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HARBOURS, UTILITIES AND AIRPORT COMMITTEE

The Harbours, Utilities and Airport Committee met in the City Hall on Monday, November 10th, 1941, at 10.40 a.m.

Present: Alderman Wilson (Chairman), His Worship Mayor J. W. Cornett, Aldermen Bennett, Buscombe, Corey, Greyell, Jones, Miller and Worthington.

The Minutes of meeting held on October 20th, 1941, were adopted.

The Committee begs to recommend to Council the adoption of the following report:

1. Re B.C. Electric Railway Co. Ltd.:  
Report re Petition for Bus Line  
Service on 33rd Avenue, between  
Granville and Dunbar Streets.

A communication from the British Columbia Electric Railway Company Limited was submitted, stating that consideration has been given to the request contained in a petition submitted some time ago for the inauguration of a bus line service on 33rd Avenue between Granville and Dunbar Streets, pointing out that the company, under existing conditions, cannot favourably consider the operation of such a service.

RECOMMENDED that the communication be received, and that a copy thereof be furnished to the petitioners.

2. Re Town Planning Commission: Proposed  
Extension, Macdonald Street Bus Line

RECOMMENDED that the communication, dated September 5th last, from the Town Planning Commission, with regard to the proposed extension of the Macdonald Street Bus Line, be received and filed for information.

3. Re Request made to Public Utilities Commission  
for Changes in Street Car and Bus Transportation

Reference was made to the five requests submitted to the Public Utilities Commission for changes in street car and bus services. The Commission wrote on May 8th last requesting the City to furnish information relative to costs which would be involved in carrying out the suggested extensions in transportation which have been submitted by the City, and the present position of the City in this connection was discussed.

RECOMMENDED that the status of the five requests made to the Public Utilities Commission for changes in street car and bus transportation and the question of costs which would be involved in carrying out these proposals be referred to a Special Committee comprising the Chairman (Alderman Wilson), the Corporation Counsel and the City Engineer, to ascertain if the Commission is prepared to bring down its report immediately on transportation with respect to the submission made by the City at the Public Sitzings of the Commission held in Vancouver in April last.

4. Re City Clerk, Victoria: Sales Tax on Electricity.

RECOMMENDED that the communication from the City of Victoria, requesting endorsement of a resolution with respect to the Dominion Government sales tax on electricity for domestic use, be received and referred to the Corporation Counsel and the City Electrician, for report to Council.

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was issued, reducing the cost of motor fuel; pending an adjustment, the Oil Company refrained from any immediate capital expenditure.

(2) With the collapse of France, and the tempo of Canada's war effort was accelerated, stringent control was implemented by the Federal Government, with the result that the Oil Controller of Canada exercises extreme scrutiny on the expenditures made by Oil Companies.

(3) It will be recalled that the object of establishing a Fishermen's Wharf would not entail the development of facilities and services, such as: cold storage, retail fish markets that would compete with existing facilities of the National Harbour Board, and other licensees of the City.

It was unfortunate that a group observing an opportunity to construct cold storage facilities and other distributing services adjoining the Fishermen's Wharf, made application to Ottawa for a cold storage subsidy. Apparently, through a misunderstanding, those applying for the subsidy were associated by Ottawa with the Pacific Coast Fishermen's Union; and it appeared that the fishermen were not standing by their undertaking, with the result that Ottawa and interests engaged in the fishing industry immediately opposed the establishment of the Wharf.

I am very pleased this morning to state that these matters have since been satisfactorily adjusted, as a result of recent negotiations with the Imperial Oil, and having obtained the approval of the Dominion Oil Controller, the Imperial Oil are now prepared to start immediately on the construction of the Wharf.

The licensees will appear before the Harbours Committee this morning, and request that the minimum expenditure as set out in the amended lease be reduced from \$30,000.00, in order that a start on the first unit may be made immediately.

I would recommend that this request be granted, retaining in the lease a clause which will call for additional extensions and improvements, as time and conditions warrant.

I am sure that the Committee will appreciate the wisdom and necessity for this request; as the war effort requires all available funds, it is proposed that in the development of the first unit of the Fishermen's Wharf, only minimum requirements be instituted.

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The plans of the first unit are attached, and I am hoping that the long period of negotiations in an endeavour to obtain these facilities in False Creek will be brought to fruition by the Committee reiterating its approval of the amended lease, as adopted on March 12th, 1940, and the granting of the request of the Pacific Coast Fishermen's Union and the Imperial Oil that the amount of \$30,000.00 be reduced sufficiently to provide minimum requirements, in accordance with the plans submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

Halford D. Wilson (Alderman)  
- CHAIRMAN -

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Enclosure