

No. 17.

PETITION.

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To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament assembled:

The humble petition of the Corporation of the City of Vancouver sheweth:—

That your petitioners are desirous of an Act being passed amending the “Vancouver Incorporation Act, 1900,” being chapter 54 of the Statutes of British Columbia, 1900, by giving the following powers:—

That all the members of the Board of Licence Commissioners for the City of Vancouver shall be elected by the persons qualified to vote for Mayor at municipal elections for the said City, and that the Mayor of the said City, for the time being, shall be ex-officio Chairman of such Board;

That the limitation of salaries of officials of the said City of Vancouver to \$3,000 be amended to make the limit \$5,000, and that the two-thirds majority of the Council or Board of Control be necessary on all salary increases;

That the said Council or Board of Control shall be empowered to exempt from taxation or water rates, or from both, real property or machinery or improvements for a period of ten years;

That the Council of said City or Board of Control shall have power to lease street ends for a period not exceeding ten years, and shall also have power to lease lanes, or portions of lanes, including air-space above or subways under the same, for a period not exceeding 25 years;

That the City be authorised to compel the registration of all debentures issued by the said City;

That the Board of Police Commissioners shall consist of the Mayor, for the time being, of the said City of Vancouver, and two persons to be nominated and elected in the same manner and to have the same property qualifications and to be subject to like disqualifications and penalties as the Mayor of the said City now is;

To establish a Board of Control consisting of three persons, to be elected from the City at large, together with the Mayor, for the time being, and which Board shall have the management of all the business of the said City, subject to the supervision of the Council, but such Board shall not come into existence until the voters of the said City entitled to vote for Mayor, by a three-fifths majority, adopt the principle of the establishment of the said Board, and by giving the Council the following powers to simplify the procedure relating to the passage of by-laws for the raising of money and to validate past and future debentures issues by the effluxion of time;

To make the full cost of local improvements chargeable against the property benefited thereby ;

To prohibit the import into the City of milk from farms not previously inspected and certified by the Health Officer ;

To render all electric wiring in the City subject to the inspection of the City Electrician, with power to the City to regulate the same and charge inspection fees therefor ;

To provide for the extension of borrowing powers to permit the purchase of public utilities ;

To enable the City to charge an annual fee for the erection of signs over public highways, lanes and other public property of the City of Vancouver and to prohibit the erection of any sign contrary to such regulations as the City may see fit to pass ;

To enable the City to charge an annual fee for all dealers in real estate in the City of Vancouver and for all necessary or incidental rights, powers and privileges in connection with the above powers, and for all and every such powers as the applicants may deem it advisable to ask for ;

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray that Your Honourable Body may be pleased to pass an Act amending the said Act as above mentioned ;

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated the 13th day of March, 1907.

[L S.]

ALEXANDER BETHUNE, *Mayor.*

WM. McQUEEN, *Clerk.*

VICTORIA, B. C. :

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, I.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1907.