

Town of Stewiacke

Minutes – Council 7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 5th, 2020 (rescheduled from February 27th)
Council Chambers, 295 George Street, Stewiacke, NS

1. Call to Order

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

2. Attendance

Attendance: Mayor Wendy Robinson

Councillors, Mary Commo, Rebecca Rogers-Laing, Chad Ramsey, Susan Creelman

Absent: Deputy Mayor Chapman, Councillors Russel Stoddart and Rebecca Rogers-Laing sent regrets.

Staff: Dale Bogle - CAO

Dalas Tufts–Johnston - Recording Secretary

3. Approval of / Changes to Agenda

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Ramsey it was move to approve the Agenda for the March 5th, 2020, Council Meeting will the following change:

9c) Remove Saltscapes Expo

14. Addition of In Camera Session – Land MGA Act Section 22(2)(a) timely matter issue

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items

Nil.

5. Approval of Minutes from Previous Minutes

a) Council Session January 23rd, 2020

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Commo it was moved to approve the Council Session Minutes from January 23rd as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

b) Special Council January 30th, 2020

On Motion of Councillors Commo and Creelman it was moved to approve the Special Council Session Minutes from January 30th as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

c) Special Council February 6th, 2020

On Motion of Councillors Ramsey and Commo it was moved to approve the Special Council Session Minutes from February 6th, 2020 as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Announcements / Proclamations

Councillor Commo announced the Music at the Legion will begin on March 7th, from 2:00pm-4:00pm.

7. Presentations

Nil.

8. Written Petitions and Correspondence

Nil.

9. Business

a) Video Recording of Meetings

This has been sent to the Bylaw and Policy Committee to create a Policy.

b) Returning Officer / Deputy Returning Officer

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Ramsey it was moved that the Council of the Town of Stewiacke approve Dale Bogle as Returning Officer and Randi Buchi as Deputy Returning Officer.

Motion carried unanimously.

c) Water Deposits

On Motion of Councillors Commo and Creelman it was moved that the Council of the Town of Stewiacke approve the water deposits to be returned to customers via a credit on their account reflected on the March 2020th billing.

Motion carried unanimously.

d) Guaranteed Borrowing Resolution – Stewiacke Fire Department

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Commo it was moved to approve the Guaranteed Borrowing Resolution for the Stewiacke Fire Department in the amount of \$\$643,000.00 to the Council of the Town of Stewiacke.

Motion carried unanimously.

e) Pre-approval Financing for Main Street and Kitchener Street

On Motion of Councillors Commo and Ramsey it was moved that the Council of the Town of Stewiacke approve the pre-approval of the refinancing for Main Street and Kitchener Street Water Infrastructure in the amount of \$187,500.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

f) Temporary Borrowing Resolution – Downtown Revitalization Street Paving and Infrastructure

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Ramsey it was moved to approve the Temporary Borrowing Resolution of the Downtown Revitalization-Street Paving and Infrastructure in the amount of \$187,500.00.

Motion carried unanimously.

g) Transfer of the Accumulated Surplus to the Operating Reserve

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Ramsey it was moved to approve Council of the Town of Stewiacke to transfer the accumulated surplus of \$439,000.00 to the operating reserve.

Motion carried unanimously.

h) Library Discussion

Dale Bogle, CAO has contacted Sandy Dewar who is going to do an overall assessment on March 10th of the old NSLC building as well as the Public Works building. Mayor Robinson has been in contact with SK Retirement discussing costs per square footage

10. By-laws and Policies

a) Town Days Policy – Parade Time

Defer to March Council Session.

11. Citizens Comments

Shannon MacPhee

Happy Community Launch will be March 11th at the Legion, 7:00pm looking forward to seeing everyone attend.

Pam Osborne:

Discussed the Councillors Guide on FOIPOP (Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy). The guide includes lots of helpful information and of particular interest the subject of the guidelines outlined for when a councillor/mayor uses their personal devices. Transparency of council activities is an important factor within a town. Also discussed the Office of the Information and Privacy Commission. A Policy is definitely needed to follow the Provincial Act.

Library Concerns: SK Retirement Living could have a potential loss of opportunity. The town will lose money from the county towards the operation of the library. It will also lose money from the taxes on the building. The Accessibility Act is to be enforced by 2030 which makes Nova Scotia inclusive and barrier free; by having the library up to the Industrial Park Lands, this would not be accessible to residents, it would not be barrier free to go up there. It would also be a loss to the downtown core.

Information Session with Municipal Affairs Staff was going to occur, and hopefully the meeting will be held at the Community Centre to hold a large crowd.

Nora Habkirk

Was wondering when the videos/ recordings were out and available if there was a way audio could be edited, how to respond with the media, this should all be taken in consideration when creating a policy.

12. Mayors Report

Attended a meeting with Lenore Zann MP for Colchester Cumberland, Shawn Fraser MP for Pictou County this was a pre-budget meeting to see what people wanted across the province.

Went to visit the Annapolis Royal Library which is in a condone, she wanted to see how it was situated. Also went to Elmsdale and Tatamagouche libraries to see their buildings.

Attended the Ground Search and Rescue Banquet which is held every 5 years, some of the members have been involved for over 30 years or more.

Welcome to Beate Acker who is going to be helping us take our Minutes for the meetings.

Nova Scotia Masters Curling Champion: Congrats to Councillor Creelman.

Municipal Affairs: CAO; Dale Bogle and Mayor Robinson have a meeting set for March 6th at 1:00 to discuss the concerns about the town.

13. Councillors Reports

Councillor Commo: Attended the Business and Tourism Meeting, the VIC will be working on a Coupon Book from businesses in the town. They are working on Tide Times Brochure, and updating the Business Map.

Councillor Creelman: Exciting changes in the reconstruction of the Mastodon Ridge, looking at ways of securing new video footage of the town, attended the Business and Tourism Meeting.

Councillor Ramsey: Business and Tourism Meeting, looking into Building Stats from last year, positive growth is occurring.

14. In Camera Session

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Ramsey it was moved to go in Camera at 7:31pm.

Motion carried unanimously.

On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Commo it was moved to go out of Camera at 8:17pm.

Motion carried unanimously.

15. Notice of Motions and Reconsideration

16. Adjournment

Mayor Robinson adjourned the meeting at 8:18pm.