

Kerrigan Iron Works Inc. (P&R), Steel Lighting Standards.
 Ansonia Wire & Cable Co., Avon Electrical Supplies Inc. (Police), Telephone Cable.
 Puritan Electric Co. (PLC), Copper Wire.
 Tarnow Electric Supply Co. (PLC), Brackets.
 Westinghouse Electric Corp. (PLC), Turbines Overhauling, Safety Coils.
 Copper & Brass Sales Inc. (PLC), Copper Bars and Tubing.
 Marbelite Co. Inc. (PLC), Traffic Signals.
 East Jordan Iron Works Inc. (Water), Fire Hydrants.
 John Russman Trucking (Water), Hauling Coal.
 Worthington Corp. (Water), Castings; and further
 Resolved, That price increase on contract with Howes-Shoemaker Co. for Cigars, as listed in foregoing communication, be and the same is hereby approved.
 Adopted as follows:
 Yeas—Councilmen Conner, Lincoln, Rogell, Smith, Wise, Youngblood, and President Pro Tem Van Antwerp—7.
 Nays—None.

Recorder's Court
 April 20, 1955.

Honorable Common Council:
 Gentlemen—I respectfully report to your Honorable Body that a jury duly impanelled in the Recorder's Court, in the matter of acquisition of land for widening of Houghton Avenue between Seven Mile Road and Pembroke Avenue where not already opened and widened as a public street and highway rendered a verdict in favor of said acquisition April 7, 1955, which was confirmed by the Court April 20, 1955.
 In accordance with the statute, I herewith transmit a certified copy of said verdict, and of the judgment of confirmation.

Respectfully submitted,
 E. BURKE MONTGOMERY, Clerk.
 Received and placed on file.

Common Council Research Bureau
 April 20, 1955.

Honorable Common Council:
 Gentlemen—This is submitted in compliance with your request dated April 11, 1955, for a report of my activities since August 1, 1954, to date. I have included some suggestions to your Honorable Body for the coming fiscal year.

Pursuant to the requests of the Common Council, most of my activities were as follows:

1. Studies and reports as Chairman of a committee appointed by the Common Council to study the General Retirement System and the Policemen and Firemen Retirement System. Three reports were submitted to your Honorable Body. A charter

amendment to the charter provisions of the General Retirement System was approved by the electorate in November 1954.

2. Preliminary studies of the movement of payrolls in and out of Detroit. No assignments were made by the Common Council on this subject.

3. Study and report covering a period of years of the changes in the City's debt, assessed valuations, tax margins, revenues and expenditures.

4. Study and report on the amendment to the Social Security Act effective September 1, 1954, permitting coverage of members of local retirement systems.

5. Study and report on the enabling bills introduced in the Michigan State Legislature relative to Social Security coverage of members of local retirement systems.

6. Study of methods of coordinating Social Security, Old Age and Survivors Insurance program with local retirement plans.

7. Study and compilation report of the material submitted to the Common Council on the subject of Fluoridation of Detroit's water supply.

8. Suggested forms of quarterly financial report by Controller to be submitted to the Common Council.

9. Preliminary study of factors of the 1955-6 budget.

10. Other—report on use of D.S.R. property, St. Jean and Jefferson, Baby Creek, surplus commodities relative to City's retirants, consolidation of laundries and review of the Journal of the Common Council from January 1, 1953.

Where staff work or extensive tabulation was required, these were obtained, upon request, from the staffs of the Auditor General and Controller, otherwise I worked entirely without staff.

An appropriation was included in the 1954-55 budget for research expense in the amount of \$25,000, as of April 7, 1955 there was an unexpected balance of \$15,200.94. It is estimated the surplus at June 30, 1955 will approximate \$12,500.

The following are suggestions to be undertaken and completed during the fiscal year 1955-1956:

1. A study and report of the causes of the movement of payrolls in and out of the City and environs. This report should include suggestions for consideration of the Common Council and the Wayne County Board of Supervisors.

2. The City's budget should be on a performance basis. The 1956-7 budget should largely be on this basis; the 1957-1958 budget should be completely on this basis. The accomplishment of this program would require, it is believed, intensive effort beginning about July 1, 1955. I am in-