

January 30, 1975
7:00 p.m.

A Special Meeting of City Council was held this evening with the following members present - His Worship Mayor G. Parisien; Alderman M. Holden, J. Pescod, A. Lebano, K. Bough, G. Cameron, F. Guindon, L. Keen, R. Pearson, R. Aubry, G. Samson, A. LeBlanc and B. Lynch.

Traffic Operations Study - Messrs. Tom Hewton, Director of Traffic Operations, Damas & Smith Ltd. presented to Council a traffic operations study on the major streets of the City. Also in attendance were Mr. K. Westerby, District Municipal Engineer and Mr. R. Boucher, of the Regional Traffic Office, Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

With extensive use of diagrams, Mr. Hewton pointed up the various areas studied and extent of traffic problems present. It was found that the most hazardous conditions exist at Second and Pitt Streets, with a rather confusing signal display at this intersection. One recommendation made by the firm was the installation of permanent counting stations to be installed on Second Street. To divert traffic from this street, it was recommended that Fourth and Fifth Streets be made one-way streets, to eventually extend to Brookdale Avenue.

Brookdale Avenue, according to the report, presents the second worse traffic problems. It is suggested that the whole section be widened to five lanes, with the centre lane restricted to left-hand turns. The best solution for the 13th and Brookdale intersection, the firm felt, is to provide for a four lane intersection with proper traffic signals which, however, is a very costly undertaking. A less attractive solution would be a one-way system, similar to that employed by the City last year.

Pitt Street north of 13th Street was considered the third worse traffic problem area. It is suggested that Pitt Street be considered one-way southerly to Fifth Street where traffic would proceed to Augustus Street and proceed southerly. Northbound traffic would proceed along Sydney Street. Pitt Street between Fifth and Water St. would remain two-way traffic or could be used as a mall. The eventual extension of Sydney Street

to join up at the overpass to Pitt Street is considered, by the firm, as the ideal solution. Mr. Hewton stated that study was also given to making Pitt Street four-lane; however, in the opinion of the firm the extension of Sydney would be the more desirable.

Other recommendations made by Damas & Smith include installation of traffic lights at a number of intersections; synchronization of traffic lights; elimination of certain two-way and four-way stops; driving education program and better enforcement of traffic regulations.

It was moved by Alderman Aubry, seconded by Alderman Lebano that the report be received and tabled to a later date for further study. Carried.

Library addition - In support of their request for assistance from the municipality, Mr. Gilbert Sullivan, chairman; Judge M. Fitzpatrick, Messrs. F.B. MacMillan, J. Comtois, members and Miss Anne Nyland, Chief Librarian of the Cornwall Public Library Board appeared before Council.

Mr. Sullivan read from a brief, dated January 27th, detailing the present overcrowding and need for an expansion program to commence this year. The Board is asking for a commitment of \$500,000. in 1975 with further grants in the next two years. Mr. Sullivan explained that libraries are now considered cultural centres and should be prepared to offer facilities for the arts and a museum, in addition to their primary function for the reading and distribution of books. To further serve the needs of all the citizens, two bookmobiles are presently operating, with the Board considering the possibility of a third. After some discussion by members of Council, it was moved by Alderman Pescod, seconded by Alderman Cameron that the Board's submission be given full study when the Capital Budget is being considered.

Capitol Theatre - With certain members of the Arts Development Committee in attendance, Alderman Bough now addressed the meeting. He made available to each member a copy of a report, containing a Feasibility Study on the Capitol Theatre renovations, as prepared for the Arts Development Committee in October 1974. Alderman Bough explained

1946


16

that after the Committee had received an estimate of costs for renovations of the Theatre, the members studied the proposals and were able to reduce costs to an absolute minimum of \$400,000.00. Council is now asked to make available an amount of \$200,000. with further grants of \$100,000.00 in 1976 and 1977. It was moved by Alderman Guindon, seconded by Alderman Lebano that the report be received and the request considered when studying the capital budget; with the administration being asked to investigate further the possibility of grants from the government. Other suggestions were to offer the facility to a large company to operate as an arts centre; request financial assistance from a large enterprise and to consider a local fund-raising drive.

Open House - Mayor Parisien reminded members that the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Wardlaw Housing Development scheduled for February 1st has been deferred until the 8th.

Y.M.-Y.W.C.A. building - The Chief Administrator reported that the two janitors presently employed at the Y.M.-Y.W.C.A. building will be retained by the City. After hearing further from the Chief Administrator, it was moved by Alderman Lebano, seconded by Alderman LeBlanc that the Y.M.-Y.W.C.A. be offered rent-free six hundred sq. ft. of office space in the building for one year and that the City accept from the Association equipment worth approximately \$5,000.00. Carried


Clerk


Mayor