

COMMITTEE ON WORKS

City Council Chamber,

August 11, 1944.

Meeting held at 4 p . m.

Present: Deputy Mayor Ahern, Chairman;  
Aldermen DeWolf, Breen, and Reardon;  
also the Commissioner of Works.  
Present also were Mr. James Myrden, Mr.  
G. S. Kinley and Mr. F. W. Curtis,  
representing the Board of School Commissioners  
for the City of Halifax, N. S., and Dr. A. R.  
Morton, Commissioner of Public Health and  
Welfare, Mr. E. C. Thomas and Mr. A. G.  
Pettipas, representing the Department of  
Public Health and Welfare for the City of  
Halifax, N. S.

The meeting was called to discuss the problem of  
water and sewer facilities for Africville.

Mr. James Myrden described existing sanitary  
conditions at Africville School.

Read report of the Commissioner of Works dated  
August 7, 1944 and entitled, "Water Supply - Africville  
School," which had been considered by the Committee on  
Works at a meeting held on the 8th instant.

Read copy of letter from Clerk of Works to Mr.  
H. F. Bezanson, Secretary Treasurer of the Board of  
School Commissioners, under date of August 10, 1944.

Read 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.

Read copy of letter from Clerk of Works to Deputy  
City Clerk under date of August 11/44.

The Clerk of Works' letter to the Deputy City  
Clerk under date of August 11/44 advised in part, that  
the Committee on Works at a meeting held on the 8th  
instant had decided that in consideration of the present  
uncertainty as to the future use of Africville, it does  
not favor a large expenditure for the purpose of extend-  
ing sewer and water mains to Africville, as such  
installations may not be satisfactory if the area is  
used for a different purpose in future, and that there-  
fore as an alternative, the Committee approved of the

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Sanitary Engineer's recommendation to the Public Health and Welfare Committee that permission be granted to erect a privy.

Following discussion, Dr. A. R. Morton, Commissioner of Public Health and Welfare, informed the Committee verbally that for health reasons he and his department are opposed to the erection of privies which are not connected with sewer outlets, but that in consideration of the circumstances in this case he would not oppose the issuance of a permit for the erection of a privy, as a temporary expediency only.

The members of the Committee on Works present and the representatives of the Board of School Commissioners agreed that if the City did not wish to spend the large sum required to provide sewer and water mains for Africville because of the present uncertainty as to the future use of that area, the School Board should be authorized to provide a privy and an artesian well for Africville School, and requested Dr. Morton to try to obtain the permission required.

The Committee on Works, 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.

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Adjourned.

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W. P. Publicover,  
City Clerk

Per *W. P. Publicover*  
CLERK OF WORKS

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Chairman