service is becoming more apparent at every fire in the City, and the lack of sufficient ladder equipment is a great handicap to the department.

6. Your committee unanimously recommend that an Act be prepared to authorize a loan of \$18,160.00 to provide the following:—

(a) 1 fire-engine (horse or motor propelled).....	\$11,500 00
(b) Installing steam fire-engine in north end engine house, (Islesville).....	2,000 00
(c) Pay of two additional callmen	200 00
(d) 1 service ladder truck.....	2,650 00
(e) 1 double hose waggon.....	600 00
(f) 1 double hose sleigh	350 00
(g) Turret equipment.....	300 00
(h) Two hose holders.....	160 00
(i) Gong for West St. engine house	185 00
(j) 1 fire alarm box.....	215 00

\$18,160 00

P. F. MARTIN, Chairman.

UP-KEEP FIRE ENGINE.

Three horses' feed.....	\$432 00
" shoeing and cleaning.....	90 00
1 Driver.....	597 00
1 Call Engineer.....	250 00
Heating Engine.....	90 00
Repairs.....	25 00
Coal at Fires.....	25 00
	<u>\$1,509 00</u>

UP-KEEP CHEMICAL ENGINE.

Two horses' feed.....	\$288 00
" shoeing and cleaning.....	60 00
1 Driver.....	624 00
1 Operator.....	675 00
1 Chemical Operator.....	624 00
Repairs.....	25 00
	<u>\$2,296 00</u>

UP-KEEP OF SINGLE HOSE WAGGON.

Carrying only 600 ft. of hose.....	\$ 719 00
	<u>\$4,524 00</u>

UP-KEEP OF MOTOR-DRIVEN COMBINATION WATER PUMP.

CHEMICAL AND HOSE APPARATUS.

Gasoline and Up-Keep.....	\$ 100 00
Repairs.....	100 00
2 Engineers at \$700 a year.....	1400 00
2 Hosemen at 572 ".....	1144 00
	<u>\$2,744 00</u>
(Besides carrying 1000 ft. 2½" hose).	
Annual saving by Motor-Driven Apparatus.....	\$1,780 00

The amounts recommended to be borrowed are considered item by item.

Read clause (a) \$11,500.00 for fire engine. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that this item pass. Motion put and passed, twelve voting for the same and two against it, as follows :—

For the Motion.	Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Connolly, Gates, Scanlan, Clarke, Hoben, Kelly, Hines, Hawkins, Martin, Corston, Rankine—12.	Aldermen Whitman, Douglas—2.

Read clause (b) installing a fire engine in Islesville Engine House, \$2,000.00. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that this item be adopted. The motion being put there appeared :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Shaffner,
Gates, Bligh,
Scanlan, Hines,
Hawkins, Martin—8.

Against it.

Aldermen Whitman, Douglas,
Clarke, Hoben,
Kelly, Corston,
Rankine—7.

The Deputy Mayor declared the motion lost, as it required a two-thirds vote of Council to pass it.

Read clause (c) \$200.00 to pay two additional callmen. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that this item be adopted and that the money be borrowed and assessed for in the Estimates for 1913-14.

Motion put and lost, six voting for the same and eight against it, as follows ;—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Gates,
Bligh, Scanlan,
Hines, Martin—6.

Against it.

Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman,
Douglas, Clarke,
Hoben, Hawkins,
Corston, Rankine—8.

Read clause (d) \$2,650 00 for service ladder truck. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that said item be adopted. The motion being put there appeared :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Gates,
Bligh, Scanlan,
Hines, Martin,
Rankine—7.

Against it.

Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman,
Douglas, Clarke,
Hoben, Hawkins,
Corston—7.

The Deputy-Mayor declared the motion lost, not having received a two-thirds majority of Council.

Read clause (e), \$600.00 for double hose waggon. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that said item be adopted. The vote being taken there appeared.

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Gates,
Bligh, Scanlan,
Hines, Hawkins,
Martin, Rankine—8.

Against it.

Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman,
Douglas, Clarke,
Hoben, Corston—6.

The Deputy-Mayor declared the motion lost.

Read clause (f) \$350.00 for a double sleigh. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that said item be adopted. Motion put and lost.

Read clause (g) \$300.00 for turret equipment. Moved by Alder-

man Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that the said item be adopted. Motion put and lost.

Read clause (h) \$160.00 for two hose holders. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that said item be adopted. Motion put and passed, thirteen voting for the same and two against it, as follows :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Shaffner,
Whitman, Gates,
Bligh, Scanlan,
Clarke, Hoben,
Kelly, Hines,
Hawkins, Martin,
Rankine—13.

Against it.

Aldermen Douglas, Corston—2.

Read clause (i) \$165.00 for gong for West Street engine house. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that this item be adopted. Motion put and lost.

Read clause (j) \$215.00 for a fire alarm box. Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Harris, that this item be adopted. The vote being taken there appeared :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Shaffner,
Gates, Bligh,
Scanlan, Kelly,
Hines, Hawkins,
Martin, Rankine—10.

Against it.

Aldermen Whitman, Douglas,
Clarke, Hoben,
Corston—5.

The Deputy-Mayor declared the motion lost.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Scanlan, that the report as amended be adopted as a whole. Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman Douglas, seconded by Alderman Scanlan, that the Council do now adjourn.

The vote being taken there appeared :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman,
Bligh, Scanlan,
Douglas, Clarke,
Corston—7.

Against it.

Aldermen Harris, Hoben,
Kelly, Hines,
Hawkins, Martin,
Rankine—7.

The Deputy-Mayor gives his casting vote in favor of the motion and declares it carried.

Council adjourns 11.40 o'clock.

[The following draft Acts prepared by the City Solicitor were forwarded March 19th, 1912, by the City Clerk to Hon. G. E. Faulkner, M. E. C.]

AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 33 OF THE ACTS OF 1911.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly as follows :—

Section 17 of Chapter 33 of the Acts of 1911, is hereby repealed and Section 64 of the Nova Scotia Temperance Act 1910 amended by striking out the words added thereto by the said Section 17.

AN ACT TO ENABLE THE CITY OF HALIFAX TO BORROW MONEY.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly as follows :—

1. The City of Halifax is hereby authorized to borrow the sums set out in the Schedule hereto for the purposes specified for each amount respectively and no other.

2. The sums to be borrowed shall be in addition to the amount to be borrowed by the Halifax City Consolidated Fund Act, 1905 and amendments thereto, and shall form part of that fund and shall be secured by stock or debentures to be issued in conformity with the provisions of that Act at a rate of interest not exceeding five per cent. per annum, and the dates on which the same shall be made payable shall be determined by the Council.

SCHEDULE.

To be expended in the repair and improvement of the City Prison not exceeding.....	\$ 4,000 00
To pay for the property acquired from Messrs. Burns & Kelleher on Lower Water Street, not exceeding.....	2,000 00
To pay the cost of constructing a reservoir for the High Service of the Water Department, not exceeding.....	100,000 00
For the purchase of a new fire engine, not exceeding	11,500 00
To defray the cost of completing the sewers on western slope of City, not exceeding	125,000 00

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW RELATING TO THE CITY OF HALIFAX.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows :—

1. In this Act the expression "City" means the City of Halifax; the expression "Council" means the City Council of that City, and any committee or official herein mentioned by name means the committee of that name of the said Council or City; the expression "The City Charter" means the Halifax City Charter, brought into force on the first day of March, 1907, by proclamation of the Governor-in-Council, dated the 20th day of February, 1907, and any sections herein referred to by number, without other reference, are the sections of the said City Charter so numbered, and this Act shall relate exclusively to the City of Halifax and the said Charter thereof.

2. The City may borrow from any bank or other fund available, a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) to be expended in the purchase of new fire hose and the cost of repairs to the tower in the Central Engine House. The

said sums, with the interest thereon, shall be repaid in five equal annual instalments, the amount of one such instalment being included in the estimates for the civic year 1913-14, and one in each successive year until the same are paid.

3. The City may borrow from any bank or other fund available, the sums specified in the schedule hereto, and apply the same to the purposes set opposite to such sums respectively, and the amounts so borrowed, with interest thereon, shall be included in the civic estimates for the year 1913-14, and rated and assessed along therewith.

4. The City shall pay to William Higlett and Daniel E. Keating, formerly keepers at the City Prison, a retiring allowance of Three Hundred and Sixty (\$360.00) Dollars each for the remainder of their lives. For the civic year beginning 1st of May, 1912, the amount required may be borrowed from any bank or other fund available, and the amounts so borrowed, with interest, shall be included in the estimates for the civic year 1913-14, and rated and collected along therewith. For subsequent years the amounts required shall be included in the yearly estimates.

5. Section 12 of Chapter 38 of the Acts of 1911 is repealed, and the following substituted therefor:—"The City may in any year expend a sum not exceeding One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) in defraying the transportation expenses of the Band of the Royal Canadian Regiment furnishing music on the Grand Parade or at any other public park or garden. If an amount for that purpose has not been included in the estimates for any year the amount required may be borrowed from any bank or other fund available, and together with the interest thereon included in the next succeeding civic estimates and rated and collected therewith. For the current civic year the amount so borrowed may include the expenses of transportation of the Band for such purpose during the civic year 1911-12.

6. Section 507 A is hereby repealed and the following substituted therefor:—

507 A. (1) No person shall post any bills or placards who has not first obtained a license to carry on business as a bill poster.

(2) No person shall erect, maintain or make use of any bill board, hoarding, fence, building, wall, frame or construction of wood, metal or other material for the display of advertising matter, bills or placards, whether on his own property or the property of other persons, who has not first obtained a permit for the erection, maintenance and use thereof.

(3) The Council may by ordinance regulate the manner in which the business of a bill poster shall be conducted, the erection, maintenance and use of such bill boards, hoardings, fences, buildings, walls, frames and other construction of wood, metal or other material for the display of advertising matter, bills or placards, and the fees to be paid for such license or permit.

7. Section 700 is amended by adding to the clause defining the expression "alteration" the words "provided that the same does not increase the area covered by the building changed or altered."

8. Wherever in section 712 the expression "east line of Water Street" or "east side line of Water Street" is used the same shall be held and construed to mean the east side line of Water Street as laid down and shewn on the official plan of the City and not the line of the existing street.

9. Section 1 of the third schedule to part IX of buildings is hereby amended by striking out the word "eight," in the fourth line thereof, and substituting therefor the word "two."

SCHEDULE OF AMOUNTS TO BE BORROWED.

To be paid to Mrs. D. Healey as a gratuity for the loss of her husband
in the discharge of his duty as a member of the Fire Department ...\$1,000 00

To be paid to William Murray, formerly Keeper of the City Prison and Mrs. Murray, being three months' salary on termination of their services.....	300 00
To defray the expenses of the joint delegation from the Board of Trade and the City to Ottawa re terminal facilities.....	218 00
To defray expenses in connection with the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, not exceeding.....	1,000 00
To cover the deficiency in connection with the Fire Department for the Civic year 1911-12, not exceeding.....	2,000 00
To defray the cost of heating the West Street Engine House, not exceeding.....	350 00
To cover the deficiency in the appropriation for the Charities Committee for the civic year 1911-12, not exceeding	800 00
For the purchase of additional fire apparatus, not covered by estimates	160 00

EVENING SESSION.

8.10 o'clock.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, March 21st, 1912.

A special meeting of the City Council was held this evening. At the above named hour there were present—His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen Martin, Connolly, Hines, Whitman, Bligh, Hawkins, Douglas, Clarke, and Harris.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Connolly, that the time for meeting be extended until 8.30 o'clock: Motion passed.

8.30 o'clock. Roll called. Present, the above named, together with Aldermen Gates, Scanlan, Kelly, Hoben, Corston, Rankine, MacKenzie and Upham.

The Council was summoned "To consider the Special Committee's report on Alderman Clarke's scheme for improving the centre of the City, to proceed with business standing over and the transaction of other business."

His Worship the Mayor informed the Council that a delegation from the Fruit Growers and Shippers was present and desired to be heard, relating to the providing of better facilities for shipping perishable goods at the port of Halifax.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Corston, that said delegation be now heard. Motion passed.

The Council is now addressed on the subject referred to by His Worship the Mayor, by Messrs. H. R. Silver, C. N. Chase, Howard Bligh and John E. Furness, the petition of the delegation being that the City grant a free site for a frost-proof warehouse capable of containing about one hundred freight cars.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Martin, that a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the matter of the granting of a site for a frost-proof warehouse and report to the Council. Motion passed.

His Worship the Mayor nominates as such committee Aldermen Douglas, Hines and MacKenzie. Approved.

His Worship the Mayor stated that he desired the appointment of a small committee to watch the progress through the legislature of the bill relating to the Halifax Electric Tramway Company, and nominated as said committee Aldermen Whitman, Douglas and Hoben.

Moved by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Rankine, that said nominations be approved. Motion passed.

His Worship the Mayor nominates as a special committee to watch legislation (other than the Tramway Bill) on behalf of the City, Aldermen Whitman, Bligh, Douglas, Hoben, Martin and MacKenzie, and the City Solicitor. Approved.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS.

The following named papers are submitted :—

Report Committee of Fire Wards, by Alderman Martin, Chairman.

Report City Health Board, re public abattoir, by Alderman Hawkins, Chairman.

Report Finance Committee, by Alderman Whitman, Chairman.

Report Laws and Privileges Committee, by Alderman Harris, Chairman.

His Worship the Mayor submits the following named papers :—

Report Board of Trade, re Alderman Clarke's proposal for improving centre of City.

Letter Civic Improvement League on same subject.

Read report Finance Committee on various matters.

REPORT FINANCE COMMITTEE.

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, March 7th, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen,—Your Committee on Finance beg to report that at a meeting held this day, there being present Aldermen Whitman (Chairman), Douglas and Corston, the following matters were dealt with :—

1. Letter City Clerk covering letter of the Canadian Street Car Advertising Company asking for certain information for the purposes of advertising.

Your Committee have to report that there are no funds available for this purpose.

2. Application City Solicitor for an increase to his salary.

Your Committee are unable to make a recommendation in this matter.

3. Letter A. S. Barnstead, Secretary Industries and Immigration re advertising Halifax in an illustrated brochure of cities and towns of Canada, the materials for which should be in his hands not later than February 17th. As the time has elapsed for complying with this request, it is recommended that the letter be filed.

4. Report Commercial Committee re advertising Halifax.

Application Summer School of Science for a grant from the City.

Letter Dr. J. L. Edward Midgely, Brooklyn, New York, offering to sell an oil painting of Halifax to the City.

Letter Canadian Municipal Journal re subscription to said Journal and for advertising Halifax.

Letter the Field newspaper re advertising Halifax.

Your Committee have to report that there are no funds available for any of these matters.

Letter Board School Commissioners re loan \$4175.00 for Chebucto School, also order Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council on same matter.

It is recommended that the letter and order be filed, as provision was made at the last meeting of the City Council for the expenditure.

ALFRED WHITMAN, Chairman.

The same is considered clause by clause.

Read clause 1 re advertising in street cars. Filed.

Read clause 2 re application of City Solicitor for an increase in salary.

The following resolution is submitted :—

RESOLVED, That legislation be secured increasing the salary of the City Solicitor to Two Thousand (\$2,000.00) Dollars;

FURTHER RESOLVED, It shall be the duty of the City Solicitor to act as Solicitor and Counsel for the Board of School Commissioners, without additional remuneration;

That section 772 of the Charter be amended to provide that it shall be the duty of the City Solicitor to act as Solicitor and Counsel for the Board (i. e., City Health Board), and attend its meetings when requested so to do by the Chairman.

That legislation be secured authorizing the borrowing of a sufficient amount to make up this increase and that the said amount be included in the next year's estimates.

Moved by Alderman Douglas, seconded by Alderman Hines.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Bligh, seconded by Alderman Hawkins, that the salary of the City Solicitor be increased to Fifteen Hundred (\$1500.00) Dollars, and that he perform the duties of Solicitor for the Board of Health without further remuneration.

The amendment is put and lost. The original resolution is put and passed.

Clauses 3, 4 and 5 of the report are severally read and filed.

The Council proceeds to the consideration of the business for which the meeting was summoned, namely—report of special committee re Alderman Clarke's proposal for improvement of the central portion of the City. See printed Minutes of Council Feb. 22, 1912, page 336.

The said report is considered read.

Also read reports Board of Trade and Civic Improvement League on same subject.

HALIFAX IMPROVEMENT ACT.

March 21st, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—At the quarterly meeting of the Board of Trade called on Tuesday afternoon last for the purpose of discussing Alderman Clarke's scheme of improvement in that section of the City between Brunswick, Argyle, Jacob and Sackville Streets, the following resolution unanimously passed :—

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trade heartily endorse the general features of the proposals for the improvement of the central portion of the City west of the City Hall.

In the opinion of this Board, the scheme as a whole is practicable, and would enure to the benefit of the whole City.

Previous to the passing of the above resolution a special committee of the Council also reported favorably on the scheme.

E. A. SAUNDERS, Secretary.

HALIFAX, N. S., March 21st, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the Civic Improvement League held on the 11th inst., Alderman Clarke's suggestion for the improvement of the central part of the City was unanimously endorsed. I wish you would have this letter read at this evening's meeting of the City Council, at which I understand this matter is to be discussed, for the League wishes to be on record as favoring the scheme. At the same time I should like to add my personal commendation. I think the suggested improvement is one of the most important that has ever been before the City, and very few schemes ever proposed in Halifax have been fraught with as much influence for good as this one.

With every hope that it will be endorsed by the City Council.

J. C. MACKINTOSH,
President Civic Improvement League.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Clarke, that the report of the committee be adopted, with a rider that a plebiscite be taken on the day of the next ensuing civic election, and that if a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the project that the proposed legislation become operative immediately upon proclamation by the Governor-in-Council.

After discussion, moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Kelly, that the question be now put. Motion passed.

The original motion is put and passed, fifteen voting for the same and one against it, viz. :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Connolly,
Gates, Bligh,
Scanlan, Douglas,
Clarke, Hoben,
Kelly, Hines,
Martin, Corston,
MacKenzie, Upham,
Rankine—15.

Against it.

Alderman Whitman—1.

Alderman Whitman asks leave of Council to have his vote recorded in favor of the motion.

By unanimous consent of Council Alderman Whitman is permitted to record his vote as in favor of the motion.

His Worship the Mayor declares the motion carried unanimously.

Read proposed draft Act to make effective the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee. The same is considered clause by clause.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 are severally read and adopted.

Read clause 4. Sub-clauses 1 to 6 are severally read and adopted, there being fourteen Aldermen present and voting.

Read sub-clause 7 of clause 4, re remuneration of the Halifax Improvement Commission.

Moved by Alderman Douglas, seconded by Alderman Bligh, that the proposed remuneration of Five Hundred (\$500.00) Dollars be amended to read One Thousand (\$1000.00) Dollars, and that the clause as amended be adopted. Motion passed.

Read clause 5, sub-clauses (a) to (g). The same are severally adopted.

Read sub-clause (h) re power of the Commission to employ and remunerate persons for services.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Douglas, that the clause be amended by adding the word "Solicitors" therein, and that the clause as so amended be adopted. Motion passed.

Clauses 6 and 7 are severally read and adopted.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that the draft Act as amended be adopted as a whole. Motion passed.

Alderman Harris, by leave of Council, submits draft Act for the taking of a plebiscite on Alderman Clarke's proposals for improvement. The same is considered clause by clause.

Clauses 1 and 2 are severally read and adopted.

Read clause 3. Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Whitman, that the words at the end of the clause "At a price sufficient to fully reimburse the City" be expunged therefrom, and that the clause as so amended be adopted. Motion passed.

Clauses 4 to 16 are severally read and adopted.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that the draft Act as amended be adopted. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Douglas, that

the draft Acts relating to Alderman Clarke's improvement proposals be forwarded forthwith to the Legislature for enactment. Motion passed.

[The draft Act as finally approved by Council].

AN ACT RESPECTING THE IMPROVEMENT OF A PORTION OF THE CITY OF HALIFAX.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, as follows :—

PART I.

1. The City of Halifax shall have power to purchase or expropriate any or all of the land bounded on the North by Jacob Street, on the west by Brunswick Street on the south by Sackville Street and on the east by the easterly line of the lots of land fronting on the east side of Grafton Street, for the purposes herein set forth,

2. The provisions of the Halifax City Charter (sections 619 to 639) shall apply to such purchase or expropriation.

3 (1) The City of Halifax is authorized to borrow a sum not exceeding five hundred thousand dollars for the purpose of acquiring, replanning, improving and disposing of the lands referred to in section one hereof, and for no other purpose.

(2) The amount so borrowed shall be in addition to the amount authorized to be borrowed by the Halifax City Consolidated Fund Act of 1905, and amendments thereto, and shall be known as the Improvement Commission Loan.

(3) Such amount shall be secured by debentures or stock to be issued in conformity with the provisions of said Act, to be redeemable on or at any time before the first day of July, A. D., 1915, and shall bear interest at the rate of four per centum per annum.

4. (1) There shall be a board of six commissioners composed of the Mayor three Aldermen, one of whom shall be appointed annually by the council, each for the term of three years, and two ratepayers of the city not members of the council, who shall be appointed by the council for a term of three years, and such Board shall be a body corporate under the name of "The Halifax Improvement Commission."

(2) On the establishment of the Commission, one Alderman shall be appointed for a term of one year, the second for a term of two years, and the third for a term of three years.

(3) Any vacancy occurring in said Commission shall be filled by the Council for the unexpired term.

(4) The Commission shall elect its own chairman.

(5) The City Treasurer shall be the Treasurer of the Commission.

(6) The Commission may appoint a suitable person to be the Secretary of said Commission.

(7) The Commission may appropriate a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars per annum, to be divided among the members of said Commission pro rata according to their attendance at meetings of the Commission.

5. Said Commission shall have power (a) to enter upon, manage, plan, lay out, and improve said lands or any portion thereof.

(b) To rent, insure, repair, alter, enlarge, build, rebuild, remove, alter and demolish any buildings, walls or fences upon the land so acquired.

(c) To lay out, open and construct any new street, and to widen, straighten, extend, improve, grade, divert, close or alter any such street or any existing street.

(d) To define, and establish a building line on any such street beyond which no building or structure of any description shall be built or placed, and to define and establish such regulations and restrictions respecting the buildings erected or to be erected on said land as the Commission may decide.

(e) To lay down and construct sewers, drains, sidewalks, boulevards, water mains and pavements under the direction of the City Engineer.

(f) To reserve or dedicate such portions of said lands for streets, parks, squares, or public property for the use of the City as to the Commission may seem best.

(g) To sell, lease and dispose of any portion of the said land upon such terms as said Commission may deem best.

(h) To employ and remunerate such contractors, builders, solicitors, architects designers, engineers, agents, clerks and employees as the Commission may deem best upon such terms as may be agreed.

6. The proceeds of the sale of the debentures over and above the amount, not required for the purpose of acquiring said land shall be placed to the credit of said Commission, and shall be used and expended by it in the execution of such improvements as the said Commission has power to carry out, and for no other purpose.

7. The rents and income collected or received in respect of said land and the proceeds of the sale of any portion thereof shall be placed to the credit of said Commission and shall be applied—

First, on account of the interest due on said debentures ;

Secondly, on account of the principal sum authorized to be borrowed and in the redemption of debentures outstanding in respect of said loan ;

Thirdly, the balance, if any, shall be paid into and form part of the sinking fund.

PART II.

8. The first part of this Act shall not come into force until a proclamation declaring the same to be in force has been made by the Governor-in-Council and published in the Royal Gazette

9. Such proclamation shall not be made unless a majority of the electors of Halifax who vote upon the question hereby submitted to them express themselves in the affirmative in the manner hereinafter provided.

10. A poll of the electors of the City of Halifax shall be taken in manner as hereinafter provided to ascertain whether they are in favor of the City of Halifax expending \$500,000 in acquiring by purchase or expropriation the area bounded by Brunswick Street, Jacob Street, Sackville Street, and the rear line of lots fronting on the east side of Grafton Street, for the purpose of demolishing existing wooden buildings, replanning and improving the district and reselling the land so improved.

11. The voting upon such question shall be by ballot at the election for mayor and aldermen for the City of Halifax, to be held on the last Wednesday of April,

1912, and every elector entitled to a vote at such election shall be entitled to vote upon such question.

12. If in any ward of the City no election for mayor or aldermen is held at such date, the City of Halifax shall provide a suitable place in such ward in which the vote upon such question may be taken, and appoint one or more officials to receive and conduct the voting in such place, and any official so appointed shall be entitled to the same remuneration as that paid to the corresponding official in the case of an election for mayor or alderman, and be possessed of the like powers and privileges.

13. No person shall vote more than once on the said question.

14. The ballot paper for the voting upon such question shall be in the form "A" in the Schedule to this Act, and shall be furnished by the City of Halifax to the presiding officer appointed for the said election or under this Act.

15. It shall be the duty of every such presiding officer to ask every elector voting at his polling station for mayor or alderman if he wishes to vote upon such question and to tender him a ballot paper for that purpose.

16. Every polling station at such election shall be provided with a place, screened from observation, in which the voter may mark his ballot paper, and with pencils for that purpose.

17. The presiding officer shall upon the request of any voter, explain to such voter the mode of marking his ballot paper.

18. Any voter who is unable, through blindness or illiteracy, or other cause, may, upon making oath to such inability, which oath may be in the form "B" in the schedule, have his ballot paper marked for him by the presiding officer.

19. If any voter places on the ballot paper more than one mark, or any mark by which he may be identified, his ballot paper shall be void and shall not be counted.

20. The City of Halifax shall furnish each presiding officer with a separate ballot box, in which the ballots cast upon the question hereby submitted to a voter shall be deposited.

21. At the close of the poll the presiding officer shall count the ballots cast, and the number marked in the affirmative, and the number marked in the negative of such question, and the ballots when counted shall be placed in the ballot box and returned to the City Clerk of the City of Halifax.

22. Immediately upon such vote having been taken, the City Clerk shall make a return to the Provincial Secretary showing:—

- (a) the total number of ballots cast;
- (b) the number who have voted in the affirmative; and
- (c) the number who have voted in the negative.

23. If it appears from such return that a majority of the voters who have voted have answered the question in the affirmative, the Provincial Secretary shall forthwith make and publish in the Royal Gazette a proclamation declaring the first part of this Act to be in force.

24. This Act may be known and cited as "The Halifax Improvement Act 1912."

SCHEDULE.

FORM "A."

Ballot Paper.

	Yes.	No.
<p>Are you in favor of the City of Halifax expending \$500,000 in acquiring by purchase or expropriation the area bounded by Brunswick Street, Jacob Street, Sackville Street, and the rear line of lots fronting on the east side of Grafton Street, demolishing existing wooden buildings thereon, replanning and improving the district and reselling the lands so improved.</p>		

If in favour mark a "X" in the column "yes"; if against mark a "X" in the column "No."

FORM "B."

Oath of Blind or Illiterate Voter.

I,, of the City of Halifax, make oath and say that I am unable through (blindness, inability to read and write, or other cause, as the case may be) to mark my own ballot, and require the assistance of the presiding officer for that purpose.

So help me God.

Read report Committee of Fire Wards. The same is considered clause by clause.

REPORT COMMITTEE OF FIRE WARDS.

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, March 18th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—The Committee of Fire Wards met this day at four o'clock Present Aldermen Martin (Chairman), Hines, Harris, Gates and Scanlan.

The Committee beg to report and recommend as follows:—

1. The Committee report progress in the matter of His Worship the Mayor's message relating to fire risks.
2. The Secretary has been instructed to write Brigadier-General Drury asking if there is any Military property under his jurisdiction (with particular reference to the City of Halifax) where explosives removed by the City Authorities from premises where same might be found by the City Authorities to be illegally stored, could be temporarily placed, and if so under what conditions.
3. At an inspection and test by the Committee this afternoon of the ladder truck and ladders at West Street Engine House the ladders and truck were

condemned as unsafe and unfit for service and a source of danger to the lives of the firemen using them and of citizens being rescued from burning buildings. Your Committee repeat that these facts cannot longer be ignored, and again urge the purchase of a ladder truck and ladders.

Your Committee unanimously recommend that the Council obtain authority to borrow on long term debentures for a ladder truck and ladders and other equipment, \$2700.00.

P. J. MARTIN, Chairman.

Clauses 1 and 2 are read and adopted.

Read clause 3 re borrowing Two Thousand Seven Hundred (\$2,700.00) Dollars for purchase of a ladder truck and ladders.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Scanlan, that the said clause be adopted. Motion put and passed twelve voting for the same and three against it, as follows:—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Connolly,
Gates, Bligh,
Scanlan, Clarke,
Kelly, Hines,
Hawkins, Martin,
MacKenzie, Upham—12.

Against it.

Aldermen Whitman, Douglas,
Hoben—3.

Read report City Health Board re public abattoir, covering draft Act.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

OFFICE OF CITY HEALTH BOARD, March 19th, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—The enclosed amended draft Act, relating to a public abattoir for the City of Halifax, was adopted at a meeting of the City Health Board held on Friday last, when I was directed to forward same for your concurrence, with the attached extract from reports, etc., relating thereto for your further information.

JOHN A. WATTERS, Secretary.

OFFICE OF CITY HEALTH BOARD, March 19th, 1912.

TO CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HALIFAX BOARD OF HEALTH :

Gentlemen,—Your committee appointed to inspect the slaughter houses of the City and to report upon the advisability of utilizing one or more of the same as a civic slaughter house, beg to report:—

That the careful inspection of the buildings and their surroundings particularly the piggeries, more than ever convinced your committee that the present system should be abolished, and that it is not only advisable but necessary that the killing of cattle within the City should be controlled directly by the Board of Health.

That of the slaughter houses now in use the one owned and managed by Mr. McLeod, which was built under the supervision of the Board of Health in 1905, is the only building which could be considered in the establishment of a civic slaughter house, as far as the slaughter house itself is concerned. In order to

secure sufficient room, if all the slaughtering of the City were carried on in this building a new cooling room would be required, the cost of which would be approximately \$500.00.

That the accommodation for housing of cattle, sheep, etc., at Mr. McLeod's would be inadequate, but at Mr. Edwards', whose premises adjoin those of Mr. McLeod's, sufficient accommodation could be obtained for the housing and grazing that would be necessary in conjunction with the civic slaughter house.

That the following estimate of approximate cost and yearly expenses has been collected :—

Cash price of Messrs. Edwards' and McLeod's properties.....	\$15,000 00
Or	
Annual rent	1,500 00
Expense of placing premises in proper condition for the work of civic slaughter house	500 00

The Edwards and McLeod properties contain about 15 acres of land, two dwelling houses, concrete slaughter house, barns with accommodation for 70 head of cattle, and containing two refrigerators, two boiler houses, a tallow house, bone house, sheep barn and two pig houses which could be used for sheep.

The following estimate of the probable income is based upon the number of cattle killed in the City during the past year (1911).

4,850 at 50c	\$2,425 00
26,500 sheep and lambs, at 8c	2,120 00
650 veal at 15c.....	97 50
700 pigs at 50c.....	350 00
	<u>4,992 50</u>
Bi-products, such as bones, horns, casings	2,800 00
	<u>\$7,792 50</u>

EXPENDITURE.

Three men and a boy would be required. This would be sufficient to kill 50 head of cattle a day, and the total wages would not be more than \$40.00 a week, as it would be advisable to give the two houses for the use of those employees, as in that way someone would be constantly about the premises.

Wages	\$2,080 00
Rent.....	1,500 00
	<u>\$3,580 00</u>
Income	\$7,792 50
Expenditure	3,580 00
	<u>\$4,212 50</u>

As this estimate is based upon last year's killing, and in the opinion of every one of the City butchers a civic slaughter house would greatly increase the number of cattle slaughtered within the City, it seems reasonable to expect an increase of 20 per cent. in the number of cattle killed.

In the opinion of your committee it would be more advisable to buy these properties outright than to lease them, as five per cent. would be an outside figure to pay for the necessary money, and calculated on that basis the annual rent would be cut in two.

J. A. WATTERS, Secretary.

EXTRACT FROM A REPORT OF J. A. RUTHERFORD, VETERINARY DIRECTOR
GENERAL AND LIVE STOCK COMMISSIONER FOR THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

"I am satisfied that once the Canadian public has become seized of the situation, they will insist upon the adoption, by the various municipal authorities throughout the country, of a much more thorough system of dealing with butchers, and the meat trade generally, than has hitherto been tolerated.

"It does not appear to me that there is any need for or likelihood of conflict.

"We are setting a fairly high standard, and all that is required is for the municipal authorities to adopt, under the legislation now existing, regulations somewhat similar to ours, with a view of rendering unmarketable, diseased, or otherwise unsound meats, which, under present conditions, cannot enter establishments engaged in export or interprovincial trade.

"The first and most important step in this direction will, it is needless to say, be the providing of public municipal abattoirs, to be conducted under inspection methods similar to those required by the Meat and Canned Foods Act, especially as regards the admission either of live animals or their carcasses.

"The sooner the private slaughter house is abolished altogether the better for all concerned, as most of the objectionable meats placed on the market emanate from these undesirable and unsanitary places.

"The trade in home-killed, dressed carcasses, will also, for similar reasons, gradually be wiped out of existence, and although the abolition of this form of meat disposal will probably cause some temporary dissatisfaction among farmers, matters will soon adjust themselves, and the profits to the producer will be in no wise lessened, although the livers and other offal hitherto utilized by the household will be no longer available.

"The municipal abattoir is a modern necessity, and must come.

"Boards of Health and municipal authorities have been too long neglectful of the necessity for intelligent action in the matter of meat inspection.

"It is the duty of every man to see that his family, as well as himself, does not eat diseased or unwholesome meat. In places where establishments under federal inspection do not exist, safety in this regard can be secured only by the establishment of a municipal abattoir, conducted under the constant supervision of a skilled professional inspector."

AN ACT RELATING TO A PUBLIC ABATTOIR FOR THE CITY OF HALIFAX.

(1.) The City may establish either within or without the City limits a public abattoir for the slaughter of animals for food, and after the establishment thereof no such animal shall be slaughtered at any other place within the City.

(2.) Such abattoir shall be under the control and regulations of the City Health Board, who may appoint the officials and employees thereof, and fix the amount of the salaries or wages to be paid, and make by-laws for the regulation thereof, and establishing the rates to be charged in connection therewith. All such salaries and wages shall be included in the yearly civic estimates.

(3.) Upon the establishment of such abattoir no carcass of meat shall be sold or offered for sale in the City unless—

(a) It has been slaughtered in such abattoir, or

(b) Is stamped with a certificate or other mark by an inspector appointed by the Dominion Government or a Provincial Government.

(4.) Every person who contravenes, or fails to comply with the requirements of this section, shall for each offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred

dollars, and in default thereof to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three months.

(5.) The cost of establishing such abattoir, not exceeding twenty thousand dollars, may be borrowed by the City, and the City may secure the amount so borrowed by stock or debentures to be issued in conformity with the provisions of the Halifax City Consolidated Fund Act, 1905, and amendments thereto, and any stock or debentures so issued shall form part of that fund, and shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding five per cent., and the time at which the same are payable shall be determined by the Council.

The said draft Act is considered clause by clause.

Read clause 1 re establishment of a public abattoir.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Martin, that said clause be adopted.

The following amendment is submitted :

That the City Board of Health interview the Local Government with a view of providing a scheme for public slaughtering and inspection of meat throughout the province.

Moved by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman Hoben.

The amendment is put and lost, three voting for the same and nine against it, as follows :—

For the Amendment.

Aldermen Whitman, Bligh,
Hoben—3.

Against it.

Aldermen Harris, Scanlan,
Clarke, Kelly,
Hines, Hawkins,
Martin, MacKenzie,
Upham—9.

The original motion being put, there appeared :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Gates,
Scanlan, Clarke,
Kelly, Hines,
Hawkins, Martin,
MacKenzie, Upham—10.

Against it.

Aldermen Whitman, Bligh,
Hoben—3.

His Worship the Mayor declares the motion lost, not having received a two-thirds vote of Council.

Alderman Hawkins gives notice of reconsideration.

Read report Laws and Privileges Committee re license fees for brewers.

REPORT COMMITTEE ON LAWS AND PRIVILEGES.

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, March 20th, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—The Committee on Laws and Privileges beg to report that at a

meeting held this day, there being present Aldermen Harris (Chairman), Bligh, Claie and Hawkins, the following matters were dealt with, viz —

1. In the schedule of Liquor License fees dealt with by the Council at a meeting held on the 7th inst., the item for Brewers' license was referred back to this Committee for further report, together with a petition from brewers in respect to said fees.

Your committee have had a conference with the parties interested, and are of the opinion that there should be no change in the amount of the fees for brewers, and recommend that the fees for brewers' license be placed in the new schedule at \$600.00, and that the said schedule be forwarded to the Legislature for enactment.

REGINALD V. HARRIS, Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Bligh, seconded by Alderman Hoben, that said report be adopted. Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Whitman, that the Council do now adjourn until Monday evening the 25th inst., at eight o'clock. Motion passed.

Council adjourns twelve o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

8.10 o'clock.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, March 25th, 1912.

A meeting of the City Council was held this evening pursuant to adjournment of March 21st 1912.

At the above named hour there were present His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen Whitman, Martin, Hines, Bligh, Harris, MacKenzie, Shaffner, Corston and Hoben.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Hines, that the time for meeting be extended until 8.30 o'clock. Motion passed.

8.30 o'clock. Roll called. Present, the above named, together with Aldermen Gates, Scanlan, Kelly, Hawkins and Rankine.

His Worship the Mayor stated that this being an adjourned meeting the Council should proceed with the business before it as at the time of adjournment; but that there was a petition on file for the extension of the tramway service, which he thought should be now dealt with.

Moved by Alderman Kelly, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that the said petition be now considered by the Council. Motion passed.

Alderman MacKenzie submits a petition signed by about 3,000 names, for tramway extension to the cemeteries within the City, and covering a draft Act on the matter. The same are now read.

PETITION FOR STREET RAILWAY EXTENSION TO CEMETERIES.

WHEREAS every citizen and church of the City of Halifax is deeply interested in a tram service to the cemeteries within the City limits;

AND WHEREAS Halifax is the only City of its size without such service;

We, the undersigned, hereby humbly petition that your Honorable Body will take such action as will secure immediately a suitable service as herein asked for.

Signed by

† E. J. MCCARTHY (Archbishop).

CLARE L., NOVA SCOTIA (Bishop).

and about 3,000 other names.

A BILL, ENTITLED "AN ACT RESPECTING THE HALIFAX ELECTRIC TRAMWAY COMPANY, LIMITED."

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, as follows:—

1. The Halifax Electric Tramway Company, Limited, shall build and operate an extension of its line from the corner of Quinpool Road and Oxford Street westerly along Quinpool Road to Dutch Village, and northerly along Dutch Village Road to Mount Olivet Cemetery and from the corner of Almon and Windsor Street along Windsor Street to Fairview Cemetery. Said extensions shall be completed and put in operation on or before the first day of July, 1914.

2. The Halifax Electric Tramway Company, Limited, shall be liable for a penalty of \$100.00 a day for every day after said first day of July, 1914, that it does not operate said line upon such time table as may be determined by the City Council of the City of Halifax; and such penalty may be recovered by an action at law at the suit of the City of Halifax; but such time table shall not compel the said Halifax Electric Tramway Company, Limited, to furnish a more frequent service than an hourly service each way on said lines.

Moved by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Kelly, that the Council approve of the petition for the extension of the tramway service to the cemeteries, and that the draft Act be read clause by clause, and sent to the Legislature.

Alderman Whitman submits the following amendment:—

This Council approves of the building of the extension of the Tramway to the cemeteries, and will support an application to the Utilities Commission, under Section 3, Chapter 10 of the Acts of 1911, for the building of such road.

Moved by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman Hoben.

The amendment is put and lost, 4 voting for the same and 10 against it, as follows:—

For the Amendment.

Aldermen Whitman, Hawkins,
Hoben, Corston—4.

Against it.

Aldermen Harris, Shaffner,
Gates, Bligh,
Scanlan, Kelly,
Hines, Martin,
MacKenzie, Rankine—10.

Aldermen Hawkins and Whitman ask that Alderman MacKenzie's motion be divided into two parts.

Part 1 of the motion that the Council approve of the prayer of the petition is put and passed unanimously.

Part 2 of the motion that the draft Act be read clause by clause is put, and passed unanimously.

Read clause 1 of the draft Act, fixing route for extensions of Tramway lines.

Moved by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Bligh, that said clause be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Rankine, that said clause be referred to the Public Franchises Committee for report.

The amendment is put and lost, 5 voting for the same, and 9 against it, as follows:—

For the Amendment.
Aldermen Whitman, Hoben,
Hawkins, Corston,
Rankine—5.

Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Shaffner,
Gates, Bligh,
Scanlan, Kelly,
Hines, Martin,
MacKenzie—9.

The original motion is put and passed.

Read clause 2 re penalty for non compliance with clause 1.

Moved by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Martin, that said clause be adopted. Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Martin that the said draft act be forwarded forthwith to the legislature for enactment, and that the petition be also sent to the legislature therewith. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS.

By unanimous consent of the Council the following named papers are submitted:—

- Report Special Committee on Public Market, by Alderman Gates, Chairman.
- Report City Health Board, re Garbage Destructor, by Alderman Hawkins, Chairman.
- Report Laws and Privileges Committee, by Alderman Harris, Chairman.
- Report City Health Board re accounts, by Alderman Hawkins, Chairman.
- His Worship the Mayor submits the following named papers:—
 - Report Commissioners of Camp Hill Cemetery.
 - Report Committee on Works re Water Maintenance estimates 1912-13.

CONSIDERATION OF PAPERS SUBMITTED.

Read report special Committee on Public Market re tenders for removal of the buildings on said property and the borrowing of \$50,000.00 for the erection of a public market building.

PUBLIC MARKET.

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, March 25th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen,—The special committee on Market Site beg to report that a meeting

was held this day, there being present Aldermen Gates (Chairman), MacKenzie and Martin, and the City Engineer.

1. The committee has instructed the City Engineer to prepare specifications for the razing and removal of the buildings now on the property expropriated for a market site, and will at once advertise for tenders for the work.

2. Your committee find that after paying for the site selected there is a balance in the Market fund of about \$19,000.00, and beg to recommend that an Act be procured at the present session of the Legislature authorizing the City to borrow the sum of \$50,000.00 towards the cost of erecting a public market building.

H. E. GATES, Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Gates, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that the report be adopted. Motion put and passed, 13 voting for the same and 1 against it, as follows:—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Shaffner,
Gates, Bligh,
Scanlan, Hoben,
Kelly, Hines,
Hawkins, Martin,
Corston, MacKenzie,
Rankine—13.

Against it.

Alderman Whitman—1.

Read report City Health Board re the establishment of a garbage destructor.

GARBAGE DESTRUCTOR.

OFFICE OF CITY HEALTH BOARD, March 20th, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen,—At a meeting of the City Health Board, held on Friday last, there was under discussion the method of disposal of the City's garbage, offal, etc. The Board are of the opinion that the present method is decidedly objectionable, in fact the dumping or depositing of poisonous garbage and refuse material and the existence of night soil pits, within the City limits, are not in accordance with modern sanitary methods.

The members of the City Health Board feel, that not only is a disagreeable nuisance thus created but there is a positive danger to public health, and these portions of the City will be a menace to its future sanitary condition. The destruction of garbage, refuse and offal in a manner conforming to sanitary law has become a matter of vital importance and should receive the attentive consideration of all those who are interested in the welfare and safety of the City.

It is most essential to the public health that adequate means be provided for the efficient removal and complete destruction of all garbage, night soil and decomposing refuse. Therefore, the need of an incinerator for the City is very great and the City Health Board, in the interest of public health, would strongly recommend the early construction of it, and would ask the City Council to give the matter their attentive and favourable consideration.

JOHN A. WATTERS, Secretary.

The following resolution is submitted:—

RESOLVED, That the report be received, and the necessary legislation prepared authorizing the City to borrow the sum required for the construction of an incinerator, and that the Committee on Legislation be authorized to insert the amount required in the borrowing bill.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Whitman.

Motion put and passed unanimously, the names of the Aldermen voting being recorded thus:—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Shaffner, Whitman,
Gates, Bligh, Scanlan,
Hoben, Kelly, Hines,
Hawkins, Martin, Corston,
MacKenzie, Rankine—14.

Read report Laws and Privileges Committee.

Alderman Upham here arrives and takes his seat in Council.

REPORT LAWS AND PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE.

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, March 20th 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—At a meeting of the Laws and Privileges Committee held this day there were present Aldermen Harris, (Chairman), Bligh, Clarke and Hawkins. The following matters were dealt with:—

1. Letter Byers and Anglin in re License fee on outside contractors asking that the law be repealed.

Your Committee cannot recommend any change in the law at present but would inform the petitioners that they have a remedy by taking up a residence in the City and being assessed as provided for by the City Charter.

2. Re Taxation "Studley" property. ∞ 12

At a meeting of the City Council held on the 24th February last a report was presented from this Committee asking that the City Solicitor be instructed to draft an Act exempting the "Studley" property, lately acquired as a site for Dalhousie University, from taxation. As this report has not yet been dealt with by the Council and it is necessary that the Legislation be passed this session the attached draft Act prepared by the City Solicitor is sent up for the information of the Council.

REGINALD V. HARRIS, Chairman.

The same is considered clause by clause.

Read clause 1 re petition of Byers and Anglin in re license fee charged non-resident contractors.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Hawkins, that said clause be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Hoben, seconded by Alderman Whitman that said clause be referred back to the Laws and Privileges Committee for further report.

The amendment is put and passed.

Read clause 2 re the exemption from taxation of Studley property recently acquired by Dalhousie College, covering draft act.

The draft act is now read clause by clause.

STUDLEY PROPERTY.

1. The property known as "Studley" recently purchased by Dalhousie College shall be exempt from taxation for the year 1912-13 notwithstanding that the same was included in the assessment for that year and shall hereafter continue to be so exempt.

2. The exemption hereby created shall not apply to any water rate or to any liability in respect to a sewer, sidewalk, paving or other betterment nor to any building erected on said property used for residential purposes for instructors or students or not exclusively used for educational purposes.

Clause 1 is read and adopted.

Read clause 2 re certain respects in which the exemption shall not apply.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Bligh, that this clause be amended by expunging therefrom the words "or students." Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Hoben, that said clause 2 be further amended by providing that the exemption shall apply to residences to be used by students.

Moved in amendment by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Gates, that said clause be further amended by providing that the exemption shall apply also to residences used by instructors.

Alderman MacKenzie's amendment is put and lost, 3 voting for the same and 12 against it as follows:—

For the Amendment.	Against it.
Aldermen Gates, MacKenzie, Upham—3.	Aldermen Harris, Shaffner, Whitman, Bligh, Scanlan, Hoben, Kelly, Hines, Hawkins, Martin, Corston, Rankine—12.

Alderman Harris' motion is put and passed, 13 voting for the same and 2 against it, as follows:—

For the Motion.	Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Shaffner, Whitman, Gates, Bligh, Scanlan, Hoben, Kelly, Hines, Martin, Corston, MacKenzie, Rankine—13.	Aldermen Upham, Hawkins—2.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman Hoben, that the clause as amended be adopted, and that the draft Act as a whole be approved of. Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman Kelly, seconded by Alderman Shaffner, that the order of business be suspended to permit Alderman Kelly to introduce a resolution. Motion passed.

The following resolution is submitted :—

WHEREAS, The Commissioners of the Common require the sum of \$700.00 to complete the lavatory at present on the premises ;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, That the above amount be included in the City borrowing bill, the debentures to be repayable in five years.

Moved by Alderman Kelly, seconded by Alderman Hines, and passed unanimously, there being 15 Aldermen present and voting.

Read report Clerk of Works covering Water Maintenance estimates for the civic year 1912-13.

WATER ESTIMATES, 1912-13.

CITY WORKS OFFICE, March 21st, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—I have been instructed by the Committee on Works to submit for your approval the Water Maintenance Estimates for the year 1912-13:—

WATER MAINTENANCE, 1912-13.

Interest.....	\$52,065 64
Maintenance	35,000 00
Sinking Fund	4,857 00
Short Collection.....	1,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$92,922 64
	Less :
Income from special and meter rates	64,522 64
	<hr/>
	\$28,400 00

of \$28,400 00 = \$10,650 00

of 28,400 00 = 17,750 00

\$28,400 00

\$14,791,667 @ 12c. = \$17,750 00

7,607,143 @ 14c. = 10,650 00

\$28,400 00

JAMES J. HOPEWELL, Clerk of Works.

Moved by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that said report be adopted and the water estimates approved. Motion passed.

Read report City Health Board covering accounts.

CITY HEALTH BOARD ACCOUNTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., March 13th, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen:—The City Health Board beg to recommend the payment of the following accounts, which were passed at a meeting of the Board held on Friday last, viz:—

Halifax Electric Tram Co, light for hospital, \$11.52. Melvin & Co., ladders hospital, \$3.50. G. A. Wootten & Co., elect. lamp, 70c. C. A. Mumford, drugs, disinfectant, etc., \$74.45. S. Cunard & Co., coal, \$60.00. Dixon, Ltd., groceries, small pox hospital, \$19.99. T. C. Allen & Co., printing and stationery, \$24.40. G. A. Burbidge, drugs, etc., \$54.55. John F. Dempster, board of patients, \$151.83. Total, \$400.94.

JOHN A. WATTERS, Secretary.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Martin, that the report be adopted and the accounts paid. Motion passed.

Read report Camp Hill Cemetery Commission relating to repairs to Robie Street.

ROBIE STREET SIDEWALK.

MARCH 21ST, 1912.

At a meeting of the Commissioners of Camp Hill Cemetery held this afternoon, there being present H. D. Holloway (Chairman), Aldermen Bligh, Upham, and Harris, O. E. Smith and C. H. Mitchell:

It was resolved to apply to the City Council for the construction of a curbing to be laid on the cemetery frontage on the east side of Robie Street, the entire cost to be paid out of the City funds. It was pointed out that Robie Street is being boulevarded and such a curbing would greatly improve the appearance of that side of the Street. The sidewalk on the east side is of earth and after continuous rains the water accumulates and it is absolutely necessary that a curbing be laid to protect the sidewalk. The Commission is also desirous of planting a row of trees along the east sidewalk, and they feel that this cannot be undertaken until the sidewalk is so protected.

HY. D. HOLLOWAY, Chairman.

Referred to Committee on Works for report.

Read application Nova Scotia Historical Society for civic grant for erection of tablets.

HISTORICAL TABLETS.

HALIFAX, N. S., 8th Dec., 1911.

HIS WORSHIP MAYOR CHISHOLM:

My dear Mayor Chisholm,—The Nova Scotia Historical Society, as you are aware, has undertaken to mark with suitable tablets, certain spots of historic interest in Halifax.

The means at the disposal of the Society are very small, and we are greatly handicapped in carrying on this work, which is I venture to say in the public interest, and of great value not only to the citizens at large, to the rising generation in particular, and especially to the large and increasing number of tourists who visit Halifax.

I venture therefore to invite the City Council to co-operate with us, and ask for a grant of at least \$100.00 for the erection of tablets.

I am instructed by the Council of the Society to ask the City to mark, or to provide us with funds (say \$6.00) to mark :-Prince William's Lane, or rather Prince William Henry's Lane, just south of the new Customs House. This lane was first used in connection with the State landing of the Prince, afterwards William IV, Nov. 5th 1787.

W. J. ARMITAGE,
President N. S. H. S.

Moved by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Kelly, that the same be referred to the Finance Committee for report. Motion passed.

Read reports Committee on Works and City Engineer re sewer assessment.

SEWER ASSESSMENT.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE, Aug. 4th, 1911.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Sir,—In compliance with the request of your Committee, I beg to report on the sewer assessment charged where sewers are constructed.

When the sewer plan was made in 1876 a fixed frontage assessment of \$1.25 per lineal foot, was decided upon with certain exceptions at corners. This assessment amounted to about \$2.50 per lin. ft. of sewer, which paid almost the whole cost of the sewer at that time. The following statement shows the cost of sewers from 1878 to 1909 :—

Year.	No. of Sewers.	Average cost per lin. ft.
1878-1882	6	\$2 75
1883-1887	16	4 29
1888-1892	83	4 81
1893-1897	123	3 95
1898-1902	37	4 23
1903-1907	41	6 11
1908-1909	24	5 58

From 1878 to 1882, as shown above, the cost of construction of sewers was only \$2.75 per lin. ft. From 1903 to 1907 the average cost was \$6.11 per lin. ft., so that the amount paid now in frontage assessment is out of all proportion to the cost in comparison with the scheme as originally decided. The greater portion of the sewer system contemplated when the report was made in 1876 has been constructed. The proportion of cost being paid now by the general taxpayer is too heavy especially where sewers are being laid to open up new property. Mr. A. C. Theakston laid the sewer in Cherry Street at his own expense in order to open up property abutting on that street. He proposes to follow the same course in opening up the property at the north-west corner of Coburg Road and Oxford Street, and I think that condition might fairly be laid down by the City Council in considering proposals to open streets in property not yet divided or where streets have not yet been opened. This might be done in one of two ways—First, by the property owner having the whole work done himself; Second, by the payment of a fixed frontage assessment to the City or a lump sum equal to the estimated cost of the work, in which case the work could be done by the City. Taking into consideration the exemptions and cost of work on street intersections, etc., a frontage assessment of \$2.00 per lin. ft. on each side of the street would be necessary to cover a portion of the cost in future; while if the whole cost is to be paid the rate should not be less than \$3.00 per lin. ft. on each side of the street without any exemption. In any case, it seems clear that some readjustment should be made, and the matter should be dealt with before the next session of the Legislature.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer.

Moved by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman Rankine, that the same be referred back to the Committee on Works for further report. Motion passed.

Read reports Committee on Works and City Engineer re certain proposed diagonal streets.

DIAGONAL STREETS.

CITY WORKS OFFICE, February 22nd, 1912.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—At a meeting of the Committee on Works held this day the attached two reports of the City Engineer, comparing the two proposed diagonal streets suggested by Alderman Hines and the late J. K. Munnis were read and referred to Council for its information with a suggestion that in the opinion of this Committee it would be well to delay either work for some little time.

J. A. CHISHOLM, Mayor and Chairman.

NEW STREET.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE, January 24th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Sir:—I beg to report on the proposal of Alderman Hines to open a new street diagonally from the intersection of Argyle Street and Buckingham Street to the junction of Jacob Street and Brunswick Street.

It has always been my opinion, and I have stated it in former reports, that if a diagonal street is to be opened it should come down as far as Argyle Street at least. A street from the head of Jacob Street to Buckingham Street at Argyle Street, would make a great improvement in the grades and could be reached with as little effort as if the street ran to the intersection of Duke Street and Argyle Street. The grade on Buckingham Street below Argyle is flatter than that on Duke Street, and in any case, heavy loads should be taken up St. Paul Street or Blowers Street.

The estimated cost of opening the street as proposed by Alderman Hines, is \$57,071.00.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE February 20th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Sir,—I beg to report on the two propositions for the opening of a diagonal street from Argyle Street to Brunswick Street, one on a location from the City Hall to the head of Jacob Street, the other from the intersection of Argyle Street and Buckingham Street to the head of Jacob Street.

The estimated cost of opening the former is \$73,830.00. The estimated cost of the latter is \$57,071.00.

Looking at it financially, the street from the City Hall would cost 50% more than the other. The appearance of the street would be better, as the City Hall would be at the end of the vista, and the grades would be lighter. The grade from Argyle to Grafton Street would be 3%; Grafton to Buckingham 1%. Buckingham to Albemarle 2½%; Albemarle to Brunswick 3½%; while the average grade from the intersection of Argyle and Buckingham Streets to the head of Jacob Street would be over 4%. The longer street has the advantage, therefore, in grade and would be easier to construct on the hillside, for that reason. Practically the only advantage, however, is in the lighter grade, and perhaps a closer study of the question may

convince the Council that the lighter grade is not a real advantage. It depends entirely on the location of the approach for traffic. If traffic is to come from the south end going up the hill, it will come along Grafton Street or will come up Blowers or St. Paul Street, in which case a lighter grade street would be better. If, however, the traffic is coming from the north or from Water Street, it will be pretty certain to come up Buckingham Street. In this case there would be no advantage in the longer street as the climb from Argyle Street to the longer street on Buckingham Street would be steeper than the diagonal street from the intersection of Buckingham Street and Argyle Street to the head of Jacob Street. That portion of the traffic which goes up Morris Street from Water Street headed for the north end, would undoubtedly be benefited more by the long street from the City Hall.

The greater part of the traffic, now, however, is from the north and centre of the City. It is quite possible that truckage of coal and other heavy material up Cornwallis Street will be a thing of the past in a few years owing to possible changes, extensions and improvements in the railway terminal facilities. It is unlikely that any change will be made which would prevent traffic up Buckingham Street. Unless absolutely unavoidable, the traffic will follow the shortest line. It will be seen, therefore, that it is a very difficult matter to form a decided opinion on this question.

By taking south end traffic up Blowers Street to Grafton Street, the whole traffic from the lower part of the City to the top of Jacob Street would, in my opinion, be accommodated by the shorter street, and as it is estimated to cost only about two-thirds as much as the other, I feel inclined to favour the location from the intersection of Argyle Street and Buckingham Street to the head of Jacob Street. I repeat, however, that it is very difficult for me to decide between the two.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Whitman, that the report of the Committee on Works be adopted. Motion passed.

By unanimous consent of the Council, Alderman Harris submits the following as an amendment to the law relating to "brick building district."

Sub-section (1) of section 712 is hereby amended by striking out lines 12 to 21, both inclusive, in said sub-section, and substituting therefor the words "to South Park Street; thence by South Park Street northerly to Sackville Street; thence by Sackville Street to Brunswick Street; thence by Brunswick Street to Cogswell Street; thence by Cogswell Street to a line distant 125 feet westerly from the westerly side of Gottingen Street; thence by said line northerly to Gerrish Street; thence"

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Hines that the same be now approved of as an amendment to the "brick building district." Motion passed.

Read report Finance Committee re City planning.

CITY PLANNING.

(See printed minutes of Council December 7th 1911, page 202).

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, March 7th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen,—Your Committee on Finance beg to report that at a meeting held

this day, there being present Aldermen Whitman, (Chairman), Douglas and Corsion, the following matter referred to them for report was dealt with, viz :

Letters (2) Civic Improvement League re City Planning and covering resolution asking for the appointment of a standing board to be called the "Board of Improvement," and be appointed by the City Council, &c.

Your Committee recommend that the request contained in the resolution asking for the appointment of a "Board of Improvements" be complied with.

As to the request for a grant to prepare a comprehensive plan of the City they cannot recommend borrowing any money for this purpose.

ALFRED WHITMAN, Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Hoben, seconded by Alderman Whitman, that the same be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Harris, that the request of the Civic Improvement League be complied with, and that the Council obtain legislation for the borrowing of \$3,500 for the purpose on long term debentures.

The vote being taken on the amendment, there appeared :—

For the Amendment.	Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Scanlan, Kelly, Hines, Hawkins, Martin, MacKenzie, Upham, Rankine—9.	Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman, Bligh, Hoben, Corston—5.

His Worship the Mayor declares the amendment lost, not having received a two-thirds vote of the Council.

Alderman Harris gives notice of reconsideration.

By unanimous consent of Council, Alderman Martin submits the following resolution :—

RESOLVED, That a Committee of three members be appointed by His Worship the Mayor to take in hand the matter of extending Brunswick Street to Spring Garden Road.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Hoben, and passed.

His Worship the Mayor nominates as said committee Aldermen Martin, Hoben and Shaffner. Approved

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman Whitman, that the Council do now adjourn. Motion passed.

Council adjourns 11.25 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

8.10 o'clock.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, April 4th, 1912.

A meeting of the City Council was held this evening. At the above named hour there were present His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen Hawkins, Hoben, Harris, Shaffner, Douglas, Clarke, Martin, Bligh and Whitman.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Martin, that the time for meeting be extended until 8.30 o'clock. Motion passed.

8.30 o'clock. Roll called. Present, the above named together with Aldermen Scanlan, Kelly, Corston, Rankine and MacKenzie

NOTICES OF RECONSIDERATION.

Read No. 1 on Order of the Day, viz :—

Alderman Hawkins' notice of reconsideration in the matter of establishing a public abattoir. March 21st, 1912.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Martin, that said matter be now reconsidered. Motion put and passed unanimously.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Kelly, that the draft Act relating to public abattoir submitted with report Board of Health on the matter (see printed Minutes of Council, March 21st, 1912, page 394), be now approved and forwarded to the legislature for enactment.

The following amendment is submitted :—

That the Local Legislature be petitioned by this Council to take into consideration the advisability of passing provincial legislation with respect to the general inspection of meat slaughtered within the Province.

Moved by Alderman Hoben, seconded by Alderman Shaffner.

The amendment is put and lost, six voting for the same and eight against it, as follows :—

For the Amendment.

Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman,
Bligh, Clarke,
Hoben, Rankine—6.

Against it.

Aldermen Harris, Scanlan,
Douglas, Kelly,
Hawkins, Martin,
Corston, MacKenzie—8.

Alderman Upham here arrives and takes his seat in Council.

The original motion being put there appeared :—

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Scanlan,
Douglas, Clarke,
Kelly, Hawkins,
Martin, Corston,
MacKenzie, Upham,
Rankine—11.

Against it.

Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman,
Bligh, Hoben—4.

His Worship the Mayor declares the motion lost, not having received a two-thirds' vote of Council.

Read No. 2 on Order of the Day, viz. :—

Alderman Harris' notice of reconsideration in the matter of borrowing \$3,500.00 for preparing plans of City in accordance with recommendations of Civic Improvement League. March 25th, 1912

Alderman Gates arrives and takes his seat in Council.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that said matter be now reconsidered. Motion passed, nine voting for the same and six against, as follows :—

For Reconsideration.

Aldermen Harris, Scanlan,
Clarke, Kelly,
Hawkins, Corston,
MacKenzie, Upham,
Rankine—9.

Against.

Aldermen Whitman, Gates,
Bligh, Douglas,
Hoben, Martin—6.

Moved by Alderman Harris, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that the request of the Civic Improvement League be complied with and that the City borrow the sum of Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00) for the preparation of a comprehensive plan of the City. The motion being put there appeared.

For the Motion.

Aldermen Harris, Scanlan,
Clarke, Kelly,
Hawkins, MacKenzie,
Upham, Rankine—8.

Against it.

Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman,
Gates, Bligh,
Douglas, Hoben,
Martin, Corston—8.

His Worship the Mayor gives his casting vote against the motion and declares it lost.

The following named papers are submitted :—

- Report Charities Committee, by Alderman Corston, Chairman.
- Report Committee of Fire Wards, by Alderman Martin, Chairman.
- Reports (2) City Health Board, by Alderman Hawkins, Chairman.
- Report Commissioners of Halifax Common, by Alderman Kelly, Chairman.

His Worship the Mayor submits the following named papers :—

- Deed from the City of Halifax to Governors of Dalhousie College.
- Reports (2) Police Committee.
- Report City Engineer re widening Cunard Street.
- Report School Board re widening Cunard Street.
- Letter Board of Trade re widening Cunard Street.
- Letter Union Canadian Municipalities re delegates to Annual Convention.
- Letter "Canadian Municipal Journal" re subscriptions to that publication.
- Report City Engineer re Lilac Street.
- Reports (5) Committee on Works, viz :—
 - Maynard Street Water Extension.
 - Cragg Bros.' water meter rates.
 - Accounts.
 - Herald Building water meter rates.
 - Sewer Assessment.

CONSIDERATION OF PAPERS SUBMITTED.

Read report Committee on Works covering accounts.

CITY WORKS ACCOUNTS.

CITY WORKS OFFICE, April 3rd, 1912.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—At a meeting of the Committee on Works held this day, the attached bills for the several services were submitted, approved and recommended for payment :—

Water Maintenance.....	\$ 641 09
Street Lighting.....	1,818 98
Streets.....	1,298 36
Internal Health.....	97 13
City Property.....	88 19
City Hall Lighting.....	69 54
Sewerage.....	58 57
Teams and Stables.....	51 55
Streets.....	48 27

\$4,171 68

J. A. CHISHOLM, Mayor and Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie that said report be adopted, and the accounts paid. Motion passed.

Read report City Health Board, covering accounts.

CITY HEALTH BOARD ACCOUNTS.

HALIFAX, N. S., April 4th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—The City Health Board beg to recommend the payment of the following accounts, which were passed by the Board at a meeting held yesterday, viz:—

T. C. Allen & Co., printing, \$5.50. Gordon & Keith, furnishings hospital, \$76.50. I. Creighton furnishing hospital, \$60.20. Royal Gazette, \$4.00. J. F. Dempster, \$223.41. Chronicle, \$49.35. Total, \$418.96.

JOHN A. WATTERS, Secretary.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Corston, that said report be adopted and the accounts paid. Motion passed.

Read report Committee of Fire Wards on various matters and accounts.

REPORT COMMITTEE OF FIRE WARDS.

COMMITTEE ROOM, CITY HALL, April 4th, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—The Committee of Fire Wards met April 3rd, inst., at 4.30 p. m. Present Aldermen Martin (Chairman), MacKenzie, Harris, Gates and Scanlan.

The Committee beg to report and recommend as follows:—

1. After the recent serious fires in the City at which all of the Scotch quick-steaming coal was consumed, the Department ordered a new supply. Messrs. S. Cunard & Co. have advised the Committee that in consequence of the coal strike in Great Britain the coal is not obtainable under thirty shillings per ton, and that the price is not likely to be reduced until a long time after the strike is ended. The Department will therefore be compelled to use the best domestic coal available.
2. Thomas Hobin, callman on No. 5 engine, suspended since March 13th, for refusing to sleep in the West Street Station, has resigned. Resignation recommended for acceptance.
3. With the exception of Thomas Healey, callman on No. 5 engine, and James Brady, callman on No. 4 engine, all the members of the Department mentioned in your Committee's last monthly report as being on the sick list, have reported for duty.
4. The following new hose has been received, tested, and put into commission : 500 ft. Keystone, 500 ft. Dunlap, and 500 ft. Goodyear.
5. It is recommended that Thomas Power, driver, resigned, be refunded \$39.80 out of the superannuation fund.
6. That more fire hydrants be placed in the car yard between the freight shed and the North Dockyard gate on Water Street, and that the Railway Department be communicated with in regard thereto.
7. That the Nova Scotia Car Works be requested to put two fire engine connections in their water tank at their works, Windsor Street.
8. That James Sweeney, callman on No. 4 engine, suspended on January 3rd, be reinstated, and that all deferred pay be refunded him.

9. That Joseph McNeil be appointed a supernumerary.

10. The following accounts are recommended for payment :—

Halifax Elec. Tram. Co., Ltd., light, \$16.95; power, \$13.40—\$30.35. W. J. Butler & Co., insurance, \$7.61. Burns & Kelleher, foundry work, \$13.72. C. Brister & Son, canvas, \$1.87. City Home, wood, \$3.95. Canadian Oil Co., gasoline, \$17.37. Carter & O'Brien, glazing, 75c. Canadian Rubber Co., hose, \$570.50. Day & Kinsman, plumbing, \$23.65. Jas. Dempster, Ltd., lumber, \$11.93. Freeman's Store, bedding, \$11.95. Farquhar Bros., supplies, etc., \$29.10. F. P. Farquharson, Pitner lights, \$8.10. Guildford & Sons, hose, \$525.00. Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., hose, \$525.00. Thos. Holloway & Son, blocks, \$3.00. Halifax Printing Co., folders, \$2.50. S. F. Hayward & Co., nozzle, \$10.00. T. Hogan & Co., boiler work "Alexandra" engine, \$225.13. Imperial Oil Co., oil, \$3.5. W. C. Knight, saddlery, \$36.40. Lawrence Hardware Co., supplies, \$22.07. Longard Bros., hose tower Central House, \$258.00. W. & A. Moir, machine work, \$6.95. A. J. McNutt, carriage work, \$4.35. Wm. McFatrige, bags, \$2.28. Melvin & Co., hardware, \$7.51. A. S. Morse Co., searchlight, \$13.05. Maritime Paint Co., sponges, \$45.40. David Roche, glazing, \$1.75. F. A. Shaw, forage, \$328.83. Stairs, Son & Morrow, hose, \$1,100; hardware, \$1.90—\$1101.90. Ungar's Laundry, work, \$11.04. Nova Scotia Telephone Co., messages, \$3.65. Total, \$4,867.91.

P. F. MARTIN, Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Martin, seconded by Alderman MacKenzie, that said report be adopted, and the accounts paid. Motion passed.

Read report Police Committee, covering accounts.

POLICE ACCOUNTS.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, April 4th, 1912.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen,—The Police Committee beg to recommend for payment the following accounts :—

Blackadar Bros., advertising, \$13.05. Wm. Taylor & Co., rubber boots, \$4.00. F. M. Switzer, badges, etc., \$12.50, and 75c., \$13.25. Stroud & Eveleigh, tire, etc., \$14.50. Chronicle Pub. Co., advertising policeman, \$7.80; uniforms, \$5.85—\$13.65. Total, \$58.45.

J. A. CHISHOLM, Mayor and Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Douglas, seconded by Alderman Shaffner, that said report be adopted, and the accounts paid. Motion passed.

Read report Charities Committee on various matters and accounts.

REPORT CHARITIES COMMITTEE.

HALIFAX, April 3rd, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

Gentlemen,—The Charities Committee met this day, and beg to submit the following report: Members present, the Chairman, Aldermen Shaffner, Gates, Kelly, and Scanlan.

The Superintendent's report for March, 1912, shows that during the month there were 23 persons admitted into the City Home, 1 born, 33 discharged, and 3 died. Of the number admitted, 8 were chargeable to the Province and 15 to the City. The total number of inmates March 31st, was 347, made up of 220 men,

126 women, and 1 child. On the same date last year there were 238 men, 131 women, and 2 children, a total of 371.

There was one female patient chargeable to the City admitted into the Nova Scotia Hospital during the month. Her relatives have agreed to contribute the sum of four dollars per month towards her support.

The tender of S. Chittick & Son for the supplying to the City Home of 80 lbs. of ice daily, from June 1st to October 1st inclusive, at \$20.00 for the season, is recommended for acceptance.

The following report from the engineer of the City Home was received. The picket fence on the Morris Street side of grounds needs renewing. The length of this section of fencing is 531 feet; the probable cost of renewing this section will be about \$135.00. It will be necessary to make temporary repairs to the Robie and South Streets fencing at a cost of about \$25.00. The cells underneath the wood shed need renewing at a cost of about \$50.00. The headings of both heating boilers will have to be renewed. The slate roofs and flashings will require going over. The sashes in main building and wings, south side, need to be reglazed and painted, some of them renewed. The large skylight in centre building needs overhauling.

The above renewals and repairs were not placed in estimates for 1912-13, as when said estimates were placed before you in December, 1911, the necessity for the work was not apparent. Your committee would recommend that above renewals and repairs be made, and paid for out of this year's funds, including the amount allowed by legislation, so far as said funds will permit.

The following accounts are recommended for payment, viz:—Wentzell, Ltd., \$572.41. W. A. Maling & Co., \$421.51. Smith & Proctor, \$131.37. J. M. Currie, \$69.75. A. Wilson & Son, \$34.50. Fleischmann & Co., \$3.90. J. S. Cashen & Son, \$51.67. J. & M. Murphy, Ltd., \$52.32. Halifax Electric Tram. Co., Ltd., \$31.20. Henry Lovett, \$24.85. H. D. MacKenzie Co., Ltd., \$237.44. Maritime Coal R. & P. Co., \$22.73. Victoria General Hospital, \$105.96. C. E. Puttner, \$50.00. Blackadar Bros., \$5.00. Baldwin & Co., \$1.10. Longard Bros., \$9.55. W. Stairs, Son & Morrow, \$4.30. Hillis & Son, Ltd., \$2.35. W. C. Knight, \$2.00. W. McFtridge, \$25.00. Brookfield Bros., \$2.25. Robinson, Ltd., \$1.88. B. J. Mulcahy, \$46.14. Salaries, \$678.83. Total, \$2588.01.

J. R. CORSTON, Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Corston seconded by Alderman Gates, that said report be adopted and the accounts paid. Motion passed unanimously.

His Worship the Mayor nominates as the Presiding Officers to conduct the forthcoming civic elections for Mayor and Aldermen and for any plebiscite that may be taken at said election or for other purposes for which Presiding Officers may be required:—

For Ward No. One—Aldermen Harris and Whitman.

For Ward No. Two—Aldermen Connolly and Gates.

For Ward No. Three—Aldermen Scanlan and Clarke.

For Ward No. Four—Aldermen Hoben and Hines.

For Ward No. Five—Aldermen Martin and Hawkins.

For Ward No. Six—Aldermen MacKenzie and Upham.

Moved by Alderman Shaffner, seconded by Alderman Corston, that said nominations be approved. Motion passed.

Read report City Engineer re land Lilac Street covering draft Act.

LILAC STREET.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE April 4th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, Chairman Committee on Works :—

Sir,—The title to portion of Lilac Street lying to the north of Payzant Street is at present vested in Mr. T. R. Gue. This portion of the street has never been taken over by the City and it will now never be desirable to take it over, in consequence of the opening of Preston Street immediately to the east of it. The portion of Preston Street at present required by the City is also the property of Mr. Gue, and he is willing to convey it to the City for a street, free of charge, provided he can dispose of the portion of his land covered by the unused portion of Lilac Street. This he is at present unable to do because in the deed of this property to his predecessor in title this portion was reserved as a street, thereby preventing him from giving a clear title. He has agreed that if the City will assist him to get rid of the difficulty by legislation, he will convey to the City the required portion of Preston Street. To this there is no objection as no house has been built on the portion of Lilac Street, and therefore the only parties interested are the City and Mr. Gue. I would recommend that the offer be accepted, and the City Solicitor be instructed to embody the required legislation in the general City Act now before the Legislature. The Solicitor has drafted a clause to that effect which is attached hereto.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer.

DRAFT ACT RE LILAC STREET.

The portion of land forming Lilac Street to the north of Payzant Street may be sold and conveyed in fee simple by the owner thereof, and without being subject to any reservation as a street or highway, notwithstanding any reservation to that effect in any previous deed thereof, provided that such owner has in other respects a good title in fee simple thereto.

Moved by Alderman Gates, seconded by Alderman Whitman, that said report and draft Act be now adopted. Motion passed.

Read report Committee on Works re Sewers assesment.

SEWER ASSESSMENT. —

CITY WORKS OFFICE, April 3rd, 1912.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—At a meeting of the Committee on Works held this day the attached Minute of Council on report of the Committee on Works in re sewer assesment was read. On motion of Alderman MacKenzie, it was decided to recommend that the rates suggested in report of December 1st, 1911, should only apply to sewers to be laid in property not yet divided, or where streets have not yet been opened.

J. A. CHISHOLM, Mayor and Chairman.

The following resolution is also submitted :—

WHEREAS, The present assessment of \$1.25 per foot frontage is too low in view of the increased cost of building sewers ;

THEREFORE RESOLVED, That the present sewerage rate of \$1.25 be increased

to \$2.75 per lineal foot of frontage, making \$5.50 per lineal foot of sewer; and that legislation be obtained at the coming session of the Legislature making this change.

Moved by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman Douglas.

Moved in amendment by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Harris, that the report of the Committee on Works be adopted.

The amendment is put and lost, seven voting for the same and nine against it, as follows:—

For the Amendment.	Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Shaffner, Kelly, Hawkins, Martin, MacKenzie, Upham.—7.	Aldermen Whitman, Gates, Bligh, Scanlan, Douglas, Clarke, Hoben, Corston, Rankine—9.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Hoben, seconded by Alderman Clarke, that the new rate for sewer assessment be fixed at \$2.00 instead of \$2.75 as in Alderman Whitman's resolution.

Amendment put and lost, five voting for the same and eleven against it, as follows:—

For the Amendment.	Against it.
Aldermen Shaffner, Clarke, Hoben, Kelly, Corston—5.	Aldermen Harris, Whitman, Gates, Bligh, Scanlan, Douglas, Hawkins, Martin, MacKenzie, Upham, Rankine—11.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Douglas, seconded by Alderman Whitman, that the new sewer assessment rate be fixed at \$2.25 per foot instead of \$2.75, as in the original resolution.

Amendment put and lost, three voting for the same and thirteen against it, as follows:—

For the Amendment.	Against it.
Aldermen Shaffner, Whitman, Douglas—3.	Aldermen Harris, Gates, Bligh, Scanlan, Clarke, Hoben, Kelly, Hawkins, Martin, Corston, MacKenzie, Upham, Rankine—13.

The original resolution is put and lost, three voting for the same and twelve against it, as follows:—

For the Resolution.
Aldermen Whitman, Gates,
Douglas—3.

Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Shaffner,
Bligh, Scanlan,
Clarke, Hoben,
Hawkins, Martin,
Corston, MacKenzie,
Upham, Rankine—12.

Alderman Whitman gives notice of reconsideration.

Read reports Committee on Works and City Engineer re water meter rates William Dennis, Herald Building.

HERALD WATER RATES.

HERALD OFFICE, February 16th, 1909.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF WORKS :

Dear Sirs,—I am not satisfied with the reading of the water meter attached to our building. Previously the water rates for the Herald Building were about \$130.00 a year. According to the eccentricities of the meter, the building is liable to a charge this year for four times the tax previously paid. It seems to me physically impossible that \$500.00 worth of water can be used in the Herald Building, and I am sending the meter back to the Board of Works to be tested by an expert. I am of the opinion that, like some other cases in Halifax, this meter in its registering or its reading, is hundreds of thousands, if not millions of gallons astray. Meanwhile, I have gone to the expense of having spring taps placed all through the building, so that not a drop of water will hereafter be used other than is absolutely necessary for sanitary purposes. If, with the increasing general taxes, and the \$800.00 still owing the City for street paving, I have to pay an increase of four hundred per cent. for water taxes, I might as well abandon the building to the mortgagees at once.

WILLIAM DENNIS.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE, March 12th, 1909.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Sir,—I beg to report on the accompanying letter from Mr. William Dennis respecting a charge by meter on the Herald Building.

Mr. Dennis states that the water rates previously for the Herald Building were about \$130 a year. The bill by meter from May to Sept., 1907, is \$234.00; from Sept. to March, 1908, \$251.00; from March to Sept., 1908, \$223.00. In the bill from Sept. 4th, 1908 to Feb. 5th, 1909, the consumption as shown by the meter is for—

September	447,694 gals.
October	322,694 "
November	208,300 "
December	146,862 "
January	159,700 "

the difference between the December and September reading is over 300,000 gals. There was a good deal of waste going on when Mr. Morrison inspected the fittings in October. He found two water-closets wasting so badly that the tanks could not fill, that is the waste was taking the full flow of the pipe. These leaks have been stopped, resulting in a saving of 300,000 gallons a month or 10,000 gallons a day. If the meter had been out of order it could not have registered this saving, but would have continued to run out of order. The meter has been carefully tested

and found to register correctly. Mr. Dennis states that he has put spring taps all over the building, but that is not where the waste was found by Mr. Morrison. As he stated, it was in the closets. There are fifteen water-closets in the building. When Mr. Morrison went to the Herald Building to replace the meter, Mr. Dennis refused to allow him to put it on. This meter was placed on this building two years ago as it is among the large consumers, and it has been the policy of the City for the last twenty years to place meters on all large consumers. The newspaper offices have had meters on them for years, and the effect of the meter in this case is shown not only by Mr. Dennis' letter but by the statement of consumption given above. Mr. Dennis has taken the law in his own hands to reduce his water tax, and if such a precedent is to be established, it will result in a serious reduction in the water revenue, while waste among the large consumers who follow Mr. Dennis' example will continue unchecked. Mr. Dennis expresses an opinion that this meter, like some other cases, is hundreds of thousands, even millions of gallons, astray. As there seems to be an impression abroad that such an opinion is correct, I beg to state that out of the hundreds of meters tested by the Water Department, only one meter has registered against the consumer, that is more than 100 per cent. That meter registered 3 per cent. over, or 103 gallons for each 100 gallons passing through the meter. Some cities have their meters made so that they register a little over, as they are bound to wear, and the more they wear the smaller percentage they register, which is against the City rather than the consumer. Our instructions to the manufacturers have always been to make the meters so that they would underregister slightly, and we have never accepted a meter since the discovery of the one that overregistered until we have inspected it and found it to comply with the instructions given. I think the meter should be reinstalled, so that there would be no discrimination, and the question of the amount to be charged dealt with on its merits.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer.

HALIFAX, N. S., Jan. 13th, 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF WORKS :

Gentlemen,—There is an outstanding question regarding the payment of water taxes for the year, I think 1909. I disputed the meter rates charged, and offered to pay at the flat rate of \$131 previously assessed. The Herald building has been destroyed by fire, also I fear the correspondence regarding this disputed charge—at least I cannot find it among the few papers saved from the conflagration. But in view of all the circumstances I should be glad if you would take this matter up and adjust the dispute on a fair basis to both the City and myself. I am anxious to get this done without further delay.

WM. DENNIS.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE, Feb. 5th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Sir,—Referring to the accompanying letter from Mr. Dennis, asking for an adjustment of the dispute respecting his water rates, I beg to submit attached hereto, the original report, dated March 12, 1909, which contains all the information I have in the matter.

The bill is still unsettled except that a statement received from the City Collector's Office some time ago, includes the information that \$22.80 overpaid on some other water bills against Mr. Dennis, is held as a credit against the \$388.21. The latter amount is the meter rates for the year 1908-9.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer

HALIFAX, Feb. 27th 1912.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ON WORKS :

Gentlemen,—Referring to previous letter about disputed water meter rates. I beg to point out that the moment I was notified that water was being wasted in the Herald building through a leak in the closets, I took steps to have the waste stopped, and that since then I have taken every reasonable precaution to prevent any waste. That is all any one could do. I do not assume that the Board or Council desire to unnecessarily punish me for a waste that I knew nothing about. The disputed matter has been before your Board 3 or 4 years. In order to settle the matter, I beg to suggest that it would be fair to charge me for the disputed year 1908-9 for a pro rata consumption of water to that used for the year 1911-12, i. e. say from May 1st to Dec. 31st, 1911. If that suggestion commends itself to your Worship and the Board, I shall be glad to pay same at an early date.

WM. DENNIS.

OFFICE OF CITY ENGINEER, February 28th, 1912.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Sir,—In compliance with the instructions of your Committee to report in accordance with the requirements of the law on Mr. William Dennis' claim for a reduction of his water bill of \$388.21 for the year ending March 1909, I beg to supplement my former reports as follows :—

Section 470a of subsection 4 of Chapter 84 of the Acts of 1909 provides that the Engineer shall investigate the matter of such claim and report in writing whether the same is well founded and whether or not the same should be allowed and the extent of such allowance. Subsection 2 provides that no reduction shall be allowed unless the Works Committee is of the opinion that (a) the amount of water charged for was in excess of that which was fairly required by the owner, and (b) that such excess has passed through the meter by reason of unavoidable accident or otherwise, without the negligence or default of the owner, or occupant of such premises.

In my report dated March 12th, 1909, already before you, I stated the facts after investigating. Mr. Dennis' claim was based on his assertion that the meter was not registering correctly. The meter was tested and found to be registering accurately, and Mr. Morrison inspected the fittings in the Herald Building in October 1908 and found water closets wasting so badly that the tanks could not fill, that is, the waste was taking the full flow of the pipe leading to the tanks. Mr. Dennis had these leaks stopped, resulting in a reduction of 300,000 gallons a month or 10,000 gallons a day in the quantity of water drawn.

On these facts I am obliged to report as required by the Act referred to, that the amount of water charged for, was in excess of that which was fairly required by the owner, but I cannot report that such excess passed through the meter by reason of unavoidable accident, or that proper care and precaution was taken by the owner. If he had taken the same steps previous to October 1908 that he has taken since that time, it is probable that the waste would not have occurred.

In the face of these facts, I am not justified in recommending that his claim should be allowed. If the property owner is not to be required to take precautions to prevent waste until his attention is called to it, we shall never be able to stop the waste of water.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer.

CITY WORKS OFFICE, April 3rd, 1912.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL :

Gentlemen,—At a meeting of the Committee on Works held this day the report of the City Engineer is adopted and the Committee refuses to allow the claim of Mr. Wm. Dennis in re water meter rates Herald building. The Committee is not

unanimous in refusing to allow this claim and the petitioner requests the Committee on Works to refer the matter to the City Council, which is now done.

J. A. CHISHOLM, Mayor and Chairman.

HALIFAX, N. S., April 4th, 1912.

THE CLERK OF WORKS :

Dear Sir,—Referring to the resolution of the Committee on Works on my application for reduction of charge of meter rates, I hereby request the Committee on Works to refer the matter to the City Council at its first meeting, for settlement.

WILLIAM DENNIS.

[NOTE.—See also printed Minutes of Council, 1910-11, pp. 214, 270, 302].

Moved by Alderman MacKenzie, seconded by Alderman Hoben, that the City compromise this account on the basis suggested by Mr. Dennis.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Whitman, seconded by Alderman Douglas, that the reports of the Committee on Works and City Engineer be adopted and the reduction in rates refused.

The amendment is put and lost, seven voting for the same and eight against it, as follows :—

For the Amendment.	Against it.
Aldermen Whitman, Gates, Douglas, Kelly, Hawkins, Corston, Upham—7.	Aldermen Harris, Shaffner, Bligh, Scanlan, Clarke, Hoben, Martin, MacKenzie—8.

The original motion for the reduction of the water rates is put and passed, nine voting for the same and six against it, as follows :—

For the Motion.	Against it.
Aldermen Harris, Shaffner, Bligh, Scanlan, Clarke, Hoben, Kelly, Martin, MacKenzie—9.	Aldermen Whitman, Gates, Douglas, Hawkins, Corston, Upham—6.

Read reports Committee on Works and City Engineer re Cragg Bros.' petition for reduction in water meter rates.

WATER BILL CRAGG BROTHERS.

CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE, June 28th, 1909.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR :

Sir,—About eighteen months ago Cragg Bros. and their tenant, Carroll Bros., complained of the size of their bill for water supplied through meter to the barber shop and premises on the corner of George Street and Barrington Street. Mr. Morrison inspected the premises and found a water closet leaking at the rate of one gallon in a little over four minutes. This was no doubt the cause of the excessive consumption. The record is as follows :—

April 1906, to September, 1906.....	206,446 gals.	\$31 81
Sept. " March, 1907.....	157,050 "	24 56
March, 1907 to Sept. ".....	455,500 "	61 14
Sept. " March, 1908.....	147,663 "	23 15
March, 1908 to Sept. ".....	19,400 "	3 91
Sept. " March, 1909.....	34,400 "	6 16

These figures shew that the consumption is now very moderate and that the repairs made to the closet have checked the waste.

This case is somewhat different from the ordinary complaint. While the owners of the property, Cragg Bros. are responsible to the City. I am informed that the tenants, Carroll Bros., under the terms of their lease pay the water rates. The service pipe goes into Carroll Bros. barber shop where there is a meter and Mr. Cragg pays \$10.00 a year to Carroll Bros. for the supply carried up stairs to his closet.

When Carroll Bros. got their first bill they could find nothing wrong with their plumbing. Subsequently Mr. Morrison discovered the leak in the closet in Mr. Cragg's store.

If the City holds Mr. Cragg, the owner, responsible, then I am obliged to report that proper care and precaution would have removed the cause of the excessive consumption. If, however, Carroll Bros. are responsible for the bill I think they have done all they could and in that case I would recommend that the larger bill be reduced to the amount charged for the last year.

F. W. W. DOANE, City Engineer.

METER RATE REDUCTION CLAIMS CARNEY AND CARROLL BROTHERS.

OFFICE OF CITY SOLICITOR, CITY HALL, August 30th, 1909.

CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE ON WORKS:

Sir,—The legal point in both these claims is the same, namely:—the meaning to be attached to the phrase "owner or occupant of the premises" in the Act of last session authorizing reductions to be made. In Mrs. Carney's case the owner was not the occupant, and the default was that of the tenant committed at first without the owner's knowledge, and ultimately apparently in defiance of her endeavor to rectify the trouble. In the case of Carroll Brothers, the persons really chargeable under the lease were the occupants of the premises; but the default was not committed by them, but the owner of the premises who occupied adjoining premises supplied from the same meter.

If the section is to be construed literally, on reduction could be made in either case. Such a construction, however, would largely defeat the intention of the Act, which was obviously to relieve against claims for excessive consumption of water where no default was attributable to the person having control of the supply. Such a construction would render an owner liable for the wilful waste of a tenant committed maliciously and in defiance of the owner's desire to rectify matters, and conversely would render liable a tenant for the default of an owner who refused to make good the defects in his property.

I am of opinion that in case of either an "owner" or "occupant" the Act must be understood to imply a person who has control of the supply. In the absence of such control there could, properly speaking, be neither negligence, default or failure to use proper precautions.

So construing the statute, I am of opinion both claims can legally be allowed, I do not see any mischief that can arise from this construction, as every claim for reduction will require to be dealt with on its merits, and terms can be imposed so as to prevent future waste in respect to the same premises.

F. H. BELL, City Solicitor.