

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF BURNABY

April 3, 1964

HIS WORSHIP, REEVE EMMOTT
AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

GENTLEMEN: REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

Your Committee met on Monday, March 23rd and would report as follows:

(1) Replacement of Revenue from Machinery Tax resulting from Legislative Amendment.

Your Committee has considered the impact of the recent amendment to the Municipal Act in effect changing the existing landlord and tenant machinery taxing authority to a combination of taxation on the annual rental value of real property (not exceeding 10% of the annual rental value) and a designated percentage not exceeding 1% of the taxable value of personal property used for the purpose of the particular business, whichever produces the greater amount of tax.

The effective date of the legislation has been left in abeyance even though the Legislature has prorogued to give an opportunity for those municipalities in the Province directly affected by the change in legislation, i.e. those utilizing the existing landlord and tenant machinery taxation authorities, to meet and discuss the impact of the change. It is understood the legislation will be brought into effect by proclamation sometime after this meeting.

The Committee considered the position of this Corporation as a result of the new authority and noted particularly that if a business tax is to be introduced, the necessary authorizing by-law must be passed by November 30, 1964 so that the first business tax levy can be placed in the year 1965. A good deal of work is necessary to gather basic rental value information covering all business and industry operating in the Municipality in time for the November 30th deadline.

Your Committee would recommend that, notwithstanding the fact that the legislation has not been formally promulgated at this time, steps should be taken immediately through the Manager's office, to establish a procedure for gathering the base information and a report thereon be presented to Council.

Your Committee would also recommend that in response to the brief presented by Mr. William Turner to the Council Meeting on March 23rd on behalf of the Communist Party of Canada, this Organization be assured that the change in legislation will not result in a transfer of added tax burden from industrial concerns to the homeowner. The implementation of a business tax will be effective in spreading the taxation presently imposed by the landlord and tenant machinery provisions across the entire commercial and industrial community.

(2) Renovations - Municipal Hall - Office Accommodation.

A Special Committee was appointed in 1963 to enquire into renovations needed to provide increased office accommodation for expanding Municipal departments and the 1963 Committee's recommendations were that certain renovations be undertaken immediately and others, involving principally the Social Service Department, be laid over

PAGE 2
REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE
APRIL 3, 1964

for further consideration in 1964.

The problem of space in the Social Service Department is becoming acute and your Committee would recommend the appointment of a Committee to comprise Councillor MacSorley as Chairman, Councillors Dailly and Cafferky as members to continue the investigations into the Municipal Hall accommodation problems and submit recommendations to the Council.

(3) Municipal Arena.

Your Committee met jointly with representatives of the Burnaby Parks and Recreation Commission to consider the current and future positions of the Municipal Arena project.

The Commission reported having met with the Architects, Messrs. Collins & Collins, and had requested that plans for the Arena be re-examined with a view to producing a plan which would permit the project to be developed for the sum of \$450,000.00, in line with the funds available for the project. A revised proposal was presented whereby the original concept of the Arena was maintained with some of the features included in the interior of the building being removed, such as finishing of the skating rooms, team rooms, removal of the Zamboni space, and the stage facilities. The revised plan would decrease costs by \$101,310.00, bringing a new cost totalling \$402,105.00.

Your Committee gave serious consideration to the revised proposal. Several factors must be considered in conjunction with this project, however, the principal factor being that the Parks Capital Works By-Law, which was voted on by the people, contained an amount of \$300,000.00 for a participation type Arena. Subsequently, the Council had agreed to provide an additional \$150,000.00, bringing the amount available to a total of \$450,000.00.

The new cost figure for the all-purpose Arena of \$402,105.00 did not include the existing contract for excavation work on the site, nor architect's fees and other costs that have been incurred in connection with the project so far. The acceptance of the revised plan would mean that, in the future, further expenditures would have to be made on the Arena to finish the portions of the building which would be left incomplete at this time. In total, it is anticipated that the cost of this building including furnishings would run over \$700,000.00. In the opinion of your Committee, this amount is far in excess of the funds available for the project and should not be entertained.

Your Committee submits the following recommendations:

- (a) That the existing plans for the Municipal Arena at Sperling Avenue and Laurel Street be rejected.
- (b) That the sum of \$450,000.00 be spent for construction of an Ice Arena and this sum include costs already expended on the project to date.

PAGE 3
REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE
APRIL 3, 1964

- (c) That the architectural firm of Collins & Collins be discharged as Architects for the Municipal Arena project at this stage and the terms of reference to the Parks and Recreation Commission be such that the architectural firm of Collins & Collins be not excluded from further presentations as a result of future tender calls on the project.
- (d) That the Manager and Reeve discuss the architectural services account with Messrs. Collins and Collins and a report be submitted to Council following such deliberations.

JHS/en