



Before we begin our meeting, we would like to acknowledge that Stewiacke is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people

1. Call to Order

Mayor George Lloy called the Council Meeting to order at 7:00 pm

2. Attendance

PRESENT:

Mayor George Lloy

Deputy Mayor Roseanne Chapman

Councillors: Chad Ramsey (7:15pm)
Susan Creelman

Suzanne Lutz

Staff: Dale Bogle, CAO

REGRETS / ABSENT:

Councillor Rogers-Laing

3. Approval of / Changes to Agenda

Addition of 10.b. Policy # 2001-09 Water Service Procedures and 10.c. Policy # 2005-22 Low Income Tax Exemption and defer 10.a. Policy # 2018-24 Respecting Commercial Development District Improvements in the Town of Stewiacke.

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Lutz:

I so move to approve the Agenda as presented for December 22nd, 2022 Combined Council Meeting with the previously presented changes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items

NIL

5. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting(s)

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Creelman:

I so move to approve the Minutes as presented for November 10th, 2022 – Committee of the Whole.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Lutz:

I so move to approve the Minutes as presented for November 24th, 2022 – Council Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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6. Announcements / Proclamations

NIL

7. Presentations

NIL

8. Written Petitions and Correspondence

- a. CEHPL Annual Report

9. Business

- a. Staff Reports

i. Administration

- Egress Road – St Andrews to George or Hwy 2 – Raised this with CBCL and they will advise
- Accessibility Plan – Capital planning discussions
- Boardwalk along river – CAO Bogle, Councillor Creelman and Erin Richard are gathering a working group
- Amateur Radio System – Dave Westlake is assisting
- Business Interruption & Pandemic Planning Committee – We are getting prepared for winter
- Foodland Building Permit has come through and they are looking at late November – early December planned opening
- Library opportunity – Extended until 12 January 2023, has been a lot of interest
- Community Centre Siding – Jeff is working on steel siding quotes
- Deputy Mayor Chapman asked who will decide on the best treatment plant we need, to which CAO Bogle replied, CBCL and WSP will
- Councillor Lutz asked if we own the property for the well water or will we have a written agreement, to which CAO Bogle answered that we do not have a written agreement as of yet, but we do have an agreement in principal to acquire the property if we use that site.

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ii. Financial

- 2023 Property Assessments are out with an almost 30% increase
- Councillor Creelman asked if the assessment increase was typical across the province to which Randi replied no, we are higher than the average in the province, we are one of the highest

iii. Recreation

- CBCL will hold another public engagement session hopefully in early February, just working out logistics
- Councillor Creelman asked if there were many applicants for the job posting to which Erin replied that she had only received 3 and it closed today.

iv. Planning

- Grant read his report
- Mayor Lloy mentioned that he will be looking at a presentation from Mayor Henley regarding mini homes in Oxford

v. Public Works

- Councillor Creelman asked if the sign has been ordered to which both CAO Bogle and Randi answered affirmative
- Councillor Ramsey asked how the town is looking for upcoming storms, drains clear etc to which CAO Bogle confirmed they are ready

vi. Executive Assistant

- We have reached \$20 million in Building Permits – Foodland topped
- A lot of movement with sales
- Welcome package is well received and we are working on revamping to have more interaction with residents
- CAO Bogle mentioned that the increase in taxes will equal \$190,000+ in revenue

On the motion of Councillor Ramsey and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

I so move to approve the Staff Reports as presented for December 22nd, 2022 – Combined Council Meeting

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b. Fire Department Lease and Statements

- Randi had presented a lease that had expired for numerous years, had our solicitor review the lease, and the main reason it is bringing forward is that there is liability risk and also more clarification on repairs and maintenance that happen within the building.
- Exactly what has been in place except the liability went up and it hasn't been signed in quite some time.
- Councillor Creelman asked what the next steps are to which Randi replied that the Fire Department is aware and they are stakeholders so they will meet in January, to discuss the lease, significant increase in revenue, and opening up the lines of communication as well.

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Ramsey:

I so move to approve the Fire Department Lease effective January 1st, 2023 as presented for December 22nd, 2022 - Combined Council Meeting

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Letter of Support from Pam Mood – Mayor of Yarmouth

- In your package for Council

d. AMC – Atlantic Mayors' Congress Invitation

- Councillor Creelman asked about the benefits to which Mayor Lloy replied regarding the networking benefits, progression for the town and support from the Mayor of Colchester, to show that the population size dictates whether or not a community is welcome to join, should be removed.
- Deputy Mayor Chapman asked if this would be more of an advantage than that of being a member of the NSFM (Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities) and do they cover the same things. Mayor Lloy stated that this would be in addition as this is amongst Mayors and Wardens only with a different perspective.
- Deputy Mayor Chapman asked to clarify the merits of membership, is it an advocacy group? Mayor Lloy stated it could be an advocacy group but more importantly it gives Stewiacke a place at the table, giving us exposure and different ideas.
- Deputy Mayor Chapman was asking what was brought back from the meeting in August to which Mayor Lloy responded with the contacts outside of Council to reach out for growth etc.
- Deputy Mayor Chapman feels that things should be discussed with Council prior to talking to other Mayors to which Mayor Lloy said we are brought to the table to bring back information to Council

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- Councillor Creelman asked if there were other towns as small as ours, to which Mayor Lloy said that there was a town in Newfoundland and Hants County who are members
- Going to move forward with a 1 year membership and assess the benefits after the year is coming to an end and Council agreed

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Ramsey:

I so move to approve joining of the Atlantic Mayors' Congress for 1 year, as presented for December 22nd, 2022 – Combined Council Meeting

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- e. FCM – Federation of Canadian Municipalities National Conference May 2023
 - Looking for representation for the conference in 2023, will defer to January or February Committee of the Whole while waiting for full Council.
- f. Town Levee
 - Just an announcement from Mayor or Deputy Mayor for Council to meet the residents at the Legion on New Year's Day
- g. Special By Election 2023
 - With passing of Councillor Commo, we have to follow timelines to announce the voting and appointment of a new councillor. We will do the paperless / electronic as it follows the by-law and we have 11 weeks from the date of passing and are required to hold on a Saturday. We would not have time to prepare the paper votes.
 - On polling day we will have a computer set up at the legion to assist residents who do not have access to internet.

Date setting for Special Election:

- Special Election Day – February 25th, 2023
- Nomination Day – January 31st, 2023

On the motion of Councillor Lutz and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

I so move to approve the setting of key dates for the Special Election as presented for December 22nd, 2023 – Combined Council Meeting

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Delegation of Authority:

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

I so move to delegate the power to appoint a returning officer and assistant returning officer to the Chief Administrative Officer.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Lutz:

I so move to delegate the authority to make, revise and amend the tariff of fees and expenses to be paid to any person for their services and expenses under the Municipal Elections Act and may similarly revise and amend the tariff and provide for a method of rendering and verifying accounts for payment as part of the 2023 Special Election for the Town of Stewiacke to the Chief Administrative Officer.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Method of Using Preliminary List of Electors:

On the motion of Councillor Lutz and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

I so move to approve the use of the list of electors used in the most recent federal or provincial election as the method for producing the preliminary list of electors for the Town of Stewiacke 2023 Special Election.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. By-laws and Policies

b. Policy # 2001-09 Water Service Procedures

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Lutz:

I so move to approve the amended Policy # 2001-09 water Service Procedures as presented for December 22nd, 2022 – Combined Council Meeting

c. Policy # 2005-22 Low Income Tax Exemption

On the motion of Councillor Creelman and Councillor Ramsey:

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11. Citizen Comments

NIL

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12. Mayor Report

- 25 Nov – Attended Grand Opening of Abalone Retreat at the new location on Joffre & Riverside
- 26 Nov – Attended Stakeholder meeting at the Colchester Ground Search and Rescue in Debert and provided Council with a follow up email from the meeting
- 28 Nov – HR meeting with CAO Bogle, Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Creelman
- 29 Nov – Met with Salvation Army in Truro
- 30 Nov – Zoom meeting of the joint Library Committee
- 3 Dec – Santa breakfast at the Legion and spoke with CBCL representative, took in multiple events for our Christmas in Stewiacke Day and officiated the tree lighting ceremony. It was an amazing day in Stewiacke
- 5 Dec – Weekly briefing with CAO Bogle
- 8 Dec – Business & Tourism Committee meeting via Zoom
- 8 Dec – CBCL meeting with Council, staff and Planning Advisory Committee at the Community Center
- 10 Dec – Attended Community Craft Fair at the Community Centre
- 12 Dec – Attended CLC meeting at Dalhousie Agriculture College
- 13 Dec – Christmas reception at Government House in Halifax, spoke briefly with Honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc in regards to the unprecedented growth in Stewiacke
- 14 Dec – Met with Christine Blair in Truro to discuss regional activity with the upcoming meeting of the NSFM in January 2023, update from her meeting with the FCM and the AMG
- 15 Dec – Holiday Open House at the Truro & Colchester Chamber of Commerce in Truro, thank you for the invitation
- 15 Dec – Grand Opening of the future site of the new Foodland in Stewiacke. Congratulations and look forward to working with Darren Schriver and other community business leaders as we continue to grow in Stewiacke
- 15 Dec – Delivered the \$100 cash donation and donated food articles to the Schumilack Food Bank in Shubenacadie and toured the facility with staff and children of the Smiles & Chuckles Children Center in Stewiacke. Thank you for the invitation to attend
- 20 Dec – Phone interview with John MacNeil, journalist for Saltwire as a follow up of the ground breaking for the new Foodland
- 22 Dec – Attended the staff luncheon. Thank you to the hard working staff for all you do on a daily basis

Acknowledge the passing of our Councillor Commo, we had a great couple of weeks as well as a very difficult week

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I trust everyone will have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please reach out to those in need and be kind to one another

Deputy Mayor Report

- Sod Turning for the new Foodland
- Business & Tourism Meeting
- HR Meeting
- CBCL Workshop
- Library Meeting
- 3 December was a amazing day in Stewiacke, great events provided by businesses and the town. Huge thank you to Erin for all she did and the other staff as well.

Stewiacke's Next Big Star production is still accepting volunteers
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

13. Councillors Reports

Councillor Creelman:

- Wanted to acknowledge the passing of Councillor Commo who I worked with on many committees and projects, Mary always had the best interest of the residents at heart
- Want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas

Councillor Ramsey:

- Wish everyone a great Christmas

14. In-Camera Session

- a. Contract Negotiation

On the motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Creelman:

I so move to go In-camera at 8:15pm

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On the motion of Councillor Ramsey and Deputy Mayor Chapman:

I so move to end In-camera at 8:30pm

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15. Notice of Motion and Reconsideration

NIL

16. Adjournment

Adjournment called at 8:31pm.

G. Day

[Signature]

