ITEM 11
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 13
COUNCIL MEETING Feb. 21/77

Re: BY-LAW NO. 6998, BEING THE "BURNABY TRADES LICENCE BY-LAW 1950, AMENDMENT BY-LAW NO. 1, 1977" - REGULATION OF TAXBUYERS (Item 21, Manager's Report No. 7, January 31, 1977)

Following is a report from the Municipal Solicitor regarding the subject By-law which was reconsidered and finally adopted on February 7, 1977.

This is for the information of Council.

TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

February 18, 1977

FROM: MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR

RE: BY-LAW NO. 6998, BEING THE "BURNABY TRADES LICENCE BY-LAW 1950, AMENDMENT BY-LAW NO. 1, 1977" - REGULATION OF TAXBUYERS

Sam's Tax Company, Bavern Enterprises Ltd. and Pieper Holdings Ltd., all carrying on business in the 3700 Block East Hastings Street, have commenced proceedings to quash By-Law No. 6998, being the "Burnaby Trades Licence By-Law 1950, Amendment By-Law No. 1, 1977". This is the by-law which deals with taxbuyers. The petition alleges that the by-law is

- (a) prohibitive and not regulatory
- (b) inconsistent with and repugnant to legislation of the Province of British Columbia and of the Government of Canada and alternatively comes within the exclusive legislative jurisdiction of the Government of Canada, and
- (c) discriminatory and is in effect price-fixing legislation passed under authority to regulate business and is therefore passed in bad faith.

The Vancouver by-law (and Burnaby's is a copy of that by-law) was challenged unsuccessfully before Mr. Justice Schultz in the Supreme Court last year. On that hearing, the only ground argued was that the by-law was prohibitive rather than regulatory. Other grounds for quashing the by-law set out in the application were abandoned on the hearing. Presumably on this application, the other grounds will be argued.

I will enter an Appearance and it is likely that the hearing will take place early in March. The New Westminster by-law is also being challenged.

This is for the information of Council.

W. L. Stirling, MUNICIPAL SOLICITOR

WLS:mc