

A meeting of Town Council of the Town of Stewiacke was held on Thursday, January 23rd, 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
Jacqueline Baker - Recording Secretary

3. Approval of / Changes to Agenda

*On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Stoddart, it was moved that the agenda for January 23th, 2020 be approved as amended with the following change:
Deletion of 9a)*

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items

Nil

5. Citizens Comments and Communications

Pam Osborne stated she was disappointed at the Civic Committee meeting the night of January 22nd, 2020 that a discussion on the Town's other vacant properties were not discussed at the meeting nor on tonight's agenda.

6. Announcements

Nil

7. Presentations

Nil

8. Written Petitions and Communications

Nil.

9. Business

b) Appointment of Supervisor of Water/Waste Water Maintenance

Mr. Bogle stated that Mr. Tom Arnold has been hired as the Supervisor of Water/Waste Water Maintenance for the Water Treatment Plant.

c) Capital Budget Discussion

Discussion was held on the Capital Budget with the process, Capital will need to be approved prior to the General Operating.

A Special Meeting will be held on January 30th for Capital Budget discussion at 7:00pm.

d) Municipal Election Planning

CAO, Dale Bogle informed Council that the process for the Election will be starting up. Looking at different options of voting. Council discussed different areas for set up.

e) Standing Committees 2020

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Commo, it was moved to approve the 2020 Standing Committees as amended.

Motion carried unanimously.

f) Water Utility Deposit

Moved to Council Session in February

g) Audited Financial Statements 2018/19 Amended Note # 8

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman, it was moved to approve the Audited Financial Statements for 2018/2019 with the amended note #8.

Motion carried unanimously.

h) Well Water Update

Mr. Bogle stated that the well water drilling plan is proceeding well, 2 sites have been completed, both confirming the projections. A third drill site will be commencing in the next couple of weeks.

By-laws and Policies

10. Nil.

11. Mayors Report

Mayor Robinson, had a meeting about the Splash Pad, looking at the price of between \$95,000 - \$125,000 depending on what Council wants to pay in the end. A donor gave an amount of \$50,000.00; Josh Hilton Recreation Coordinator will be looking into a federal fund which would be 1/3 of the cost of the project which he will present during the Capital Budget.

Met with Jason Hahn from Municipal Affairs, to discuss Amalgamation, they have an information Session Package which they present to Council, they have done this in other areas. They will come to present the topic with informative material as well as questions answered. He is also recommending each Council at the beginning, middle and end of the term to take the Council/ Staff Relationships Training.

Newspaper Article wrote about the Happy Community Project, a newspaper in the Valley will be doing another article. Received a call from Jeff Douglas CBC Radio, would like to come out and meet Stewiacke, and discuss the Happy Community Project.

12. Councillor Reports

Councillor Commo, attended the Civic Building Meeting, really likes how the Happy Community Project is coming along. Looking for volunteers to help with the Music at the Legion.

Deputy Mayor Chapman: Been updating the Town Facebook page, a developer has been looking for land, has been posting lots of jobs on her Facebook page, attended the Civic Building Committee Meeting.

Councillor Ramsey: Good to see downtown is very busy on Thursday night, mentioned to Mr. Sibley he could plow the land across the road for more parking for the downtown core.

Councillor Creelman: Had to cancel the marketing discussion with Greg Connell, due to the weather and sickness, another date will be set.

13. Citizen Comments and Communications

George Lloy, stated he was at the Civic Building Meeting and had stated the question about vacant town owned lands and will be addressed at the Council Session.

Pam Osborne: Agrees with George Lloy, residents were told Town owned land would be addressed at the Council Session, she was looking for an amendment to the agenda, very disappointed. A lot of citizens were looking for answers.

Accessibility: if the consultant is being through a RFP Council should look at the Town residents as well, as there are a lot of educated people in the town.

2020 Municipal Election; for the Seniors complex to make sure the seniors are advised clearly of the process.

14. Open Forum to Discuss Councillor or Committee Reports

Mayor Robinson discussed the Amalgamation Conversation with Municipal Affairs coming to talk to Council. The first process is to talk to the Council of the Town of Stewiacke prior to meeting with the public. A meeting will be held on February 6th at 6:30pm.

Training for Council and Staff; interested but not a priority until after Budget talks are finalized.

Deputy Mayor Chapman: Request report on Town Owned land for the Committee of the Whole for February 13th, 2020.

15. In Camera Session

Nil.

16. Notice of Motion and Reconsideration

Nil.

17. Adjournment

Mayor Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:39 pm.

Read and approved this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Mayor

CAO