

Oct. 14th, 1926

✓  
WATER METER BILL No. 159-163 MAYNARD STREET

Read report of the Committee on  
Works and City Engineer re Water Meter bill 159-163  
Maynard Street:

City Works Office,  
Halifax, N.S. Oct. 12-26

159-163 Maynard St.

His Worship the Mayor and  
City Council.

Sirs:-

At a meeting of the Works  
Committee held on the 6th instant, the City Engineer  
submitted a report on premises # 159-163 Maynard  
Street, attached hereto.

It was decided to recommend to  
Council, Alderman Daw dissenting, that the consumption  
for the periods November to March both inclusive,  
be reduced to 30,000 gallons per month, instead of  
as recorded.

Respectfully submitted

A.F. Messervey,  
CLERK OF WORKS

City Engineers Office  
Halifax, N.S. Oct. 6-26

159-163 Maynard St.

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:-

I beg to report on the attached water  
Bill for the premises 159-163 Maynard Street claimed  
to be excessive, that the period complained of is the  
half year ending April 1926 and the amount of the bill  
is \$74.14. The monthly consumption during the period  
was as follows:

Oct. 14th, 1926

	Sept.	11-	21,200	pipe burst (N) 15-9-25
	Oct.	12	42,200	" "
1925	Nov.	11	222,400	" "
	Dec.	11	79,300	" "
1926	Jan.	12	36,700	"T.W "C.W. ( N) 14-1-26
	Feb.	-	-	
	Mar.	18	49,900	
	Apr.	16	1,900	

Notice was sent on the 15th of September 1925 On November 20th a telephone message was received to have the water shut off for repairs, this was done and the pipe was repaired and the water turned on again on the 21st. On January 12th it was found that there was still a large consumption due to a tap and closet wasting and notice was sent on the 14th. The water was allowed to run during January, February and March to prevent freezing. The large consumption took place due to the broken pipe in the months before the frost set in. Apparently from the records there was a delay from the 15th of September, when the notice of the leak was sent, until the 20th of November, in repairing the leak.

Under these circumstances I am unable to recommend any reduction in the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

H.W. Johnston,  
CITY ENGINEER

*Auditor  
Collector  
Engineer  
Chief of Works*

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

TAX COLLECTIONS AND OTHER REVENUE

Read report of the City Auditor covering Statement of Tax Collections and other revenue during the month of September 1926:

His Worship the Mayor,  
and Members of City Council.

Sirs:-

RE TAX COLLECTIONS

I attach hereto my usual monthly Statement of Tax Collections for the month of September and the outstandings as at 30th September 1926 and furnish you with the following further information.

The Collections on account of back years taxes during September including those in respect of the year ending 30th April last amounted to \$35,392.12 as compared with \$52,733.72 for the month previous.

The following is a comparison of the Collections on account of back years taxes this year with last year:

	<u>1925</u>	<u>1926</u>
Four months ending Aug. 31	\$186,169.50	\$233,845.69
September Collections	43,654.96	35,392.12
	<u>\$229,824.46</u>	<u>\$269,237.81</u>

which shows an increase this year of \$39,413.35.

The receipts on account of the taxes of the Current Civic Year during the month of September amounted to \$63,123.82

The Collections on account of Current Years taxes this year compare with last year as follows:

	<u>1925</u>	<u>1926</u>
Four months ending 31 Aug.	\$1006,671.50	\$1043,483.08
Sept. Collections	66,508.80	63,123.82
	<u>\$1073,180.30</u>	<u>\$1106,606.90</u>

which shows an increase this year of \$33,426.60.

It will therefore be seen that although the back and current years tax collections together are \$11,647.82 less this September than the same month last year, still these collections for the five months ending September 30th are \$72,839.95 better this year than last.

Oct. 14th, 1926

The total arrears of back years taxes at 30th September last will be seen to amount to \$1,814,589.72 as compared with \$1,939,948.09 at the same period last year.

The special Sinking Fund in respect of the recently floated loan of \$1,500,000 in connection with back taxes now, amounts to over \$100,000.00 which has been satisfactorily invested in gilt edged securities

You will observe that there is still the large sum of \$461,657.09 outstanding in connection with the taxes for the Civic Year ending 30th April last and that the Collections for the month of Sept., only amounted to \$15,297.61.

Yours faithfully,  
H.F. Glass,  
CITY AUDITOR.

STATEMENT OF TAX COLLECTIONS  
AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER, 1926

General Tax Arrears prior to 30th April 1924

Balance as at 31 Aug. 1926	\$1,098,223.44
<u>Less</u>	
Cash Collections during month of Sept. 1926	<u>14,352.56</u>
Total Tax Arrears outstanding 30th September 1926	<u>\$1,083,870.88</u>

General Tax Arrears Year Ending 30th April 1925

Balance as at 31st August 1926	247,803.70
<u>Less</u>	
Cash Collections during month of Sept. 1926	<u>5,741.95</u>
Total Tax Arrears outstanding 30 Sept. 1926 Year 1924-25	<u>\$269,061.75</u>

General Tax Arrears year ending 30th Apr. 1926

Balance as at 31st August 1926	\$476,954.70
<u>Less</u>	
Cash Collections during month of Sept. 1926	<u>15,297.61</u>
Total Tax Arrears outstanding 30th Sept. 1926 Year 1925-26	<u>\$461,657.09</u>

Oct. 14th, 1926

Total Arrears of Back Years Taxes at 30th  
Sept. 1926 as above \$1,814,589.72

General Taxes Current Civic Year ending  
30th April 1927

Balance as at 31 August 1926 844,224.24  
Less  
Cash Collections during month of Sept. 1926 63,123.82  
Total Taxes outstanding 30 Sept. 1926 for  
Current Year \$781,100.42

Poll Tax for Current Year ending 30th Apr. 1927

Balance outstanding 31 Aug. 1926 4,450.00  
Less  
Cash Collections during month of Sept. 1926 1,195.00  
Total Estimated Poll Tax outstanding 30  
Sept. 1926 \$3,265.00

Dog Tax, Current Year ending 30th April 1927

Total Collected in Excess of Estimate for  
Year 530.00  
Add  
Collections during month of Sept. 1926 24.00  
\$554.00  
Less  
Expenditure on License Badges 48.95  
Total Collected in excess of Estimate for year \$505.05

Water Rates & Taxes

Total outstanding 31 August 1926 188,827.13  
Add Monthly charges and balance of pipe  
and Bond Rates for year 1926-27 15,934.51  
\$204,761.65  
Less  
Cash Collections during month of Sept. 1926 25,047.70  
Total Water Rates outstanding 30th Sept.  
1926 \$179,713.94

Total Cash Collections on Account of above  
Rates and Taxes for September 1926 \$124,782.64



Oct. 14th, 1926

✓  
CITY HOME CHARGES AGAINST OFFICIALS

Read report of the Charities Committee re charges against Superintendent Buchanan and other Officials of the City Home covering Resolution by Alderman Daw and Alderman Hubley and an amendment by Alderman Gastonguay and Alderman Sanford;

Halifax, N.S. Sept. 28th, 1926

His Worship the Mayor,  
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:-

At a meeting of the Charities Committee held last evening Alderman Hubley presented the accompanying declarations making charges against Superintendent Buchanan and other Officials of the City Home.

The declarations were read and two of the Members of the Committee, Aldermen Hubley and Daw, moved the accompanying resolution.

Aldermen Gastonguay and Sanford moved in amendment the accompanying amendment and the latter was passed on a majority vote.

The opinion of the Committee was that an investigation should be held and the matter is submitted to you to take such action as you may deem just and proper.

I have the honor to be,

Yours respectfully,

B.A. Weston,

CHAIRMAN CHARITIES  
COMMITTEE.

Oct. 14th, 1926

The Resolution and Amendment reads  
as follows:-

WHEREAS complaints have been made by declaration before a Justice of the Peace against the Superintendent and nurses of this Institution, that inmates of the City Home were cruelly beaten, given a cold dip, and ill treated by them and cast into a padded cell in the basement, a place entirely unfitted for human habitation, especially females, and where there are rats swarming around, and have been confined in said damp cell for hours at a time.

AND WHEREAS, a declaration has been made by a citizen, who was an inmate of the City Home, that he witnessed cruelty used by a nurse to an inmate who is a paralytic and unable to help himself, also by an attendant who neglected to assist old men in their extremity and allowed the rules governing the City Home to be violated and thereby seriously endangering the Institution by fire.

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that not even a suspicion should go abroad that inmates are treated by the Superintendent and Nurses in any other than in a humane and considerate manner, and properly cared for in the unfortunate position in which they are placed.

THEREFORE RESOLVED, that Dr. A.C. Jost, Inspector of Humane Institutions be, and is hereby requested, by this Committee, to enquire into the conduct and management of the City Home, and examine all witnesses under oath, and generally to use all the powers conferred on him, by Chapter 59, sections 6 & 7 R.S.N.S. 1923.

Moved by Alderman Hubley, seconded by  
Alderman Daw.

AMENDMENT

RESOLVED that the Declarations submitted by Alderman Hubley in reference to the City Home be reported up to the City Council with a recommendation that an investigation be held in such manner as the Council shall direct

Moved by Alderman Gastonguay  
seconded by Alderman Sanford.

Oct. 14th, 1926

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads the following message to Council:

Public confidence in the management of the City Home has been shaken- whether rightly or wrongly, for the purposes of this message, does not at the moment matter.

Without reflecting on anybody or any individual my own feeling, a feeling I entertained long before I became a member of the City Council, is that all is not well with this Institution.

It may be that the system is out of date or that the standard has not kept pace with modern practice or there may be other reasons or causes, but the fact remains that visits to the City Home and the T.B.Hospital leave an unfavourable impression. I hope I am right in supposing that modern efficient management and methods and appliances must have found somewhere and somehow a better way than we have so far evolved at the Halifax City Home.

How far it is a matter of personnel or of methods can only be ascertained by a thorough investigation. That investigation, as I see it, should be directed not only to the discovery of existing defects, if any, in the management of the City Home and the T.B.Hospital, but also, and perhaps mainly, to a study of the best means of improving the management if improvement is found to be necessary. For instance, the practice in other places, the professional requirements and attainments of Officials in other places, the preliminary training required, the experience called for, the method of appointing Officials and nurses- all these are essential subjects of enquiry, I venture to say without fear of contradiction that there is not a member of the City Council who knows the A.B.C., of the subject of the Poor House Management. We are doing our best to grapple with a problem but we are grappling in the dark. Probably most of us would be surprised to find how much we have to learn.

Is it not then the part of wisdom to submit the problem to a body qualified by experience and training to make the necessary investigation and enquiries, and to authorize such body to report on the present management, and to make recommendations, or suggestions for improvement, giving the reason and authority for any recommendation or suggestion that may be made.

The submission should make it clear that the scope of the enquiry is to be large enough to include the British Isles and the U S. A. No doubt there is much literature on the subject in both countries and correspondence would elicit the necessary information if it could not be obtained by oral evidence.



OCT. 14th, 1926

The City has had a sad enough experience selecting Officials in a haphazard way, without regard to training or professional fitness, for us to try to do better in the future.

I invite members of Council to join with me in lifting this question up out of the miasma of personalities and bickering to an atmosphere serene and clear and charged with a sense of our own responsibilities to the taxpayers and the poor people for whom in a sense we are guardians, and whose welfare should be our only concern, as far as our limited means will permit

.....

The following Resolution is submitted:

RESOLVED that the Inspector of Humane and Penal Institutions be requested to enquire into the Halifax City Home and Tuberculosis Hospital and particularly to report upon the existing management of the Institutions, with recommendations and suggestions for improvement if any is considered feasible and necessary in the personnel or administration of the Institutions giving the reason for such recommendations or suggestions and to investigate any complaints or charges against any person or persons employed in the said institutions and to report thereon; and that the said Inspector be requested to report generally upon reasonable reforms, if any are found necessary, to bring these Institutions into line with modern practice and requirements.

Moved by Alderman McCarthy, seconded by  
Alderman Hubley.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Weston,  
seconded by Alderman Sanford:

RESOLVED that under the provisions of Section 151 of the City Charter the Judge of the County Court for the district of Halifax be and he is hereby requested to hold an investigation into the matters set out in the declarations of Margaret Smith attested to 6th August 1926 and Thomas Wheelen attested to 6th August 1926 in connection with Officials of the City Home.

Oct. 14th, 1926

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

FOR AMENDMENT

Alderman Weston  
Sanford  
Shannon  
Gastonguay  
O'Toole  
Power  
Drysdale - 7

AGAINST IT

Alderman Halliday  
McDuff  
McCarthy  
Hubley  
Smeltzer  
Robinson  
Daw - 7

This being a tie vote and the amend-  
ment requiring a two thirds vote of the Council to make  
it effective.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Power  
seconded by Alderman Shannon that the charges contained  
in the declarations submitted to the Charities Committee  
by Margaret Smith and Thomas Wheeler be investigated  
under the Provisions of Chapter 151 of the City Charter,  
and that the charges as to mismanagement of the City  
Home and T.B.Hospital be investigated by Dr. Jost,  
Inspector of Humane and Penal Institutions, under the  
Provision of Chapter 59 of the revised Statutes of N.S.  
1923.

Amendment put and lost eight  
voting for the same and six against it as follows:

FOR THE AMENDMENT

Alderman Weston  
Shannon  
Sanford  
Halliday  
Gastonguay  
O'Toole  
Power  
Drysdale - 8

AGAINST IT

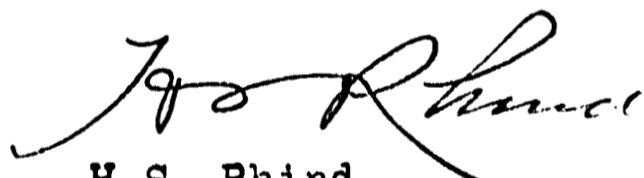
Alderman McDuff,  
McCarthy  
Hubley  
Smeltzer  
Robinson  
Daw

-6-



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Meeting adjourned

  
H.S. Rhind  
CITY CLERK.

J.B. Kenny  
MAYOR



AFTERNOON SESSION

5 o'clock P.M.

Council Chamber,  
City Hall,  
November 1st, 1926

A Special Meeting of the City Council was held this afternoon. At the above named hour there were present, His Worship the Mayor, and Aldermen Russell, Weston, Shannon, Tobin, Halliday, McDuff, Gastonguay, McCarthy, Hubley, Rains, Power, O'Toole, Drysdale, Smeltzer, Daw and Robinson.

The City Clerk read the following requisition for a special meeting:

Halifax, Oct. 27th, 1926

His Worship the Mayor,  
and Aldermen

Dear Sir:-

You are hereby requested to attend a special meeting of the City Council at the City Council Chamber, City Hall, on MONDAY, next, NOVEMBER 1st 1926 at 5 o'clock P.M., for the special purpose named in the following requisition filed this day with His Worship the Mayor:

Halifax, N.S. Oct. 27-26

His Worship the Mayor,  
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Sir:-

We the undersigned Members of the City Council, petition you to call a special meeting of the City Council on November 1st 1926 next at 5 o'clock



Nov. 1st 1926

p.m. for the purpose of considering the report of the Committee on Works dealing with the proposed extension of the tram line on Gottingen Street; and also to consider the proposition of exempting the Nova Scotia Tramway and Power Company from certain pavement obligations.

Sgd. Robert Daw,  
S.L. Shannon  
John J. Power  
Jas Halliday  
L.A. Gastonguay  
Andrew Hubley  
Albert Drysdale  
W.J. O'Toole

Meeting to be called accordingly

Sgd. J.B. Kenny  
MAYOR

By order of the Mayor

Sgd. H.S. Rhind  
CITY CLERK

✓  
ARMISTICE DAY-POPPY SALE

His Worship the Mayor, with the unanimous consent of the Council, submits and reads a letter from John S. Roper, Esq., Chairman of the Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League, asking on behalf of the Independent Daughters of the Empire of Halifax, permission to sell poppies in the City of Halifax on Armistice Day.

*J.S. Roper*  
Moved by Alderman Power, seconded by Alderman Smeltzer that the application be granted.  
Motion passed.

Nov. 1st 1926

✓  
TRAMWAY EXTENSION GOTTINGEN STREET

Read report of the Committee on  
Works and City Engineer re Tramway extension Gottingen  
Street, between Young Street and Duffus Street:

City Works Office,  
Halifax, N.S.  
Oct. 28-26

TRAMWAY EXTENSION GOTTINGEN STREET

His Worship the Mayor and City  
Council:

Sirs:-

At a meeting of the Works Committee held on the 27th instant, the City Engineer submitted a report in connection with the Nova Scotia Tramways and Power Company's proposal for an extension of the tramway line on Gottingen Street, between Young and Duffus, Streets, said report being attached hereto.

The Committee approved of same, and also the following resolution both of which were recommended to Council for adoption.

RESOLVED that the Committee recommend to the City Council that legislation be obtained to amend the Tramways City Charter in-so-far as the paving of a single track line between Young Street and Duffus Street, on Gottingen Street is concerned".

Respectfully submitted  
A. F. Messervey,  
CLERK OF WORKS

✓  
City Engineer's Office,  
Halifax, N.S. Oct. 27th, 1926

TRAMWAY EXTENSION GOTTINGEN ST

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:-

I beg to report on the attached letter from the Nova Scotia Tramway & Power Co., Ltd., that in it

Nov. 1st 1926

City Engineers Office,  
Halifax, N.S. Oct. 27-26

TRAMWAY EXTENSION  
GOTTINGEN STREET

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:-

I beg to report on the attached letter from the Nova Scotia Tramways & Power Co., Ltd., that in it they offer to construct the extension of their tramway line on Gottingen Street from Kaye Street to Duffus Street provided the City will release them from the obligation of paving the track allowance, and suggest laying the track on the east side of the street:

The street is forty-six feet wide between the curbs, there is no objection to laying the track close to the east curb in front of Fort Needham Park, but farther north beyond the diagonal street this location would seriously affect the property owners, a better location would be to lay the rails as the east line of a future double track, which would for the present, until the double track is completed, give a wide roadway on the west side of the track and a narrower one on the east.

In a few years Gottingen Street between Young Street and the diagonal street at Stanley Street will in all likelihood carry a heavy traffic due to the construction of a bridge to Dartmouth. All traffic originating in the south and west parts of the City and west of Gottingen Street will use the part of Gottingen Street mentioned in going to and fro over the bridge.

The street between Kaye St., and Young St., is paved and if the extension is made the Company should be required to lay their tracks in permanent construction and to re-pave the allowance with scoria block. Paving should also be required at the corner of the diagonal street and also where any turnout is built.

I have already reported on the advisability of the extension and the Committee have stressed it in the resolution passed at their meeting on the 20th of October. The only question is the release of the Company's obligation to pave. In this case there will eventually have to be an expenditure of approximately \$30,000.00 for paving the single track extension, which will have to be borne part by the City and part by the abutting owners. This expenditure may not be required for some time, on the other hand its advent may be hastened by a development in the district and the construction of the bridge across the harbour

Nov. 1st 1926

In my former reports I have made my position clear in regard to what I consider the duty of the Tramways to be in giving adequate service by making the necessary extensions without being subsidized by the City.

The Company however in their letter state that to use their own language "the die would be definitely cast against such extension" unless they were relieved of having to pay for the paving. It now becomes a question of policy for your Committee to decide upon. There is no question as to the necessity of transportation facilities for the district that will be served, the only question is whether the price is too high or not.

Respectfully submitted  
H.W. Johnston,  
CITY ENGINEER

His Worship the Mayor submits  
and reads the following letter from the Nova Scotia  
Tramway and Power Company:

Halifax, N.S. Oct. 30-26

A.F. Messervey, Esq.,  
Clerk of Works  
CITY

Dear Sir:

✓  
TRAMWAY EXTENSION  
GOTTINGEN STREET NORTH

This is to acknowledge, with thanks,  
your letter of October 27th enclosing,-

1st A copy of a Resolution passed by  
the Works Committee at its meeting of October 27th.

2nd. A copy of a report of the City  
Engineer in regard to the same matter.

The resolution alone would convey  
that the offer made by this Company in its letter dated  
October 22nd to His Worship the Mayor, and illustrated  
in drawing # T-19 herewith enclosed, has been accepted  
by the Committee.



Nov. 1st 1926

On the other hand your letter states that the Engineer's report was also approved by the Committee.

The requirements set forth in the City Engineer's report are a very wide departure from the offer made by the Company. We must therefore admit being somewhat confused as to the present status of the matter, but as I understand that there will be a meeting of the City Council at 5 o'clock on Monday afternoon, possibly the situation will be cleared up then.

Yours truly,

W.H. Munro

By unanimous consent the Council is here addressed by Mr. Munro, Superintendent of the Tramway Company in reference to the proposed extension.

Moved by Alderman Daw, seconded by Alderman Robinson that Legislation be obtained to amend the Charter of the Nova Scotia Tramway and Power Company, Limited, in so far as the paving of a single track line between Young Street and Duffus Street on Gottingen Street is concerned, providing the work of laying rails is proceeded with at once.

Moved in amendment by Alderman McCarthy seconded by Alderman Russell that the Resolution submitted by Alderman Daw and seconded by Alderman Robinson be amended by adding the following words:

"That the exemption from paving of Gottingen Street between Young Street and Duffus Street provided for by the Resolution be limited to Twenty years and that the Resolution be amended accordingly and as so amended be adopted.

Amendment put and passed twelve voting for the same and four against it as follows:



Nov. 1st 1926

FOR THE AMENDMENT

AGAINST IT

Aldermen Weston  
Russell  
Shannon  
Tobin  
Halliday  
McDuff  
McCarthy  
Hubley  
Rains  
O'Toole  
Power  
Drysdale- 12

Alderman Gastonguay  
Robinson  
Smeltzer  
Daw

-4

*Engineer  
Solicitor  
Morgan & S  
Drumway &  
Power Co.*

Moved by Alderman Shannon, seconded  
by Alderman Power that this meeting do now adjourn .  
Motion passed.

6.15 o'clock

Meeting adjourned

J. B. Kenny  
MAYOR

*H. S. Rhind*

H. S. RHIND  
CITY CLERK

*J. B. Kenny*