

1903-1966

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While minutes for the Fort William Board of Works start in April 1903, it is likely that the Committee was established prior to the March 10, 1903 fire at Fort William City Hall. As with other standing Committees of Council, appointments to the Committee were made during the first Council meeting of each year.

Duties of the Works Committee were outlined in the Procedural By-law of 1909. Under this By-law, the Committee was responsible for all matters regarding sewers, drains, streets and garbage collection and was required to make recommendations to Council for any related local improvements. The Committee supervised the Street Commissioner and the City Engineer, and originally managed work that would be delegated to the Parks Board in 1910 such as fencing, tree-planting, and boulevards. In addition, any Committee or Company requiring legal access to the streets or requiring road closures for the purpose of sewer work, road maintenance and the like would need to consult with the Committee in order to co-ordinate work and minimize disruption.

Minutes contain petitions, reports, and tenders relating to the above responsibilities as well as discussion of routine matters including approval of private crossings and accounts. While early discussions dealt largely with the installation of sewer connections and sidewalk construction, in later years there is increased attention to the responsibility for streets in terms of road repair and the improvement of bridges. Occasional references to railway crossing agreements, dock repairs, as well as recommendations to council regarding new subdivision development indicate a wide scope of responsibility. Formal reports of the City Engineer may also be summarized when the Committee undertook these or other special projects.

This series includes Indexes which cover the following years; 1911, 1913-1914, 1916-1918, 1920, 1922, 1924, 1927-1929, 1932-1934, 1940-1950, 1954-1966.

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Further Accruals are not anticipated.