

✓
EVENING SESSION

8.10 o'clock,
Council Chamber, City Hall,
November 25th, 1926

A Special meeting of the City Council was held this evening. At the above named hour there were present His Worship the Mayor and Alderman Weston, Shannon, Sanford, Halliday, Gastonguay, McCarthy, Hubley, Rains, Power, O'Toole, Drysdale, Smeltzer, Daw and Robinson.

The meeting was called specially to consider-

1st- The report of the Special Committee appointed to investigate matters effecting City Collector's Office.

2nd- The report Committee on Works in re lease of the City Abattoir.

3rd- To proceed with business standing over and the transaction of other business.

His Worship the Mayor submits waiver of notices agreed to by members of Council:

We the undersigned, members of the City Council of the City of Halifax, hereby waive notice of the meeting of said Council to be held this (Thursday) Evening, November 25th, 1926 at eight p.m. and agree to proceed with such meeting.

Halifax, N.S. Nov. 25th, A.D. 1926

(Sgd) J.B.K enny,
H.E.Rains
John J. Power
I.E. Sanford,
R. Daw

Nov. 25th, 1926

(Continued)

Sgd. Albert Drysdale,
S.L. S hannon
James W. McCarthy
James Halliday
B.A. Weston,
L.A. Gastonguay
Wm. O'Toole
Thomas Robinson
A.J. Smeltzer

Alderman Hubley rises to a point of order that the meeting is not properly called, that two clear days notice of the meeting had not been given as required by the City Charter and asks for an opinion from the City Solicitor whether the meeting is legally called as only twenty four hours notice had been given.

The City Solicitor gives an opinion that whatever is done at this Special meeting will have to be ratified at the next regularly called meeting.

✓
HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION CLAIM AND CITY'S
COUNTER CLAIM

His Worship the Mayor informs the Council that Mr. Justice Rogers, Chairman of the Halifax Relief Commission, had asked for a settlement of the Claim of the Relief Commission against the City, and that as the City has a counter claim against the Commission he suggests that the matter be referred to the Finance Committee.

Moved by Alderman Weston, seconded by Alderman Smeltzer that the matter of the Claim of the Halifax Relief Commission against the City of Halifax be referred to the Finance Committee with power to adjust accounts and propose scheme of settlement subject to ratification by this Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Nov. 25th, 1926

His Worship the Mayor was requested to ask the Halifax Relief Commission to furnish the City with any claim or counter claim it may have against the City.

✓
ABATTOIR LEASE

Read report of Committee on Works
re lease of City Abattoir:

City Works Office,
Halifax, N.S. Nov. 25-26

CITY ABATTOIR LEASE

His Worship the Mayor and
City Council.

Sirs:-

At a meeting of the Works Committee held on November 17th, it was moved by Alderman Daw seconded by Alderman Hubley and passed, that it be recommended to Council that the City Abattoir be leased to C.W. Kendall, for a period of two years at a monthly rental of \$52.50 payable in advance, the City Engineer and City Solicitor to prepare an agreement covering this lease and submitted it at a meeting of the Works Committee to be held on November 24th. The proposed Agreement was submitted at the subsequent meeting referred to and approved by the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

A. G. Messervey,
CLERK OF WORKS

*Engineer
Clerk of Works
Alderman*

Moved by Alderman Hubley, seconded
by Alderman Daw that the report be adopted.

His Worship the Mayor submits and reads letter G. McL. Daley, Esquire, Solicitor, offering to lease the Abattoir and to pay for same at rate of Seventy-five Dollars per month;

Nov. 25th, 1926

Halifax, N.S.
Nov. 25th, 1926

His Worship the Mayor,
CITY.

Dear Sir:-

I understand that there is a meeting of the City Council this evening to consider, amongst other things, the question of leasing the City abattoir. I have made an offer for the abattoir of \$75.00 per month, and I understand that the person who is competing against me has offered \$55.00, and that the Board of Works are recommending to the City Council that the lease be given to him for the reason that I have failed to disclose the purpose for which I desire to use this building.

I may say that at the present time I regret it is impossible for me to state the purpose for which I wish the Abattoir. At the same time I can assure you and the members of the Council that I do not wish to use it for any objectionable purpose and that I am willing to have a clause inserted in the lease from the City to myself that the Abattoir shall not be used by me for any purpose which does not meet with the approval of the City Council. I do not think that I could make a fairer proposition than that to the City, and with that clause inserted in the lease I cannot see that it makes any difference to the City at this stage for what purpose I intend to use the building.

I could not reasonable have any complaint to make or feel that I was being treated unfairly if my competitor offered more for the building than I am prepared to give. On the other hand, I certainly feel that it is most unfair treatment to lease this building to another party for \$20.00 less per month than I am prepared to pay. Should my competitor go above my offer I shall certainly have nothing to say, but it seems to me that, especially with the clause inserted in the lease which I have referred to above, the City will be discriminating against me unjustly if they lease this building to Mr. Kendall as the matter stands at present.

Yours very truly,
G. McL. Daley

Moved by Alderman O'Toole, seconded by Alderman Rains that Mr. Carl. Bethune, Law-Partner of Mr. Daley, be permitted to address the Council on the subject.

Nov. 25th, 1926

Motion put and lost five voting for the same and nine against it as follows:-

FOR THE MOTION

Alderman Gastonguay
Hubley
Rains
O'Toole
Power

AGAINST IT

Alderman Weston,
Shannon
Sanford,
Halliday,
McCarthy,
Drysdale,
Robinson
Smeltzer
Daw- 9

-5

*Engineer
Inspector
City of Halifax*

The motion to adopt the report is put and passed unanimously.

✓
INVESTIGATION CITY COLLECTORS OFFICE

Read report of Special Committee appointed to investigate all matters relating to the Collection of Taxes, the accounting thereof and the duties of employees in the City Collector's Department:-

Halifax, N.S. Nov. 24th, 1926

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council,
of the City of Halifax.

Gentlemen:-

At the meeting of the City Council on the 11th instant, the following resolution was submitted:

Moved by Alderman Weston, seconded by Alderman Robinson:

"Whereas the City Collector has repeatedly applied for additional assistance in his Department in order that the collection of Taxes etc., may be better handled, and

"WHEREAS there does not appear to have been any large improvement in the Collection of Tax Arrears or current taxes,

Nov. 25th, 1926

RESOLVED that a Special Committee of "Council, consisting of Alderman Shannon and McCarthy, together with the City Auditor, be appointed with power to investigate all matters relating to the collection of taxes, the accounting thereof and the duties of employees in the Collector's Department, and report thereon to Council at as early a date as possible"

Pursuant to such resolution the Special Committee has held eight sessions and interrogated the City Solicitor, the City Assessor, the City Collector, and certain members of the Staff, as well as looking into the manner in which the accounts are handled in the City Collector's Office.

It would appear from investigation that the foundation of the City taxes is laid in the Assessors Department where the Rolls are prepared for the City Collector's Office. These Rolls are made up from the Assessors books where entries are made by the Assessors from their daily inspection of properties, such assessments commence in May and end by December 31st for the ensuing year beginning May 1st. After these Rolls are completed and the total arrived at for assessment purposes, the Assessor has to wait until Council passes the Estimates before he can compute the rate to be assessed for the ensuing year. If Council delays the passing of Estimates until the latter part of March it is impossible for the Assessor to fix the rate and make out all the bills for taxes until some time afterwards, so it is imperative that the estimates should be prepared by the various Departments by December 31st, and that Council passes same not later than the end of January in order that all bills shall be sent out to the taxpayers by the 1st of June as provided for in the City Charter-

"Notices of Assessment valuation are sent out by the Assessor as soon after December 31st as possible in order that any appeal may be brought before the Tax Appeal Court which meets on January 20th, and holds Court for one month"

After the Court has finished its duties and reported any changes allowed to the Assessor, the Rolls are prepared and are supposed to be forwarded to the Collector early in June, but it appears that this year they were not forwarded until the middle of August- but the Assessor informs us that the reason for the lateness was owing to the preparation of an index.

Nov. 25th, 1926

It will be noticed that the bills are sent out by the Assessor and as the taxpayer has until July 31st to pay in order to obtain the discount, no great rush of payments would take place until towards the end of that month, but that if the Rolls were in the Collectors hands by the 1st of June, work could be commenced on entering them on cards prior to such rush.

It will be remembered that an investigation was held by Price, Waterhouse & Company into the financial position of the City; to do so, they commenced with the financial year 1908-1909 and worked up from that year so that they completed 16 books, one for each year, containing arrears of taxes, and in addition two books of betterment charges, - but they did not instal any system for the collection of arrears for the reason that the City did not instruct them to do so.

Subsequently, they were instructed to instal a modern system, but before they reached the Collector's Office, their services were dispensed with by the City on account of cost, so that the only system in the Collector's Office that they had anything to do with was the cash book and form of receipt. Upon interrogating the Collector it was found that he had been in that capacity for three years and he claims that his great difficulty has been to ascertain the amount of arrears due by the individual taxpayer, he also admitted that it would be quite possible for a taxpayer to call at his office and they would be unable to tell him the amount of taxes due, owing to the records not being up to date.

The public should clearly understand that Price, Waterhouse & Company did not prepare and instal a system for collection of taxes or the consolidation of the amounts due, this knowledge is essential in order to properly understand the difficulties under which the Collector labored. To our mind, it is rather remarkable that the City Collector, after three years in charge of the work, has not succeeded in consolidating practically all accounts due.

In explanation the Collector states that he repeatedly asked for an increase of Staff, but instead of receiving more help he had his staff reduced. He first endeavoured to write up individual accounts in ledgers, giving names and amounts due from 1908 up to date; his idea being to have a complete record in alphabetical order. In reply to a question he informed us that he could form no idea as to how long it would have taken to complete this work, and while this work was being done, no statements could be prepared, showing taxes due by an individual.

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In the Spring of 1925, after consulting the City Auditor, and largely on his recommendation, a card system was inaugurated, working on the basis of properties for real estate and of names for personal taxes- this meant practically abandoning the previous scheme of writing up the ledgers. This change was agreed to by the Finance Committee after discussion. This card system was all written up with the exception of betterment charges, and the posting of the cash received during the time the cards were being written up which has since been added to a point but is still in arrears- these omissions making the cards very unsatisfactory for a complete record.

Since the reduction of Staff, this work, which is absolutely necessary in order that a proper system of knowing exactly what each taxpayer owes, has not been continued. We would most earnestly point out to the members of the City Council that any business man or corporation has a ledger for accounts receivable whereby they can at any time ascertain what any debtor may owe them and how vitally important it is that the City should be in a similar position.

It is estimated that had not the Staff been decreased in February last, that by this time the consolidation of the accounts would be completed.

Your Committee feel, in view of the foregoing, that a great effort should be made to bring this card system of consolidation of accounts up to date quickly and would recommend that instead of any additional staff being granted that certain members of the Staff to be chosen by Mr. Morrow, Chief Tax Adjuster be paid at the rate of 50 cents an hour for overtime during the next three months, it being estimated by us that by doing this, the expense would not exceed \$500.00 and the results in the way of getting the cards posted up to date, will make it possible to get out statements quickly and expedite the collection of arrears.

In the course of our investigation into the Staff we found that Miss Hopewell is known as Chief Clerk, having been so appointed, but that she does not assume the responsibility for supervising the other Clerks in the Office, as would naturally be called for by the title given her. Upon questioning the City Collector, he informed us that he did not consider Miss Hopewell capable of assuming the responsibility to supervise, check up, or to be responsible for the efficient work of the Office. He further stated that there was no person under him whom he could hold responsible for the general efficiency of his staff and that in his opinion the staff did not require supervision of this nature

He assured the Committee that every member of his office staff and the sub-collectors on the street were efficient and satisfactory in every respect

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The City Collector makes no suggestion or recommendations towards improvements, no criticism of his staff, as a whole, and assures us that there is only one course to pursue in his opinion, and that is to give him more clerks in his office, in order to hasten the consolidation of the tax accounts. He recommends that several additional clerks be procured and that a total of at least six outside collectors, or one for each ward, are necessary and that twelve would be better.

It would appear to your Committee, considering the territory covered by the City of Halifax that one sub-collector to each Ward is not excessive, and that it would be in the interest of the City in order that better collections of arrears can be had that an increase of two sub-collectors to the outside staff should be approved by Council and they would so accordingly recommend.

Your Committee spent some time in the Collector's Office, in an endeavour to obtain a sufficient knowledge of the methods adopted to carry on the work to enable them to intelligently understand same, and to acquire the necessary information as to what each individual clerk was doing, and as to how the office is being conducted with a view of making recommendations for a greater general efficiency, have asked many questions and received much information which it is impossible to embody in this report.

We wish to Stress the fact that we have been most courteously received by the City Collector, and much appreciate the patience with which he listened to our many questions, and his earnest endeavour to place before us all particulars of the situation as he sees it. He has our sympathy as we believe he has done his best to handle a most difficult and trying problem. However, we are not convinced that everything has been done that might have been done, either as regards the system adopted or the efficient carrying out of same and we feel that our Oath of Office as well as our duty to the citizens of Halifax, force us to speak frankly and fearlessly even at the expense of our personal feelings

We feel that the Collector found on his taking office a lamentable condition of affairs and that his first duty was to endeavour to correct matters. It would appear that he endeavoured to do so, but he considered that the panacea was more staff, and when he was repeatedly refused same, became discouraged and the position became distasteful as well as onerous.

Your Committee not being able to obtain any constructive or aggressive suggestions from the Collector, other than the staff being increased, called for Mr. Morrow the Chief Tax Adjuster. We had a lengthy interview with him and it was refreshing to obtain from him much

Nov. 25th, 1926

valuable information . We were much impressed with his cheerfulness, optimism and his very earnest desire to give helpful suggestions to the Committee, although not one word of criticism was made by him regarding his superior officer. In our opinion the City has in Mr. Morrow a young man of exceptional ability.

Mr. Morrow was particular in his views about the increase of staff and pointed out by certain alterations in the outside room, it would be possible to obtain better supervision of the staff which would tend to a greater efficiency, and that there was no necessity to add to the staff of the Office. We found a bright young man of 24 years of age named R.J. Campbell doing a good class of work, but only receiving a salary of \$600.00 per annum not a living wage at the present rate of pay. We were informed by all his superiors that he is bright and capable of greater responsibilities than he now has. We recommend that his salary be increased to \$900.00. We do not recommend any addition to the inside staff but that the staff be kept up to their same strength for the present.

The Committee attach herewith a proposed plan of the outside office and placing of the Clerks, which we believe will, if adopted, be of advantage. You will note that we advise the removing of a partition and the opening up of the whole office in such a manner as to have all clerks in plain view of the Chief Clerk, this in the Committee's opinion is very important.

Without going into details, we are of opinion from information received that it is most important the staff in the City Collector's Office be placed under careful supervision, that care be taken that there is neither time wasted by idling, by duplication of work or in any other manner, and the staff be imbued with possibly greater sense of loyalty to their employer, the City of Halifax, and finally that they must be given to understand that the present situation requires the very best effort on the part of every individual clerk with greater concentration on the work before them, and less on the clock.

The foregoing is submitted for your careful consideration, for if our report is adopted and carried out, we have every confidence that a decided improvement in the whole organization will be the result and should mean an almost immediate increase of collections.

Your Committee desires to express their great appreciation of the assistance they have received from Alderman Weston, Chairman of the Finance Committee, who has attended all their meetings and by his thoughtful advice and suggestions, has been a great help to them.

Nov. 25th, 1926

Your Committee suggests, at the risk of being considered presumptuous, that the Finance Committee either as a whole or by appointment of a sub-committee, keep in close touch with the work of the Collector's Office, both as an encouragement to the City Collector and for their own edification.

Your Committee, after due deliberation, beg to make the following recommendations.

1. That Mr. Morrow be appointed Chief Clerk to be responsible for the supervision of the Staff under the Collector.
2. That Mr. Morrow select certain members of the Staff to be employed after hours to complete the necessary work to the cards, said staff to be remunerated at the rate of 50 cents an hour and that the total amount so to be paid shall not exceed \$500.00
3. That the salary of Mr. R.J. Campbell be increased from \$600.00 to \$900.00 per annum
4. That Mr. Traise, Sub-Collector, 84 years of age and who is showing signs of his great age, be superannuated.
5. That in addition to the four sub-collectors now employed, two additional sub-collectors be appointed.
6. That the staff be re-organized and placed under strict supervision.
7. That the partition in the Collector's outside office be removed, the Cashier's desk and cage moved to the southwest corner of the room as per plan attached.
8. That in the preparation of the estimates for next year due consideration of the salary of each Clerk in the Collector's Office be given in order that same may be adjusted in commensurate with the services rendered
9. That the present Cashier when not employed in that capacity shall be given other work to perform.
10. That the appointment of the present bailiff be approved by the City Council, and that the Collector be empowered to appoint additional bailiffs if found necessary. The same to be paid by fees only collectible from the delinquent taxpayers.

All of the above is respectfully submitted.

S.L. Shannon
James W. McCarthy

Nov. 25th, 1926

Moved by Alderman Shannon seconded by Alderman McCarthy that the report be read and discussed, and action deferred until next meeting of Council. Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman Power seconded by Alderman Drysdale that the consideration of the report of the Special Committee be taken up at a Special Meeting of this Council to be called for Thursday evening Dec. 2nd, at 8 o'clock. Motion passed.

✓
JOSEPH HOWE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS
AUTHORITY TO ISSUE LOAN

Read letter A.S. Barnstead, Esq., Clerk of the Executive Council covering copy of an Order-in-Council authorizing and directing the City of Halifax to issue its debentures for the sum of Eleven Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Dollars for the erection of modern sanitary additions to Joseph Howe School;

Halifax, N.S. 15 Nov. 1926

His Worship the Mayor.
Halifax, N.S.

Sir:

I enclose herewith certified copy of Order-in-Council of even date regarding the application of the City School Board for authority to issue debentures to cover proposed expenditures in connection with additions to Joseph Howe School, as set forth therein.

Yours truly,

Arthur S. Barnstead,
Clerk of Executive Council.

Nov. 25th, 1926

WHEREAS the Board of School Commissioners for the City of Halifax require the sum of Eleven Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty Dollars for the erection of modern sanitary additions to Joseph Howe School; and

WHEREAS the said Board has applied to the Governor in Council for an order directing the City of Halifax to issue its debentures or stock to the amount so required;

AND WHEREAS the Governor in Council appointed Friday the 12th day of November A.D. 1926, at four o'clock p.m, in the Executive Council Room, Province Building, City of Halifax, as the time and place at which the matter of such application should be heard;

AND WHEREAS DUE notice of the amount so required and the purpose for which the same is required and of the time and place so appointed were given to the Mayor of the said City;

AND WHEREAS the matter of such application was heard at such time and place, and the Council did not appear at the hearing;

NOW THEREFORE the Lieutenant Governor by and with the advice of the Executive Council for Nova Scotia and under and by virtue of Section 901 of the Halifax City Charter is pleased to order and direct and hereby orders and directs the City of Halifax to issue debentures or stock to raise the amount so required.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an Order-in-Council of his Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia in Council dated the 15th day of November A.D., 1926.

Arthur S. Barnstead,
CLERK OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

In answer

Referred to Finance Committee for
report.

/
MILK INSPECTION

Read opinion City Solicitor as to powers
of City to hold an investigation into the milk situation.

Nov. 25th, 1926

Office of City Solicitor,
Halifax, N.S. Nov. 22-26

His Worship the Mayor,
CITY HALL.

RE MILK INVESTIGATION

Sir:-

In reply to the request of the Council for my opinion as to the jurisdiction of the City Council to comply with the request of certain petitioners for the Council to make a thorough investigation into the whole milk situation, I beg to say that I know of no powers which the Council has to comply with such a request. It has no funds for such a purpose. It could not compel the attendance of a witness nor administer an oath to any one that came voluntarily, nor would its findings have any legal effect.

Yours truly,

H.F. Bell,
CITY SOLICITOR.

FILED

✓
PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION COMMISSION

Read letter Secretary of Department of
Natural Resources in re appointment of Government Members
to the Provincial Exhibition Commission:

Halifax, N.S. Nov. 16th, 1926

H.S. Rhind, Esq.,
City Clerk,
City Hall,
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Sir:

I am instructed by the Deputy Minister of this Department to forward you the names of the appointees to the Exhibition Commission by the Government:

Nov. 25th, 1926

Hon. J.A. Walker, Halifax,
W. Saxby Blair, Kentville,
Willard S. Thompson, North Sydney,
Harry D. Biden, Amherst,
John Little, Yarmouth Bar.

The N.S. Farmers' Association have appointed
as their representatives S.A. Logan, Truro, and D.B. Nicholson
Comsheat, C.B.

I am enclosing copy of the "Gazette" showing
these appointments.

Yours truly,

C.W. Vaughan,
SECRETARY

FILED

✓
REPORT COAL WEIGHERS FOR OCTOBER

Read report A.H. Cullymore, Supervisor
of Coal Weighers showing that the permanent weights
received the sum of \$107.00 in fees during the month
of October.

FILED.

HALIFAX TRAMWAY COMPANY ROUTING OF STREET CARS

Read notice of hearing by Public Utilities
Board of application of N.S. Tramway and Power Company
in re routing of Tram cars!

N.S. Board of Commissioners
of Public Utilities.

In the matter of the Public Utilities Act in the matter
of the Nova Scotia Tramways and Power Company, Limited,
Tramway Department.

BEFORE

(Seal)
Sgd. J.U.R.)
John U. Ross, K.C, Chairman,
R.T. MacIlreith, K.C. Vice Chairman,
P.R. Colpitt, Member

Nov. 25th, 1926

UPON HEARING the application of the Nova Scotia Tramways & Power Company, Limited filed this day for the approval by this Board of certain proposed alterations in routes for the street cars of said Company as well as certain changes in operation,

BE IT ORDERED that said application be heard at a sittings of the Board to be held at its office, Technical College Building, Halifax, N.S. On Friday, the third day of December, 1926, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon.

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that notice of the time, place and purpose of said hearing be given by advertisement in three issues of a newspaper circulating in the City of Halifax, the first insertion to appear on Wednesday, November 24th, 1926.

Dated at Halifax, N.S. Nov. 13, 1926.

By Order of the Board

(Sgd) L.B. Taylor,
CLERK

FILED

10 p.m.

Moved by Alderman Sanford, seconded by Alderman Smeltzer that this meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

LIST OF HEADLINES

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Meeting adjourned

H.S. Rhind
H.S. RHIND
CITY CLERK

J.B. Kenny
MAYOR

J.B. Kenny

✓
S P E C I A L M E E T I N G

Evening Session,
8.10 o'clock,
Council Chamber,
City Hall,
December 2nd, 1926

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 Weston, Shannon, Tobin, Sanford, Halliday, Gastonguay, McDuff, McCarthy, Hubley, Rains, O'Toole, Drysdale, Smeltzer, Daw and Robinson.

The meeting was called specially,

1st- To ratify the proceedings taken at the special meeting of Council held November 25th, 1926,

2nd- To proceed with the consideration of the report of the Special Committee dealing with matters effecting the City Collector's Office.

3rd- To proceed with business standing over and the transaction of other business.

✓
ROUTING OF TRAM CARS

His Worship the Mayor informs the Council that the Public hearing before the Public Utilities Board in re proposed changes in the routing of tram cars would be held at the Technical College Building tomorrow Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

Dec. 2nd, 1926

HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION CLAIM AND CITY'S
COUNTER CLAIM

His Worship also informs the Council that the Finance Committee have under consideration the matter of adjustment of the City's claim against the Halifax Relief Commission, also the counter claim of the Commission against the City that conferences were now being held and the adjustment would be submitted to them before final settlement.

Council proceedings at Special Meeting ratified.

The following Resolution is submitted:

WHEREAS a meeting of this Council was held on Thursday the 25th day of November last, of which meeting due notice was not given, but at which certain business was transacted, and

WHEREAS it is desirable to ratify and confirm at this meeting the business so transacted at the said meeting.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this Council does hereby at this present meeting ratify and confirm all and every act and resolution done passed or transacted at the said meeting of the 25th of November and hereby declares every Resolution passed at the said meeting to be re-passed by a vote at this present meeting.

Moved by Alderman Weston, seconded
by Alderman Daw and passed.

✓
INVESTIGATION CITY COLLECTOR'S OFFICE

The Council now proceeds with the consideration of the report of the Special Committee on matters effecting the City Collector's Office which was read, discussed, and then deferred at the last meeting of Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Moved by Alderman Hubley, seconded by Alderman Daw that the recommendations contained in report be considered clause by clause. Motion passed.

✓
Clause 1.

That Mr. Morrow be appointed Chief Clerk to be responsible for the supervision of the Staff under the Collector.

Moved by Alderman Shannon, seconded by Alderman McCarthy that this Clause be amended to read "That Mr. Morrow be appointed Acting Assistant City Collector to be responsible for the supervision of the Staff under the Collector", and that the clause as so amended be adopted.

Alderman Daw asks for a ruling of the Chair if this resolution is in order.

His Worship rules that the resolution is in order.

Motion put and passed, eleven voting for the same and four against it as follows:-

FOR THE MOTION

AGAINST IT

Alderman Weston
Shannon
Tobin
Sanford
Halliday
McCarthy
Rains
O'Toole
Robinson- 11
Gastonguay
McDuff

Alderman Hubley
Drysdale
Smeltzer
Daw

-4

Clause 2

That Mr. Morrow select certain members of the Staff to be employed after hours to complete the necessary work on the cards said Staff to be remunerated at the rate of 50¢ per hour and that the total amount so to be paid shall not exceed \$500.00

Moved by Alderman Weston, seconded by Alderman Shannon that this Clause be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Daw seconded by Alderman Smeltzer that the consideration of this Clause be deferred until the regular meeting of Council to be held in the month of January next-

Amendment put and lost four voting for the same and eleven against it:

FOR AMENDMENT

AGAINST IT

Alderman Hubley
Power
Smeltzer
Daw

Alderman Weston,
Shannon
Tobin
Sanford
Halliday
McCarthy
Gastonguay
MacDuff
Rains
Drysdale
Robinson -11

-4-

The motion to adopt the Clause is put and passed, ten voting for the same and four against it as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

AGAINST IT

Alderman Weston
Shannon
Tobin
Sanford
Halliday
Gastonguay
MacDuff
McCarthy
Rains
Robinson -10

Alderman Hubley
Drysdale
Smeltzer
Daw. -4

His Worship the Mayor declares the motion to adopt the Clause carried.

Clause 3 ✓

That the salary of Mr. R.J. Campbell be increased from \$600.00 to \$900.00 per annum.

Moved by Alderman Tobin, seconded by Alderman McCarthy that the consideration of this Clause be deferred and taken up with the Civic Estimates.
Motion passed.

" 4 ✓

That Mr. Traise Sub-Collector, 84 years of age, and who is showing signs of his great age be superannuated.

Moved by Alderman Shannon, seconded by Alderman McCarthy that this Clause be adopted.

Motion put and passed eleven voting for the same and three against it as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

AGAINST IT

Alderman Weston,
Shannon
Tobin
Sanford,
Halliday
Gastonguay
MacDuff
McCarthy
Robinson
Smeltzer
Daw -11

Alderman Hubley
Rains
Drysdale

-3-

Clause 5

That in addition to the four sub-collectors now employed, two additional Sub-Collectors be appointed.

Moved by Alderman Shannon seconded by Alderman McCarthy that this Clause be adopted.

A lengthy discussion took place as to the merits of this Clause.

Moved by Alderman Tobin, seconded by Alderman Shannon that the question be now put.

Motion put and passed ten voting for the same and three against it as follows:

FOR MOTION

AGAINST IT

Alderman Weston
Shannon
Tobin
Sanford
Halliday
Gastonguay
MacDuff
McCarthy
Rains
Robinson -10

Alderman Hubley
Drysdale
Daw - 3

The motion to adopt the Clause is put and passed nine voting for the same and four against it as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

AGAINST IT

Alderman Weston
Shannon
Tobin
Sanford
Gastonguay
MacDuff
McCarthy
Rains
Robinson - 9

Alderman Halliday
Hubley
Drysdale
Daw -

-4-

Clause 6 That the Staff be re-organized and placed under strict supervision. Passed

" 7 That the partition in the Collector's outside office be removed, the Cashier's desk and cage moved to the south west corner of the room as per plan attached

Passed

" 8 That in the preparation of the estimates for next year due consideration of the salary of each Clerk in the Collector's Office be given in order that same may be adjusted commensurate with the services rendered.

Filed to be considered with the estimates
1927.

" 9 That the present Cashier when not employed in that capacity shall be given other work to perform.

Moved by Alderman Shannon seconded by
Alderman McCarthy that this Clause be adopted. Motion
passed.

" 10 That the appointment of the present Bailiff
be approved by the City Council, and that the Collector be empowered to appoint additional Bailiffs if found necessary, the same to be paid by fees only collectible from delinquent taxpayers.

Moved by Alderman Shannon, seconded by Alderman Tobin that this Clause be adopted. Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman Shannon, seconded by Alderman McCarthy that the report as amended be adopted, as a whole saving and excepting the Clauses deferred for future consideration. Motion passed, eleven voting for the same and two against it as follows:

*mason
calculator
engineer*

FOR THE MOTION

AGAINST IT

Alderman Weston
Shannon
Tobin
Sanford
Halliday
Gastonguay
MacDuff
McCarthy
Rains
Drysdale
Robinson -11

Alderman Hubley
Daw

-2-

✓
NOTICE OF MOTION

Alderman Hubley submits following as a Notice of Motion:-

1. WHEREAS, the Total Tax arrears outstanding for years prior to 30th April 1924 amounts to \$1,070,813.23.

2. AND WHEREAS, the Total Tax Arrears outstanding for year ending 30th April 1925 amounts to \$261,305.65

3. AND WHEREAS, the total Tax Arrears outstanding 30th April 1926, amounted to

\$442,524.49

making a total of \$1,774,643.40 to Oct. 31st 1926

Dec. 2nd, 1926

4. AND WHEREAS, the total Tax Arrears outstanding 31st October 1926 for current year ending 30th April 1927, amounts to \$746,276.74, making a grand total outstanding on 31st Oct. 1926 \$2,510,920.

5. AND WHEREAS, that in view of the alarming condition of affairs in the collection of taxes as shown by the Auditor's last report this Council shares the view expressed by Alderman Shannon and Alderman McCarthy, in their recent report to this Council, when they state, "However we are not convinced that everything has been done, either as regards the system adopted, or the efficient carrying out of the same, and we feel that our oath of office, as well as our duty to the citizens of Halifax force us to speak frankly and fearlessly, even at the expense of our personal feelings"

6. AND WHEREAS, an opinion has been freely expressed by the Chairman of the Finance Committee, and certain members of this Council, that a change should be made and that the present incumbent Mr. Dimock, did not appear to be able to meet the alarming situation as shown by the Auditor's last report.

7. WHEREAS, at a meeting of the Finance Committee held about eight month's ago, Mr. R.V. Dimock, City Collector intimated that if his services were not satisfactory he would retire from his position as City Collector.

8. THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Council hereby request Mr. R.V. Dimock, to resign his position as City Collector, to take effect April 1st, 1927, and that in the event of Mr. Dimock retiring on the 31st day of December 1926 that he would be paid three (3) month's salary in lieu of services.

Council

✓
LOAN JOSEPH HOWE SCHOOL SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Read report of the Finance Committee
re loan of \$11,320.00 for sanitary improvements Joseph
Howe School:

Halifax, N.S. Nov. 15-26

Dear Sir:-

I enclose herewith certified copy of Order in Council of even date regarding the application of the City School Board for authority to issue debentures to cover proposed expenditures in connection with additions to Joseph Howe School, as set forth therein.

Yours truly,
Arthur S. Barnstead
CLERK OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

His Worship
the Mayor.

Dec. 2nd, 1926

Committee Room, City Hall,
Nov. 29-26

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

At a meeting of the Finance Committee held this date, the attached Order-in-Council authorising and directing the City of Halifax to issue Bonds to the amount of \$11,320.00 to pay for sanitary improvements at Joseph Howe School was under consideration.

Your Committee recommend that the City Treasurer be authorized to ask for tenders for a loan of \$11,320.00 and that stock certificates sufficient to produce that sum be issued therefor, dated as of the 1st day of January 1927, bearing interest at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ or 5% as may be deemed most advisable, the said stock to be payable in thirty years from the date thereof.

Your Committee further recommend that the accompanying resolution dealing with this matter be adopted.

Respectfully submitted

B. A. Weston,
CHAIRMAN

✓
The following Resolution is submitted:

WHEREAS the Board of School Commissioners of the City of Halifax has applied to the Governor-in-Council of the Province of Nova Scotia under the authority of Section 901 of the Halifax City Charter for an order directing the City of Halifax to issue its debentures or stock to an amount to produce the sum of \$11,320.00 to be expended in providing modern sanitary additions to the Joseph Howe School, and

WHEREAS the Governor in Council by Order in Council made under the authority of the said Section dated 15th November 1926 a copy of which was entered in the minutes of the meeting held November 25th, 1926, has directed the City to issue its stock and debentures for the amount so required.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that for the purpose, aforesaid there shall be borrowed on the credit of the City of Halifax at large and as part of the Halifax City Consolidated Fund 1905, the sum of \$11,320.00 and stock sufficient to produce the amount required shall be issued therefor (Sec. 345cc) dated as of the first day of January 1927, bearing interest at the rate of $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ or 5% as considered most advisable from the said date, payable half yearly on the 1st of January and July in each year. The said stock shall be payable in thirty years from the date thereof.

The said Stock shall be in the form set out in the Halifax City Consolidated Fund Act 1905, Chapter 51, and shall be sealed with the corporate seal of the City, and shall be signed by the Mayor and Treasurer of the said City, and countersigned by the Clerk of the said City. The said Stock shall be payable at the Office of the City Treasurer.

The City Treasurer is hereby authorized to call for tenders from any person or persons willing to loan on stock of the City of Halifax a sum or sums sufficient to realize the said amount.

Moved by Alderman Weston, seconded by Alderman MacDuff and passed unanimously.

*Treasurer
Alderman*

✓
EXPROPRIATION MORASH PROPERTY KEMPT ROAD

Read report Committee on Works and City Engineer in re expropriation of the Morash Property so called at Kempt Road for the City Dump:

City Engineer's Office,
Halifax, N.S.
Nov. 23 rd, 1926

EXPROPRIATION MORASH PROPERTY

Sir:-

In compliance with the resolution of the Committee on Works passed at their meeting held on the 17th of November 1926, that steps be taken to expropriate the Morash Property, so called on Kempt Road, I beg to report that if it is the intention to continue and extend the present City Dump in the vicinity of the property, it would seem to be necessary

Dec. 2nd, 1926

that some steps be taken to prevent further claims from the owners of this property. I am informed by the City Solicitor that at the conclusion of the recent trial, the learned Judge intimated to the Council engaged the desirability of some amicable adjustment or settlement being made. In view of these circumstances there would appear to be two courses open to the City, one, the obtaining of the whole of the Morash Property and the other the confining to the acquisition by the City to the water rights on the brook through the property. The former course would probably be the more expensive in the first instance, but it would forever extinguish all claims in respect to that property and the expense might be reduced by some revenues from the property.

By following the second course there would always remain the possibility that claims might be made for the pollution of the well due to seepage or percolation between the Morash property and the dump and from the other causes in connection with the use of the dump, which in the end may be troublesome and ultimately compel the expropriation of the whole property.

Unless it is decided that the dump shall be continued and extended in its present location, it is difficult to arrive at any settled policy. If it is such intention, it will be necessary to come to some determination in respect to the Farrell and Hendry properties lying between the Morash property and the Sullivan property.

For the information of the Committee the following brief resume of the conditions formerly existing in the brook and the steps then proposed for their remedy are given.

When the Railway Roundhouse and Repair shop were erected at the so called Willow Park site, the drainage from the various plumbing fixtures in these buildings, together with the surface water, was collected into a tank and discharged through a sewer across Kempt Road into the open brook flowing through the Sullivan, Hendry, Farrell and Morash properties. It was evidently realized at the time by the Railway authorities that the brook would become polluted and a strip of land fifteen feet wide was acquired by them in 1907 or 1908, including the brook within the boundaries of the land through the Hendry and what is now the Sullivan Property, for the purpose of extinguishing the rights of these properties to the brook and for a right of way for an extension of the sewer.

In 1913 Mr. Gutelius the General Manager of the Government Railways wrote the City that additional drainage would be required for the engine house and Machine shop and suggested that the City build a sewer in such a way that the property could be connected to it and that the

Dec. 2nd, 1926

Railways would make a contribution towards it, equal to the cost of the independent sewer which would have to be built by them. As there was no immediate prospect for an early demand for a public sewer in the district, the City Council at a meeting held on the 13th of May, 1914, decided not to accept the offer. During this and the following year, there was further correspondence and reports on the matter, culminating in a letter from Mr. Gutelius stating that his appropriation for the sewer was \$15,000 and that he was satisfied he could construct it for this amount and asked permission to build it as a private sewer on the streets shown.

In October 1916 the then Mayor reported to the Board of Control that he had conferred with Mr. Gutelius in respect to the Sewer from the Willow Park Yard to Bedford Basin and that the latter had promised to have the appropriation included in the estimates for this work.

In 1917 a letter was sent to the then General Manager, Mr. Hayes, asking when action was contemplated to relieve the nuisance caused by the discharge of the sewerage into the open brook. A reply was received that no provision had been made in the estimates of that fiscal year for the construction of the sewer and that due to the financial conditions existing it was doubtful if the work could then be undertaken, especially in view of the difficulty in obtaining men and material.

Further complaints were made as to the condition of the Brook and a report was made to the Board of Control in 1918 recommending that the Railway Department be urged to construct the sewer

No further action was taken by the Railways and the matter was again taken up by correspondence during the past year with unsatisfactory results, the attitude of the Department being now apparently that owing to the presence of the City dump the water is fouled more by it than by the drainage from the Round house and that if any damage is being suffered by citizens, the sewer should be constructed by the City as an ordinary City sewer.

In view of what has taken place and the repeated assurances from the manager that this sewer would be built, it is hard to understand this volte-face.

It is evident from the records that originally the Railway department recognized its responsibility of taking care of the polluted water discharged into the brook from its premises. From recent analyses of the water taken before it reaches the dump the pollution still exists. Assuming (but not admitting) that by reason of the use of the dump,

Dec. 2nd, 1926

the pollution still exists. Assuming (but not admitting) that by reason of the use of the dump, more polluting matter is added to the stream, this would not appear to be sufficient reason for justifying the department in repudiating its liability previously acknowledged, to dispose of in a sanitary manner, the polluted water discharged by them into the brook to the danger of those who inadvertently use it.

Before any money is expended by the City in the matter it is strongly recommended that the Railway authorities be approached and urged to carry out their original expressed intention of building the sewer; or in the alternative to contribute their share of the cost of remedying conditions.

If however, the Committee after hearing the legal aspect of the case from the City Solicitor, is of the opinion that something will have to be done immediately in connection with the Morash Property, for the reasons given it would seem to be more in the interest of the City to expropriate the whole property rather than the rights to the brook only, always assuming that the dump will be continued on the present site and on the properties between it and the Morash Lot.

I am attaching a plan and description of the property and also a form of resolution drafted by the City Solicitor to be passed by the Committee, if it is decided to go on with the expropriation.

Respectfully submitted
H.W. Johnston,
CITY ENGINEER.

DESCRIPTION

OF
PROPERTY BELONGING TO MRS. ELIZABETH

MORASH ON KEMPT ROAD TO ACCOMPANY REPORT OF CITY ENGIN-
EERS NOVEMBER 23, 1926

All that lot, piece or parcel of land, situate lying and being between Kempt Road and Lady Hammond Road in the City and County of Halifax, the said land being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point formed by the intersection of the Northern Boundary line of Kempt Road with the western boundary line of property now or formerly owned by V.F. Farrell, the said point being the south-easterly corner of the property now under description; thence in a northerly direction by the western boundary of the said Farrell property for a distance of two Hundred and Thirty Five (235) feet more or less; or until it meets the southern boundary of Lady Hammond Road; thence westerly by the said mentioned boundary of the said Lady Hammond Road for a distance of 100 feet more or less, until it meets

Dec. 2nd, 1926

the eastern boundary line of property now or formerly owned by the Estate of the late W.A.Hendry; thence in a southerly direction by the said eastern boundary line of the said Hendry property for a distance of One Hundred and Ninety-Five feet, more or less, or until it meets the northern boundary line of Kempt Road; thence in a south-easterly direction by the said Northern Boundary Line of Kempt Road for a distance of One Hundred (100) feet more or less, to the place of beginning.

The above described lot being all the land purchased by Mrs. Elizabeth Morash from the late W.A.Hendry and described in the deed from the late John Steele to the said Hendry in the year A.D. 1858 and recorded in the Registry of Deeds Office at Halifax, in Book 122, Page 128.

Together with all the easements, tenements, privileges, and appurtenances to the same belonging or any wise appertaining.

The said lot being shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Morash property proposed to be expropriated by the City of Halifax, signed by H.W.Johnston, City Engineer, dated November 23rd, 1926, and filed in the City Engineer's Office at Halifax as Plan No. 5930.

City Works Office,
Halifax, N.S. Dec.2-26

EXPROPRIATION MORASH PROPERTY

His Worship the Mayor and City Council.

Sirs:-

At a meeting of the Works Committee held on the 1st instant, the City Engineer submitted a report in connection with the Morash Property, so called, on Kempt Road, said report being attached hereto.

On motion of Alderman Hubley, seconded by Alderman Power, the following resolution was unanimously passed by the Committee, and recommended to Council for adoption.

"On consideration of the report of the City Engineer, the Committee on Works resolves that the property of Elizabeth Morash situated on the Lady Hammond Road and Kempt Road, shown on the plan attached to the said report, is required by the City for purposes connected with a City dump on Kempt Road, and that the City endeavour to obtain the said land by purchase thereof from the owner, and that if such purchase cannot be effected, that the City proceed with the expropriation of the same"

Respectfully submitted
A.F.Messervey
CLERK OF WORKS

Dec. 2nd, 1926

*✓
Enginner*

Moved by Alderman Hubley, seconded by Alderman Daw that tthe report be adopted. Motion passed unanimously.

✓
CITY HEALTH BOARD ACCOUNTS

Read report of the City Health Board recommending for payment accounts for the month of October amounting to \$2,132.92:

Halifax, N.S. Nov. 11th, 1926

His Worship the Mayor and Members
City Council.

Gentlemen:-

At a meeting of the City Health Board held on Wednesday, November 10th, 1926, the following named accounts amounting to \$2,132.92 were passed as correct and are recommended for payment.

Respectfully yours,

Arthur C. Pettipas,
SECRETARY C.H.B.

*✓
Creditor*

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

✓
WATER METER BILL 25-27 JACOB STREET

Read report of the Committee on Works and City Engineer in re Water Meter Bill 25-27 Jacob Street:

Dec. 2nd, 1926

City Engineer's Office,
Halifax, N.S. Sept. 8-26

25-27 Jacob St. Water Bill

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:-

I beg to report on the attached water bill for the premises 25-27 Jacob Street claimed to be excessive that the period complained of is the half year ending April 1926 and the amount of the bill is \$12.12. The monthly consumption during the period complained of was as follows:

Oct. 17-	6,500	
Nov. 16	3,000	
Dec. 15	3,200	
Jan. 18	43,100 (N)	20-1-26
Feb. 26	6,800	
Mar. -	-	
Apr. 22	4,500	

The large consumption of water took place in January and a notice was sent on January 20th, immediately on notice the owner took steps to repair the leak. Under these circumstances I would recommend that the consumption for January be reduced to 6,000 gallons and the bill made up on this basis.

Respectfully submitted,

H.W. Johnston,
CITY ENGINEER.

City Works Office,
Halifax, N.S. Nov. 27-26

25-27 Jacob St. Water Meter Bill

His Worship the Mayor and
City Council.

Sirs:-

At a meeting of the Works Committee held on the 24th instant, the City Engineer submitted a report on the above mentioned premises the period complained of being half year ending April 1926.

Dec. 2nd, 1926

It was decided to recommend to Council that the consumption for January amounting to 43,100 gallons be reduced to 6,000 gallons

Respectfully submitted,

A.F. Messervey,

CLERK OF WORKS

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

✓
Auditor
Collector
Engineer
Clerk of Works

✓
WATER METER BILL 144-146 GOTTINGEN STREET

Read report of the Committee on Works and City Engineer in re Water Meter Bill 144-146 Gottingen Street:

City Engineer's Office,
Halifax, N.S. Nov. 16-26

144-146 Gottingen St
Water Bill

His Worship the Mayor

Sir:-

I beg to report on the attached water bill for the premises 144-146 Gottingen Street claimed to be excessive, that the period complained of is the half year ending April 1926. The total amount of the bill is \$98.07 of which \$42.82 is for the arrears. The consumption during the period complained of and subsequently was as follows:-

1925-	Oct. 14-	4,000	
	Nov. 14,	2,600	
	Dec. 12	2,500	
1926	Jan. 14	20,700	T. Wasting N.6-1-26
	Feb. 11	42,600	

Dec. 2nd, 1926

Mar. 12	4,000	
Apr. 14	19,000	
May. 13	56,800	Pipe Burst (N) 14-5-26
June 14	4,600	
July 15	3,100	

There was a large consumption during January and February, due to a tap wasting, notice being sent in the former month. In April and May there was large consumption due to a pipe having burst, notice being sent on the 14th of the latter month. Apparently steps were taken immediately to remedy the defect, and I would recommend that the consumption at these premises for April and May be reduced to 4,000 gallons for each month in making up the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

H.W. Johnston
CITY ENGINEER

City Works Office,
Halifax, N.S. Nov. 26-26

144-146 Gottingen Street-Water Bill

His Worship the Mayor
and City Council.

Sirs:-

At a meeting of the Works Committee held on the 17th instant, the City Engineer submitted a bill for premises 144-146 Gottingen Street, the period complained of being half year ending April 1926, and also the consumption for subsequent period which bill has not yet been rendered. It was decided to recommend to Council that the consumption for January 1926 be reduced to 10,000 gallons and for the months of May and June of said Year be reduced to 4,000 gallons for each month

Respectfully submitted

A.F. Messervey,
CLERK OF WORKS

Dec. 2nd, 1926

*Account of
Project of
at 11:10*

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

11.10 p.m.

Moved by Alderman Drysdale, seconded
by Alderman Tobin that this meeting do now adjourn.
Motion passed.

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Meeting adjourned.

H.S. Rhind

H.S. RHIND
CITY CLERK

J.B. Kenny
MAYOR

J.B. Kenny