

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the City Council, held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on Monday, February 27th, 1956, at 7 p.m.

Present:

Acting Mayor J. M. Bryan, Alderman Wm. Angus, Alderman E. N. Copping, Alderman K. H. Gostick, Alderman T. C. McMillan and Alderman J. A. Suttis.

The Clerk advised that 24 hours notice of this meeting had been given as required by the Municipal Act and that the meeting had been called to consider Applications to Purchase Property, By-laws, Unfinished Business, and Any Other Competent Business.

APPLICATIONS TO PURCHASE PROPERTY

The Clerk submitted four applications to purchase Tax Sale land.

Moved by Alderman Gostick, seconded by Alderman McMillan that the following sales of Tax Sale Lands be placed on the next by-law for conveyance.

<u>Lot</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>D.L.</u>	<u>Name of Purchaser</u>	<u>Price</u>
14	213A	544/545	William Woods	\$1250.00
16	13	273	Stephen W. Storey and Peter Perehinski	\$1300.00
7 & E 1/2 6	73	548/549	Morris W. Miller & Jessie Miller	\$8400.00
S 6 & 7	7	616	Rudolf Olljum and Irene Olljum	\$1750.00 Subject to consolidation into one parcel. Carried.

BY-LAWS

Moved by Alderman Copping, seconded by Alderman Suttis that "The City of North Vancouver Electrical Inspection By-law, 1926, Amendment By-law 1956" be now reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Copping, seconded by Alderman McMillan that "The City of North Vancouver Electrical Inspection By-law, 1926, Amendment By-law 1956" be finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and registered pursuant to the "Municipal Act". Carried.

Whereupon the By-law was finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and numbered 2421.

Moved by Alderman Suttis and Seconded by Alderman Copping that the "Eighth Street South Side, St. Andrews Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Local Improvement Sidewalk Special Rates By-law, 1956" be now reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Suttis, seconded by Alderman Angus that the "Eighth Street South Side, St. Andrews Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Local Improvement Sidewalk Special Rates By-law, 1956" be finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and registered pursuant to the "Municipal Act". Carried.

Whereupon the By-law was finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and numbered 2422.

Moved by Alderman Gostick, seconded by Alderman Suttis that the "Fourth Street North and South Sides, Ridgeway Avenue to Moody Avenue Sidewalk Local Improvement Special Rates By-law, 1956" be now reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Suttis, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the "Fourth Street North and South Sides, Ridgeway Avenue to Moody Avenue Sidewalk Local Improvement Special Rates By-law, 1956" be finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and registered pursuant to the "Municipal Act". Carried.

Whereupon the By-law was finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and numbered 2423.

Moved by Alderman Copping, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the "Eighth Street North Side, St. Andrews Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Local Improvement Sidewalk Special Rates Bylaw, 1956" be now reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Alderman McMillan, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the "Eighth Street North Side, St. Andrews Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Local Improvement Sidewalk Special Rates By-law, 1956" be finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and registered pursuant to the "Municipal Act". Carried.

Whereupon the By-law was finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and numbered 2424.

Moved by Alderman Suttis, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the "Seventeenth Street South Side, Lonsdale Avenue to West Boulevard Sidewalk Local Improvement Special Rates By-law, 1956" be now reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Alderman Copping, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the "Seventeenth Street South Side, Lonsdale Avenue to West Boulevard Sidewalk Local Improvement Special Rates By-law, 1956" be finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and registered pursuant to the "Municipal Act". Carried.

Whereupon the By-law was finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and numbered 2425.

Moved by Alderman McMillan, seconded by Alderman Copping that the "Twelfth Street North Side, St. Andrews Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Local Improvement Sidewalk Special Rates By-law, 1956" be now reconsidered. Carried.

Moved by Alderman McMillan, seconded by Alderman Copping that the "Twelfth Street North Side, St. Andrews Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Local Improvement Sidewalk Special Rates By-law, 1956" be finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and registered pursuant to the "Municipal Act". Carried.

Whereupon the By-law was finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and numbered 2426.

Moved by Alderman Gostick, seconded by Alderman McMillan that the "Twelfth Street from a point 235 feet West of St. Georges Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Sanitary Sewer Local Improvement Special Rates By-law, 1956" be now reconsidered.

Carried.

Moved by Alderman Gostick, seconded by Alderman McMillan that the "Twelfth Street from a point 235 feet West of St. Georges Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue Sanitary Sewer Local Improvement Special Rates By-law, 1956" be finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and registered pursuant to the "Municipal Act". Carried.

Whereupon the By-law was finally adopted and passed, signed by the Mayor and City Clerk and sealed with the Corporate Seal and numbered 2427.

Moved by Alderman McMillan, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the "City of North Vancouver Highways Dedication By-law, 1956" be introduced and read a first time.

Whereupon the By-law was then read.

Moved by Alderman Copping, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the "City of North Vancouver Highways Dedication By-law, 1956" be now passed, subject to reconsideration.

Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. A letter was received from the Ridgeway Parent-Teacher Association thanking the Council for its prompt attention to the Association's request for sidewalk repairs on Ridgeway Avenue and Keith Road.

Moved by Alderman Gostick, seconded by Alderman Suttis that the above letter from the Ridgeway Parent-Teacher Association be received and filed. Carried.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

2. A notice was received from the Labour Relations Board advising that the North Vancouver Fire Fighters Association Local 914 was certified as a bargaining unit for the Firemen, Fire Warden, and Fire Department Mchanics within the City of North Vancouver.

Moved by Alderman Gostick, seconded by Alderman Angus that the above notice from the Labour Relations Board be received and filed. Carried.

Acting Mayor Bryan said that he wished to introduce a motion at this Council meeting and asked permission to vacate the Chair.

Moved by Alderman McMillan, seconded by Alderman Angus that Acting Mayor Bryan vacate the Chair and Alderman Copping be appointed Chairman of the meeting. Carried.

3. Alderman Bryan said that he would like to present a resolution to ask the City Council to co-operate with the District in a survey to determine the advantage or disadvantage of amalgamation of the City and District.

Alderman Bryan then read the following statement:

"I think this Council should give some consideration to the subject of amalgamation. The time has come, I believe, when North Vancouver City and District could operate more efficiently as one political and economic unit.

We should always remember taxpayers are interested in getting as much for the dollar as humanly possible, and there is a feeling the present set-up is uneconomical from both City and District points of view.

There are those who will argue that the District would benefit more by amalgamation; which municipality would benefit more initially is not too important. Amalgamation is inevitable, if not by local design, then surely through forced Government compulsion purely for economic reasons.

If we do nothing about it now and the District financial position becomes critical, due to the high cost of administration of an area contained within unrealistic boundaries -

when amalgamation is forced upon us - as it undoubtedly will be - City taxpayers could be called upon to shoulder a portion of an additional financial burden which was created by lack of action on the part of this Council."

Alderman Bryan at this point, read a press release from Victoria as follows:

"A hint that the Provincial Government may be forced to bring about "more appropriate units" in congested areas which have separate municipalities was given in the Legislature Thursday by Municipal Affairs Minister Black.

Without direct reference to the Greater Vancouver area, the minister said: "The Sum Total of experience elsewhere and in this province is that at some stage or other conditions may be so serious that regardless of local feelings the government will be forced to exercise its authority and take direct action to bring about a more appropriate unit".

Mr. Black said Britain has been pondering the problem for years and both Alberta and Ontario have been forced to take compulsory action to force the setting up of larger county districts. He said the problem is not one of easy jurisdiction. This is a universal problem whenever you have local government coupled with any appreciable expansion in population. Basically the problem is that municipal boundaries no longer continue to coincide with a political or economic unit. Once established, any attempt thereafter to change the boundaries meet with strong opposition. The big difficulty we face is the fact that there are a number of cases where the present boundaries of municipalities cannot be considered to be the best that could be adopted if one had a free hand to place these where they should be.

Alderman Bryan then continued on with his statement as follows:

"North Vancouver City and District are classic examples of municipalities whose boundaries do not coincide with a political economic unit. If amalgamation is the solution for such municipalities after they are in financial difficulty, as Mr. Black intimates, then by the same token it must be the means of providing a more efficient overall operation before a financial crisis arises.

The recent forced amalgamation in suburban Toronto is an outstanding case of civic governments evading the issue until the situation became so bad the Provincial Government was forced to take action. If my memory serves me correctly, taxes in some areas went up as high as 100%."

Alderman Bryan said that he was not asking for endorsement of his views but that the Council consider the matter, and appointed a committee to study the subject.

Moved by Alderman Bryan, seconded by Alderman Gostick that the City request District Council to co-operate in the establishment of a special joint committee of Councils to investigate ways and means of initiating a survey to determine the advantages and disadvantages of amalgamation of the City and District of North Vancouver.

Lengthy discussion followed.

The Chairman said that he could see no harm in the resolution but suggested that any committee appointed to study the subject of amalgamation should not commence its work till after our budget is dealt with and negotiations with the Water Board completed. He said that he regretted that this subject was brought up in the absence of Mayor Cates but as a full 'discussion' had taken place, he would now put the motion.

The motion was then put and carried.

Moved by Alderman Angus, seconded by Alderman Gostick that Acting Mayor Bryan now resume the Chair. Carried.

Moved by Alderman McMillan, seconded by Alderman Gostick that this Council now adjourn. Carried.

Whereupon the Council adjourned, at 7:25 p.m.

*Charles W. Bates*

**CITY** MAYOR