

Relief Commission Headquarters

Halifax, Nov. 26, 1918

A meeting of the City Advisory Committee and the Halifax Relief Commission was held at the Relief Commission Headquarters at 12.15 Nov. 26th.

Present- His Worship the Mayor
T.S. Rogers - Chairman Hfx. Relief
Judge Wallace
F.L. Fowke
City Engineer
City Clerk
Controller Finlay
R.P. Bell

Mr Wells - City Clerk- The first thing to bring before the meeting is the matter of Fireman ~~Webb~~. The Controller of the Fire Department says there is no capacity in which he can be employed.

T.S. Rogers- He has been employed at the Spring Garden Road fire station, has he not?

Mayor- He was instructing one of the men there how to drive a motor, but that was only temporarily.

T.S. Rogers- We paid him for two months after he left the hospital.

R.P. Bell - He was paid by the City to July 1st.

T.S. Rogers- And then we allowed him two months disability on the report of our Medical Board. That report stated that at present he was driving a car and after using his hand and arm a while they became stiff and sore. The report also stated that in the judgment of the Board there would ultimately be good restoration of function. Our Board allowed him \$37 a month for two months and he was to come back at the end of that time to see if there was a continuous disability. Of course our allowance is dependant entirely on the man's disability. The case is a serious one, and we want to do what is right.

Mayor- He is not employed now and we have no employment for him.

R. S. Rogers- He was paid by us for August and September and he has not been back since then.

Cont. Finlay- As a fireman this man is not suitable because he is not able to dress himself, and if an alarm is rung in at night, one of the other men has to assist him to dress.

Mayor- His present earnings are nil and will continue to be, as far as the City is concerned.

T.S. Rogers- Tell Mr. ^{*Wells*} ~~Webb~~ to get in touch with Dr. Cotten.

City Clerk- Take the case of Policeman Wilson. He is

not able to perform his duties at all. He is still being paid by the ~~Fire~~ Department. One eye is out and the other is almost no good. He has received nothing at all from the Relief Commission for his disability.

T.S.Rogers- The reason there has been some delay in settling the matter of his disability is that Dr. Cuten was notified that he was entitled to receive a pension from the City, beginning in August, for long service.

Mayor- He has not been in the employ of the City for sufficient time to obtain a pension from the City.

City Clerk- His pension would not be sufficient, in any case, to support him.

Judge Wallace- It will be necessary to know what he will be getting as a pension from the City, in order to decide what will be paid him.

T.S.Rogers- He will get \$20 a month on account of his eye disability, or a cash allowance of \$2000. Mr. Wilson has been informed of this.

Mayor- I think that will be sufficient for him with his superannuation from the City.

City Clerk- Another matter that must be brought up is the application of the School Board for \$50,000 for loan on explosion repairs. And the City wants about \$50,000/

marked -
T.S.Rogers- There are a few matters outstanding which should be adjusted right away. I refer to the repairs to the City ~~Hall~~, repairs and additions to the Smallpox Hospital and the erection of the Infectious Hospital on Morris Street, less the grant of \$10,000 which remained outstanding. I have been away for three months, and I presume nothing has been done in this matter in the meantime. Would not the best way be for us to make out a memorandum of what we have expended and submit it Mr. Doane?

City Engineer- How does this affect this question?

T.S.Rogers- We said we would advance so much money and it is right that your Auditor and our Auditor should have a list of the amounts.

Mayor- There was a limit placed tentatively.

marked -
T.S.Rogers- Yes, it was only tentative, but we based our financial affairs on that limit. Of course we went a little further, because we realized that while the Victory Loan was on you could not very well borrow, but you can borrow now on your bonds as easily as you could from us. How long would it take you to make up the amounts we expended on the repairs to City ~~Hall~~, Infectious Hospital and Smallpox Hospital?

City Engineer- We would have to depend on you for that.

T.S.Rogers- Mr. Johnston was right here at the time.

Mayor- Your Department, Mr. Doane, should go

over the work and check up and verify the figures as far as possible.

City Engineer- That would be a difficult thing to do now.

T.S.Rogers- As to the \$50,000 for the schools, I suppose if I had been here, a settlement would have been reached. We will arrange for that \$50,000 right away. You are in no hurry for the money for the City?

Mayor- Yes, for there is some money due to contractors. At the City Home and the Hazlewood Sanitarium which were damaged by the explosion, we have had to make repairs. Mr. D.G. Stewart is doing that work.

T.S.Rogers- You can get temporary accommodation from the bankers.

City Clerk- The Board all along has thought it better policy to obtain all the money for explosion repairs from the Relief Commission.

T.S.Rogers- We are loaning money that has no relation to the explosion, but we felt that if we had available funds and you were up against it from legal difficulties and could not get the money, we would step in and help you. At the same time we want you to understand that you cannot come to us for money you need for schools, damage to buildings etc. In the meantime if you want the \$50,000 we will give it to you on the same terms as before. And Mr. Doane, will you make up a list of what has been done and the cost, and we will then find out what we have loaned to the City.

Mayor- There are some streets in the devastated area, around Agricola Street where, if you remember there was a fairly comfortable sidewalk, and when you first commenced your construction work you took that up and put in foundations. All those sidewalks were destroyed. They were ash sidewalks. There are a lot of people living up there and they have to walk home over streets which are almost impassable. There is no consideration shown the people at all. My idea is that as you took up our sidewalks you should put up some temporary kind of a walk so that the people wont have to go knee deep in mud. I was up there last night and there was a car half way across the road with no light on it. A man who was going doing, bumped into it.

T.S.Rogers- That matter has been discussed by the Commission within the last 48 hours, and the difficulty has been that we are trying to build some sewers and we have struck such horrible weather.

Mayor Hawkins- Agricola Street extension is the worst piece of road there is in the City, where your track crosses. They have dug it up and it is full of pits and holes. I went into one last week and broke two springs in my car.

T.S.Rogers- Get Mr. Doane or his staff to go up there and let us know what is to be done, and we will meet you in any way. As soon as that sewer is finished the City may have available some ashes, which we will haul and try to put the sidewalk in a proper condition.

City Engineer- We have no ashes except what we collect.

T.S.Rogers- Could you have some dumped along there ?

City Engineer- I daresay we could, but we do not get very many from that ward. It would be impossible in Ward Six, but a little further south we might be able to get some.

Mayor- We shall leave it to Mr. Doane and your people, and they can get together and devise some means of making it possible.

T.S.Rogers- There is one matter I want to mention again. When we last met, we suggested that the City pass a resolution authorizing the building of sewers in the devastated area so that assessment could be collected from abutting property owners. This has not yet been done.

City Clerk- That has to be passed by the City Council.

City Engineer- It wont be legal until it is passed by the City Council.

T.S.Rogers- If it has to be legalized, we might as well legalize the wholething.

Mayor- It would be just a question of the mere reporting on it and approving.

T.S.Rogers- It is all being done under your eye; the water as well.

City Engineer. I have not heard anything about the water, but I instructed the Foreman of the Water Department to inspect it when it is ready.

City Engineer - There is just one little matter. It was one of the provisions of the agreement allowing you to use that siding that you should not leave cars on the street - someone must be neglecting their duty.

Mayor- A car has been there for two days.

City Engineer- We had no legal authority to give you the permit, and it looks to me as tho we would be in trouble if anything went wrong with it.

T.S.Rogers- If you were in trouble, we would have to indemnify you.

Meeting adjourned - 1 o'clock