

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th 1931 AT 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Mayor E.H. Bridgman
Alderman Anderson
Alderman Cartwright
Alderman Huggett
Alderman Loutet
Alderman Wilson

Prior to the open meeting of Council the members met in Committee and heard a report from the Mayor that a clash had taken place that morning between sections of the unemployed when work was about to commence for the day at 12th Street and St. Andrew's Avenue. His Worship the Mayor stated he had arrived on the scene simultaneously with the police and found that some of the men had been hurt and those who were prepared to go to work had become disrupted to such an extent that he had ordered the job abandoned for the day pending the action of Council. If the Council did not see fit to change its position he was prepared to take the necessary steps to maintain law and order.

Discussion followed and the Committee at 8.35 p.m. adjourned to open Council.

IN COUNCIL

Moved by Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Wilson and resolved that the Notice of meeting as read be confirmed.

Correspondence was read from the local branch of the Independent Labour Party which contained the following resolution:

“THAT co-operation be given the unemployed workers of the City of North Vancouver by asking the City Council that instead of giving relief grocery slips, as at present, for work done, that same be paid in cash”.

And further drawing attention to Section 5 of the “Truck Act” dealing with payment for work done.

From the local branch of the Canadian Legion with reference to the present method of remuneration to those engaged in Unemployment Relief work, suggesting that in so far as the members of their Unit were concerned they would welcome direct payment for any work done.

From five members of the local branch of the St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society, unofficially drawing attention to the item “Scotch Soup” on the Food Budget Menu,

declaring that the concoction had no relationship to "Scotch Broth" which they state is made from different ingredients.

Moved by Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Huggett and resolved that the communications be considered with other matters as part of the Relief programme.

Moved by Alderman Loutet, seconded by Alderman Huggett and resolved that the present system of relief be discontinued and that hereafter persons requesting relief and engaged by the City of North Vancouver to carry out any work whatsoever shall receive payment at the rate of \$2.00 per day for single men and \$2.80 per day for married men, a day to constitute 8 hours, and further that any person who received relief prior to September 1, 1930, be required to pay the City the amount owing by him for relief advanced, provided however, that he shall not be required to reimburse the City more than \$12.00 in any one week, and that the time of each man's employment be left in the hands of the Comptroller.

Alderman Anderson Voting Against.

At the request of the spokesman for the North Vancouver Unemployed Association (Mr. Cobb) the Mayor amplified the meaning of the resolution that had just been passed by the Council, whereupon it was suggested that a Committee from the Association confer with the Council on the details that were not considered satisfactory.

A long discussion helped to iron out some of the difficulties anticipated in the administration. It was then moved by Alderman Wilson, seconded by Alderman Cartwright and resolved that the Comptroller in his discretion turn over the pay earned in certain cases to the wife or families of the workmen and that a knowledge from any source whatever of any improper spending of the funds be summarily dealt with by suitable action.

The Mayor thereafter thanked the Committee from the Association for the manner in which they had met the situation and those present for turning out in such large numbers.

Moved by Alderman Anderson, seconded by Alderman Loutet and resolved that the Federal and Provincial Governments be communicated with urging the necessity for immediate action in the declaration of a definite policy in respect to Municipalities entering into joint agreements with the Governments for the undertaking of a programme of public works.

Moved by Alderman Loutet, seconded by Alderman Anderson and resolved that the Council name a date, to be set at the next meeting of Council, for a public meeting in the K.P. Hall to deal with the entire situation relative to the Second Narrows Bridge.

Moved by Alderman Loutet, seconded by Alderman Wilson and resolved that this meeting of Council do now adjourn.

Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 10.45 p.m.

E.H. BRIDGMAN
MAYOR