

A Special meeting of Town Council of the Town of Stewiacke was held on Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall, Stewiacke, Nova Scotia.

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**2. Attendance**

Mayor Wendy Robinson

Deputy Mayor Chapman Councillor(s), Susan Creelman, Mary Commo, Chad Ramsey, Rebecca Rogers-Laing, Russel Stoddart, Mary Commo

Staff:

Dale Bogle – CAO

**3. Approval of / Changes to Agenda**

*On Motion of Councillor Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman it was moved to approve the Agenda for February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as presented.*

Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items**

Nil.

**5. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting**

Nil.

**6. Announcements/ Proclamations**

Nil.

**7. Presentations**

Nil.

**8. Written Petitions / Correspondence**

Nil.

**9. Business**

**a) Discussion on the Amalgamation – presentation by Municipal Affairs**

Council discussed how they would like to have the conservation with Municipal Affairs.

Municipal Affairs are discussing with councils throughout the province how they can maximize resources for the benefit of residents, regardless of what form it takes.

Deputy Mayor Chapman, meeting structure for the public, Council and Staff need to have a strategy.

Councillor Creelman commented about having talks with NSFM as well, along with other communities.

Councillor Rogers-Laing, have exact facts with numbers.

Hold 3 separate meetings in March, reasons for amalgamating and reasons not to as well as a public session with a moderator. Staff will contact Municipal Affairs as well as Dr. Gordon McIntosh

(who has an extensive consultancy in local government effectiveness and has facilitated successful Canada-wide workshops for elected, advisory and/or staff members) when they are available for a meeting / discussion.

### **b) Discussion on Library Location**

Mayor Robinson informed Council how SK Retirement had approached the Town of Stewiacke, how they would like to have an Age Friendly Community with 72 units and would like to have the Library in their facility. Council discussed moving the Library from the centre of town to Perry Lake Developments. Council is looking forward to inviting SK Retirement to the Committee of the Whole Session on February 13<sup>th</sup>, to present their proposal.

Issues discussed; sidewalks from the downtown to the development, rental or leasing costs, leaving the downtown core, further for people to walk, no money for a new building and it could be valuable to consider moving.

## **10. By-Law and Policies**

**Nil.**

## **11. Citizens Comments**

Shannon MacPhee: Consolidation/ Amalgamation, how this conversation had all started. Her concern was in relation to the presentations, her biggest wish would be clear and concise information. Have the information from the presenters listed for the pros and cons, so residents can see. Is there other areas that have chose not to amalgamate? In relation to the library, totally shocked and hopefully it goes at a pace that will be comfortable and to have all aspects explored.

Steve Ash: Shannon, covered the Amalgamation concern. Citizens need to look at both sides of the coin, residents need to have their input as well. As far as the library he is on the fence whether to move it or not, as to keeping it downtown but at what cost. It could be beneficial to at least talk to SK Retirement.

Andrew Brown: If the Library was to move, could a set of street lights be in place due to the amount of traffic on the highway with kids crossing.

Holly G. Tattie: A library is an excellent idea, and not really sure the pros and cons of where it would go. A new idea would be very beneficial to all ages, does not feel that it should be Council Decision to move on to Phase 2 for Amalgamate and leave it up to the public to decide.

Phyllis Geran: lives in the Seniors Complex on Dunrovin, she is very opposed to moving the library, as she has to walk everywhere, she frequents the library during the times it is open. Walking in all weather conditions for herself as well as children. There are no sidewalks on that side of the road, traffic lights would be beneficial.

**12. Mayor Report**

Nil.

**13. Councillors Reports**

Nil.

**14. In Camera Session**

Nil.

**15. Notice of Motions and Consideration**

Nil.

**16. Adjournment**

Mayor Robinson adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Read and approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAO