
1943-1963

5 m., 44 cm. of textual records

The Town and City of Port Arthur appointed individuals as Solicitors and Counsel, to act in its behalf in relation to legal matters in which the Corporation was involved. The first Town Solicitor to be appointed was Alexander S. Wink, under By-Law 3 dated May 12, 1884. A number of other individuals were appointed from time to time, including the firm of Keefer, Thacker & Godfrey in April of 1889, Frank H. Keefer in December of 1889, A. S. Wink again, in April of 1894, W. F. Langworthy in March of 1898, Frank H. Keefer again, in April of 1905, Langworthy & McComber in March of 1911, Donald J. Cowan in February of 1919, the firm of Cowan & Seaman in November of 1934, Robert Lloyd Seaman in May of 1947, James F. W. Ross in February of 1948 and Douglas Gaebel in June of 1959.

Duties of the Solicitor covered a wide range of issues, including drafting petitions to the legislature, drafting and revising by-laws and certifying to the correctness of same, drafting and revising deeds, leases, contracts and agreements, investigating title to lands, attending to the prosecution or defense of law suits, advising on Court of Revision matters with regards to assessment appeals, giving advice and opinions to City Officials, investigating applications for loans of money belonging to the sinking fund and revising any advertisements and tenders as necessary.

The majority of the files in this series appear to have been generated at the time James F. W. Ross was the City Solicitor. They are arranged numerically by file number. These files cover a wide range of legal issues involving subjects such as real estate, assessment appeals, damage claims, licensing by-laws, zoning by-laws, tax sales, bankruptcy and working agreements.

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A detailed file list is available.

Further accruals are not anticipated.

Any plans or photos, which have been removed from the files, have been replaced with a reference sheet, which describes each item. The items are available to researchers subject to any restrictions under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.