

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 November of 2015 by Donna Kynaston.

MINUTES

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Vancouver Sept 15th 1890

The Council met on Monday September 15th 1890.

Present: His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen Browning, Carroll, Horne, Garden, Fox, Sentell, Costello and McLeod.

The Minutes of last meetings were read and adopted.

Communications

From E. Mohun Esq Sanitary Engineer furnishing report on completion of sewers etc. Referred to the Board of Works.

From W. Bredemeyer asking Council to entrust him with the custody of the City flags etc. Filed.

From Mrs. E. Gold asking permission to make two openings in the sidewalk on Water Street. Referred to the Board of Works.

From A.N. Richards Q.C. giving opinion as to liability of the City for lowering grades. Referred to Board of Works.

From J.O. Le Cappillain et al asking that the lane in Block 2, Subdivision 185 be graded. Referred to the Board of Works.

From the Harbor Master informing the Council that he was clothed with full authority regarding giving directions for the unloading of ballast etc. Referred to Board of Health.

From the Secretary of the Vancouver Water

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Works Co enclosing accounts for lowering water pipes on Oppenheimer and Princess Streets. Referred to the Board of Works.

From Blake and Magee asking Council to pay for 11 hogs belonging to Lee Chung which were killed by the Police. Referred to the City Solicitor.

From James McGeer asking Council to give instructions to have Westminster Road properly located between Blocks 133 A & E. Referred to Board of Works.

From W.P West Pound Keeper demanding an investigation of the charges preferred against him. Filed.

From D. G. McDonald asking the Council to grade or sidewalk Front Street in 200 A. Referred to Board of Works.

From Deane & Searle et al asking to have the box drain in Block 4 O.G.T. connected with the box drain on Abbott Street. Referred to the Board of Works.

From James Henderson offering to put up House Numbers as per sample for 25 cts for each house or store number. Filed.

Reports

F.W. & L.

No 12

The Fire, Water and Light Committee met on Wednesday Sept 10th 1890.

Present: Aldermen Fox, Carroll, McLeod

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and Garden.

It was resolved:

1. That a light be not located on the corner of Gore Avenue and Prior St.
2. That the Chief of the Fire Department be instructed to report upon the working pressure of each hydrant.
3. That James Moran be appointed permanent fireman in place of Alex Montgomery resigned. Such appointment to date from the 1st day of September.
4. That A.W. Cameron engineer at fire hall No 1 be removed to Fire Hall No 2, and J. Cooper now at Fire Hall No 2, to Fire Hall No 1.
5. That one week's holiday be granted to the Firemen, same to be arranged by the Chief; not more than one man to be away at one time.
6. That the street lighting account for July and August be paid, but that paid lights be not considered as accepted by the City under the contract until tested.
7. That the following accounts be paid:

C.M. Hawley, Repairs	\$5.80
G.H. Bagley, Horse shoeing	5.00
Electric Ry & Light Co, Street lights	1956.00

Vancouver Gas Co, Gas etc.	33.00
Tye & Co, Supplies	18.28
Crowder & Penzer, Supplies	65.82
I. Forbes, Horse shoeing	4.50
R.C.P. Mills Co, Supplies	26.38
Creighton, Fraser & Co, Supplies	1.15
F.D. Gross, Supplies	2.00
C. Gardner Johnson, Supplies	49.10
Van Water Works Co, Supplies	301.05

Sgd J.M. Fox, Chairman

Moved by Alderman Carroll
Seconded by Alderman McLeod

That the Report be adopted. Carried.

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Finance

No 24

The Finance Committee met on Friday September 12th 1890.

Present: Aldermen Browning, Costello and Garden.

It was recommended:

1. That the following accounts be paid:

H.B. Lewis, Mounting map etc.	55.00
Telephone Co, Rent	23.00
Citizen's P&P Co, Ad	11.64
The Globe Printing Co, Ad	36.00

2. That the action of the Mayor in carrying to a successful issue the sale of \$100000 worth of Vancouver debentures at a premium of \$354, be approved of, and that the City's cheque for 201.95 be forwarded to J.C. Keith Esq in payment of exchange, insurance and postage on said bonds.

3. That the City Auditor's salary be increased to \$30.00 per month to date from the 1st of September 1890.

4. That the accounts from the Health, FW & L, and Board of Works Committees be confirmed for payment.

We beg to report that a general view of Vancouver on a large scale can be got up for about \$150.00 which would be suitable for sending to the Jamaica Exhibition.

Sgd J. M. Browning, Chairman

Moved by Alderman McLeod
Seconded by Alderman Fox

That the Report of the Finance Committee be adopted. Carried.

Works

No 25

The Board of Works met on Thursday September 11th 1890.

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Present: Aldermen Horne, Browning, Sentell and Costello

It was recommended:

1. That W.P. West the pound keeper be discharged at once and a new pound keeper appointed and that Aldermen Costello and Sentell be appointed a sub-committee to make the selection and that they suggest that he wear some distinguishing badge of authority.
2. That a sub-committee consisting of Aldermen Horne, Costello and Sentell be appointed to examine the Market building to see if it is completed in accordance with the specifications and to examine the account for extras and if same is found to be correct to report to the Council on Monday the 15th inst and that the Council be requested to make an intermediate settlement.
3. That an arrangement be entered into with Mr. Henderson for numbering all the buildings in the City provided the cost does not exceed 25 cents for each set numbers.
4. That a temporary 3 ft sidewalk be laid on Robson Street from Broughton to Bute with old plank if obtainable, until the street is graded.
5. That a sub-committee composed of Aldermen Horne and Costello be appointed, with all the powers conferred on the Board of Works to act in the matter of the grades on Westminster Avenue and Granville St South.
6. That permission be not granted to Thos. D. Cyr to erect a veneered building on Water Street, it being contrary to the Fire Limit By-Law.
7. That the sidewalk on Bute Street be built from Georgia to Robson, instead of from Georgia to Pender.
8. That the Chairman of the Police Committee instruct the Chief of Police to notify all the contractors doing City work that blasting, endangering life and property is contrary

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to By-Law and strictly prohibited.

9. That tenders be called for the cutting down of Hastings Street from Carl Avenue west about 250 feet and that the material so excavated be used to fill up Powell Street between Dunlevy Avenue and Campbell Avenue.
10. That the City Engineer be authorized to put on men to clean up the streets and lanes where necessary and that the piles of gravel now piled on the side of Powell Street be carried away and spread on the Market Grounds and that the balance of the Market Grounds be gravelled as far as the appropriation will go.
11. That Messrs Boyd & Clendenning be paid 10 cts a cubic yard for about 700 yards of earth excavated from the cellar of the proposed Bank of B.C. and delivered where directed by the Board of Works; such earth to be spread at the City's expense.
12. That the following contracts be awarded:

Seymour St grading	H. Connacher
Hornby Street sidewalk	Wm Jones

13. That the following accounts be paid:

Wm Tierney, Haro St	\$285.78
Wm Tierney, Robson St	490.73
James King, Prior St	305.10
J.P. Lawson, St Ry Fares	6.00
D. McGillivray, Granville St Bridge	89.41
R.C. Planing Mills Co	11.67
Godfrey & Co	4.50
Hugh Macartney	.50

J. W. Horne, Chairman

The Board of Works in accordance with the resolution passed by the Council on Monday the 8th inst, authorizing them to stop the grading now going on upon Westminster Avenue and Granville Street South and empowering them to consult them to consult [sic] such engineers or other practical parties with a view of ascertaining how the ob

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jectionable grades can best be overcome and to take such action as they deem fit in the matter met as a sub-committee on Friday September 12th at 9:30 P.M.

Present: Aldermen Horne and Costello, the City Engineer and Messrs R.P. Cook and A. G. Ferguson as consulting engineers.

The streets were carefully gone over and the plans and profiles in connection with the work now going on thoroughly examined. The Committee resolved to make the grades on the cross streets 2 ft in 66 feet and to make the average grade on Westminster Avenue 7 ½ per cent and on Granville Street South an average of 8 per cent.

The Sub-Committee appointed to look over the Market building before accepting the same met at said building on Saturday September 13th at 1:30 P.M.

Present: Aldermen Costello and Sentell, the City Engineer, the City Clerk and Mr. Dawson, the architect.

The plans and specifications were examined in detail and your committee while reporting the work done generally to their satisfaction would beg to report that the following works have not been carried out as mentioned in the specifications:

1. Air grates in cellar omitted.
2. Stairs to cellar left out; cost deducted from final account.
3. Only half of the top sash of the windows down stairs made to open as specified and some unprovided with cords.
4. Same as to windows upstairs.
5. Sliding door at rear of building, single boarded and 2 ½ inches frame instead of being diagonally double boarded and is unprovided with swing bar.
6. Front sliding door in same condition.
7. One butt short on each of the side doors

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but 2. 5 in butts replace 3. 4 inch butts mentioned in specifications.

8. Door to cellar not diagonally double boarded and hasp fastening too light.
9. Rails and ballusters of stairs fir instead of cedar.

In all other respects we find the building in accordance with the specifications.

In regard to the final estimates and extras claimed we would recommend that \$175.00 be held back pending the valuation of the omissions above mentioned and one item in the extras on which the Committee has not been satisfied and that the balance be paid over and further that a competent man be appointed to report upon the actual worth of the items omitted.

And further that Messrs Sansom and Dawson be paid the balance of their account.

Moved by Alderman McLeod
Seconded by Alderman Fox

That the Council into Committee of the Whole on the Report. Carried.

Alderman Costello was appointed Chairman.

Moved by Alderman Garden

Seconded by Alderman McLeod

That clause the [sic] of the Report relating to the putting up of street numbers be eliminated and referred back to the Board of Works with power to act. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Fox

Seconded by Alderman Sentell

That clause 10 relating to the carting away of the gravel piled on Powell Street to the Market ground be amended to provide for the spreading of the gravel on another portion of Powell St.

Motion lost:

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Moved by Alderman Fox

Seconded by Alderman McLeod

That clause 12 of the Report be amended by adding the following clause: "That the contract for the grading of Victoria Street be awarded to H. Connacher at 37 cts a lineal foot."

Moved by Alderman Browning in amendment

Seconded by Alderman Carroll

That the grading of said street be carried out as far as the appropriation will allow. Amendment withdrawn, motion lost, and clause allowed to stand as read.

All of the other clauses were passed as read. The Committee then rose and reported the Report complete with amendments.

Moved by Alderman Sentell

Seconded by Alderman McLeod

That the Report be adopted as amended. Carried.

Motions

Moved by Alderman Horne

Seconded by Alderman Costello

That the following labor account be paid:

B. Romang et al, Street work	\$170.45	Carried.
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Moved by Alderman Horne

Seconded by Alderman Sentell

That we recommend to the Citizens of Vancouver the advisability of turning out en masse to attend the Agricultural Exhibition to be held in New Westminster on the 24th, 25th and 26th inst as

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an encouragement to such exhibitions. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Costello
Seconded by Alderman Garden

That the City Engineer be requested to look into the matter of properly protecting all of the young shade trees in the City and report cost of same to the next meeting of the Board of Works, and that the Street Inspector be requested to count all the trees living and report to the engineer. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Horne
Seconded by Alderman Costello

That in accordance with the Report of the Sub Committee of the Board of Works that Messrs Sansom & Dawson be paid \$387.04 their final commission for superintending the construction of the Market building and that H.F. Keefer be paid the final payment and extras claimed less \$175.00 to be retained until the Committee is further satisfied on certain points. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Costello
Seconded by Alderman Sentell

That George McKay be appointed pound keeper in place of W.P. West dismissed, the salary to be same as W.P. West, the duties to commence on the 16th day of September 1890, and that a distinguishing badge be furnished him. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Horne
Seconded by Alderman Costello

That Dr. Bredemeyer be authorized to retain possession of flags etc on behalf of the City, now under his care to be ready at hand when required for public use. Carried.

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Moved by Alderman Costello
Seconded by Alderman Garden

That the City Engineer be authorized to call for tenders for grading Victoria Street 18 feet wide. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Fox
Seconded by Alderman McLeod

That the contract for grading Victoria Street be awarded to H. Connacher as per tender at 37 cts per foot for 10000 feet.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Horne
Seconded by Alderman Garden

That the matter be referred back to the Board of Works.

Amendment lost by casting vote of Mayor.

Motion lost: Yeas Fox, McLeod, Sentell. Nays Carroll, Garden, Costello, Browning and Horne.

Moved by Alderman Horne

Seconded by Alderman Costello

That Mr. E. Mohun's communication to Council on the sewerage question be printed for the information of the public. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Garden

Seconded by Alderman Carroll

That in the future any grades before being adopted as the final and official grades of any street in the City be reported on by the Board of Works and that the City Engineer lay profiles and levels before that Board and that they confer with him and recommend to the Council the most advisable grades for their adoption or decision. Carried.

Notice of Motion

Alderman Carroll gave notice that at the next regular meeting of this Council

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he would introduce the following Motion: "That in the opinion of this Council it is expedient and just that a By-Law should be introduced and passed by the Council exempting the improvements upon real property from taxation."

Moved by Alderman Costello

Seconded by Alderman McLeod

That the Council stand adjourned until Wednesday at 2 P.M. Carried.

D. Oppenheimer, Mayor

Thos. F. McGuigan, City Clerk