

1. Call to Order

Mayor Robinson called the Council Meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2. Attendance

PRESENT:

Mayor Wendy Robinson

Deputy Mayor Roseanne Chapman

Councillors: Mary Commo
Susan Creelman

Chad Ramsey
Rebecca Rogers-Laing

Staff: Dale Bogle, CAO
Josh Hilton – Community Development Coordinator
Lisa Feist – Recording Secretary

REGRETS / ABSENT:

Nil

3. Approval of / Changes to Agenda

On the motion of Councillor Commo and Councillor Rogers-Laing:

Moved that the agenda for October 22nd, 2020 be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items

Nil.

5. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)

a. September 24th, 2020 – Council Meeting

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

Moved to approve the minutes as presented for September 24th, 2020 – Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Announcements / Proclamations

Councillor Creelman notes the Community clean up event – Saturday 10:00a to noon – meet at car pool parking lot, bags, gloves and safety gear will be provided as well as lunch for all volunteers.

7. Presentations

Nil.

8. Written Petitions and Correspondence

- a. Colchester-East Hants Public Library - Special Anniversary Puzzle Fundraiser – for information purpose
- b. AMANS – Covid19 Protocols and Halloween – for information purpose
- c. Transport Canada – Rail Safety Letter of Concern – for information purpose
- d. Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing – from Jason Haughn re: Municipal Elections Act – for information purpose

9. Business

- a. Ratification of Motions at Committee of the Whole, October 8th, 2020

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Commo:

Moved to ratify the motion adopted by the Committee of the Whole on October 8th, 2020 and I so move Council to approve as follows: “move to re-establish charging interest on outstanding property tax receivables and water/sewer receivables, as follows:

- Interest to be applied to property tax accounts receivable owing after September 30th, 2020.
- Interest to be applied to water/sewer accounts receivable owing after September 24th, 2020.
- Interest on overdue amounts to be charged at the 1.5% per month.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Rogers-Laing:

Moved to ratify the motion adopted by the Committee of the Whole on October 8th, 2020 and I so move Council to approve as follows: “move to utilize water disconnections for arrears, in accordance with the regulations approved by the NS Utility and Review Board”.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

On the motion of Councillor Rogers-Laing and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

Moved to ratify the motion adopted by the Committee of the Whole on October 8th, 2020 and I so move Council to approve as follows: “move to decrease the per annum interest rate on overdue accounts from 18% to 15%. Also, to request approval for the same rate decrease from NS Utility and Review Board.”

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

- b. Approval of Motions from Committee of the Whole, October 8th, 2020

On the motion of Councillor Commo and Councillor Creelman:

Moved to approve the recommendation as presented at Committee of the Whole, October 8th, 2020 which states:

- recommended to Council the rental of Council Chambers to Metro Works for \$600 per month for 40 weeks.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Commo:

Moved to approve the recommendation as presented at Committee of the Whole, October 8th, 2020 which states:

- recommended to council to approve the Roof Replacement work by Flagship Construction for the amount of \$77,640.00 at the Stewiacke Community Center and the Stewiacke Town Hall.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Maintenance of planter box located near Petro Canada gas station

Josh Hilton provided an update on the repair and replacement of the planter box on display – due to the age and disrepair, the boxes require repair and/or replacement. The only company to provide a quote was MacPhee’s Landscaping – the quote was for \$19,000.00, which is outside of the current budget. A smaller planter box and design has been provided to stay within budget of \$9,000.00. The original budget allocated was \$5,000.00 and there was a surplus of \$400.00 from operating budget plus a \$3,600.00 beautification grant that has not been utilized - the proposed quote will be no additional cost to the town. The redesign will replace the wood box with rock design and the size will now be 60’ x 5’ – approximately ½ the size of the current design. The design could be added onto at a later date if need be. Council agreed to proceed with the design with the budget that is within the CAO approved budget of \$9,000.00.

10. By-laws and Policies

Nil.

11. Citizen Comments

Nora Habkirk – Good evening, I would just would like to say congratulations to all those will be making up our new council and saying goodbye to some people who have put a lot of time and effort into the old council. Congratulations to you all and let’s move forward.

12. Mayor Report

Mayor Robinson - Thank you to all the residents over the last 12 years, I really appreciated and was honoured to be the mayor for eight of those years and four as councillor. I would also like to thank all the councillors this term and previous terms; I thank them for all the hard work we put in together. Appreciate your comradery and friendship and wish you all the best and congratulations for winning. I would also like to congratulate Councillor Elect Lutz – I’m sorry I won’t be at the table with you so congratulations. And to Mayor Elect Lloy, looking forward to all the good things you will bring to the town and I’m sure it will be an interesting job for you. That’s it for me, we’ll move to the Councillors reports.

13. Councillors Reports

Councillor Creelman – I just want to thank the staff for running the election and to all the candidates as well. These are trying times and Covid doesn't make it any easier. It was good to see a good voter turn out, I think perhaps close to 60% turn out, that is good. And I wanted to thank Mayor Robinson for her 12 years on council. I know you love Stewiacke and that you take great pride in many of the recent accomplishment we've been able to achieve. I wanted to congratulate all the returning councillors and I want to welcome and congratulate Councillor Elect Lutz and Mayor Elect Lloy. I look forward to working with you and seeing how we can move Stewiacke forward some more.

Deputy Mayor Chapman – I would like to mirror what Councillor Creelman said – thank you so much to staff for running such a well-organized Election. Thank you so much. Thank you to Mayor Robinson for all the things you've done and I'm sure will continue to do for the town. I would like to congratulate Councillor Elect Lutz and Mayor Elect Lloy. It's just the beginning so let's get at it. One more thing, Josh, do you have many signed up for this Saturday's clean up event? Josh replied 7.

Councillor Commo – I would like to thank Mayor Robinson for her years of service as councillor and mayor and I am sure you will find something else that will be just as exciting. I would like to welcome Mayor Elect Lloy and Councillor Lutz and look forward to working with you.

Councillor Ramsey – Pretty much the same as already said, I look forward to the next four years working with our new mayor and new councillor and it's been great working with Mayor Robinson the past 8 years and will miss you around the table and as a friend.

14. In-Camera Session

Nil.

15. Notice of Motion and Reconsideration

Nil.

16. Adjournment

Mayor Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:32 pm.