

Municipal Hall,
CLOVERDALE, B. C.
May 5, 1947

The Council met pursuant to Adjournment.
Councillors Shepherd and Graham were absent.

Moved by Councillor Keery
Seconded by Councillor Rutledge
That the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted as read.

Carried

Mr. Ortener, representing the White Rock Branch of the Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L. - came before the Council and asked for a reduction in the license fees imposed under the provisions of "Automatic Vending Machines By-law, 1946, No. 831" on the Pin Ball Machines installed in the amusement concession of the Canadian Legion on the pier at White Rock. He contended that, as the amusement concession only operated during the months of June to September, a proportionate reduction in the license fees should be made.

This request received due consideration, but it was decided that no change in the terms of the By-law could be considered this year.

A delegation representing the Surrey Memorial Hospital Committee - came before the Council. Mr. W. Dickson, acting as spokesman for the delegation, reported that arrangements had been entered into for purchase of the Trocadero Farm property on King George VI Highway, for the sum of \$12,800.00 as the site for the proposed hospital and that plans were in hand for the erection of a 75 bed hospital at an estimated cost of \$400,000.00. He stated that his organization planned to make a drive for funds throughout the Municipality during the period of May 12th to 24th inclusive and that it was hoped to raise a considerable proportion of the necessary funds by this means. He stated that this was the most ambitious scheme ever attempted in Surrey and he solicited the support of the Council in making the drive a success. He expressed his appreciation for the assistance rendered by the Council to date and requested the Reeve to participate in the ceremony officially opening the drive for funds on May 12th. He also enquired if the Council would be willing to submit a money by-law to the electors, to authorize the raising of any funds found necessary when the drive was completed.

Mrs. E. M. Crosfield, President of the Society, also spoke and stated that it was the aim of her organization to provide a debt-free hospital for Surrey and requested the official support of the Council.

The Reeve enquired if the sum of \$400,000.00, or a 75 bed hospital, was the minimum objective of the Society. Mrs. Crosfield replied that a hospital of this size was the minimum required for the present population of the Municipality.

The Reeve pointed out the difficulties experienced in financing ordinary municipal services and outlined the necessity of also providing adequate water service and sewage disposal facilities for large areas of the Municipality. He also drew attention to the increasing cost of education to the Municipal taxpayer and expressed some doubt that the average taxpayer could bear the increased tax burden.

Considerable debate ensued during which it was suggested that an effort be made to obtain legislation to permit the levying of a Hospital Tax on the same basis as the Library Tax.

Mr. Dickson proposed that further consideration of the money by-law be deferred and again requested the Council to give official support to the drive for funds.

The estimated cost of the project was the subject of a number of questions by members of the Council.

Mr. Dickson stated that the Architect's estimate of \$400,000.00 covered the entire project, being \$300,000. for the buildings (including nurses' home and power plant) and \$100,000. for equipment (including x-ray equipment). Mr. Dickson also stated that all contributions received during the drive would be held in a trust account and if construction of the hospital was not proceeded with, the various contributions