

The Early Vancouver Transcription Project is a project of the Global Civic Policy Society and its President, Sam Sullivan, former Vancouver Mayor. We hope this will stimulate a greater interest in the beginnings of the City of Vancouver and will benefit those who are researching to gain a better understanding of our history. Although we have done our best to ensure accuracy, the original documents are faded and in handwriting that is difficult to read.

The transcription of this Vancouver City Council Meeting was made in October of 2015 by Christopher Stephenson, MLIS Candidate, The University of British Columbia.

MINUTES

Vancouver Jan 31st 1887

The Council met on Monday January 31st 1887 at 7.30.p.m.

Present His Worship Mayor MacLean, presiding, Alderman Alexander, Clark, Hamilton, Humphries, Lefevere, Lockerby, Mannion, Isaac Oppenheimer and Sanders.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and adopted.

Communications

From John M. Stewart; calling the attention of the Council to his inability to hold a Police Court for the trial of H.L. Edson on account of the Police Magistrate refusing to act.

Laid over.

From Charles Alisky giving prices of his Fire Engine and other fire apparatus.

Referred to the F.W.L. Committee.

From John P. Lawson giving estimates of work done on Westminster Avenue and Hastings Street West -

Referred to the Board of Works.

From John Beatty praying the Council to lay a 2 foot sidewalk on Abbott Street between Hastings Street and Pender Street

Referred to the Board of Works.

From Owen Hughes, Steward of the Hospital asking for an increase of salary

Referred to the Board of Health.

From Jos Orr, M.P.P. acknowledging receipt of letter from City Clerk re Hospital

Filed.

From the Vancouver City Band asking for a subsidy from the Council

Referred to Finance Committee

Accounts

Joseph Straus, Cutting Wood	\$20.00	Health.
Wm. Brown, Printing	\$17.50	Finance
Dr. McGuigan, Holding Inquest	\$30.00	Health
J.B. Thornton, Groceries	\$ 3.95	Health
Patt Carry, Charter + Barrels	\$ 8.00	Health + Finance
Thos. Dunn + Co. Damage to Goods	\$137.23	F.W.L.
Royal City Hospital	\$147.50	Health
L.J. Cross, Rent of Office	\$100.00	Finance
M.C. Bell, Pen & Pencil etc	\$ 2.50	"
D.L. Beckinsale	\$ 5.00	Health
Joseph Huntly, Constable Duties	\$17.00	Police
Shaw and Linton, Boat Hire	2.50	"
Robert Couth, Coal	\$21.00	Finance
Pat Garmon, Meat	\$15.36	Health
Owen Hughes, Washing	\$ 3.25	"
John Abrams, Coffins etc	\$20.75	Health + F.W.L.
G.H. Wright, Bread	\$ 4.20	"
W.B. Townsend, Staging	\$ 5.00	Police

Reports.

Board of Works.

The Board of Works met on Monday the 31st day of January A.D.
1887 at 2.P.M.

And beg to submit the following Report:

Mr. Gallagher having declined to carry out his tender for the clearing of the Cemetery we recommend the tender of Messrs Stephenson [sic] and McCraney (the next lowest) to the favourable consideration of Council.

On the Petition of Mr. Hooper and others for Sidewalk on Cambie Street and of Mr. Cargill for the same on Dunlevy Avenue, we recommend that plank sufficient to construct 2 food sidewalks be supplied to the petitioners to lay the same at their expense.

Sgd L.A. Hamilton
Chairman.

Report adopted.

Finance Report:

The Finance Committee met on Monday January 31st 1887 at 2.P.M.

The following accounts were recommended to be paid.

Corbould and McColl	Legal Advice	\$37.00
Vancouver News,	Printing	\$21.90
Munro Miller		\$40.00
Thomson Bros.	Stationery	\$ 2.50

We have taken into consideration the appointment of a Police Magistrate at a salary and would recommend that the offices of Police Magistrate and City Solicitor be combined and the Salary fixed at twelve hundred dollars a year; such officer to be required to frame all by-laws, give legal advice and be debarred from practicing in the Police Court.

Sgd R. H. Alexander
Acting Chairman.

Report Adopted.

Health Committees Report –

The Board of Health met on Monday January 31st 1887 at 4.P.M. and beg to submit the following Report

We have considered the Petition of T.B. Mangan re the erection of a Slaughter house on Lot – 183 and would recommend that his request be not granted a petition being sent in to this Board from the property owners in the vicinity of the proposed site praying that such permission should not be granted.

We recommend the payment of the following accounts: -

Dr. McGuigan.

To examining Buchanan a Lunatic	\$ 5.00
“ Holding Inquest on A. Cordova	\$10.00

Sgd J.M. Lefevre
Chairman

Report – laid over for one week.

Fire Water and Light Report

The Fire Water and Light Committee met on Saturday January 29th 1887 at 2.P.M.

In accordance with the wishes of Council we have awarded the contract for the erection of 24 Street Lamps complete at \$6.90 each to E.S. Scoullar + Co and the making and placing of 24 Lamp posts to E.P. Hamilton for \$55.00.

We have examined the following accounts and recommend their payment: -

Hastings Mill Co. Repairing Engine	\$10.00
Express Company	\$ 5.00

We ask the Council to appropriate five hundred dollars for ordinary expenses connected with the Fire Department and that twenty five hundred dollars be placed to Capital accounts for the erection of a building and the permanent equipment of the Fire Brigade.

This Committee having had under discussion the two schemes for water supply feel themselves incompetent to come to a decision or pass any opinion as to the relative merits from an engineering point of view but are a unit in regarding the financial proposals of the Vancouver Water Works Company as being infinitely preferable and resolve with a view of ascertaining the nature of the agreement that the company would require from the City and the powers of the Corporation to enter into it; recommend that the Council ask the said Company to submit a draft of the same for consideration and state whether the Corporation are clothed with sufficient powers under their Charter to enter therein and if not to submit a form of bill or such amendment to the City Charter in time to secure the necessary legislation at the present session of the House.

In making these proposals it is on the understanding that an expert hydraulic engineer should be appointed by the Vancouver Water Works Company who shall within 60 days report to them as to the feasibility of constructing the said works and the maintenance of a sufficient water supply at all times, but on his reporting favourably in this connection that the agreements of the draft meet with approval; be consummated.

It is however to be distinctly understood that the execution of this agreement on the part of the Corporation in [unreadable] commits them to the correctness of the opinions of said expert.

Sgd R. H. Alexander, Chairman

Report adopted with exception of clause relating to Water Works which was laid over for one week.

By-Laws.

A By-Law to authorize the appointment of a Licence, Health and Fire Inspection was introduced and read a first time.

The By-Law was read a second on motion of Alderman Lefevre seconded by Alderman Hamilton.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole on By-Law on motion of Alderman Hamilton with Alderman Alexander in the Chair.

In Committee the By-Law was numbered 26, the name of John H. Carlisle was inserted as the officer appointed and the Salary fixed at seventy five dollars per month.

After each clause was read over and passed the Committee rose to report progress on motion of Alderman Hamilton. The By-Law was then read a third time on motion of Alderman Alexander seconded by Alderman Hamilton.

Moved by Alderman Clark seconded by Alderman Mannion

That By-Law No 24 be engrossed signed and sealed by the Mayor and Clerk and a copy sent to the British Columbia Gazette for publication.

Carried.

A By-Law to authorize to authorize [sic] the raising of \$6500 for the grading and sidewalking of Westminster Avenue was read a second time on motion of Alderman Hamilton seconded by Alderman Alexander

The Council then went into Committee of the Whole on By-Law with Alderman Hamilton in the Chair.

In Committee the By-Law was numbered 27 and read over clause by clause and passed.

The Committee then rose to report progress.

By-Law read a third time on motion of Alderman Alexander seconded by Alderman Sanders.

Moved by Alderman Lockerby seconded by Alderman Lefevre that By-Law No 27 be engrossed signed and sealed by the Mayor and Clerk and a copy sent to the British Columbia Gazette for publication

Carried.

A By-Law to authorize the raising of \$4300 for the planking of Westminster Avenue was read a second time on motion of Alderman Hamilton seconded by Alderman Alexander.

The Council then went into Committee of the Whole on By-Law with Alderman ~~Alexander~~ Hamilton in the Chair.

In Committee the By-Law was numbered 28 and read over clause by clause and passed.

The Committee rose to report progress on motion of Alderman Alexander.

By-Law read a third time on motion of Alderman Hamilton seconded by Alderman Clark.

Moved by Alderman Alexander seconded by Alderman Mannion

That By-Law No 28 be engrossed signed and sealed by the Mayor and Clerk and a copy sent to the British Columbia Gazette for publication

Carried.

Motions.

Moved by Alderman Hamilton seconded by Alderman Clark That whereas the old road leading from Granville to the False Creek Bridge as defined in the British Columbia Gazette dated August 28th 1875 has been closed by the Government and the land in part through which the road runs has been laid out in town lots, other ground having been given in the way of Streets in lieu thereof.

This Council therefore requests that an order be made authorizing the Deputy Registrar of Titles for the District of New Westminster to effect registration of the titles of the respective owners of lots through which said road was originally laid out on their application therefor

Carried.

The Council then adjourned.

M.A. MacLean

Mayor

Thos. F. McGuigan

City Clerk