

EVENING SESSION

8.10 o'clock,  
Council Chamber,  
City Hall,  
February 26th, 1930

A meeting of the City Council was held this evening. At the above named hour there were present His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen Mitchell, Dickie, Stech, Smith, Donovan, Redmond, McDuff, Cragg, McInnes, Corbin, Rains, McDonald, Mullane, O'Toole, Drysdale, Smeltzer, Probert and Adams.

The meeting was called specially to consider the Civic Estimates for 1930-31, to proceed with business standing over and the transaction of other business.

CIVIC ESTIMATES 1930-31

Read report of the Finance Committee covering the estimates for the Civic Year 1930-1931:

Committee Room, City Hall,  
February 24th, 1930

His Worship the Mayor,  
and Members of City Council.

Gentlemen:

Your Committee on Finance beg to submit its report on Civic Estimates for 1930-31.

The estimates prepared by the several departments having supervision over the expenditures were submitted to your Committee.

Your Committee have gone carefully into the various items of expenditure and have deleted all increases to salaries recommended by the several Committees. It is proposed to recommend in the matter of salaries that an adjustment be made by a special committee to be appointed by the Council.

Exception was taken by some members of your Committee to the changes made in several of the departments. These will be noted as the schedules are read.

February 26th, 1930

Schedule "A"- Joint Estimates Municipality of  
Halifax \$52,801.71

Decrease of \$1,997.39 over last year.

Schedule "B"- Public Schools \$628,788.18

Increase of \$21,534.44 over previous year.

Schedule "C"- City Home \$67,012.90

Increase of \$68.90 over previous year.

Alderman Corbin and Mullane dissenting from the Committee's decision to delete an increase of \$60.00 per annum to each of the nurses in the Schedule.

Schedule "D"- T.B. Hospital \$28,773.00

An increase of \$1,933.00 over previous year.

Schedule "E"- Public Gardens and Common \$14,000.00

A decrease of \$80.00 over previous year.

Your Committee have deleted all increases of salaries but have increased the Superintendent's house allowance by \$200.00

Schedule "F"- Point Pleasant Park \$4,000.00

An increase of \$150.00 over previous year for the purchase of new trees.

Schedule "G"- Citizens' Free Library \$4,040.00

An increase of \$100.00 over previous year in the maintenance account

Schedule "H"- City Health Board \$29,342.50

An increase of \$2,334.23 over previous year

Your Committee have placed an item of \$600.00 in the maintenance account for travelling expenses of the Dairy and Food Inspector.

Alderman Corbin dissenting from the action of the Committee in deleting an increase of \$200.00 recommended by the Health Board to the Secretary.

Schedule "I" Superannuations \$33,963.82

An increase of \$5,403.30 over previous year.

Schedule "J"- City Grants and Sundries \$97,270.55

An increase of \$9,380.38 over previous year.

Schedule "K"- Short Term Debentures and  
Interest \$15,769.36

A decrease of \$10,204.67.

February 26th, 1930

Schedule "L"- Interest on Consolidated Fund  
1880 \$49,394.00

No change.

Schedule "M"- Interest on Consolidated  
Fund 1905 \$324,522.31

A decrease of \$9,509.55

Schedule "N"- Sinking Fund Requirements \$66,507.62

An increase of \$2,070.18 over  
last year.

Schedule "O"- Salaries \$91,545.00

This schedule shows an increase of  
\$10,400.00 over last year.

Applications for increase of salary  
were read from the following:

A.M. Butler, City Auditor.  
W.H. Morrow, City Collector.  
R.V. Dimock, City Treasurer.  
George J. Allen  
Margaret M. Hopewell  
Elsie M. Doyle  
W.H. Morrow for his whole staff  
H.C. Powell  
B.M. Reid.  
Chester G. Corbett  
Marion Thompson  
G.H. Durling  
Vera L. Street  
City Auditor on behalf of T.G. Murphy  
and T.A. Shields.  
Underkeepers City Prison.

In view of the action of the Committee  
with regard to the salaries of other departments it  
was decided to defer action on these applications  
until a committee is appointed by the City Council.

The following Resolution moved by  
Alderman McInnes seconded by Alderman Stech was  
adopted:

RESOLVED that this Committee recommend  
to Council that an amount of \$10,000.00 be included  
in this year's estimates and that legislation be  
obtained to ratify the said estimates, and that  
such amounts be used to adjust the salaries of any  
city employee, to be decided by Council after an  
investigation to be held by a Special Committee to  
be appointed, forthwith and that such Committee set  
up a scale of salaries and wages to include annual  
automatic increases until a fixed maximum is reached.

February 26th, 1930

The City Collector also submits an application for an appropriation for an additional stenographer in his department. No action was taken on this matter.

SCHEDULE "P"-Police \$113,891.00

An increase of \$11,558.80

Provision has been made in this Schedule for six additional police at \$1,200.00 and one traffic officer at \$1,400.00.

Schedule "Q"-City Prison \$16,890.15

An increase of \$1,295.00 in the maintenance account.

Schedule "R"-Works Department \$237,200.00

An increase of \$3,300.00 over last year.

Schedule "S"-Fire Department. \$160,771.00

An increase of \$2,607.05 in maintenance account.

Schedule "T"-Miscellaneous \$8,850.00

An increase of \$250.00 over last year.

Schedule "U"-Estimated Income \$72,500.00

A Revenue Increase of \$779.71

making a total of General and Extra Assessment. \$1, 972,833.24

Add Provision for Short Collections  
2½% 49,320.83  
Making a total of- \$2,022,154.07

Less Unexpended Balances \$5,000.00  
Less Poll Tax 18,000.00 23,000.00

Making the total estimate for the Civic Year 1930-31 \$1,999, 154.07

An increase of \$49,059.31

Your Committee recommend that this report and the Civic Estimates for 1930-31 hereto attached be now adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

E. J. Cragg  
CHAIRMAN

ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE CIVIC YEAR ENDING APRIL 30th, 1931 AS FINALLY PASSED  
BY CITY COUNCIL FEBRUARY 26th, 1930

Extra Assessment	1930-31	INCREASE	DECREASE	1929-30
A. Joint Estimates Municipality of Halifax	\$52,801.71		\$1,997.39	\$54,799.10
B. Public Schools	628,788.18	21534.44		607,253.74
C. City Home	67,012.90	68.90		66,944.00
D. Tuberculosis Hospital	28,733.00	1933.00		26,840.00
E. Public Gardens & Common	14,000.00		80.00	14,080.00
F. Point Pleasant Park	4,000.00	150.00		3,850.00
G. Citizens Free Library	4,400.00	100.00		3,940.00
H. City Health Board	29,342.50	2334.23		27,008.27
I. Superannuations	33,963.82	5403.30		28,560.52
J. City Grants and Sundries	97,270.55	9380.38		87,890.17
K. Short Term Debentures and Interest	15,769.36		10204.67	25,974.03
L. Int. on Consolidated Fund 1880	49,394.00			49,394.00
M. Int. on Consolidated Fund 1905	324,522.31		9509.55	334,031.86
N. Sinking Fund Requirements	66,507.62	2070.18		64,437.44
	<u>\$1,416,185.95</u>	<u>\$42974.43</u>	<u>\$21791.61</u>	<u>\$1,395,003.13</u>

GENERAL ASSESSMENT

O. Salaries	\$91,545.00	10400.00		81,145.00
P. Police	113,891.00	11558.80		102,332.20
Q. Prison	16,890.15	1295.00		15,595.15
R. City Works Department	237,200.00	3300.00		233,900.00
S. Fire Department	160,771.14	2607.05		158,164.09
T. Miscellaneous	8,850.00	250.00		8,600.00
	<u>\$ 629,147.29</u>	<u>\$29410.85</u>		<u>\$599,736.44</u>
U. Less Estimated Income	72,500.00		779.71	71,720.29
Total General Assessment	\$556,647.29	\$29410.85	\$779.71	\$528,016.15
Total Extra Assessment.	1,416,185.95	42974.43	21791.61	1395,003.13
	<u>\$1,972,833.24</u>	<u>\$72385.28</u>	<u>\$22571.32</u>	<u>\$1923,019.28</u>
Add Provision for Short Collections 2½%	49,320.83	1245.35		48,075.48
	<u>\$2022,154.07</u>	<u>\$73630.63</u>	<u>\$22571.32</u>	<u>\$1971,094.76</u>
Less Unexpended Balances	5,000.00			5,000.00
Less Poll Tax	18,000.00		2000.00	16,000.00
	<u>\$1999,154.07</u>	<u>\$73630.63</u>	<u>\$24,571.32</u>	<u>\$1950,094.76</u>
CIVIC YEAR 1930-31	\$1999,154.07	\$73630.63	\$24,571.32	\$1950,094.76
PREVIOUS YEAR	1950,094.76	24571.32		
INCREASE	<u>\$49,059.31</u>	<u>\$49,059.31</u>		

Moved by Alderman Cragg seconded by Alderman McInnes that the report of the Finance Committee and the Civic Estimates for 1930-31 Schedules A to U inclusive be adopted.

Read letter from the Assistant Secretary of the School Board re an error in the School Board Estimates

February 26th, 1930

✓  
Board of School Commissioners  
February 26th, 1930

His Worship the Mayor,  
Halifax, N.S.

Your Worship:

Re Estimates, 1929-1930

I enclose herewith amended copy of our Estimates. This amended copy was given to the City Auditor, together with an explanation of the differences and we are at a loss to understand why he did not give this information to the Finance Committee.

The difference in Dental Inspection was the ten percent cut from Dentist's salary which was put back, but not provided for in Estimate. The difference in Maintenance was an amount of \$3,669.00, Furniture for new addition, St. Patrick's Girls' School, which was taken off the Estimate and placed in Capital Account. Both very natural mistakes and as they do not in the least effect the Estimate for this year, we fail to appreciate the unnecessary personalities introduced by Alderman Cragg.

I am,

Yours very truly,

H. F. Bezanson  
ASST. SECRETARY

Alderman Cragg asked that members of the School Board who are here present take cognizance of this letter.

Moved by Alderman Dickie seconded by Alderman Mitchell that the question be now put.

Motion "that the question be now put" is put and passed twelve voting for the same and six against it as follows:

For the Motion

Alderman Mitchell  
Dickie  
Stech  
Redmond  
Cragg  
McDuff  
McInnes  
McDonald  
Corbin  
Mullane  
Drysdale  
Adams- 12

Against it

Alderman Smith  
Donovan  
Rains  
O'Toole  
Probert  
Smeltzer-

FEBRUARY 26th, 1930

Motion to adopt the report is put and passed sixteen voting for the same and two against it as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

AGAINST IT

Alderman Mitchell  
Dickie  
Stech  
Donovan  
Redmond  
Cragg  
McDuff  
McInnes  
Rains  
McDonald  
Corbin  
O'Toole  
Mullane  
Drysdale  
Probert  
Adams- 16

Alderman Smith  
Smeltzer

-2-

✓  
The following resolution is submitted:-

RESOLVED that the General and Ordinary Assessment amounting to \$629,147.29 less probable income \$72,500.00 making a total of \$556,647.29 and the extra assessment amounting to \$1,416,185.95 as set out in the yearly Estimates herewith submitted for 1930-31 making a total of \$1,972,833.24 plus 2½ per cent for short collections \$49,320.83 making \$2,022,154.07 less estimated Poll Tax \$18000.00 and \$5,000.00 from unexpended balances, making a total of \$1,999,154.07 be confirmed and do now pass, and that the inhabitants and property within the city be assessed and rated for the said sum of \$1,999,154.07.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk is hereby directed to transmit the said Estimates, together with a copy of this resolution to the City Assessor on or before the 1st day of March next, and to instruct him to fix the rate of taxation for the year ending April 30th, 1931 on the basis of the said amount of \$1,999,154.07.

Moved by Alderman Cragg seconded by Alderman McInnes and passed unanimously.

(The several schedules marked "A" to "U" inclusive, the Civic Estimates for 1930-31, adopted and as finally passed will be found in printed form following this minute)

February 26th, 1930

✓  
VACANCY ON COMMITTEES

His Worship the Mayor nominates Alderman Probert to fill the vacancy on the following Committees:

Charities Committee, Finance Committee, Fire Escapes Committee, Industrial Committee, Laws and Privileges Committee and Directors of Point Pleasant Park.

Approved.

His Worship the Mayor nominates Alderman Adams for the vacancy on the Police Committee.

Alderman Probert is nominated for the vacancy on the Police Committee by Alderman Corbin.

On the vote being taken there appeared for Alderman Probert six and for Alderman Adams nine as follows:

FOR ALDERMAN PROBERT

Alderman Dickie  
Redmond  
Corbin  
O'Toole  
Mullane  
Smeltzer- 6

ALDERMAN ADAMS

Alderman Mitchell  
Stech  
Donovan  
Cragg  
McInnes  
Rains  
McDonald  
Drysdale  
-9-

Alderman Smith is excused from voting.

His Worship the Mayor declares Alderman Adams duly elected a member of the Police Committee.

AIRPORT

Read report of the Committee on Works covering resolution asking that legislation be obtained to enable the city to borrow a further sum not exceeding \$40,000 towards the construction of an airport.

*Ald Probert*

*Ald Adams*



February 26th, 1930

City Works Office,  
Halifax, N.S., Feb. 25th, 1930

AIRPORT

To the City Council.

Gentlemen:-

The following resolution was passed  
at a meeting of the Committee on Works on the 24th  
inst;

RESOLVED that legislation be sought to  
authorize the City to borrow an  
additional sum, not to exceed forty  
thousand (\$40,000.00) Dollars, (if  
necessary) towards the construction of  
an airport.

Respectfully submitted,

M. A. Hunter  
CLERK OF WORKS

Moved by Alderman Mitchell seconded by  
Alderman Cragg that the report be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman McDuff  
seconded by Alderman Smeltzer that,-

WHEREAS it has been demonstrated that  
a suitable Airport cannot be built in Halifax  
for \$150,000-

AND WHEREAS this amount voted by the  
taxpayers in April 1929, has been proved to be  
inadequate and the information supplied to the  
ratepayers prior to the plebiscite was inaccurate  
and insufficient,

AND WHEREAS the matter in the first place  
was submitted to the ratepayers for decision,

AND WHEREAS public opinion has become  
confused by agitation that was not fully aware of  
the regulations of the City Charter and the legal  
limitations of the City Council.

AND WHEREAS the City Council cannot  
expend beyond the amount authorized by the  
Legislature,

AND WHEREAS the information now at the  
disposal of the City Council indicates that the  
cost of a modern airport, within the city limits,  
reasonably adequate to meet the requirements of  
modern air transportation, will cost upwards of  
\$200,000 or upwards of \$50,000 more than  
authorized by the citizens of Halifax in a pleb-  
iscite on the subject.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a statement should be issued showing the estimated capital cost, together with the annual carrying and operating charges and probable receipts, if any, for the information of citizens generally. This should be made by the Board of Works through the City Council, and published for the information of all concerned

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the necessary legislation be obtained to permit of an expenditure of \$200,000 for the building of an airport, but no expenditure to be made until the subject is again submitted by way of a plebiscite to the ratepayers of Halifax

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that legislation be obtained authorizing the City Council to hold such plebiscite, this plebiscite to be held on the civic election date of this year.

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

FOR THE AMENDMENT

Alderman Smith  
McDuff  
McDonald  
Drysdale  
Smeltzer  
McInnes - 6

AGAINST IT

Alderman Mitchell  
Dickie  
Stech  
Donovan  
Redmond  
Cragg  
Rains  
Corbin  
O'Toole  
Mullane  
Probert  
Adams- 12

Moved in amendment by Alderman

McInnes seconded by Alderman Corbin, -

That Legislation be sought by which the Chief Justice of Nova Scotia do appoint a Commission of three persons with power to fix the value of such land as in the judgment of this Council based on the opinion of the Engineer may be required for an airport in the City of Halifax, and that such land may be taken by the City at any time within two months thereafter at the value so found by such Commissioners.

That the Engineer be instructed forthwith to obtain all information possible relative to the cost and expenses of the operation of an airport and the probable revenue to be derived therefrom, including the amount paid by the Dominion Government for the privilege of landing air mails, and other Government owned airplanes and that the Engineer report any information he may obtain at each meeting of this Council.

February 26th, 1930

That legislation be sought to permit the City to borrow in addition to all amounts already authorized, an amount not exceeding the value fixed on such land for the purpose of acquiring the same upon which to establish an airport.

Amendment put and lost seven voting for the same and eleven against it as follows:

FOR THE AMENDMENT

Aldermen Smith  
McDuff  
McInnes  
McDonald  
Corbin  
Drysdale  
Smeltzer- 7

AGAINST IT

Alderman Mitchell  
Dickie  
Stech  
Donovan  
Redmond  
Cragg  
Rains  
O'Toole  
Mullane  
Probert  
Adams- 11

The original motion is put and passed twelve voting for the same and six against it as follows:

FOR THE MOTION

Alderman Mitchell  
Dickie  
Stech  
Donovan  
Redmond  
Cragg  
Rains  
Corbin  
O'Toole  
Mullane  
Probert  
Adams- 12

AGAINST IT

Alderman Smith  
McDuff  
McInnes  
McDonald  
Drysdale  
Smeltzer-

-6-

✓  
Alderman Smith gives notice of reconsideration.

✓  
Moved by Alderman Dickie seconded by Alderman Stech that the following be appointed a Special Committee to take up the consideration of the revision of salaries of Officials and employees of the City and report to this Council:

*Solicitor  
Council*

February 26th, 1930

Alderman Mitchell, Deputy Mayor.

Chairman Finance Committee  
" Charities Committee  
" City Health Board  
" Laws & Privileges Committee  
" Committee of Firewards  
" Gardens, Parks and Common Committee  
Alderman Adams  
City Engineer  
and City Auditor.

Passed unanimously.

FIRE ALARM MAINTENANCE-BATTERY PLATES

Read report of the Committee of Firewards recommending the purchase of battery plates for Fire Alarm System from the Northern Electric Company, Limited:

City Electrician's Office,  
Halifax, N.S., Feb. 17, 1930

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Board of Firewards

Dear Sir:

In connection with the renewal of battery plates for Fire Alarm System provided for in the estimates for next civic year I had anticipated the present plates safely carrying the system along until that time but the first signs of trouble developed last night and in my opinion it is necessary to place an order for these plates at once so they may be at hand as it is possible they may be needed at any time and are not stocked in the City. A complete failure of the battery would paralyze the whole system.

Northern Elec. Co. Ltd. for quantity required-	\$389.01
N.S. Storage Battery Works "	" 439.96

The tender on the whole submitted by the Northern Electric Company is the lower by \$50.95 and its acceptance is subject to payment when the estimates are available. You will see a letter attached to their tender in which they agree to wait for payment any time up to the first of June

Respectfully submitted,  
G. H. Durling

CITY ELECTRICIAN

February 26th, 1930

Halifax, N.S., Feb. 26, 1930

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

Gentlemen:-

At a meeting of the Committee of Firewards held on the 17th inst., the attached letter from the City Electrician regarding the renewal of battery plates for the Fire Alarm Telegraph System was read and tenders from the Northern Electric Co. Ltd. \$389.01 and N.S. Storage Battery Works \$439.96 were considered. Your Committee recommend that the tender of the Northern Electric Co. Ltd. be accepted at \$389.01, together with an amount of \$29.00 which is necessary to cover installation costs. Same to be repaid out of estimates for the civic year 1930-31 which is provided for by the attached resolution which your Committee requests the approval of.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. O'Toole  
CHAIRMAN

✓

Moved by Alderman O'Toole seconded

by Alderman Cragg that the report be adopted.

Motion passed.

The following Resolution is submitted:

RESOLVED that the City do under the authority of Chapter 976 of the City Charter borrow from any bank or fund available a sum not exceeding \$418.00 to defray the cost of renewing battery plates of the Fire Alarm Telegraph System.

The sum so borrowed with interest thereon shall be included in the yearly estimates for the year 1930-31.

Moved by Alderman O'Toole seconded by Alderman Cragg and passed unanimously the following named Aldermen being present and voting for the same.

Aldermen Mitchell, Dickie, Stech, Smith, Donovan, Redmond, McDuff, Cragg, McInnes, Corbin, Rains, McDonald, Mullane, O'Toole, Drysdale, Smeltzer, Probert and Adams.

*City Electrician*

February 26th, 1930

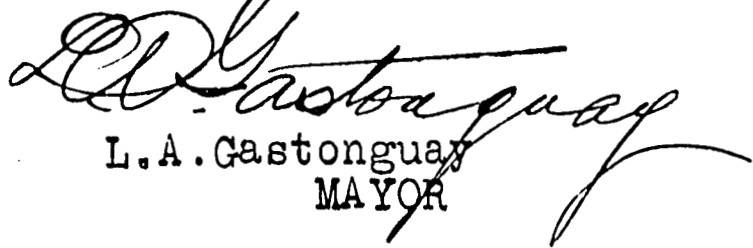
10.30 o'clock

Moved by Alderman Smeltzer seconded  
by Alderman McDuff that this meeting do now adjourn.  
Motion passed.

LIST OF HEADLINES

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Meeting adjourned

  
L.A. Gastonguay  
MAYOR

  
H.S. RHIND  
CITY CLERK