

BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS
FOR THE CITY OF HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

81 Sackville Street

July 25, 1944.

R. M. MacKinnon, Esq.,
Commissioner of Works,
City Hall, Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:

At a meeting of the Board held today, the matter of supply of drinking water for Africville School was again under discussion. The Board had before them a tender for digging of a well, which cost in the vicinity of \$675.00.

The Board felt that the well would, at best, be only a makeshift, and felt it would be more desirable if there was some way the water could be brought to the School. I was instructed to write you again in this regard and to ask if there would be any possibility of this being done. The Board would be quite willing to pay over to the City the amount of \$675.00, which the well would cost, as part of the cost of piping the water to the School.

An early reply would be greatly appreciated, as the matter must be settled one way or the other very shortly, in order that provision may be made for the children on the opening of the School, after vacation.

I am, Thanking you for an early reply,

Yours very truly,

(SGD.) H. F. BEZANSON,

Secretary-Treasurer.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

R. M. MACKINNON, C. E.
COMMISSIONER OF WORKS

HALIFAX
NOVA SCOTIA



OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER
OF WORKS

AUGUST
7
1944

WATER SUPPLY - AFRICVILLE SCHOOL

His Worship the Mayor.

Sir:

Attached hereto is a copy of a letter received from Mr. Bezanson, Secretary of the School Board with reference to the water supply for the Africville School.

The nearest supply to this school is at the corner of Robie Street and Hospital Lane, at a distance of 1,500 feet.

The estimated cost of a 6-inch cast iron pipe from this point would be between \$8,000. and \$13,000. depending upon the amount of rock formation encountered.

If the water was only required for the summer months at times when the wells were dry, 1½-inch galvanized pipe could be laid near the surface at an estimated cost of \$1,000.

This would be for school purposes only, and for which the Water Department will expect a revenue.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner of Works.

RMMACK:BS
ENC.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

August 10,
1944.

Mr. H. F. Bezanson,
Sec't. Treasurer, Board of School Commissioners
for the City of Halifax, N. S.
81 Sackville Street, City.

Dear Sir:-

The Committee on Works at a meeting held on the 8th instant, considered a report of the Commissioner of Works, a copy of which is attached, together with your letter addressed to the Commissioner under date of July 25, 1944, with reference to Water Supply for the Africville School.

During discussion of the matter the Committee called the Executive Secretary of the Post War Planning Commission. He informed the Committee that it is considered that the Commission's report on Post War Planning, including possible recommendations regarding the Africville area will be completed and submitted to City Council at the end of the year approximately.

In consideration of the present uncertainty as to the future use of Africville, the Committee does not favor an expenditure of from eight to thirteen thousand dollars for the purpose of extending the water supply thereto, as a different use of the area in future might necessitate installation of another size of water main.

The Committee directed me to forward the attached copy of the Commissioner's report and to ask that the Board of School Commissioners consider the feasibility of installing a deeper well.

The Committee decided that if the Board considers a deeper well would be feasible, they will recommend to City Council that the City of Halifax contribute a part of the cost of the well.

Yours truly,

TJM/DW

Clerk of Works.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

200
1323

Halifax, N. S.,
August 11, 1944.

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

Gentlemen:-

At a meeting of the Finance and Executive Committee held on the above date a report from the Committee on Works regarding the matter of installing an Artesian Well at Africville, was considered.

Your Committee recommends that in view of the fact that the Board of School Commissioners is installing a well at Africville for the use of the school that the installation of the second well be deferred for the present.

Respectfully submitted,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

August
11
1944

Mr. R. H. Stoddard,
Deputy City Clerk,
City Hall,
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:

The Committee on Works at a meeting held on the 8th instant considered your letter of August 7, 1944, in which you advise that the Public Health and Welfare Committee recommended that sewer and water facilities be installed to meet the needs of the Africville residents, instead of permission being granted to erect a privy there as recommended to the Public Health and Welfare Committee by the Sanitary Engineer, Mr. E. C. Thomas.

The Committee called the Executive Secretary of the Post War Planning Commission who informed them that it is considered that the Commission's report on post-war planning including possible recommendations regarding the Africville area, will be completed and submitted to City Council at the end of this year approximately.

In consideration of the present uncertainty as to the future use of Africville, the Committee does not favour a large expenditure for the purpose of extending sewer and water mains thereto, as such installations may not be satisfactory if the area is used for a different purpose in future.

Therefore as an alternative the Committee approved of the Sanitary Engineer's recommendation that permission be granted to erect a privy.

Very truly yours,

T. J. Moore,
Clerk of Works

TJM:

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

T. J. MOORE,
CLERK OF WORKS

HALIFAX
NOVA SCOTIA



OFFICE OF CLERK OF WORKS

August 11, 1944

ARTESIAN WELL FOR RESIDENTS AT AFRICVILLE

The Chairman and Members of Finance and Executive Committee.

Gentlemen:

A meeting of the Committee on Works was held on this date at which were present Deputy Mayor Ahern, Chairman; Alderman DeWolf, Alderman Breen and Alderman Reardon, together with representatives of the Board of School Commissioners for the City of Halifax, N. S., and of the Department of Public Health and Welfare.

Those present discussed the problem of water and sewer facilities for Africville.

Following discussion the members of the Committee on Works present, on motion of Alderman Reardon, seconded by Alderman Breen, recommended that City Council authorize the installation at a cost not exceeding \$1,000, of an artesian well at Africville for the use of the residents of that area, provided that the City of Halifax applies to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for the Province of Nova Scotia and obtains his approval for borrowing by the City of the necessary funds for that purpose.

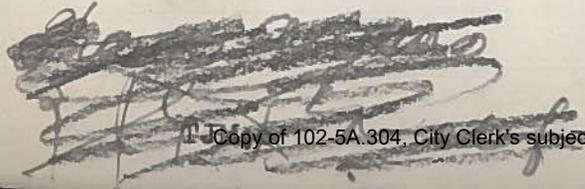
This well would be in addition to the artesian well which the Board of School Commissioners for the City of Halifax, N. S. proposes to install at Africville for the use of the school children of that community.

Relative to this matter and attached hereto are the following:

- (a) A copy of letter from Mr. H. F. Bezanson, Secretary Treasurer of the Board of School Commissioners, to the Commissioner of Works under date of July 25, 1944.
- (b) Report of the Commissioner of Works dated August 7, 1944 and entitled, "Water Supply - Africville School."
- (c) Copy of letter from Clerk of Works to Mr. H. F. Bezanson under date of August 10, 1944.
- (d) Copy of letter from Clerk of Works to Deputy City Clerk under date of August 11, 1944.

Respectfully submitted,
W. P. Publicover, City Clerk.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.



October 7, 1944.

H. F. Bezanson, Esq.,
Secretary Board School Commissioners,
51 Sackville Street,
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Sir:-

At a meeting of the Finance and Executive Committee held last evening, the matter of the installation of an Artesian Well at Africville to meet the needs of the residents there was considered. I was directed to write to you for the purpose of ascertaining what action has been taken by the Board of School Commissioners to install an Artesian Well for the purpose of supplying water to the Africville School.

I shall appreciate it very much if you will let me have this information as early as convenient.

Yours very truly,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

WPP/RHS.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

KG 55-102 (5A15) 304,7
ARTESIAN WELL AT AFRICVILLE

Read letter from the City Solicitor as follows:

October 12, 1944.

W. P. Publicover, Esq.,
City Clerk.

Dear Sir:

As requested by you this morning I made an enquiry as to the availability or source of funds for the above project. On the basis that it could well be regarded as a part of the water supply of the City, it would be necessary to secure the approval of the Public Utilities Board before proceeding with the same.

The matter was considered by Mr. Doane the Manager of the Halifax Public Utilities Commission, and Mr. J. R. Kaye of Engineering Service Company, and some doubt was expressed as to the advisability of sinking such a well from an engineering point of view. It was felt that no assurance would be given that the project would be satisfactory.

In view of this, I do not think that we have sufficient information to take to the Board of Public Utilities to justify the Board in granting an application for this project and I would recommend that further study be given to the proposal by the engineers and that if the same is considered a feasible project that an application be then made to the Public Utilities Board for permission to proceed.

- 359 -

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX

October 12, 1944.

Yours very truly,

CARL P. BETHUNE,
CITY SOLICITOR..

Alderman Batson stated that evidently the privy and cesspool will not be satisfactory according to the Engineering Department. Why not take the original suggestion to put sewer and water through. It is a public necessity and we will benefit from it the same as we did on Vestry Street. He said that if an epidemic of diphtheria broke out among the residents of Africville we would have to pay for their hospital care and that would amount to more in the end.

Alderman DeWolf stated that he thought the School Board was looking after this.

The City Solicitor stated that the reason the matter came^{up}/was that under the Public Utilities Act any expenditure for capital for more than \$1,000.00 must be approved by the Public Utilities Board. The main point was where is the money coming from. Mr. Doane stated that the experience in Halifax with artesian wells was not satisfactory. We would have to be in a position to show the Board that this would not be a waste.

Alderman Burgess stated that at the Public Health and Welfare Committee meeting and School Board Meeting he voted against the matter of an artesian well.

Moved by Alderman Batson, seconded by Alderman Burgess that sewer and water be constructed instead of an artesian well.

His Worship the Deputy Mayor asked Mr. MacKinnon how much it would cost to install sewer and water facilities at Africville, to which Mr. MacKinnon replied about \$8,000.00.

October 12, 1944.

Alderman Walker stated that the money has to come from the tax payers anyway so why not put in something permanent.

His Worship the Mayor resumes the Chair at 8.35 P. M.

His Worship the Mayor stated that this should be referred back to the Committee on Works.

Alderman Batson stated that this matter has been on the go for two months now and we expect the Engineering Department to have the details for us and I think we should have that information before us now.

Alderman Reardon stated that he was not against the project but contended that we should have more information.

His Worship the Mayor stated that he thought it advisable to have the figures in front of the Aldermen.

Alderman Hosterman asked Mr. MacKinnon what the \$8,000.00 covered, to which he replied the report stated that the construction of a main down to Africville School would constitute that amount of money.

Moved in amendment by Alderman Coffin, seconded by Alderman Reardon that the Committee on Works hold a meeting next week and within a week from today a

special Council meeting be held to consider this matter. Amendment passed.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.



CITY COUNCIL

OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL

Halifax, N. S.,.....19

Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax
held on the.....*day of*.....19

A true extract,

W. P. Publicover,
CITY CLERK.

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

14

Date October 12, 1944.

From: Carl P. Bethune
City Solicitor

Re: Artesian well at
Africville.

To: W. P. Publicover, Esq.
City Clerk

Dear Sir:

As requested by you this morning I made an enquiry as to the availability or source of funds for the above project. On the basis that it could well be regarded as a part of the water supply of the City, it would be necessary to secure the approval of the Public Utilities Board before proceeding with the same.

The matter was considered by Mr. Doane, the Manager of the Halifax Public Utilities Commission, and Mr. J. R. Kaye of Engineering Service Company, and some doubt was expressed as to the advisability of sinking such a well from an engineering point of view. It was felt that no assurance would be given that the project would be satisfactory.

In view of this, I do not think that we have sufficient information to take to the Board of Public Utilities to justify the Board in granting an application for this project and I would recommend that further study be given to the proposal by the engineers and that if the same is considered a feasible project that an application be then made to the Public Utilities Board for permission to proceed.

Yours very truly,



CARL P. BETHUNE
CITY SOLICITOR.

CPB/EHJ

PUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.

**CITY COUNCIL**OFFICE OF CITY CLERK
CITY HALL*Halifax, N. S.*, October 23, 1944. 19*Extracts from Minutes of a Meeting of the City Council of the City of Halifax*
held on the 12th day of October 19 44.ARTESIAN WELL AT AFRICVILLEPUBLIC ARCHIVES OF NOVA SCOTIA
HALIFAX, N. S.