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Planning Alderman Connolly seconded the motion.

After a short discussion, the City Solicitor suggested that perhaps the City should request an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act to make the blocking of an intersection an offence, it could then be included in the instruction manual issued to beginner drivers.

Alderman Moir thought that if an amendment is made to the Motor Vehicle Act, it should be brought to the attention of all drivers.

Alderman Sullivan, with the approval of his seconder, amended his motion to request the provincial authorities to amend the Motor Vehicle Act to make the blocking of intersections an offence.

The motion was then put and passed.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Accounts Over \$5,000.00

MOVED by Alderman Abbott, seconded by Alderman Ivany that the City Manager be authorized to pay the following account over \$5,000.00:

<u>VENDOR</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Workmen's Compensation Board of Nova Scotia	1968 Assessment	\$ 18,262.00

Motion passed.

Report - Social Planning Committee and Housing Committee

Alderman Moir referred briefly to the discussions which took place during the meeting of the Social Planning Committee and suggested that the report from the Housing Committee, which relates to the recommendations of the Social

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Planning Committee, could be considered at this time.

MOVED by Alderman Moir, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc that, as recommended by the Social Planning Committee, Council approve that the role of the Social Planner be defined in the following manner:

The Social Planner shall be responsible for the formulation of policies to provide all those social services that are necessary for the well-being of the community as a whole, paying attention to, but not necessarily restricted to, the following particular points:

1. To assist the Development Department, the Social Planning and the Housing Committees in formulating housing policies, especially as they apply to the elderly and disadvantaged families.
2. To maintain liaison with the various welfare agencies in the City, whether private or government, and to encourage them to develop programs and policies that will ensure the maximum use of staff and funds.
3. To review the organization and administration of the Social Assistance Department and to determine whether changes have to be made. To develop an in-service training and staff development program for the personnel of the Social Assistance Department and Basinview Home.
4. Ensure that the Social Assistance Department formulates and carries out policies that are designed to encourage the effective rehabilitation of people requiring financial assistance.
5. Follow up on the Africville relocation program. Interview individuals who are affected by the move and prepare a report on the changes in their circumstances.
6. Recommend to the City Manager programs re the development of Day Care, Homemakers, Sheltered Workshops, training programs, housekeeping courses and other related programs.
7. Investigate the needs of the elderly. This includes responsibility for a share in the planning of the Basinview Home.

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8. Investigate the needs of the disabled with particular reference to the provision of homes for the disabled and make any recommendations considered necessary for remedial action.

Motion passed.

Alderman Moir pointed out that the following recommendations were contained in a report prepared by the Social Planner dated October 18, 1968. He advised that the Housing Committee had reviewed the recommendations of the Social Planning Committee relating to Housing and have amended part (b) of that recommendation. It was then MOVED by Alderman Moir, seconded by Alderman Abbott that, as recommended by the Social Planning Committee and amended by the Housing Committee, the following recommendations be approved:

1. Accessibility and Effectiveness of Social Agencies
 - (a) Priority should be given to take the necessary steps to make those welfare services which are the direct responsibility of the City as effective and productive as possible.
 - (b) This requires that additional space be made available as soon as possible for the Halifax Social Assistance Department. Ideally services should be decentralized with an office in the northend, one in the southend, and a third in the annexed area.
 - (c) The policies and procedures of the assistance department should be reviewed with the objective of formulating policies that reduce the overcrowding in line-up for assistance that now exists. Such policies should make possible the maximum use of staff skills and be oriented towards rehabilitation as well as financial need. In developing such a manual of policy, views of the consumer of the product, the welfare recipient, should be taken into account.
 - (d) An analysis and classification of the caseload should be carried out immediately. Such an analysis should provide the basis for establishing the need for various types of rehabilitation programs, (such as retraining, Daycare, family counselling, medical services, Homemaker services, etc.).

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- (e) Since the assistance office must be relocated it would appear to be an ideal time to encourage the provision of comprehensive neighbourhood social services. Financial assistance should be only one of the resources offered to people experiencing a crisis in their lives. If families are to be truly helped towards self-sufficiency they may need family counselling, child welfare services, mental health services, etc. These should be conveniently located in the same building and in some instances under the same administration.

2. Services for Elderly Persons

A placement and community care program for the elderly should be organized. Such a program through the provision of auxiliary services (such as homemakers, home nursing, volunteers, daycare, meals on wheels, etc.) should make it possible for the elderly to remain in their own homes for a longer period of time. A service of this type could also ensure that when placement is necessary, alternate choices are available.

3. Assistance to Families Relocated from Africville

Efforts should be made to determine the specific difficulties that families who were relocated from Africville are encountering. If the results so indicate, a program of social and economic training should be offered and a social worker made available to whom they could turn for help and information.

4. Housing

- (a) Social and economic retraining should be made available to families who are forced to relocate and increased opportunities for home ownership should be offered where practical.

- (b) Housing development in this area is being impeded by a lack of serviced land. The scarcity of building lots makes it totally impossible for the average wage earner to compete for a suitable building site and he cannot meet the increased costs of construction. Subsidies should be paid by the three levels of government to enable moderate income families to make it possible for them to acquire a home either through private, condominium or co-operative housing. Public housing is certainly necessary but families of modest income should also be given the opportunity of solving their own housing problem through home ownership. Steps should be taken to ensure that serviced land is made available in the annexed area as quickly as possible.

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- (c) It should be recognized that the Halifax Housing Authority is required to carry out policies that are established by the three members of the partnership, mainly, the Federal Government, the Provincial Government and the City. The policies under which the Housing Authority operates would appear to be tension-producing at times. There are instances where the rent structure seems to mitigate against personal saving and any possible move out of public housing. For example, any increase in family income through overtime work is immediately reflected in an increase in the rent. The current Housing Authority policies should be studied by the Social Planning Staff and any practical recommendation for change presented to members of the partnership.

Motion passed.

Alderman Ivany asked how the brief being prepared by City Staff to the Hellyer Task Force is progressing.

His Worship the Mayor advised that it is hoped that a draft of the brief will be ready about the middle of next week when the Housing Committee could meet and discuss it.

Appointment - Traffic Authority

The following report was submitted from Staff:

The position of Traffic Authority for the City of Halifax has been vacant since the resignation of Mr. Alfred Howard, former Traffic Engineer. With the passing of Chief of Police V. W. Mitchell, the position of Deputy Traffic Authority has also become vacant. It is not clear that this function is automatically assumed by the Deputy Chief of Police and it is therefore felt that a formal appointment should be made by Council.

It is considered that the question of the appointment of a Traffic Authority requires further attention by the departments concerned than it has been possible to give in the past week. Staff will, however, be prepared to make recommendations within the near future. In order that proper authority exist in the meantime, it is recommended that John A. Wrin, Deputy Chief of Police be appointed on an interim basis as Traffic Authority for the City of Halifax, under Section 77 of the Motor Vehicle Act.

MOVED by Alderman LeBlanc, seconded by Alderman Fitzgerald that the Staff report be approved. Motion passed.