CITY COUNCIL ROUNDUP

Two houses closed to habitation

Two buildings in the city have been closed to human habitation, City Council was told last night.

Dr. Wilfred Sinclair, medical health officer, in a letter to council, said that under authority of Section 39 of the Prince Rupert Health bylaw he had closed to human habitation:

● A woodshed at 500 Ninth Avenue West, because it has neither water nor sanitary facilities.

● A house at 1133 Sixth Avenue East, which "is a hazard to both life and property."

Council was told that the woodshed was closed because it had neither water nor toilet facilities while, the house was condemned by the electrical inspector after the wiring was found to be faulty and constituted a fire hazard.

A letter from federal deputy minister of public works David J. Walker, informing council that the proposed legislation before the House of Commons concerned the Trans-Canada Highway alone, was ordered received and filed.

Council had asked that consideration be given to the Northern Trans-provincial Highway.

Mr. Walker said the possibility of Canada contributing to the cost of constructing another highway across the northern areas of the western provinces is a matter which would receive careful consideration.

"However," he said, "at the present time, we feel that priority must be given the completion of the Trans-Canada Highway toward which Canada is now contributing approximately $50,000,000 annually."

A donation of $50 was granted the Canadian National Institute for the Blind last night after Council received a letter from western Canada CNIB director M. C. Robinson inviting council to inspect the new CNIB facilities at the B.C. Residence for the Blind at Queen Elizabeth Hall, in Vancouver. Mr. Robinson thanked council for consideration given the CNIB in the past.

Mayor P. J. Lester was instructed by Council to be the city's official delegate to the dedication service of the new St. Andrew's church at Greenville on the Nass River Saturday, April 16.

The move was taken after the mayor received a letter from the Greenville Improvement Association which stated that "it is the wish of our people that you represent the City Council and the City of Prince Rupert at the occasion of our Easter church dedication."

Ferguson Funeral Home will be ordered to remove the debris presently reposing on city property as soon as possible.

Council approved the action after being informed that the Parks Commission had approached the director of the funeral home in December, 1959 asking removal of old car and truck chassis and various pieces of old machinery scattered over an area designated as park lands at the corner of Sixth Avenue West and McBride Street.

As no action was taken a second letter was written by the parks commission which wished to clean up the land under the winter works program.

"Some attempt has been made to clean up this matter but this condition still exists and is far from satisfactory to the commission," Commission secretary Bruce Sinclair wrote council.

Council approved a motion that the debris be ordered "removed forthwith" and instructed City Administrator R. W. Long to report back to council at its next meeting. If no action has been taken further steps will be taken.

City Administrator Long and City Treasurer Derrick Ratcliffe were delegated to attend the 1960 annual conference of Municipal Officers association May 30, 31 and June 1 in Victoria.

Accounts from Associated Engineering Services Ltd., for $2,322.72 for inspection in February and $1,753.19 for design in February, were ordered paid.

Fire Chief Earl W. Becker was authorized to purchase as much fire hose as is necessary to meet the standard required for the fire department.

Account of Industrial Welding Company Limited of $23,402 as a progress payment for construction of the steel ramps for the airport ferry landing slips, was ordered paid.

A Wage and Personnel committee report stated that John Laurie has been appointed the city's Civil Defence officer.

The following property sale applications were approved; Edwin M. Harding and Roberta I. Harding, Lot 3, part of assigned Block 1006, plan 4017 for $2785.00; John Barazzuol, Lot 1, assigned block 1006 plan 4017, for $2910; Robert C. Tkachuk and Sylvia Tkachuk, Lots 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Block 27, Section 7 for $800.00.

A Board of Works committee recommendation that council prepare a bylaw under Section 875H of the Municipal Act authorizing the city to take action in respect to unsightly premises, messes, etc. on private property, was approved. This is in conjunction with the city's cleanup campaign for Golden Jubilee year.

Council approved a grant of $125 for 1960 be given to Friendship House on Fraser Street.

The following trade licences were granted: L. G. Smith of 1315 First Overlook, renting one, three-room suite; Albina Dissegna, 360 Biggar Place, general contractor; Joseph Buttle, masonary contractor; Erich W. K. Jaeger, handyman; Anthony J. Klamut, 621 Third Avenue West, taxi operator; Ludwig Wittkawski, floor covering contractor; Primo Seraglio, 1013 Third Avenue West, general contractor; Don Holtom Marine Electronics, sales, service machinery and equipment.

City Works Superintendent C. J. Gustafson told Alderman Norman Bellis in an answer to an inquiry that he would look into the matter of poor parking facilities for four homes behind the Armoury on Sixth Avenue West.

Mr. Gustafson told Alderman Gordon E. Carlson that he would try to have a report by next council meeting on the situation regarding the work proposed for the drydock road. He said that he had been in consultation with divisional engineer Murray Robb, of the Canadian National Railways, on whose land the road is located, and that graveling was planned.

An investigation will be made into the status of Prince Rupert's traffic bylaw and how it affects the provincial government regulation raising of the School Zone speed limit from 15 to 20 miles per hour.

An Associated Engineer Services Ltd., report on the progress being made to improve the city's water supply system will be given to a board of works committee meeting at 7:30 tonight.

Traffic man needn't be constable

There is no need for the city's special traffic officer to be appointed as a special constable, City Council learned last night from the attorney-general's department.

In a letter to council A. L. Pearson, general solicitor and inspector of legal officers wrote:

"I would point out that there is really no need for a municipal employee who is charged with the enforcement of municipal traffic bylaws to be appointed as a special constable."

Mr. Pearson said a special traffic officer does not have to have the powers of a peace officer to hand out traffic tickets.

"The parking tickets merely constitute a notice to the motorist that the offence he has allegedly committed has been detected and further action will be taken.

"Anyone can lay an information charging another person with a summary conviction offence and it is not necessary that the informant first be a police officer before he can do so."

WESTERN EXPLORER

First white man to reach Manitoba was the English explorer Thomas Button, who was at the mouth of the Nelson River in 1612.

Garage lots rezoned for car sales

With the final adoption last night of two amendments to the city's zoning bylaw, McRae Brothers Limited won the right to display and sell cars on its recently-acquired property at the corner of Second Avenue West and Second Street.

Following a public hearing April 4 and a unanimous vote by council last night, zoning bylaw amendments 1433 and 1436 were reconsidered and finally adopted.

Bylaw 1433 permits the Second Avenue West and Second Street corner to be rezoned from commercial to light industrial and bylaw 1436 restricts light industrial zoning to certain limits.

The motion to finally adopt the bylaws was made by Alderman A. Donald Ritchie who originally opposed passage of the bylaws March 14 on the grounds that rezoning might drop the assessment value of the property.

Lost tackle box turned in

A green wooden tackle box has been turned in to the RCMP.

The box contains reels, lines, lures, polish, oil, and various other articles of fishing equipment.

Owner may claim by identifying tackle box at RCMP city detachment.

CONTRARY TO BYLAW

Zoning committee rejects bid to construct house on two lots

City Council's zoning committee last night rejected by a 6-1 vote an application from former city contractor John Currie, 618 McBride Street, to build a house on the double corner of Sixth Avenue East and Young Street.

The zoning committee headed by Alderman A. Donald Ritchie, ruled that construction of a house on two lots in the location sought by Mr. Currie would be contrary to the new zoning bylaw in as much as the site for the building did not have the minimum area requirements as called for in the zoning bylaw. He could build the house if he sited it on one lot facing Young Street.

In his letter to council, Mr. Currie said that he had submitted plans and specifications for a brick house and that refusal seemed to be "unreasonable and unjust."

He said taxes had been paid on the property for 22 years and "now to be told that we cannot use it to build a good house on seems unreasonable. If you will look at the new addition being added to the adjoining cottage you will agree."

Alderman T. Norton Youngs agreed with Mr. Currie and added that Mr. Currie had built some of the most substantial houses in the city.

He said that amendments had been made to the zoning bylaw before and he saw no reason why they couldn't be made again.

Alderman Michael Krueger said that one reason the zoning bylaw had been overhauled was to prevent chopping and changing.

When it came to a vote, Aldermen A. Donald Ritchie, Michael Krueger, Gordon E. Carlson, Darrow Gomez, Norman Bellis and Mayor P. J. Lester, sitting as a member of the committee voted to refuse Mr. Currie's application. Alderman Youngs cast a dissenting vote.

Three city men successful in diesel exams

Three Prince Rupert residents passed the Department of Transport's examinations for diesel engineers held here April 5, 6 and 7. The following were successful candidates:

George M. Currie of 322 Sixth Avenue East passed for third class diesel engineer; Roy Boychuck of 901 Borden Street passed for third class diesel engineer; and Burns Pierce of 1122 Seventh Avenue East passed for fourth class diesel engineer.

The examiner was David Laing, steamship inspector from Vancouver.

Quits contest

VICTORIA (CP) — Lynne Alexander of Prince George Saturday withdrew from the Miss Victoria beauty contest. No reasons were given.

The 19-year-old student of Victoria university was one of 10 finalists chosen from 19 girls who entered the contest.

Patricia Miles, 19, who came in 11th in the pre-judging contest, will replace Miss Alexander as one of the finalists.

ROME (Reuters)—The Pope blessed palm fronds and distributed them to cardinals and prelates in the Roman Basilica of St. Paul's outside the walls Sunday in a traditional Palm Sunday ceremony opening Holy Week.

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