

Convention of B. C. Municipalities—(Continued).

on which the underlying by-law takes effect. We think that the maturity term should date from the time of issue of the debentures and not from the time when the by-law takes effect. Adopted.

Amend Section 148 so as to give power to convert or re-convert stock into debentures. Adopted.

A Sub-Section should be added to section 180 of the "Municipal Act" by which any proceedings attacking a by-law or resolution (particularly an assessment by-law) should be confined to an application to quash the same. Adopted.

Amend Section 192 of the "Municipal Act" so as to empower municipalities to invest long-term sinking funds in the purchase of their own local improvement debentures. The object of this amendment has already been explained to the City Council by the Comptroller, and will be by him explained to the Union of Municipalities at the approaching convention. The power to use sinking funds to redeem or cancel debentures is already given by Section 192. Adopted.

Section 227 of the "Municipal Act" should be amended so as to empower the Board of Equalization to exercise its function and equalize assessments after appeals to the Court from the Court of Revision have been dealt with by the Court. This amendment was also urged before the Municipal Committee by the City of Victoria at its last sitting, but was referred by the Committee to the Union of Municipalities before taking action thereon. Carried.

Amend Section 228 so as to provide that in municipalities having a resident Supreme Court judge, appeals from the Court of Revision shall be only to the Supreme Court and not to a County Court Judge. Carried.

Re Transient Traders and Transient Real Estate Agents, Section 290, Sub-section (21) and (27); By Sections 47 and 48 of the 1916 Amendment, the definitions of transient trader and transient real estate agent were altered so as to afford a more workable basis than the former section, but still further amendment is required as follows:

(a) The sub-sections do not specify any officer who has power to approve or disapprove of the required security, and we suggest that this discretion should be vested in the municipal treasurer or other officer appointed by the Council. Adopted.

(b) While the condition of the security is that a transient trader or transient real estate agent shall carry on business in the municipality for one year, the amount of the security is limited by the sub-section to the license fee for six months, and we suggest that the section should be amended so as to provide that the security shall be double the twelve months' license fee, so as to cure this anomaly in the section and make the security effective throughout the year. Adopted.

Re Abandonment of Expropriations: The City of Victoria urgently recommends the insertion of a sub-section to 367 by which municipalities which have expropriated land which they have not actually entered upon or used, shall have the right to abandon such expropriation and re-vest such land in the original owner, upon paying any actual damage occasioned to such owner by reason of such expropriation. Adopted.

(b) "Local Improvement Act."

Section 33 of the "Local Improvement Act" should be amended so as to require owners intending to complain to the Court of Revision to give thirty days notice by Municipality and ten days notice by property owner to the Municipality. Adopted.

(c) "Municipal Elections Act."

Amend section 38 of the "Municipal Elections Act" by providing that no nomination shall be received by the Returning Officer unless the same shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Land Registrar of the district in question and by the Municipal Assessor, showing that such candidate was up to the day for nomination, duly possessed (according to the records of the Land Registry Office and assessor respectively) of the proper qualification for mayor or alderman, as the case may be.

Committee recommends it be made compulsory for the candidate to take a declaration.

1. That Section 22 of the "Municipal Elections Act" be amended so as to fix the last Thursday in December for nominations, and the first Thursday in January for

the election of mayor and aldermen, respectively.

Referred to Executive to give Cities one week between nomination and election and that Districts stand as at present, but that elections be one month earlier than at present.

2. That Section 342 of the "Municipal Act" as amended in 1915, be further amended so as to absolutely exempt public parks and recreation grounds from taxation. Carried.

3. That the "Municipal Act" be amended so as to give power to the councils of adjoining municipalities to enter into agreements for the joint control and management of parks and beaches within either municipality, and to extend municipal funds thereon. Carried.

TUBERCULOSIS.

4. That urgent representations be made to the Union of B. C. Municipalities to the Provincial Government for a more complete effective and systematic provision for the care and treatment of tuberculosis throughout the Province.

Moved by Mayor Gray, seconded by Mayor McBeath, Resolved:

1. That the Union of B. C. Municipalities recommend to the Provincial Government that provision be made in estimates of years 1917-1918 for a sum sufficient to construct and equip a building at Tranquille for the treatment of advanced cases of tuberculosis.

2. That this Union of B. C. Municipalities further recommend that the Provincial Government be urged to take over the Tranquille Sanitarium and operate same as a Provincial Institution.

3. That this Union recommend that the Dominion Government be requested to pay for treatment of all cases of tuberculosis of patients who have not resided in this Province at least one year previous to their admission to Tranquille Sanitarium.

Further moved that a copy of this Resolution be sent to all women's organizations throughout the Province. "Municipal Act," Sect. 487 A.

(1) No action, suit or other proceeding shall be commenced, brought or taken in the Supreme Court or County Court, by or in the name of any Municipality or Municipal Corporation, without the sanction of a resolution of the Council in that behalf.

(2) The Attorney-General of British Columbia shall not be a necessary party plaintiff to any civil action, suit or other proceeding commenced, brought or taken by or in the name of a Municipality or Municipal Corporation; provided, however,

(a) That it shall be competent for the Court in which any such civil action, suit or proceeding is pending, to add or substitute the Attorney-General as a party plaintiff on his application;

(b) That nothing herein contained shall limit or affect any right of the Crown or of the Attorney-General of Canada or the Attorney-General of British Columbia under the "Constitutional Determination Act." Adopted. Carried.

SAANICH.

That the Union of British Columbia Municipalities at their Convention to be held in October, be requested to ask the Provincial Government to adopt the policy of contributing towards the cost of main trunk roads through district municipalities on the same basis as the Ontario provincial government contributes, i. e., 40 per cent of the initial cost of building roads and 20 per cent of all maintenance charged.

Executive to take up with the Government. Carried.

Various sums of money are now held in trust by municipalities as a result of tax sale surplus being unclaimed, and probably through other causes. We are advised that there is no liability upon the municipality to endeavor to find the owners of such sums and as a consequence, it is probable that a number of the said sums may never be claimed. It is felt that this matter is one of sufficient importance to be discussed at the convention with a view to making recommendations for amendments to the "Municipal Act" directing the eventual disposal of such trust monies without incurring any expense upon municipalities. Carried.

PENTICTON.

That a resolution be submitted to the U. B. C. M. urging that the "Municipal Act" be so amended that two councillors shall be elected for each ward in a municipality