

The Director of Finance described the report as follows:

Section I This Section shows the overall financial picture of the City for the period 1962 to 1974, using actual figures for the period to 1967 and estimates from 1968.

The summaries of capital projections for the year 1969 and the year 1970 to 1974 are then related to the debenture issues that could be made available assuming two different levels of debt carrying charges.

Section II The remaining work to be carried out under borrowing authorizations already made by City Council is shown here. Authorizations that are no longer required, or that are in excess of actual costs, are shown in the column that is headed "Proposed Revocations".

Section III This contains the proposed capital budget for the year 1969. All of the items listed here will be started in the year 1969, if approval is given. Details of proposed expenditures are shown, commencing with Page 4.

Section IV Proposed capital expenditures for the five-year period 1970 to 1974, are shown here in order to give City Council some idea of the extent of capital requirements over a future period of time. Use of this section will enable decisions to be made in the event that it is necessary to advance or defer projects under consideration. Details of proposed expenditures are shown, commencing with Page 4.

Throughout his explanation of the report, Mr. Towler was questioned by the members of the Committee on various aspects of it.

10:00 p.m. - Meeting adjoured.

HEADLINES

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R.H. STODDARD
CITY CLERK

ALLAN O'BRIEN
MAYOR AND CHAIRMAN

An Act Respecting a Commission
for the Port of Halifax

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor and Assembly as follows:

1. The Council of the City of Halifax may, by Ordinance, establish a Port Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission".
2. The Commission shall consist of twelve members, and all members shall serve without remuneration and for such term as set out in the Ordinance.
3. The twelve members of the Commission shall be:
 - the Mayor of the City of Halifax;
 - the Mayor of the City of Dartmouth;
 - nine members appointed by the Council of the City of Halifax;
 - one member appointed by the Council of the City of Dartmouth.
4. The name of the Commission shall be the Halifax-Dartmouth Port Commission.
5. The Commission shall promote the growth and development of the port facilities of Halifax Harbour, and to this end it shall:
 - (a) study and endeavour to improve the facilities, operation and general efficiency of the Port;
 - (b) serve as intermediary between the National Harbours Board, the Canadian National Railways, and all other parties responsible for or participating in the operation of the Port;
 - (c) advertise, and solicit business for, the Port;
 - (d) furnish information and other services to users of the Port;
 - (e) carry out research and any other role or program conducive to the fulfillment of its objects.
6. The Ordinance may provide for the participation of any other municipal corporation, in the establishment, complement and furtherance of the Commission, and the manner in which such municipal corporation shall participate in and support the Commission.

7. (1) The sums required by the Commission shall be the responsibility of the two participating Cities, and shall be contributed to in the proportion of seven-eighths by the City of Halifax and one-eighth by the City of Dartmouth.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other Act, either general or special, the two participating Cities shall pay, in the proportion set out in subsection (1) of this Section, the amount shown in the annual budget of the Commission, such amounts to be paid in a lump sum or in installments, as the Commission requests.

(3) The sums required of the participating municipalities under this Section shall be held to be sums voted or granted for the ordinary lawful purposes of the municipalities, and may be raised, levied and collected in the same manner and in all respects as other sums required for the ordinary lawful purposes are raised, levied and collected.

8. The Ordinance shall provide for:

- (a) the appointment of the members of the Commission;
- (b) the term of the members of the Commission;
- (c) the appointment of a Chairman and other officers;
- (d) frequency of meetings;
- (e) quorum for meetings;
- (f) appointment and remuneration of employees;
- (g) submission of budgets and financial statements by the Commission;
- (h) acceptance of gifts and grants by the Commission;
- (i) appointment of Committees of the Commission;
- (j) regulations for the operation of the Commission, not inconsistent with this Act.

9. Chapter 68 of the Acts of 1961, "An Act to Amend and Consolidate Chapter 90 of the Acts of 1952, An Act to Incorporate a Commission for the Port of Halifax", is hereby repealed.

DRAFT
LEGISLATION 1969

1. Section 7 of Chapter 52 of the Acts of 1963, is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

INSERT NEW CITY BOUNDARIES

EXPLANATORY NOTE: Revised description of the boundaries of the City including the recently annexed areas.

2 Section 8 of said Chapter 52 is repealed.

EXPLANATORY NOTE: The present Section provides for the altering of City boundaries by ordinance, which is now provided for under the Municipal Boundaries and Representation Act.

3 Section 9 of said Chapter 52 is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

9 The City is divided into ten wards, the boundaries of which are as follows:

**INSERT DESCRIPTION OF EACH OF
TEN WARDS**

4 Section 10 of said Chapter 52 is repealed.

EXPLANATORY NOTE: - This Section deals with alterations to ward boundaries and is ultra vires the Municipal Boundaries and Representation Act.

5 Section 30 of said Chapter 52, as that Section is enacted by Section 2 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is amended by adding thereto the following subsection:

(3) In the case of an election for mayor or alderman, any person qualified under the provisions of subsection (2) and assessed for real property tax or business occupancy tax in more than one ward shall only be entitled to vote once for mayor and once for alderman.

EXPLANATORY NOTE: This provision, dealing with qualifications of non-resident taxpayers, was inadvertently omitted when the Section was being re-written last year.

6 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 32 of said Chapter 52, as that Section is amended by Section 3 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(2) Clause (a) of subsection (2) of said Section 32 is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(3) Clause (d) of subsection (2) of said Section 32 is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

7 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 33 of said Chapter 52, as that Section is amended by Section 3 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966 and by Section 4 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is further amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the second and third lines thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 33 is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

8 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 34 of said Chapter 52, as that Section is amended by Section 4 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966 and by Section 5 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 34 is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(3) Subsection (3) of said Section 34 is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

9 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 35 of said Chapter 52 as that Section is enacted by Section 7 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the sixth line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(2) Subsection (4) of said Section 35 is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(3) Subsection (5) of said Section 35 is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(4) Subsection (6) of said Section 35 is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(5) Subsection (7) of said Section 35 is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

10 Subsection (1) of Section 39 of said Chapter 52, as amended by Section 9 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is further amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

11 Section 41 of said Chapter 52 is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

41 The Council shall, on the recommendation of the City Manager, appoint a person to be Revising Officer of the City and the Court of Revision.

12 Section 42 of said Chapter 52 is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

42 The Council shall, on the recommendation of the City Manager, appoint a Clerk of the Court of Revision.

13 Section 44 of said Chapter 52, as amended by Section 10 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is further amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer", and by striking out the word "Clerk" in the last line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

14 Subsection (1) of Section 45 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the fifth line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

15 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 46 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 46 is amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

16 Subsection (1) of Section 49 of said Chapter 52 is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

(1) The Council shall, upon the recommendation of the City Manager, appoint a Returning Officer for all elections required to be held under the provisions of this Act and for the taking of votes on any question under the provisions of this Act.

17 (1) Subsection (2) of Section 50 of said Chapter 52, as that Section is amended by Section 6 of Chapter 72 of the Acts of 1964, is further amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

(2) Clause (a) of subsection (3) of said Section 50 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

18 Subsection (1) of Section 51 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

19 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 52 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

(2) Subsection (4) of said Section 52 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second and third lines thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

20 (1) Subsection (3) of Section 53 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" as they appear in lines two and six thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

(2) Subsection (4) of said Section 53, as amended by Section 8 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is further amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

21 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 54 of said Chapter 52 as amended by Section 7 of Chapter 72 of the Acts of 1964, is further amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 54 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

22 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 57 of said Chapter 52 as that Section is amended by Section 9 of Chapter 72 of the Acts of 1964, is further amended by striking out the words "declared by the Returning Officer" in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the words "declared by the City Clerk".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 57 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

23 Subsection (2) of Section 65 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

24 Section 69 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "the City Clerk" in the fifth line thereof.

25 Subsection (1) of Section 78 of said Chapter 52 is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

(1) A candidate may, in writing, appoint one or more agents to represent him at each polling division; provided however, that not more than two agents representing the same candidate at such polling division shall be present at the same time.

26 Subsection (9) of Section 93 of said Chapter 52 as amended by Section 11 of Chapter 72 of the Acts of 1964, is further amended by striking out the word "Clerk" in the third line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

27 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 107 of said Chapter 52 as that Section is enacted by Section 18 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is amended by adding thereto the words "and shall forthwith report the results to the City Clerk".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 107 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

28 Subsection (1) of Section 108 of said Chapter 52, as amended by Section 19 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is further amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the eighth line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk", and by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the fifteenth and sixteenth lines thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

29 (1) Subsection (2) of Section 111 of said Chapter 52, as that Section is enacted by Section 21 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is amended by striking out the words "in the presence of two witnesses" in the fourth and fifth lines thereof.

(2) Subsection (3) of said Section 111 is amended by striking out the words "in the presence of two witnesses" in the third and fourth lines thereof.

(3) Subsection (4) of said Section 111 is repealed.

30 Subsection (6) of Section 115 of said Chapter 52, as enacted by Section 22 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" as they appear in the fourth, sixth and ninth lines thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

31 Subsection (7) of Section 119 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the fifth line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

32 Clause (d) of subsection (2) of Section 162 of said Chapter 52 is repealed.

33 Subsection (3) of Section 163 of said Chapter 52 is repealed.

34 Clause (v) of Section 191 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "the Port of Halifax Commission" in the fourth and fifth lines thereof and substituting therefor the words "a Port Commission".

35 Subsection (2) of Section 202 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "two hundred and fifty" in the third and fourth lines thereof and substituting therefor the words "three hundred".

36 Subsection (1) of Section 249 of said Chapter 52, as amended by Section 28 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, and by Section 24 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968, is further amended by adding thereto the following clause:

(k) provide for exempting persons from payment of poll tax on the basis of age.

37 Subsection (3) of Section 317 of said Chapter 52 is amended by inserting immediately following the word "week" in the fourth line thereof the words "for two successive weeks".

38 Subsections (3) and (4) of Section 363 of said Chapter 52 are repealed and the following substituted therefor:

(3) (a) No person shall permit premises owned or occupied by him to be or to become unsightly or in a state of disrepair, or shall permit to remain on any part of such premises owned or occupied by him any ashes, junk, rubbish, refuse, bodies or parts of automobiles or other vehicles or machinery or dilapidated boats or any material of any nature whatsoever, so as to cause the premises to be unsightly or offensive.

(b) No person shall permit the sidewalk immediately adjacent to premises owned or occupied by him to become hazardous by reason of an accumulation of snow or ice thereon.

(4) (a) Every person who fails to remove from such lot of land such grass or weeds or other accumulation of combustible materials, or any ashes, junk, rubbish, refuse, bodies or parts of automobiles or other vehicles or machinery or dilapidated boats or any material of any nature whatsoever within forty-eight hours after receipt of a request to do so from the City shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars, and in default of payment to imprisonment for a period not exceeding thirty days.

(b) Every person who fails to effect repairs to any premises owned or occupied by him within ninety days after receipt of a request to do so shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a period not exceeding thirty days.

(c) Every person who fails to remove or to render in a safe condition the accumulation of snow or ice on the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the premises owned or occupied by him, within forty-eight hours after receipt of a request to do so, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred dollars and in default of payment to imprisonment for a period not exceeding thirty days.

(5) Whenever any person has been requested to remove from any lot of land such grass or weeds or other accumulation of combustible materials or any ashes, junk, rubbish, refuse, bodies or parts of automobiles or other vehicles or machinery or dilapidated boats or any material of any nature whatsoever, or to remove or render in a safe condition the accumulation of snow or ice on the sidewalk immediately adjacent to the premises owned or occupied by him, within the time limited in the preceding subsection, and fails to do so, the City may cause the same to be removed or repaired or rendered in a safe condition, and shall forthwith submit a statement of the cost to the City Collector, who shall add the same to the next yearly rates on such lot of land and collect the same along therewith and with the same rights and remedies. The statement of the City as to the cost of such removal or repair shall be conclusive of the amount of such cost.

(6) The request of the City may be made by registered letter addressed to such owner or occupier at his last known address or may be delivered to such owner or occupier.

39 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 450 of said Chapter 52, as that Section is amended by Section 12 of Chapter 75 of the Acts of 1965, is amended by striking out the words "The Committee shall, from time to time," in the first and second lines thereof and substituting therefor the words "The chief of police shall".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 450 is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

(2) The chief of police shall make appointments from among the members of the force up to the rank of sergeant-detective, and the Committee shall appoint a deputy chief and such other officers as provided for by resolution of the Council.

40 (1) Subsection (1) of Section 469 of said Chapter 52 as that Section is amended by Section 14 of Chapter 75 of the Acts of 1965 and by Section 36 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is amended by striking out the words "The Committee shall, from time to time," in the first and second lines thereof, and substituting therefor the words "The chief officer shall".

(2) Subsection (2) of said Section 469 is repealed and the following substituted thereof:

(2) The chief officer shall make appointments from among the members of the force up to and including the rank of district chief, and the Committee shall appoint a deputy chief officer and such other officers as provided for by resolution of the Council.

41 Subsection (1) of Section 532 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the figure "16" in the eighth line thereof and substituting therefor the figure "17".

42 Subsection (1) of Section 533 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the figure "29" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the figure "30".

43 Said Chapter 52 is further amended by adding thereto immediately following Section 533, the following Section:

533A (1) Where there is in force in the City a regulation made pursuant to Section 28 of the Town Planning Act whereby the Town Planning Board of the City may require the owner of land being subdivided to reserve an area of the land for public use, the Council may by by-law authorize the Town Planning Board of the City to accept on behalf of the City a sum of money from the owner in lieu of such reservation for public use, provided that the sum so accepted shall be five per centum of the assessed value of the land after it has been subdivided.

(2) Any sums paid to the City pursuant to a by-law enacted under the authority of subsection (1) hereof shall be held by the City in a separate account and shall be used for the purpose of acquiring and developing public parks and playgrounds within the City and for no other purpose.

44 Section 588 of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "undertake to" in the second line thereof and substituting therefor the words "by itself or through a Commission".

45 Section 3 of Chapter 69 of the Acts of 1968 is amended by striking out the symbols and number "(1)" in the first line thereof and substituting therefor the symbols and figure "(2)".

46 Notwithstanding the provisions of Sections 12 and 14 of Chapter 52 of the Acts of 1963, the terms of office of the Mayor and aldermen elected on the eleventh day of December 1968 and sworn in office on the second day of January 1969, shall be two years and ten months, or until their successors are elected and take the oath of office.

47 The City may write off the sum of two hundred and sixty-two dollars and fifty cents, together with any interest accrued thereon, charged against the Estate of Andrew Mathews and Jaunita Mathews in respect of property known as civic number 37 Maynard Street.

48 The City may write off and cancel any business realty taxes and interest thereon, assessed and levied against the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. George's Church, in respect of the property at civic number 5435 Cornwallis Street, for the years 1968 and 1969, and may in substitution thereof and for such time as the said property is occupied by the Adult Activity Centre, assess the Rector, Wardens and Vestry of St. George's Church in respect of the ownership of the said property at the residential realty rate.

49 Form 4 in the Schedule of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the last line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

50 Form 6 in the Schedule of said Chapter 52, as amended by Section 41 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is further amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the last line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

51 Form 7 in the Schedule of said Chapter 52 is amended by striking out the words "Returning Officer" in the last line thereof and substituting therefor the words "City Clerk".

52 Form 3 in the Schedule of said Chapter 52, as amended by Section 40 of Chapter 87 of the Acts of 1966, is further amended by striking out the words "City Clerk" in the twenty-first line thereof and substituting therefor the words "Returning Officer".

EXPLANATORY NOTES to attached Draft Legislation 1969

- Items 6 to 10 inclusive - give effect to the request of the City Clerk, which was approved by the Committee of the Whole Council on February 6, 1969, that he be relieved of his statutory duty to act as Returning Officer for the City in civic elections.
- Items 11 and 33 - Refer to the City Solicitor as being the Revising Officer. It would seem feasible that with the City Clerk being relieved of his duty to act as Returning Officer, that the City Solicitor should also be relieved of the statutory duty to act as Revising Officer.
- Items 12 to 32 inclusive - give effect to the request of the request of the City Clerk to be relieved of his duty to act as Returning Officer and also amend certain Sections so that the duties of the Clerk, as distinguished from those of the Returning Officer, are clearly defined.
- Item 34 - If the name of the Port of Halifax Commission is being changed, it seems necessary to amend this Section, which provides for the purposes for which moneys are raised and expended.
- Item 35 Increases the maximum amount of the grants which may be given by the City.
- Item 36 Amends the Section providing for the Ordinance respecting Poll Tax, in order to amend the ordinance to exempt persons over the age of sixty-five years from payment of poll tax.
- Item 37 This merely corrects what was an obvious printing error. The Section refers to advertising of properties at tax sale.
- Item 38 Will require the owner or occupier of premises to keep the lot in a neat and tidy condition and free from debris, and in good repair, otherwise the necessary work may be done by the City and charged against the property and collected with taxes, and also provides penalties for not complying with a request to effect such cleaning up or repairs. Similar legislation was sought in 1968 but was not approved by the Local and Private Bills Committee.
- Items 39 & 40 The Committee on Safety last September requested that the Committee be relieved of approving every appointment to and promotion within the Police Force and the Fire Department. These amendments will allow the respective chiefs to engage personnel up to a number determined by resolution of the Council to be a full compliment, and to make promotions from within such personnel up to the rank of Sergeant-Detective in the Police Force, and District Chief in the Fire Department.
- Items 41 & 42 With the revision and reprinting of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 1967, the Sections of the Town Planning Act were re-numbered, and these amendments became necessary.

- Item 43 The Town Planning Act, Section 28, provides that a city may make regulations respecting subdivisions under the authority of that Section, and in those regulations require that a subdivider reserve 5% of the area for public use as a park or playground. In 1966 The City of Dartmouth obtained legislation to enable them to accept a cash amount equal to 5% of the assessed value of the land being subdivided in lieu of actual land, and to retain the money in a separate fund to be used for the purchase of land for public parks and playgrounds. This proposed Section is identical to that contained in the Dartmouth City Charter.
- Item 44 This Section gives the City, subject to provisions contained in the Public Utilities Act, to provide certain utilities for its citizens, including transportation. The effect of the amendment is permit the City to provide such utilities either by itself or through a Commission set up for that purpose.
- Item 45 This merely corrects an error in reference in the 1968 legislation whereby Section 32 of the Charter was amended.
- Item 46 Provides for the less than three years term of office of the Mayor and aldermen who took the oath of office the first of this year, in order to revert to regular election which will be held in October of 1971.
- Item 47 This charge was for the removal of a dilapidated building on the property 37 Maynard Street during the period during which the property could have been redeemed by the previous owner under the provisions of the Charter dealing with the sale of land for taxes. Mrs. Mathews paid one-half the cost of removal and the Council agreed to write off the balance.
- Item 48 This is similar legislation to that obtained when the old St. George's Rectory was being occupied by New Leaf Enterprises. The present occupant, Adult Activity Centre, provides a similar service to the community, its major work being with retarded children.
- Items 49 to 52 These sections amend the Forms referred to in Sections 32, 51, 54 and 57 of the Charter, and require to be amended in accordance with the amendments being made to those Sections.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES

Committee of the Whole,
February 25, 1969

Council Chamber,
City Hall,
Halifax, N. S.,
February 25, 1969,
7:08 p.m.

A special meeting of City Council was held on the above date.

After the meeting was called to order the members of City Council attending, led by the City Clerk, joined in reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Present were: His Worship the Mayor, Chairman; Aldermen Abbott, Ahern, Connolly, Ivany, McGuire, Sullivan and Allen.

Also present: City Manager, City Clerk, Chief of Police, Commissioner of Health, Committee Clerk and other Staff members.

The City Clerk advised that the meeting was called especially to consider:

1. 1969 Current Budget
2. Resolution - School Board
3. Resolution - Tax Rates
4. Resolution - Interest on Taxes
5. Fire Protection Rate
6. 1969 Capital Budget

7:10 p.m. Council adjourned to meet as Committee of the Whole, the same members being present and Deputy Mayor Allen assumes the Chair.

Alderman Connolly referred to numerous telephone calls he had received over the last few weeks regarding the tax rate in the annexed areas and many of these people claim that the people in the new City area are paying less taxation than they did last year, and they felt this was wrong. They suggested these people should pay the same tax rate as last

Committee of the Whole,
February 25, 1969

year to help the City tax rate. Alderman Connolly stated that His Worship the Mayor had met with the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities an hour previous to the announcement regarding the area rate, and asked for an explanation of this meeting.

7:12 p.m. Alderman Meagher and the City Solicitor arrive.

His Worship the Mayor advised that Mr. Outhit had contacted him and stated he was concerned about the implication of the very much higher assessment in the annexation areas than had been forecast, and the area rate, and he asked for information from the City about this matter. His Worship the Mayor further advised that he, together with the City Manager and the City Solicitor, met with Mr. Outhit at the first possible time. The City Manager had with him a memorandum which was tabled in Council that night which contained the fact about the assessment in the new areas of the City. He stated the the Board questioned them about the way in which the statistics had been prepared and if they were estimates or actual figures, and how accurate they would be, and then the Board advised what they intended to do about it and that, when the meeting ended, they would write a new Order rescinding the area rate. His Worship the Mayor then said he asked if copies would be available for the Council meeting the same evening, and was told they would be ready by 6:45 p.m. He said he collected enough copies for the members of Council and an explanation was given to the Council that night.

Committee of the Whole,
February 25, 1969

7:15 p.m. Alderman LeBlanc arrives.

Alderman Connolly said the whole matter had been incorrectly reported because most people are under the impression that His Worship the Mayor and City Staff met with the Board and just agreed to cut out the area rate, and he thought this should be clarified.

His Worship the Mayor asked Alderman Connolly if he had corrected the numerous people who had called him of their misconstrued conceptions, since he had heard the explanation at the Council meeting that evening.

Alderman Connolly stated he had given the best explanation to them possible as he did not have any figures from which to quote. He said all who telephoned were most unreasonable.

Alderman Abbott said he also had numerous calls on the matter, and he was never in favour of an area rate. He thought if it was one City there should be one rate. He said some persons in the annexed area are paying less but some will be paying more and this balances itself out. He thought what could have been done was to extend the City services in the annexed areas over a period of three to five years, which might have had an effect of keeping the tax rate down over the whole City.

The City Manager said the current budget for the annexed area does not provide too much over and above the basic services they were receiving before. Recreation is one area where they will receive more service but this is relatively small compared to the total budget. He said

staff were not of the opinion that services should be upgraded as fast as possible, because he thought most of the improved services would come from capital improvements rather than current expenditures. He said the current expenditures are to maintain the services already provided. He quoted figures from a report presented to Council on January 29th, 1969 respecting the assessment in the new area.

His Worship the Mayor said the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, in compiling their budget for the new City, and taking into account the area rate, have taken into account the principle that the Province would not save any money as a result of annexation, brought the extra costs of annexation down to a level which they said should be split equally between the Province and the City, that is, all the taxpayers of the City, and the half the Province received was added to the savings that they would have made, that they would have paid to the City, and these amounts put together formed the total annexation grant that stands at \$2.1 million. The City's half was calculated to be 14 cents on all the assessment of the entire City, and the City Manager now says, because the assessment is higher, it is now approximately 11 cents.

In answer to a question from Alderman Sullivan, the City Manager stated that when the Board was calculating the taxes the new City area would contribute, they were using the 1967 assessment which they assumed from information given to them, was 70% of value. It was then found that the assessment level ranged from 30% to 80% of value, and tended to be much lower than 70% on the average. By the time the assessments

were raised to the old City level the amount of money this area would contribute to the City at the old City tax rate, was much higher than had previously been thought possible. An amount of \$862,000 was thought to be the saving the new residents would have by annexing at the old City rate, but this was found out to be incorrect, as the difference decreased considerably to such a point that the Board contended that 3 cents on the entire City rate was not a burden. The City Manager advised that the new citizens are contributing the \$862,000 except for \$235,000, as a result of the revision on the assessment level.

Alderman Ahern contended that a meeting should have been arranged between City Council and the Board to advise the Board that the old City taxpayers could not stand an increase in the tax rate.

The City Manager advised that information was given to the members of City Council at the first budget meeting, under Schedule 1, which was an analysis of the proposed taxation increase, together with details of the areas that were causing this increase. He said the report advised the balance to be raised by taxes and full grants in lieu coming from the pre-1969 City was an amount of \$2,307,000, and the annexed area an amount of \$1,092,000. The former figure spread over the old city assessment indicated an increase of 43 cents, the latter figure to be raised from the new city area from their assessment indicated an increase of 73 cents, and these two increases merged together with the two assessments, this indicated an increase of 49½ cents tax rate. The City Manager stated that annexation has caused

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some of the increase in the old City, but it would have been faced with a fairly heavy increase without annexation.

Alderman Ahern thought the increases in various City Departments should have been delayed, particularly in the Planning Department.

The City Manager said that the Administration is only just managing to keep going with the present Staff and if more loads are placed on them, it will collapse. He said it was necessary to have good staff to carry out what is required, and this is the reason the staff establishments are increasing. The City does not have a Development Plan and therefore the Sewer Consultant is wondering where our development is going to be planned in order that he can plan the sewers, and the same thing will happen with transit and the Regional Transportation Study, as they are all interlocked. He stated that one of the reasons for this inadequacy was the fact there has not been enough qualified Staff to carry out the work.

Alderman Ivany thought that 5% of the projected tax rate could be attributed to annexation.

The City Manager stated that it would be reasonable to assume that approximately 7 cents of the 49 cents increase could be attributed to annexation.

Alderman McGuire said he shared with Alderman LeBlanc the distinction of representing a ward composed of a section of the old City and a section of the new. It was his understanding also, that some citizens would be paying more tax and some paying less tax this year, but he contended a fair

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comparison must be not with what any individual in the annexed area paid last year but with what they will pay next year, or what is a fair comparison from a comparable property in the new City with a similar property in the old City. He said it was important to plan the City in a judicious manner so that when Council sets the tax rate it has the confidence of all of the policy making that has preceded this day and to yield to pressures of the day to cut the tax rate. He was of the opinion that the value of annexation concerned the City of Halifax and its future economic situation, the need for planning, transit, port development and other matters. Many of the people in the new city area complain about annexation but the value to them is that their livelihood is dependent upon a strong and viable City of Halifax. They argue that only a hundred or so people in Rockingham asked for annexation, but the fact is that most of these people make their livelihood in the City and consequently they contribute to the City in the labours they perform. He contended the fact of the matter is, that these are the considerations that came to bear on the decision to have annexation, and that these facts have been lost sight of in the past few weeks, and that a disservice has been done to the future of the City... to obliterating the old boundaries. Alderman McGuire said that for the good of the City, annexation is necessary, and a really strong City can only be acquired if the old boundaries are obliterated.

Alderman McGuire agreed with the suggestions of Alderman Ahern, that the City approach the Board of Commissioners

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of Public Utilities and submit information that has been divulged from the Canadian-British Engineering Study, which information was known to some people prior to January 1st, 1969, in one form or another. He thought that while consideration was being given to the capital budget, same should be given to the Sandford Report, in the area of taxing hospitals, universities, churches (excluding their place of worship) and any other bodies.

X Alderman Ivany said he agreed with the suggestion that the City should approach the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities. He referred to page 87 of the Board Order wherein it is stated that, "Halifax ratepayers will be required to assume a reasonable financial cost but not a burdensome one". He thought that if the cost increased beyond the usual rate of approximately 11%, it was a burdensome one. He also referred to the following contained in the Board Order on page 87, "the ratepayers of the Municipality will be expected to meet some increased costs because of annexation". He agreed that the City should be considered as a whole and not the old versus the new area.

X The City Manager said the 11% increase in costs referred to by Alderman Ivany, he thinks should be reflected in an 11% increase in the tax rate, but the 11% increase in expenditures to do that would have to be matched by an 11% increase in other revenues other than tax, and unfortunately this is where the problems of municipalities occur. The City's expenditures are increasing much faster than non-tax revenues and this is the reason the tax rate continues to

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increase. The City Manager said that as it is probably known what the tax increase is likely to be the City has a good reason to meet with the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities with respect to capital items, as this is the area where the City is likely to commence paying increased costs because the County received the advantage of the Foundation Programme grants on capital which the City does not receive. He felt the City should receive from the Province an amount equal to what the County was receiving for the land annexed to the City, which was in the region of 50%.

7:50 p.m. Alderman Hogan arrives.

X His Worship the Mayor said that on a television programme this evening and also at the meeting this evening, Alderman Ivany quoted a statement contained in the Board Order on page 40 which was a report made by Mr. MacNair, and had been stated on television and at this meeting by Alderman Ivany that this was a statement of the Board of Public Utilities when in fact it was a quotation from the consultant to the City of Halifax making his presentation on the City's behalf to the Board at a hearing. He contended that this was one way in which false information is spread around and then the Council asks why the public does not understand the complexities of these matters.

His Worship the Mayor further stated that the City went back to the Board initially following the Sandford Report on additional financial help, and at that time the Board advised the City this was not its concern, but rather the concern

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of the Province of Nova Scotia. He said the Board did negotiate a grant with the Province prior to its initial Order, but if any change was to be made in that grant, it would have to be through the Province. The City approached the Province and finally received an answer and it raised the grant from \$1,400,000 to \$2,100,000 for this year. He suggested that, if further financial arrangements are required, then the City should approach the Province, not the Board. If there are some factors in the Order which need adjustment perhaps the Board would make them, but it is unable to produce Provincial Government money unless the Province is willing. He thought there were a number of matters that require discussion with the Province and the Board, particularly with regard to the Canadian-British Study on the sewer system, which is a part of the total case still requiring discussion with the Province. He thought these matters should be dealt with when the current budget is resolved and the capital budget is being considered, he did not think any help would be forthcoming to assist the tax-rate this year from the Province, but he contended the Province was interested in a rational consideration of the total problem. He thought that if the City carries out a good planning job in 1969, not by eliminating staff from the Planning Department, but by seeing it has the resources necessary, then the City should be in a position to justify claims for more favourable financial consideration from the Federal and Provincial Governments.

Alderman LeBlanc thought the remarks of His Worship the Mayor should be reflected on very carefully, and the

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time is here when Council should drop its negative attitude and become positive immediately. He stated that Council has now an obligation to make annexation work, and endeavour to provide this new City with the leadership required. He thought that if the Industrial Commission, proceeds well, the Planning Department has the necessary staff to create the City to make it more attractive to industry, and the Works Department provide good services, and the City can convince the Government in various representations made to it, then in perhaps 2 or 3 years time Council will laugh at itself for the panic it finds itself in this evening. He said the sooner the phrase "the old City and the new City" is obliterated, except for comparison purposes at the moment, the better it will be. Everyone is part of the City now and should receive the same service from the various City Departments. He contended that Staff have accepted annexation and are endeavouring to cope with it, and the Aldermen now should try to justify the expenses that have occurred towards the establishment of a new and vibrant City.

1969 CURRENT BUDGET

Current Budget Supplement No. 1

Page 1, as submitted, was agreed to.

His Worship the Mayor referred to the third item on Page 2 - Board of School Commissioners deficit for the year 1968 in amount of \$49,231, and said he hoped the Board would attempt to see that an amount such as this would not need to be included in the budget another year.

The Director of Finance advised that the over-

expenditures for the year totalled \$85,000, but surpluses in other accounts reduced this to \$49,231. The major items applicable to the expenditure were maintenance salaries and supplies, heating breakdowns, etc.

Alderman Abbott asked if any of these expenditures were before Council during 1968, to which the City Manager replied that he did not recall that they were considered by Council.

Page 2, as submitted, was agreed to.

Page 3 was submitted for information purposes.

Current Budget Supplement No. 2.

A short discussion ensued respecting the 98 pre-fabricated houses owned by the City, and the City Manager stated that there were one or two problems connected with these houses that will be reported to Council in the future when Staff has had an opportunity to consider them.

Supplement No. 2, as submitted, was agreed to.

Current Budget Supplement No. 3.

Page 1, as submitted, was agreed to.

Page 2, as submitted, was agreed to.

Alderman LeBlanc referred to Parking Revenue on page 3 of the Supplement, and asked what the rate was the City charged for non-metered parking on City-owned land.

The City Manager replied the rate was \$12.00 per month, and complaints had been received stating the rate was too high because the lots are rough, and not necessarily maintained since it is expected these lots will have construction built on them. He stated that City employees are charged \$8.00.

Alderman LeBlanc suggested that the rates be increased.

The City Manager advised that a report would be submitted to Council on the parking spaces available and the potential compared with other lot operators.

It was then MOVED by His Worship the Mayor, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc that the \$10,000 for Parking Meter Revenue be retained, as submitted in Supplement No. 3.

Alderman Connolly referred to the fact that the parking meter rates have not been increased by Council as yet, he questioned whether the Council could leave this amount of money in the budget.

With the approval of his Seconder, His Worship the Mayor withdrew his motion.

It was then MOVED by His Worship the Mayor, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc that \$10,000 be deleted from the estimates, respecting an increase in Parking Meter Revenue, as indicated in Supplement No. 3.

The Motion was then put as follows:

For the motion: Aldermen Connolly, Hogan, LeBlanc,
McGuire, and Sullivan

- 5 -

Against the motion: Aldermen Abbott, Ahern, Ivany,
Meagher and His Worship the Mayor - 5 -

The Chairman cast his vote against the Motion and declared it lost.

Page 3, as submitted, was agreed to.

Alderman Sullivan referred to the last paragraph on page 2 of Supplement No. 3. with respect to the projected Spryfield Water Deficit. He asked why the City should assume the deficit of approximately \$30,000.

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The City Manager advised that the City automatically assumes this deficit because the City takes over all of the County's debts and liabilities.

Alderman Sullivan referred to an article in the newspaper concerning the water rates, and the possibility that these rates would be increased during the year in the old City and decrease in the annexed area. He asked what the financial implications would be to the consumer.

The City Manager said he could not give an answer to this question at the moment.

His Worship the Mayor suggested that if any Aldermen have questions in connection with the water rates, they should contact Mr. J. D. Kline, at the Public Service Commission to obtain the facts, and any indicated projections of increases.

Alderman Connolly was of the opinion that Alderman Sullivan should not call the Public Service Commission, but felt that the City Manager should obtain the information and submit it in writing to the Alderman.

Current Budget Supplement No. 4.

Page 1, Health Department Estimate, as submitted, was agreed to.

TAX CONCESSION AND GRANTS

A report was submitted from the Tax Concession and Grants Committee advising that the Committee has reviewed the requests for grants listed in the Proposed Estimates for 1969 together with some additional requests and recommendations as noted thereon. If these recommendations are accepted this will result in a net decrease of \$27,343 in the total amount