

CITY COUNCIL MEETING,
THURSDAY,
MARCH 16th, 1939.

A G E N D A

Minutes.

1. Notice of reconsideration by Alderman Gough re Treasury Dept.
2. " " " Donovan re lumber yard,
Birmingham Street.
3. " " " Keshen re daylight saving
time.
4. Notice of motion by Alderman Minley re Industrial Committee.
5. " " " Daw re qualification of Mayor and
Aldermen.
6. Resolution re accounts.
7. Report Finance Committee re superannuation of W. H. Handsley.
8. " " " superannuation contributions, late
John Stevenson.
9. " " " superannuations.
10. " " " resolution, Public Utilities rates.
11. Report Charities Committee re tenders for fire hose.
12. Report Laws and Privileges Committee re appointment of coal weigher.
13. " " " amendment to Ordinance
#28 relating to coal
weighers. Second reading.
14. Report Tax Property Sale Committee re sale of land.
15. Report Special Committee (Brittain report) re assessments.
16. Questions by Aldermen.
17. Report Police Committee re promotions in department.
18. Report Comm.on Works re reductions, water bills.
19. Report Comm.on Works and City Engineer re shop in residential
district, 416 Robie Street.
re Armview Avenue, claim of
Mr. C. F. Bowes.
20. " " " " " lease of property, Beech Hill.
21. " " " " " leases, overhanging signs.
22. " " " " " damage to George Foley car.
23. " " " " " appointment of fence viewer.
24. " " " " "

Deferred Business.

25. Report Charities Committee re milk contract, City Home.
26. Notice of motion by Alderman Lloyd re sale of City property.
27. Report City Assessor re assessment, year 1939-40.
28. Report Charities Committee re Superintendent's report.
29. Report City Auditor re tax collections for the month of Feb, 1939.

EVENING SESSION

8.05 o'clock,
Council Chamber,
City Hall,
March 16th, 1939.

A meeting of the City Council was held this evening. At the above named hour there were present His Worship the Mayor, Chairman; Aldermen Batson, MacKay, Donovan, Kinley, Curran, Sullivan, Freda, Adams, Lloyd, McDonald, Keshen, O'Toole, Power, Curtis, Gough and Walker.

The meeting was called to proceed with business standing over and the transaction of other business.

The following named papers were submitted:-

MINUTES

Moved by Alderman Walker, seconded by Alderman Donovan that the minutes of previous meetings be approved. Motion passed.

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION BY ALDERMAN GOUGH RE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Alderman Gough withdraws notice of reconsideration.

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION BY ALDERMAN DONOVAN
RE LUMBER YARD, BIRMINGHAM STREET.

Alderman Donovan withdraws notice of reconsideration.

NOTICE OF RECONSIDERATION BY ALDERMAN KESHEN RE
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME.

Moved by Alderman Keshen, seconded by Alderman Curran that this matter be reconsidered. Motion put and passed, 12 voting for the same and 4 against it as follows:-

March 16th, 1939.

FOR THE MOTION

Aldermen Batson
Kinley
Curran
Sullivan
Freda
Lloyd
McDonald
Keshen
O'Toole
Power
Gough
Walker

-12-

AGAINST IT

Aldermen Mackay
Donovan
Adams
Curtis

-4-

8.10 o'clock,

Alderman Breen arrives and takes his seat in Council.

The City Clerk read the original motion as follows:-

Moved by Alderman Donovan, seconded by Alderman Freda that the letter of the Board of Trade be adopted and daylight saving time be observed by all civic departments from midnight May 6th, 1939, and continuing until midnight, September 24th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor called upon the Deputy Mayor to assume the Chair while he addressed Council from the floor of the Chamber.

The Mayor stated that the City Council has no control over daylight saving time other than for civic departments. He further stated that he had made some inquiries in business houses and found that the majority of businesses in Halifax will operate on daylight saving time from the date suggested by the Board of Trade.

The Mayor assumed the Chair.

Moved by Alderman Keshen, seconded by Alderman Kinley that a representative from the Trades and Labor Council be heard. Motion passed.

-587-

March 16th, 1939.

Mr. E. J. Rudge then addressed Council.

Mr. Rudge stated that the Trades and Labor Council is not opposed to daylight saving time, but objected to it coming into effect at such an early date.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Keshen, seconded by Alderman Curran that daylight saving time come into effect on midnight, May 27th and terminate on midnight, September 24th. Amendment put and passed, 12 voting for the same and 5 against it as follows:-

FOR THE AMENDMENT

Aldermen Breen
Curran
Freda
Gough
Keshen
Kinley
Lloyd
McDonald
O'Toole
Power
Sullivan
Walker
-12-

AGAINST IT

Aldermen Adams
Batson
Curtis
Donovan
MacKay

-5-

Council.

NOTICE OF MOTION BY ALDERMAN KINLEY RE
INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE.

Deferred until the next regular meeting of Council.

Council

NOTICE OF MOTION BY ALDERMAN DAW RE LEGISLATION -
QUALIFICATION OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

Deferred.

ACCOUNTS

The following resolution covering accounts of various committees was submitted.

-588-

March 16th, 1939.

RESOLVED that the Council approve for payment the bills and accounts of expenditures submitted to this meeting by the Committee on Finance amounting to \$11,977.38; Committee on Charities amounting to \$9,071.70; Gardens Committee amounting to \$536.17, Fleming Park amounting to \$100.00; City Prison Committee amounting to \$2,062.02; Committee on Firewards amounting to \$14,065.49 chargeable to Fire Department and \$635.19 chargeable to Fire Alarm; Committee on Works amounting to \$7,051.04; City Health Board amounting to \$5,868.08; Committee on Camp Hill Cemetery amounting to \$475.05; Library Committee amounting to \$500.26; Police Committee amounting to \$10,339.23 under the provisions of Section 315 of the City Charter.

Moved by Alderman Donovan, seconded by Alderman MacKay that the resolution be adopted and the accounts paid. Motion passed.

*Treasurer
Mr. Handsley
March 16th*

SUPERANNUATION - W. H. HANDSLEY, DEPUTY
GOVERNOR AT CITY PRISON.

Read report of the Finance Committee and resolution re superannuation of W. H. Handsley.

Committee Room, City Hall,
March 15th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee held this day, the attached correspondence in connection with the superannuation of Mr. Walter Handsley, Deputy Governor at the City Prison, was considered.

Your committee recommends that Mr. Walter Handsley be superannuated as from May 1st next at an annual allowance of \$748.80 under the provisions of Section 148 of the City Charter and submits herewith a resolution for Council's adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. Donovan,
CHAIRMAN.

WHEREAS the City requires money for the purpose of meeting the obligations of the City in respect of superannuation allowance for the civic year 1939-40 amounting to Seven Hundred and Forty-eight Dollars and Eighty (\$748.80) Cents.

March 16th, 1939.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that an amount of Seven Hundred Forty-eight Dollars and Eighty cents (\$748.80) be appropriated for the aforesaid purpose, pursuant to the provisions of Section 332A. of the City Charter, and that the said sum be borrowed from any bank or fund available and repaid when placed in the estimates for the civic year 1940-41.

Moved by Alderman Donovan, seconded by Alderman MacKay that the report and resolution be adopted. Motion passed.

Treasurer
Chief of Police

SUPERANNUATION CONTRIBUTIONS - LATE JOHN STEVENSON.

Read report of the Finance Committee and resolution re superannuation contributions, late John Stevenson.

Committee Room, City Hall,
March 15th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee held on the above date, the attached correspondence in connection with the refund of contributions to the Police Superannuation Fund by the late John Stevenson was considered.

Your committee recommends that the trustees of the superannuation fund be authorized to pay to Mrs. Lydia Stevenson, widow of the late John Stevenson, the sum of \$1,675.48, being the amount contributed to the fund by Mr. Stevenson.

The attached resolution is submitted for Council's adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. Donovan,
CHAIRMAN.

WHEREAS the City requires money for the purpose of meeting the obligations of the City in respect of refund of contributions to the Police Superannuation Fund by Mr. John Stevenson (deceased) amounting to Sixteen Hundred Seventy-five Dollars Forty-eight Cents (\$1675.48).

March 16th, 1939.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the amount of Sixteen Hundred Seventy-five Dollars Forty-eight cents (\$1675.48) be appropriated for the aforesaid purpose, pursuant to the provisions of Section 332A. of the City Charter, and that the said sum be borrowed from any bank or fund available and repaid when placed in the estimates for civic year 1940-41.

Moved by Alderman Donovan, seconded by Alderman MacKay that the report and resolution as submitted be adopted. Motion passed.

*Finance
Committee*
SUPERANNUATION OF OFFICIALS, ETC.

Read report of the Finance Committee submitting resolution re superannuation of officials, etc.

Committee Room, City Hall,
March 15th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee held this day, the attached extract from minutes of a meeting of the City Council held on the 16th day of February, 1939, regarding Alderman Curran's notice of motion re superannuation of officials, etc. over 65 years of age was considered.

Your committee agrees to the adoption of the resolution as submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. D onovan,
CHAIRMAN.

(1) Every officer or employee of the City who shall have reached the age of 65 years or over on April 30th, may be retired by the Council at the regular meeting of the Council following the said 30th day of April, 1940.

(2) Every officer or employee of the City who shall have reached the age of 65 years or over in any civic year, may be retired by the Council on April 30th, of such civic year; provided however, that nothing in the foregoing shall apply to anyone who has reached the age of 65 years within two months prior to April 30th of any civic year.

March 16th, 1939.

Moved by Alderman Donovan, seconded by Alderman MacKay that the report and resolution as submitted be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Gough, seconded by Alderman Curtis that this matter be referred back to the Finance Committee. Amendment put and passed, 16 voting for the same and 1 against it as follows:-

FOR THE AMENDMENT

Aldermen Breen
Batson
MacKay
Donovan
Kinley
Sullivan
Freda
Adams
Lloyd
McDonald
Keshen
O'Toole
Power
Curtis
Gough
Walker
-16-

AGAINST IT

Alderman Curran

-1-

Motion not put.

RESOLUTION, PUBLIC UTILITIES RATES

Read report of the Finance Committee and resolution re Public Utilities rates.

Committee Room, City Hall,
March 15th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

At a meeting of the Finance Committee held on the above date, the attached extract from minutes of a meeting of the City Council held on the 16th day of February 1939, regarding the rate of percent allowed to the Public Utilities on the value of its property was considered.

Your committee recommends the adoption of the resolution as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. Donovan,
CHAIRMAN.

Finance Committee

March 16th, 1939.

"That in the opinion of this Council the amount of eight percent allowed to the Public Utility on the fair value of its property is too high under present conditions. Further, that the Government be asked to amend Chapter 128, Section 101, R.S.N.S.1923, reducing the said percentage to an amount more reasonable and just under present conditions, not over six percent".

Moved by Alderman Gough, seconded by Alderman Curtis that the report and resolution be adopted.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Kinley, seconded by Alderman Donovan that this matter be referred back to the Finance Committee. Amendment passed.

Motion not put.

TENDERS FOR FIRE HOSE - CITY HOME

Read report of the Charities Comm. re tenders for fire hose.

Halifax, N. S.,
March 15th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of Charities Committee.

The Superintendent of the City Home, Mr. A. E. Ettinger and the undersigned having been appointed a committee of two by the Charities Committee to recommend to Council the purchase of 1500 feet of fire hose, attachments, reels, etc., from quotations received from different firms hereby recommend that the following be purchased from Austin Bros. due to their quotations being the lowest.

1500 feet 1½" Victor Unlined Linen Hose	@ \$13.13	-
		\$196.95
14 sets 1½" Expansion Ring Couplings	@ 1.30	18.20
14 only reducers 2" x 1½"	@ 2.40	
		33.60
14 " 1½" x 1" Long Shank Hose nozzles	@ 1.76	24.64
14 " Swinging Hose Racks	@ 5.10	71.40
2 " Fire Axes with Holders	@ 4.25	8.50
		<u>\$353.29</u>

Respectfully submitted,

E. B. Batson,
CHAIRMAN.

March 16th, 1939.

Moved by Alderman Batson, seconded by Alderman Curran that the report be adopted.

Motion passed.

Moved by Alderman Power, seconded by Alderman Donovan that item 19 on the agenda "Shop in residential district, 416 Robie Street" be now considered. Motion passed.

*City Engineer
Shop in
Residential
District*

SHOP IN RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT, 416 ROBIE STREET

Read report of the Committee on Works re shop in residential district, 416 Robie Street.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

The attached reports of the City Engineer dated March 6th, 1939, and March 14th, 1939, entitled "No. 416 Robie Street, Shop in Residential District" were considered by the Committee on Works at meetings held on March 7th and March 14th respectively.

At a meeting held on the latter date, the Committee on motion of Alderman Freda and Alderman Walker, recommended to Council that the permit as applied for, be granted, Alderman MacKay dissenting.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman Freda, seconded by Alderman Walker that the report be adopted.

Moved by Alderman Power, seconded by Alderman Curtis that two speakers representing interested parties be permitted to address Council. Motion passed.

Miss Marjorie Dunsworth then addressed Council.

March 16th, 1939.

Miss Dunsworth said that she represented the majority of owners in this section of the City who are opposed to the establishing of a funeral parlor in this district. If the permit is granted, she said, a dangerous precedent would be established.

Mr. J. A. Walker, K.C., then spoke in favor of the granting of the permit and informed Council that the next door neighbors were in favor of the funeral parlors being established.

The motion was then put and passed, 11 voting for the same and 6 against it as follows:-

FOR THE MOTION

Aldermen Adams
Batson
Breen
Curran
Freda
Gough
Keshen
McDonald
O'Toole
Power
Walker

-11-

AGAINST IT

Alderman Curtis
Donovan
Kinley
Lloyd
MacKay
Sullivan

-6-

*North End
Coal Co.*

APPOINTMENT OF COAL WEIGHER

Read report of the Laws and Privileges Committee re appointment of Stanley Roberts as coal weigher.

Committee Room, City Hall,
March 9th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

At a meeting of the Laws and Privileges Committee held on the above date, the attached application from the North End Coal Company requesting that Mr. Stanley Roberts be appointed a coal weigher was considered.

Your committee recommends that the application be granted and the Mayor authorized to swear Mr. Stanley Roberts in as a city coal weigher.

Respectfully submitted,

A. M. MacKay,
CHAIRMAN.

March 16th, 1939.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by
Alderman Sullivan that the report be adopted.

Motion passed.

AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #28 RELATING TO
COAL WEIGHERS.

*Laws & Privileges
Comm.*

City Solicitor

Read report of the Laws and Privileges
Committee re amendment to Ordinance #28 re coal
weighers.

Committee Room, City Hall,
March 9th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council.

At a meeting of the Laws and
Privileges Committee held this day, the attached
amendment to Ordinance #28 relating to the weighing
of coal and coke which was read and passed a first
time at the last regular meeting of the City Council
was considered.

Your committee recommends that the
amendment as follows be read and passed a second
time:-

"Ordinance #28 respecting the weighing of
coal and coke is amended by inserting therein
immediately following section 6 thereof the
following section:-

6A. All coal or coke intended to be sold
or sold by the bag or other similar container, shall
be weighed by a licensed coal weigher who shall
certify on each bag, or other such container, the
weight of the coal in such bag and the kind of coal
contained therein, and any person who shall sell or
offer for sale any coal or coke in bags or other
such container, without having upon such bag, or
other such container such certificate of a licensed
coal weigher, shall be guilty of an offence under
this ordinance, and shall be liable to a penalty
of not less than \$40.00 and in default of payment to
imprisonment for a period not exceeding twenty days".

Respectfully submitted,

A. M. MacKay,
CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by
Alderman Kinley that the report be adopted.

March 16th, 1939.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Curtis, seconded by Alderman Gough that the matter of the second reading of the amendment to Ordinance #28 be adjourned to the next regular meeting of the Council and the Laws and Privileges Committee requested to hold a public hearing before that date. Amendment passed.

Motion not put.

City Collector

TAX PROPERTY SALE

Read report of the Tax Property Sale Committee as follows:-

March 16th, 1939.

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

Gentlemen:-

I submit herewith an extract from the minutes of the Tax Property Sale Committee meeting held March 16th, 1939.

A tender from F. W. T. Robertson offering \$250.00 for a lot on north side Young formerly assessed to Kaye St. Methodist Church was placed before the committee.

Moved by Alderman Daw, seconded by Alderman Keshen that Mr. Robertson's offer be accepted. Passed.

A tender from W. J. Price offering \$500.00 for a lot south side Cunard Street formerly assessed to Jeffery Marshall was placed before the committee.

Moved by Alderman Keshen, seconded by Alderman Donovan that the offer of Mr. Price be accepted.

FOR

The Mayor
Alderman Donovan
Alderman Keshen

AGAINST

Alderman Daw

Motion passed.

March 16th, 1939.

A tender from C. F. Gould offering \$75.00 for a lot south side Rector Street formerly assessed to City Building and Land Company was placed before the committee.

Moved by Alderman Keshen, seconded by Alderman Donovan that the offer of Mr. Gould be accepted.

FOR
The Mayor
Alderman Donovan
Alderman Keshen.

AGAINST
Alderman Daw

I respectfully submit the above items for your approval.

Yours very truly,

A. T. E. Crosby,
SECRETARY, TAX PROPERTY
SALE COMMITTEE.

Moved by Alderman Donovan, seconded by Alderman Keshen that the report be adopted.

Motion passed.

*Mayor
Solicitor*

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BRITAIN REPORT - ASSESSMENTS

Read report of the Special Committee on the Brittain Report as follows:-

March 16th, 1939.

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

Dear Aldermen:-

Your committee on the Brittain Report submits herewith the following resolution for the approval of the Council.

BE IT RESOLVED that legislation be obtained to authorize the City to expend a sum not exceeding One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the purpose of engaging the services of Mr. Joseph E. Howes of the Citizens Research Institute of Canada to assist and advise the Committee on Assessments already appointed by the Council in surveying the present system of assessment and the distribution of the tax burden in the City of Halifax.

March 16th, 1939.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Solicitor be requested to submit to this session of the Legislature the proper legislation necessary to carry out this resolution.

Yours very truly,

A. M. MacKay,
CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by Alderman Lloyd that the report be adopted. Motion put and passed, 12 voting for the same and 5 against it as follows:-

FOR THE MOTION

Aldermen Breen
Batson
MacKay
Donovan
Kinley
Sullivan
Adams
Lloyd
McDonald
Keshen
Gough
Walker

-12-

AGAINST IT

Aldermen Curran
Freda
O'Toole
Power
Curtis

-5-

Solicitor

AMENDMENT TO SECTION §16 OF THE CITY CHARTER

Alderman Gough submitted an amendment to Section §16 of the City Charter as follows:-

Section §16 is amended by adding thereto immediately following the last word thereof the following words "exclusive of caretaker's quarters".

Moved by Alderman Gough, seconded by Alderman Lloyd that the amendment as submitted be approved and the City Solicitor instructed to include same in the City's legislation. Motion passed.

NOTICE OF MOTION BY ALDERMAN GOUGH RE
CONFEDERATION

Council

Alderman Gough submitted and read the following notice of motion.

-599-

March 16th, 1939.

TAKE NOTICE that at the next regular meeting of the Council I will move the following resolution:

WHEREAS in the opinion of this Council it is desirable that some action be taken by the Province of Nova Scotia to retrieve our markets and to maintain her rightful place in world trade.

AND WHEREAS in the opinion of this Council the progress of this Province in obtaining the matters hereinbefore referred to is seriously hindered by the fact that the Province is associated with other Provinces of Canada in a Confederation.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Council express as its considered opinion that it is in the interest of the Province of Nova Scotia that this Province withdraw from Confederation and cease to be a part of the Dominion of Canada but maintain its membership as a portion of the British Empire.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of this Province, Honourable P. C. Black, Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Harold Connolly, M. L. A., and Dr. W. D. Forrest, M. L. A.

WAGE AGREEMENTS

Read resolution from the Direct Relief Committee as follows:-

WHEREAS many employers are taking advantage of the fact that direct relief is available to pay exceptionally low wages to persons employed by them.

AND WHEREAS existing fair wage legislation only affects certain occupations.

AND WHEREAS in the opinion of this Council it is desirable that the wages paid in respect to all occupations be fixed in order that employers may be prevented from taking advantage of the unfortunate condition of many employees.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this Council hereby request the Government of the Province of Nova Scotia to provide some legislation by which a fixed scale of wages for all occupations not already dealt with by wage agreements may be provided.

*Dep. Minister
of Labor.
Mr. Harold Connolly
Premier
Dr. Forrest*

March 16th, 1939.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable The Premier of Nova Scotia, the Honourable the Minister of Labor for the Province of Nova Scotia, Mr. Harold Connolly, M. L. A., and Dr. W. D. Forrest, M. L. A.

Moved by Alderman Gough, seconded by Alderman Curran that the resolution be approved.

Motion put and passed, 14 voting for the same and 2 against it as follows:-

FOR THE MOTION

Aldermen Adams
Batson
Curran
Curtis
Donovan
Freda
Gough
Keshen
McDonald
MacKay
O'Toole
Power
Sullivan
Walker

-14-

AGAINST IT

Aldermen Kinley
Lloyd

-2-

*Dep. Minister
of Labor*

DIRECT RELIEF CONTRACT

Alderman Gough stated that he had received a letter from the Administrator of Direct Relief regarding the agreement between the City and the Government covering Direct Relief.

Moved by Alderman Gough, seconded by Alderman Curtis that this Council approves of the present agreement being continued until such time as a new agreement is entered into by all parties concerned. Motion passed.

DEATH OF MRS. ROBERT DAW

His Worship the Mayor informed Council that he had just received word that Alderman Daw's wife had passed away, and on behalf of Council he wished to extend the sincerest sympathy to Alderman Daw in his bereavement.

March 16th, 1939.

The Council then paid tribute by observing one minute's silence.

PROMOTIONS IN POLICE DEPARTMENT

*Treasurer
Chief of Police*
Read report of the Police Committee re promotions in the Police Department.

March 14th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor,
and City Council.

Gentlemen:-

At a meeting of the Police Committee held March 10th, 1939, it was moved by Alderman Adams, seconded by Alderman Donovan and carried that promotions in the Detective Department as recommended by the Chief of Police be approved, with salary increases effective March 1st, 1939, as follows:-

Detective Thomas Kennedy to Chief
Detective - Increase \$100.

Asst. Detective Harry Langille to
Detective - Increase \$100.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Carter,
SECRETARY, POLICE COMMITTEE.

FILED

WATER METER BILL REDUCTIONS

*City Engineer
Clerk of Works*
Read report of the Committee on Works re water meter bill reductions.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

The Committee on Works at a meeting held on March 14th, 1939, on motion of Alderman MacKay and Alderman O'Toole, approved of a report of the Special Committee on Water Bills in reference to an application for reduction in the water bill for the premises #69 Cornwallis Street. Account 50615, and recommended to Council that the consumption be reduced to 5,000 gallons for each month.

A report of the City Engineer in reference to the application is attached hereto.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

March 16th, 1939.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by
Alderman Donovan that the report be adopted.

Motion passed.

*City Engineer
C. F. Bowes*

CLAIM OF MR. C. F. BOWES - ARMVIEW AVENUE

Read report of the Committee on Works
and City Engineer re claim of Mr. C. F. Bowes,
Armview Avenue.

March 6th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:-

I beg to report on a letter from Mr. C. F. Bowes, copy of which is attached, that he complains of an additional charge for sodding the sidewalk on Armview Avenue caused by the widening of the street in front of his property and for which widening he deeded to the City free of charge, a triangular strip of land about 160 feet long with a width of 17.7 feet at one end, running to nothing at the other.

This land was required in order to save a row of trees which would otherwise have been destroyed in improving this street.

The assessment is made up in accordance with the law but a hardship is involved that the owner should, after deeding the City the property free of charge, be assessed for the extra assessment.

In the ordinary course, Mr. Bowes would have been charged \$21.53 for the sodding, but on the widened sidewalk he is charged with \$40.61 or a difference of \$19.08.

I do not think the City has power to cancel any part of the assessment and the only remedy that could be applied would be to pay Mr. Bowes the difference in the cost of the sodding that would ordinarily be laid and what was actually laid, as the price of the land.

The retention of the trees and the extra width of the sidewalk were of benefit to Mr. Bowes' property as well as to the City.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. Johnston,
CITY ENGINEER.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee on Works held on March 7th, 1939, the attached report of the City Engineer on a letter from Mr. C. F. Bowes, in reference to a charge for sodding on the sidewalk on Armyview Avenue, a portion of which sidewalk Mr. Bowes had deeded to the City of Halifax free of charge, was considered.

On motion of Alderman Walker and Alderman MacKay the Committee approved of the said report and recommended to Council that Mr. Bowes be paid the difference in the cost of the sodding that would ordinarily be laid and what was actually laid (\$19.08) as the price of the land.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman Walker, seconded by Alderman MacKay that the reports be adopted.

Motion passed.

*City Engineer
Walter Mitchell*

LEASE OF PROPERTY - BEECH HILL

Read report of the Committee on Works and City Engineer re lease of property, Beech Hill.

March 3rd, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:-

A request has been made by the Halifax Gun Club for a renewal of their lease of City property on the north side of St. Margaret Bay Road, Beech Hill.

For the past two years this property has been under lease to the Halifax Gun Club at a rental of \$25.00 per annum. I can see no objection to the renewal of the lease for another year on the same terms and conditions as are contained in the draft lease attached.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. Johnston,
CITY ENGINEER.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee on Works held on March 7th, 1939, the attached report of the City Engineer (and the attached draft lease) in reference to a request from the Halifax Gun Club for a renewal of their lease of City property on the north side of the St. Margaret's Bay Road, at Beech Hill, was considered.

March 15th, 1939.

On motion of Alderman Freda and Alderman O'Toole the report was approved and the Committee recommended to Council that the lease be renewed for another year on the same terms and conditions as are contained in the draft lease as submitted by the City Engineer.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman Freda, seconded by Alderman McDonald that the reports be adopted.

Motion passed.

City Engineer
Chas. J. ...

ILLUMINATED SIGN - 494 ROBIE STREET

Read report of the Committee on Works re illuminated sign, 494 Robie Street.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee on Works held on March 14th, 1939, the attached report of the City Engineer on an application from the Imperial Tobacco Sales Co., Ltd., for permission to erect an illuminated sign at the north-west corner of Cunard and Robie Streets was considered.

On motion of Alderman O'Toole and Alderman MacKay, the committee recommended to Council that the lease referred to in the said report be granted.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by Alderman Donovan that the report be adopted.

Motion passed,

City Engineer
W. J. ...

ILLUMINATED SIGN - CUNARD STREET, CORNER
ROBIE STREET.

Read report of the Committee on Works re illuminated sign, Cunard Street corner Robie Street.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee on Works held on March 14th, 1939, the attached report of the City Engineer on an application from the Imperial Tobacco Sales Company Limited, for a permit to erect an illuminated sign on Cunard Street, at the north west corner of Robie Street, was considered.

On motion of Alderman O'Toole and Alderman MacKay the committee recommended to Council that the lease referred to in the said report be granted.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by Alderman Donovan that the report be adopted.

Motion passed.

*City Engineer
Walter Mitchell*

ILLUMINATED SIGN - 16 BLOWER STREET

Read report of the Committee on Works re illuminated sign, 16 Blower Street.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee on Works held on March 14th, 1939, the attached report of the City Engineer on an application from Mr. Henry Wah for permission to erect an overhanging sign at the premises #16 Blower Street on the south side of Blower Street, was considered.

On motion of Alderman MacKay and Alderman Donovan, the committee recommended to Council that the lease preferred to in the said report be granted.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by Alderman Donovan that the report be adopted.

Motion passed.

*City Engineer
Walter Mitchell*

DAMAGE TO GEORGE FOLEY CAR

Read report of the Committee on Works and City Engineer re damage to George Foley Car.

March 16th, 1939.

The City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee on Works held on March 14th, 1939, the attached report of the Assistant Engineer Mr. R. M. MacKinnon, re damage to George Foley car, which report was approved by the City Engineer, was considered. Attached also is a bill from Messrs. James Donohue Limited, in reference thereto.

On motion of Alderman MacKay and Alderman Donovan, the committee recommended the bill to the City Council for payment.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

March 14th, 1939.

Mr. H. W. Johnston,
City Engineer.

Sir:-

On September 12th the City Federal Service Truck, operated by F. Evans, was towing a street grader from the shop of T. Hogan & Company, Water Street, where it had been for repairs. He had turned north and when in front of Corbett's Wharf the grader brushed into Mr. Foley's car, which was stopped at the time, doing considerable damage to his rear left mudguard.

According to the reports the accident took place at a point where the street is very narrow, cars were parked on the west side of the street leaving little room for the grader and car to pass.

The Foley car stopped before the grader struck it.

The accident was duly reported to the Insurance Company with whom we are insured and when the claim was sent to their head office at Montreal it was found that we were not protected, as we did not have an endorsement permitting us to use a trailer or any piece of apparatus being drawn by our autos.

It is my opinion that Mr. Foley was not at fault and according to the Solicitor's opinion the City should pay the damages.

I am attaching correspondence.

Yours truly,

R. M. McKinnon,
Assistant Engineer.

March 16th, 1939.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by
Alderman Donovan that the reports be adopted.

Motion passed.

*City Engineer
H. W. Johnston*

FENCE VIEWER

Read report of the Committee on Works
and City Engineer re appointment of fence viewer.

March 6th, 1939.

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:-

At the last meeting of the City Council
a report from the Laws and Privileges Committee
covering a proposed amendment to Section 956 of the
City Charter was referred to the Committee on Works
for a report.

The amendment proposed to pay annually
to each person appointed to be a fence viewer,
the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) to be in addition
to any fees that may be paid to such fence viewer
as otherwise provided for.

As you are aware, the Charter provides
that the Council may appoint persons to be fence
viewers in each ward, - latterly it has been the
custom to appoint one man. For some years the
Building Inspector was appointed as fence viewer
with, I think, satisfaction to the public as he was
always available when required. It would seem to
me that this is the proper official to perform the
duties of the position of fence viewer, bearing in
mind that if a person feels aggrieved at any
decision he may make, he has a right to appeal to
the Committee on Works. In this case there need be
no provision for any appropriation in the estimates.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. Johnston,
CITY ENGINEER.

March 11th, 1939.

The City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee on Works
held on March 7th, 1939, the attached report of the
City Engineer entitled "Fence Viewer" was read.

March 16th, 1939.

On motion of Alderman O'Toole and Alderman MacKay, the report was approved and the Committee recommended to Council that the City Building Inspector be appointed Fence Viewer for the coming civic year in which case there need be no provision for any appropriation in the Estimates.

Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded by Alderman Donovan that the reports be adopted.
Motion passed.

Council

MILK CONTRACT - CITY HOME

Deferred.

NOTICE OF MOTION BY ALDERMAN LLOYD RE SALE OF CITY PROPERTY.

Council

Deferred.

Solicitor

LETTER, CITY SOLICITOR RE TAXI METERS

Read letter from the City Solicitor re amendment to Sub-section 2 of Section 509.

March 16th, 1939.

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

Dear Aldermen:- Re: Taxi Meters

A situation has arisen with regard to taxi meters that I feel should be drawn to the attention of the Council. Unfortunately it has arisen at such a time that it was not possible to take the matter before the Cabs Committee or the Laws and Privileges Committee, and in view of the fact that it involved legislation I am taking the liberty of submitting it direct to the Council.

Under the ordinance respecting taxi meters there is a penalty provided for any person who uses a taxi and refuses to pay the fare as shown on the meter. It has developed that this clause does not appear to be sufficient and on at least two occasions a taxi driver has been deprived of his fare, due to the fact that his passenger, having told him to drive to the Railway Station, refused to pay the fare and proceeded to get on a train and leave the City.

March 16th, 1939.

The taxi driver does not know his name and any description is necessarily vague. It is desirable that in such a case such passenger should be liable to be arrested forthwith without going through the preliminaries of obtaining a warrant, and I therefore submit the following amendment to enable such a person to be arrested forthwith without it being necessary to obtain a warrant therefor.

Clause (c) of subsection (2) of Section 509 as the same is enacted by Section 35 of Chapter 48 of the Acts of 1935 is amended by adding thereto immediately following the word "hack" in the seventh line thereof the following words.

" and any Peace Officer may arrest such person without a warrant".

Yours very truly,

Carl P. Bethune,
CITY SOLICITOR.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded

by Alderman Curran that the letter of the City Solicitor be approved and the necessary legislation sought. Motion passed.

DRILL TOWER - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Read report of the Firewards

Committee re drill tower.

February 1st, 1939.

City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee of Firewards held this day, consideration was given to the matter of the erection of a drill tower at the West Street Fire Station. Legislation was procured in 1932 for this purpose.

This committee recommends to City Council that the amount of \$4,200.00 already provided for this purpose be expended.

Respectfully submitted,

H. F. Curran,
CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman Curran, seconded by Alderman Batson that the Firewards Committee be authorized to call for tenders for the erection of a drill tower at the West St. Fire station. Motion passed.

March 16th, 1939.

The taxi driver does not know his name and any description is necessarily vague. It is desirable that in such a case such passenger should be liable to be arrested forthwith without going through the preliminaries of obtaining a warrant, and I therefore submit the following amendment to enable such a person to be arrested forthwith without it being necessary to obtain a warrant therefor.

Clause (c) of subsection (2) of Section 509 as the same is enacted by Section 35 of Chapter 48 of the Acts of 1935 is amended by adding thereto immediately following the word "hack" in the seventh line thereof the following words.

" and any Peace Officer may arrest such person without a warrant".

Yours very truly,

Carl P. Bethune,
CITY SOLICITOR.

Moved by Alderman MacKay, seconded

by Alderman Curran that the letter of the City Solicitor be approved and the necessary legislation sought. Motion passed.

DRILL TOWER - FIRE DEPARTMENT

Read report of the Firewards

Committee re drill tower.

February 1st, 1939.

City Council.

At a meeting of the Committee of Firewards held this day, consideration was given to the matter of the erection of a drill tower at the West Street Fire Station. Legislation was procured in 1932 for this purpose.

This committee recommends to City Council that the amount of \$4,200.00 already provided for this purpose be expended.

Respectfully submitted,

H. F. Curran,
CHAIRMAN.

Moved by Alderman Curran, seconded by Alderman Batson that the Firewards Committee be authorized to call for tenders for the erection of a drill tower at the West St. Fire station. Motion passed.

March 16th, 1939.

Alderman Lloyd, in referring to the recent unpleasant situation which occurred through the collection of outstanding taxes of a deceased employee of the City, asked the Mayor if any action was being taken to ascertain if other employees of the City were in arrears of taxes.

The Mayor replied that he was endeavoring to obtain this information.

REPORT, CITY ASSESSOR RE ASSESSMENT,
YEAR 1939-40.

Read letter of the City Assessor submitting statement of assessment.

March 13th, 1939 .

His Worship the Mayor,
and Members of City Council,
CITY HALL.

Attached is a statement of the assessment for the year 1939-1940.

The total assessment is \$60,386,710.00 an increase of \$819,310.00 over the year 1938-1939.

The tax rate for the coming year is \$3.72 an increase of one point over the previous year. The division of the tax rate and statement of assessment are shown on attached sheets.

Yours respectfully,

J. F. McManus,
CITY ASSESSOR.

1939-1940
S T A T E M E N T

<u>WARD NO.</u>	<u>REAL ESTATE</u>	<u>BUSINESS</u>	<u>HOUSE TAX</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
1	\$8,222,750.	\$ 413,190.	\$608,620.	\$9,244,560.
2	13,698,700.	3,253,890.	733,585.	17,686,175.
3	9,517,050.	2,227,840.	445,505.	12,190,395.
4	5,786,000.	544,750.	469,205.	6,799,955.
5	4,454,700.	485,840.	352,700.	5,293,240.
6	7,761,250.	790,635.	620,500.	9,172,385.
	<u>49,440,450.</u>	<u>7,716,145.</u>	<u>3,230,115.</u>	<u>60,386,710.</u>
				INCREASE.....\$819,310.

March 16th, 1939,

Estimate as passed by Council, February 27th, 1939	\$2,299,509.37
Less company taxes	40,700.00
	<u>2,258,809.87</u>
Less anticipated special taxes	15,000.00
	<u>2,243,809.37</u>
Add for School Rebate	2,000.00
	<u>\$2,245,809.87</u>

\$60,386,710. x \$3.72 $\frac{3}{4}$\$2,246,385.61

TAX RATE \$3.72 per Hundred.

FILED

SUPT'S REPORT RE INMATES IN THE CITY HOME
FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1939.

Read report of the Charities

Committee for the month of February, 1939, showing
the number of inmates in the City Home to be 489.

FILED

TAX COLLECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEB., 1939.

Read report of the City Auditor re
tax collections for the month of February, 1939.

TAX COLLECTIONS, FEBRUARY, 1939

Arrears Taxes

Civic Year	Reserve	Outstanding Balances January	New accounts and adjustments	February Collections	Outstanding Balances February.
1934-35	\$35,964.83	\$42,412.96		\$281.28	\$42,131.68
1935-36	60,519.26	77,464.70	.36	6,806.12	70,658.94
1936-37	54,685.13	193,293.54	29.74	9,168.95	184,154.33
1937-38	59,560.01	343,665.78	271.69	10,909.43	333,028.04
		<u>656,836.98</u>	<u>301.79</u>	<u>27,165.78</u>	<u>629,972.99</u>

Current taxes

1938-39	53,941.94	637,784.45	10.00	25,166.93	612,627.52
---------	-----------	------------	-------	-----------	------------

Water Dept.

Rates, etc.		65,273.01	987.81	8,087.80	58,173.02
		<u>1,359,894.44</u>	<u>1,299.60</u>	<u>60,420.51</u>	<u>1,300,773.53</u>

Poll Taxes 1933-34	\$791.90		\$41.00	\$750.90
Poll Taxes 1934-35	2,262.94		20.00	2,242.94
Poll Taxes 1935-36	2,035.92		40.00	1,995.92
Poll Taxes 1936-37	2,466.96	1.00	85.50	2,382.46
Poll Taxes 1937-38	3,870.76	-10.00	347.75	3,513.01
Poll Taxes 1938-39	14,572.75	9.00	2,283.00	12,298.75

March 16th, 1939.

<u>Additional Collections</u>	<u>1938-39</u>	<u>1937-38</u>
Tax years 1908-9 to 1924-25	\$6.74	\$155.90
Corresponding period last year		
Tax years 1925-26 to 1933-34	925.86	2,059.33
Corresponding period last year		
Collections per above statement	60,420.51	
Corresponding period last year	<u>\$1,353.11</u>	<u>63,653.91</u> <u>65,869.14</u>
<u>Collections of Poll Taxes</u>		
May 1st, 1938 to February 28th, 1939	23,150.64	
Corresponding period last year		22,526.78

A. M. Butler,
CITY AUDITOR.

FILED

10.15 P.M.,

Moved by Alderman Gough, seconded by
Alderman Walker that this meeting do now adjourn.
Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

LIST OF HEADLINES


Minutes	586
Notice of reconsideration by Alderman Gough re Treasury Department	586
Notice of reconsideration by Alderman Donovan re lumber yard, Birmingham Street	586
Notice of reconsideration by Alderman Keshen re Daylight Saving Time	586
Notice of motion by Alderman Kinley re Industrial Committee	588
Notice of motion by Alderman Daw re legislation - qualification of Mayor and Aldermen	588
Accounts	588
Superannuation - W. H. Handsley, Deputy Governor at City Prison	589
Superannuation contributions - late John Stevenson	590
Superannuation of officials, etc.	591
Resolution, Public Utilities Rates	592
Tenders for fire hose - City Home	593
Shop in residential district - 416 Robie St.	594
Appointment of coal weigher	595
Amendment to Ordinance #28 relating to Coal weighers	596
Tax Property Sale	597
Special Committee on Brittain report - assessments	598
Amendment to Section 816 of the City Charter	599
Notice of motion by Alderman Gough re Confederation	599

March 16th, 1939.

HEADLINES (Continued)

Wage Agreements	600
Direct Relief Contract	601
Death of Mrs. Robert Daw	601
Promotions in Police Department	602
Water Meter Bills reductions	602
Claim of Mr. C. F. Bowes - Armview Avenue	603
Lease of property - Beech Hill	604
Illuminated sign - 494 Robie Street	605
" " Cunard Street, corner Robie Street.	605
" " 16 Blower Street	606
Damage to George Foley car	606
Fence Viewer	608
Milk contract - City Home	609
Notice of motion by Alderman Lloyd re sale of City property	609
Letter, City Solicitor re taxi meters	609
Drill tower - Fire Department	610
Report City Assessor re Assessment year, 1939-40.	611
Supt's report re inmates in the City Home for the month of February, 1939	612
Tax collections for the month of Feb, 1939.	612


Walter Mitchell,
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN.


W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

REPORT OF SURVEY
on
ADMINISTRATION AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT
of the
CITY OF HALIFAX

Citizens' Research Institute of Canada

December 1938

REPORT OF SURVEY
on
ADMINISTRATION AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT
of the
CITY OF HALIFAX

C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
Contents	
Index to Charts	
Index to Recommendations	
Letter of Transmittal	A
I. <u>General Administrative and Governmental Organization</u>	
(a) Legislative and Policy-forming	
1. The City Council	1
2. The Committee System	9
(b) Executive Organization	12
II. <u>Departmental Organization</u>	
(a), (b), (c) and (d) of Letter of Transmittal - Financial Administration	
1. Treasury functions connected with the present Department of the City Treasurer	16
2. Revenue collecting functions performed by the City Collector's and other departments	19
3. Accounting function of the Works Depart- ment, Clerk of Works Division	24
4. Relation of Assessment Department	25
5. Accounting and Financial recording function of the City Clerk's Department	27
6. The functions of the Department of the City Auditor	27

	<u>Page</u>
7. Budget Control - The Current Budget	30
8. The Capital Budget	32
9. Financial Administration in General	33
 (e) Methods of Assessment and Taxation	
1. Organization of Department	37
2. Duties and Methods	37
(a) General	37
(b) System of Valuation	38
1. Collection and Tabulation of Facts	38
2. Method of Valuing Land	40
3. Method of Valuing Buildings	42
4. Business Assessment: Occupant's Assessment	43
5. Household Assessment	44
6. Time of Assessment	44
7. Appeals	46
8. Companies Tax	47
9. Poll Tax	47
10. Non-resident tax	49
11. Preparation of Assessment Roll	49
12. Striking the Rate, Preparation of Tax Roll and Bills	49
13. Special Assessment	51
14. Exemption of Widows and Unmarried Women	52
3. Amount of Taxable Property	52
4. Exempted Properties	53
5. Recommendations	56
6. Conclusion	60
 (f) Methods of Works Administration	61
 (g) Personnel Administration	66
 (h) Methods of Purchasing	70
 (i) Methods of Interdepartmental Cooperation	72
 (j) Financial Relations with the County, School Board and Local Boards and Commissions	74

(k) Organization of Other Civic Departments

1. The Department of the Solicitor of the City	77
2. Department of the City Clerk	79
3. The Health and Welfare Organization of the City, being (i) the Health Department, (ii) the Office of the Medical Health Officer, (iii) the City Home, and (iv) the City Direct Relief Department	
(i) The Health Department	84
(ii) City Medical Officer	89
(iii) The City Home	91
4. Direct Unemployment Relief	
(i) Description of Duties of Existing Positions	95
(ii) Procedure	98
(iii) Remarks and Recommendations	105
5. General Health and Welfare Organization	112
6. Gardens, Parks and Commons	117
7. Camp Hill Cemetery	118
8. The City Prison	119
9. The Fire Department	
(i) Organization	120
(ii) Personnel	
(a) Appointment	121
(b) Probation	122
(c) Training	123
(d) Discipline	123
(e) Sickness	123
(f) Conditions of Employment	124
(g) Ages of Present Force	124
(h) Length of Service	125
(i) Size and Distribution of Force	125
(iii) Records	
(a) Personnel record	126
(b) Daily Report	126
(c) A Company Run	127
(d) A Fire Report	127
(e) Building Inspection	127
(f) Running or Response card	128
(iv) Equipment	128
(v) Purchasing and Stores	129
(vi) Fire Stations and Accommodation	129
(vii) Fire Alarm System	130
(viii) Hydrants	130
(ix) Fire Losses	130
(x) Comparison of Fire Department Costs with other cities	133

	<u>Page</u>
10. The Police Department	
(i) Organization	139
(ii) Personnel	
(a) Admission	140
(b) Probation	141
(c) Training	141
(d) Discipline	142
(e) Promotion	143
(f) Sickness	143
(g) Conditions of Employment	143
(h) Ages of Present Force	144
(i) Length of Service and Retirement	145
(j) Size of the Force	146
(k) Equipment	147
(iii) Records	
(a) Personnel Card	147
(b) Daily Report (Constables)	147
(c) Daily Report (Sergeants)	148
(d) Charge Book	148
(e) Police Court Records	148
(iv) Detective Force	148
(v) Licenses	149
(vi) Accommodation	149
(vii) Cost of Police Service	150
(viii) Annual Report	151
11. Halifax Housing Commission	155
(a) Deposit of \$750,000 of Debentures as Security	156
(b) Building Site a Requisite	156
(c) Loan Operations Confined to 1921-23	157
(d) Managed Houses	157
(e) Reduction of Liability to Province	158
(f) Tax arrears on Commission Properties	159
(g) Records of Tax Arrears on Commission Properties	161
(h) Audit	161
(i) Financial Statement, 1937-38	161
General	
Method of Financing the "Oiling" of Streets	169
Conclusion	
1. The Financing of Direct Unemployment Relief	171
2. Popular Control of Civic Expenditures	172
3. The Importance of Effective Personnel Administration in Civic Government	173
4. The City Hall	174
5. General	175

Appendix

Chart A Present General Organization, City of Halifax

B Summarising Recommendations in Report

B1 The Present Organization

B2 Three Wards, Majority of Council Elected at
Large

B3 No Wards, All Elected at Large

REPORT OF SURVEY
on
ADMINISTRATION AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT
of the
CITY OF HALIFAX

List of Charts.

	<u>Page</u>
1. Number of Votes Based on 1938 Voters List (3 Ward Division)	5
2. Proposed Organization of a Department of Finance and Accounts	36
3. City Engineer's Office Organization Chart	65a
4. Proposed Organization of the City Clerk's and City Solicitor's Department	81
5. Possible Amalgamation of the City Clerk's, City Assessor's and City Solicitor's Departments	83
6. Present Organization of Health Board	88
7. Present Organization of City Home	94
8. Present Organization of Direct Relief Department (with certain modifications)	104
9. Organization proposed for Board of Public Health and Welfare (Portion of Chart B - Appendix)	116
A. Present General Organization	Appendix
B. Summarising Recommendations in the Report	Appendix
B1 The Present Organization	
B2 Three Wards, Majority of Council Elected at Large	
B3 No Wards, All Elected at Large	

REPORT OF SURVEY
on
ADMINISTRATION AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT
of the
CITY OF HALIFAX

Recommendations Regarding

	<u>Pages</u>
1. Council, terms, wards, etc.	7, 8, 8a
2. Committees	11, 12
3. Coordination of Departments	14, 15 Chart B - Appendix
4. Treasury	18
5. Revenue Collection functions	21-24 inc.
6. Accounting functions of the Works Department, Clerk of Works Division,	25
7. Relations of Assessment Department to Proposed Finance and Accounting Department	26
8. Accounting Functions of City Clerk's Department	30
9. Current Budget Control	30-32 inc.
10. The Capital Budget	33
11. Accounting and Financial Administration in General	33-35 inc. (chart) 36
12. Methods of Assessment and Taxation	56-60 inc.
13. Methods of Works Administration	64, 65 Chart B - Appendix
14. Personnel Administration	68, 69
15. Methods of Purchasing	70, 71 Chart B - Appendix
16. Methods of Interdepartmental Cooperation	73
17. Financial Relations between City and the County, School Board, Local Boards and Commissions	76

Recommendations Regarding

	<u>Pages</u>
18. Department of City Solicitor	77,78
19. Department of City Clerk	80,81
20. Direct Relief	105-111 inc.
21. General Health and Welfare Organization	114,115 (Chart) 116
22. Gardens, Parks and Commons	118
23. Camp Hill Cemetery	119
24. City Prison	120
25. Fire Department	135-138, inc.
26. Police Department	152-155 inc.
27. Halifax Housing Commission	167,168
28. Method of Financing the "Oiling" of Streets	170-181 inc.
The Conclusion contains reinforcements of recommendations already made and additional recommendations.	

CITIZENS' RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF CANADA

A.

1938 Jan Tax Conference
Public Information Service

HEAD OFFICE: 805 NEW WELLINGTON BUILDING
137 WELLINGTON STREET WEST
TORONTO

Financial Statistics—Canadian Municipalities
Surveys—Institutional, Municipal, Governmental
Municipal Assessment Consultants

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THOMAS BRADSHAW, F.I.A., PRES.
R. C. BERKINSHAW, VICE-PRES.
J. P. HYNES, HON. TREAS.

ZEPH. HÉBERT, MONTREAL
COL. WALTER JAS. BROWN, LONDON
F. N. SOUTHAM, MONTREAL
E. E. REID, LONDON

T. G. ROGERS, TORONTO
W. SANFORD EVANS, WINNIPEG
JOHN FIRSTBROOK, TORONTO
LT. COL. J. H. WOODS, CALGARY

A. H. WETMORE, SAINT JOHN
REG. V. HARRIS, K.C., HALIFAX
F. W. ROUNSEFELL, VANCOUVER
G. H. BARR, K.C., REGINA

HORACE L. BRITAIN,
Director and Secretary

JOSEPH E. HOWES,
Assistant Director

Toronto, December 15th, 1938.

To His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen
of the City of Halifax, N.S.

In pursuance of the letter from His Worship, Mayor Mitchell, May 27th, 1938, the Citizens' Research Institute of Canada has conducted a "Survey of the Administration and Form of Government of the City of Halifax" as outlined in our letter to the City Solicitor dated December 3rd, 1937, as follows:

I. General Organization

- (a) Legislative and policy-forming - including methods of election, term of office, committee system, etc.
- (b) Executive - including relation to elected bodies.

II. Departmental Organization

- (a) Treasury (Financial) Organization - General.
- (b) Methods of Accounting Control.
- (c) Methods of Budget Control - Current and Capital
- (d) Methods of Revenue Collection.

- (e) Methods of Assessment
- (f) Methods of Works Administration
- (g) Personnel Administration
- (h) Purchasing Administration
- (i) Methods of Departmental Co-operation
- (j) Financial Relations with the County, School Board,
and local Boards and Commissions
- (k) Organization of Departments not mentioned above.

With slight modifications in arrangement, for convenience in treatment, these topics are discussed in the following report. The detailed headings are shown in the preceding Table of Contents.

As pointed out in our letter of December 3rd, 1937 to the City Solicitor, the survey does "not, of course, include an audit of accounts, an appraisal of assets or a technical engineering inquiry into operations. It covers an appraisal of the administrative organization and form of government establishment of the City with recommendations."

Many of the recommendations made will require legislation before they are implemented. In some important cases, though not in all, this has been specifically mentioned.

Throughout the report the Institute has followed the policy of concentrating on those topics which seem to require greatest attention or give greatest promise of practical results. Detailed description of existing set-ups, unless

necessary for complete understanding of recommendations was avoided.

To supplement the members of the regular staff of the Institute, the services of George A. Touche and Company, Chartered Accountants, were retained with regard to that part of the work which had specifically to do with accounting and finance.

Possibly some changes in organization or policy have been made since the completion of the field work. Some clerical errors and errors in detailed fact may also be noted. In any and every case, the Institute will be glad to make the corrections required.

The Institute desires to express its deep appreciation of the unusually prompt and hearty co-operation in the way of supplying information it received from the heads of departments and from other responsible employees of the Corporation. We desire also to thank the Mayor and Council of the City of Halifax for their consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Citizens' Research Institute of Canada,

Per: *Horace L. Britton*,
Director

REPORT ON
SURVEY OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND FORM OF GOVERNMENT
OF THE CITY OF HALIFAX

I. GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

(a) Legislative and Policy-forming

1. The City Council

The chief legislative and policy-forming authority of the City is the City Council. It is in effect the civic board of management. The Council is presided over by the Mayor who is elected by general vote for the term of one year. The powers and duties of the Mayor of Halifax as laid down in the Charter are in the main those usually associated with the Mayor's office in most British cities, but the Mayor of Halifax has one power often not found in City Charters, that is the power of the suspensory veto on proposed expenditures. This power is limited in scope and there seem to be wide differences of interpretation of the provision of the Charter in this respect. Sec. 317 (1931) reads (see page 107-108):

"(1.) Subject to the provisions of this section, no resolution of the Council authorizing the expenditure of any money from the city treasury, or the making of any contract involving the expenditure of any money from the City treasury, shall have any force or effect—

- (a) if, in the opinion of the mayor, the expenditure is not authorized by law, or
- (b) if the amount is not fixed by law, or is only fixed by a maximum limit, or
- (c) if the making of the expenditure is permissive only, and the mayor is of the opinion that it is not expedient to make the same,

and if it receives the disapproval of the mayor in writing as hereinafter provided.

(2.) The mayor shall, within one week after the passage of the resolution, signify in writing with his signature in the record or minute his disapproval of the expenditure proposed by such resolution, or of any part of such expenditure.

(3.) At the meeting of the Council held next after any such signification of disapproval the mayor shall, by message in writing, inform the Council of such disapproval and of his reasons for the same.

(4.) The Council shall thereupon forthwith take such message into consideration, and if such proposed expenditure, or such part thereof, is confirmed by a two-thirds vote of the whole number of the Council, then the resolution authorizing such expenditure, or such part, shall have full force and effect, notwithstanding such disapproval of the mayor, but subject to all legal remedies if such expenditure, or such part, is not authorized by law. C. C. s. 342 "

Although the Mayor is not a member of the Finance Committee of Council, this provision gives him powers of leadership in financial legislation not always found, and should compel a great amount of care on the part of Council in formulating financial policy. If the Mayor were chairman of the Finance Committee the power of suspensory veto would be much more effective particularly if it were extended to all expenditures whether authorized or not. As it is the power has not been exercised in recent years at least. The Mayor also has power to nominate for action of Council members of committees of Council, and ~~members of the Board of School Commissioners~~ *and members of the Board of School Commissioners*

For the purposes of this survey it is unnecessary to list all the powers of the Mayor. After the elections Council selects one of its own members to be Deputy Mayor to serve in the Mayor's absence. According to the provisions of Ordinance No. 2, Section 41, the Mayor may not vote except in case of a tie vote, when he is required to give a casting vote and before

doing so may give his reasons therefor. The Mayor should have the power to vote on every motion, the Mayor being at present the only member of Council elected at large. If the result with his vote is a tie, the motion should be declared lost.

Council is made up of eighteen members three from each of six wards, one being elected by each ward each year for a three-year term. This system gives undue prominence to ward influences, only one member of Council, the Mayor, being elected at large. The three-year "staggered" term, however, provides for a measure of assured continuity of membership and should therefore facilitate that continuity of policy so essential to city administration under modern conditions. It has stood the test of long practice in Britain where the three-year "staggered" term is universal in cities (in counties there is a three-year term but all members of council retire at once).

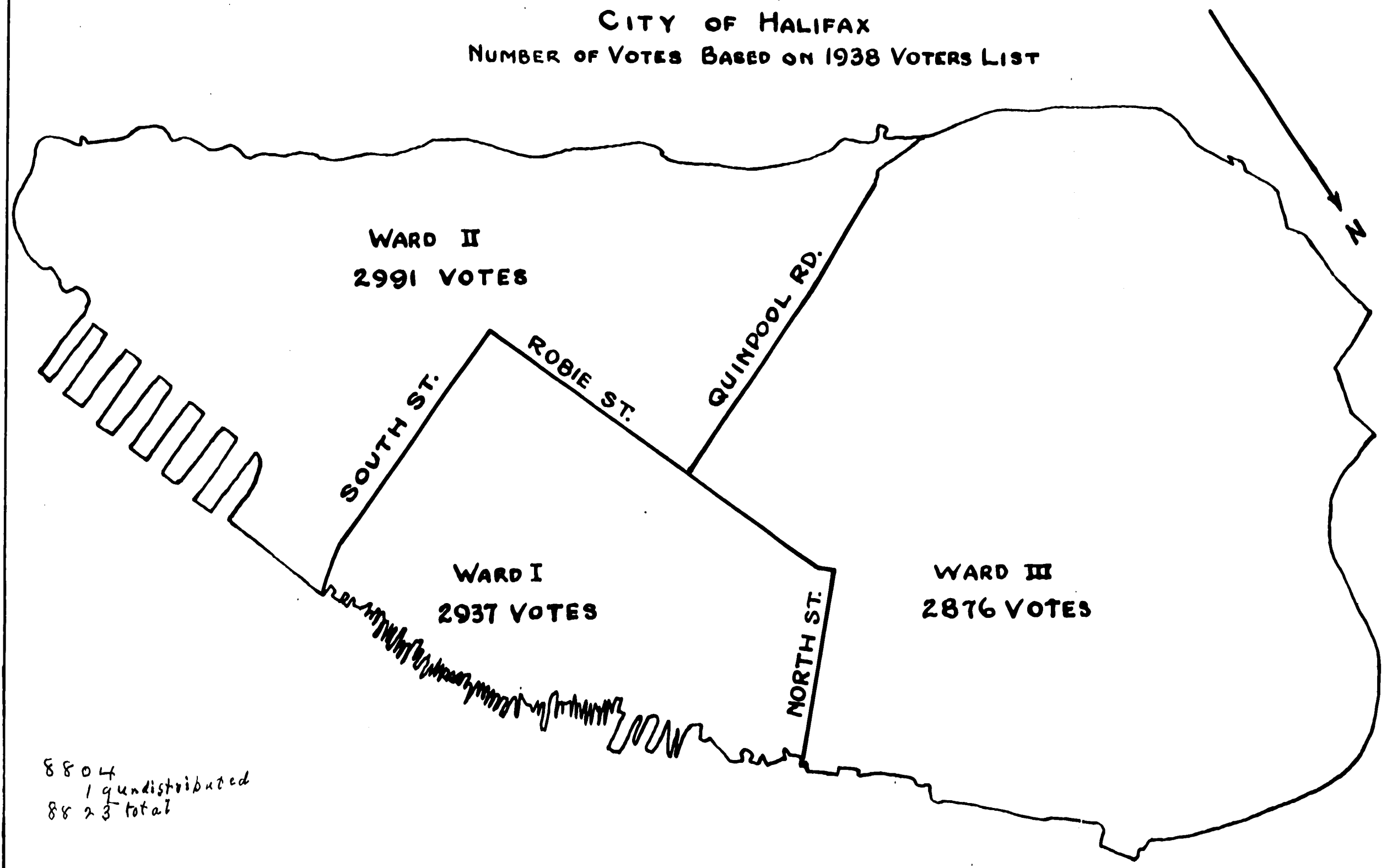
The ward system, particularly where there are a large number of wards, however, not only promotes "log-rolling", the interference of Council in appointments and contracts for reasons other than those of the public interests, but makes it extremely difficult to control downward current and capital expenditures. It is an expensive luxury which tends to sacrifice the interests of the City as a whole to special and local interests. If the electorate fear to give up the ward system, they might be willing to reduce the number of wards, and elect aldermen at large equal in number. In this way the members of Council elected at large, aldermen-at-large and the Mayor would be larger than the number elected by ward. Even if the

idea of election-at-large were rejected, the election of aldermen by fewer and therefore larger wards would have two advantages:

- (1) It would weaken sectional appeals and tend to improve the standard of Council membership;
- (2) It would make possible the cutting down of the size of Council. The predominance of the City-wide point of view is, however, more important than the cutting down of the membership of Council.

The outline below shows a possible division of the City into three wards, two prevaillingly residential and one business.

CHART No. I
CITY OF HALIFAX
NUMBER OF VOTES BASED ON 1938 VOTERS LIST



8804
 19 undistributed
 8823 total