By-Laws allow municipalities to pass and enforce law within their own jurisdiction within the framework of established provincial and federal legislation. It appears that a consolidated listing of the City’s Licensing By-Laws was kept for easy reference.

These Licensing By-Laws cover a wide range of issues and concerns. There are Licensing By-Laws to regulate and govern auctioneers, to regulate the operation of various businesses, such as barber shops, billiard or pool halls, cartage companies, dry cleaners, electricians, fruit pedlars, hairdressers, house movers, hawkers and pedlars, junk shops, lodging houses, laundries, nursing homes, photographers, plumbers, restaurants and places of amusement, just to name a few.

This series consists of five volumes of Licensing By-Laws for the City of Port Arthur, all arranged alphabetically by subject. An index to the By-Laws is included at the beginning of each volume. The volumes do have some of the same information in them but they are not exactly identical.

Further accruals are not anticipated.

The original copies of these Licensing By-Laws can be found in Series 19 – City of Port Arthur By-Laws and the By-Laws of the Police Commission under Series 46 - Port Arthur Board of Police Commissioners Records.