

A Committee of the Whole of the Town of Stewiacke was held on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Town Hall, Stewiacke Nova Scotia.

### **1. Call to Order**

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

### **2. Attendance**

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

Staff:

Dale Bogle	Chief Administrative Officer
Randi Buchi	Manager of Finance
Dalas Tufts-Johnston	Recording Secretary
Josh Hilton	Parks and Recreation Coordinator

### **3. Approval of / Amendments to Agenda**

*On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman it was moved to approve the agenda as March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as presented.*

*Motion carried unanimously.*

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

Nil

### **5. Approval of Minutes February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

Defer to April Committee of the Whole Session.

### **6. Announcements/ Proclamations**

Condolences expressed to the passing of Councillor Russel Stoddart on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

### **7. Presentations**

a) TCPEP – Brennan Gillis

Brennan Gillis; CEO of Truro Colchester Partnership for Economic Prosperity gave a presentation with the following highlights:

1. Strategy 1 – Promote Truro Colchester as a great place to live work and do business. – Regional Brand, Relocation Guides, Video and Social Media, Website Upgrade, Social Media Campaign.
2. Strategy 2 – Increase Business Startups, support Business Growth and Innovation - Business Guide, Business Parks Promo, One-on-one Business, Business Hub.
3. Strategy 3 – Work Force Development (Attraction and Retention) – Accelerating Market Readiness, Newcome Award, Talent/ Physician Attraction, Sector Development, Youth Retention

b) Home Warming Program Support – Jenn Hickey, Outreach Agent

The Home Warming Program for low-income homeowners and thanks to being fully funded by the Province of Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Power, it is 100 % free to all qualified home owners in the province.

The qualifying factors for participation in the program are home ownership and fitting into the LICO-based net-income brackets.

1. 1 person in the home - \$22,324 or less per year
2. 2-4 people in the home - \$41,481
3. 5+ people in the home - \$59,076

They service all heating types (electric, oil, wood, coal, natural gas, etc.) and on average, people who go through the program can see an annual savings of up to 20-30% off their annual heating bills.

**8. a) Library Funding Primer**

*On Motion of Deputy Mayor Chapman and Councillor Rogers- Laing it was moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Council of the Town of Stewiacke to increase the contribution for 2020-2021 to the Colchester East Hants Public Library in the amount of \$1174.00 annually.*

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**b) Housing Needs and Demand Study for Colchester**

*On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Ramsey it was moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council of the Town of Stewiacke to contribute to the Housing Needs and Demand study for Colchester not to exceed the amount of \$500.00.*

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**9.a). Business**

**i) Administration**

CAO; Dale Bogle reviewed his Administration Report with Council.

**ii). Public Works**

CAO; Dale Bogle reviewed the Public Works Report with Council.

**iii) Recreation**

Parks and Recreation Coordinator; Josh Hilton, presented Council with a verbal report on why another Recreation Position would be beneficial to the Town of Stewiacke.

**iv). Planning**

CAO; Dale Bogle reviewed the Planning Report with Council

**v). Financial Report**

Director for Finance Randi Buchi; presented Council with a verbal report.

**b) General Operating Budget**

*On Motion of Councillors Creelman and Deputy Mayor Chapman it was moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Council of the Town of Stewiacke to approve expenditures related to the General Operating Budget 2020-2021 not to exceed 50% of the previous year 2019-2020 budget until said budget is approved in its entirety.*

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**c) Capital Budget**

Director of Finance Randi Buchi reviewed the Capital Budget with Council.

**10. By-laws and Policies**

**a) Alternative Voting By-Law**

*On motion of Councillors Rogers-Laing and Ramsey it was moved that the Committee of the Whole recommend to the Council of the Town of Stewiacke to repeal the Alternative Voting Bylaw #2012-21.*

***Motion carried unanimously.***

**11. Citizen Comments and Communications**

Nora Habkirk commented that she would like council to consider establishing a Youth Centre in Stewiacke.

**12. Mayors Report**

The Mayor meet with Jason Hahn. Met with the Chamber of Commerce in regards to reviewing and implementing a Covid 19 Plan.

**13. Councilors Report**

Councilor Susan Creelman attended the Happy Community meeting, commented on the Litter Clean Up project to coincide with Tim Hortons and expressed condolences for the late Councilor Russell Stoddard.

Deputy Mayor Roseanne Chapman attended the Happy Community meeting, provided an update on Councilor Mary Commo recovery as doing well and expressed condolences for the late Councilor Russell Stoddard.

**14. In Camera Session**

Nil.

**15. Notice of Motions and Reconsideration**

Nil.

**16. Adjournment**

Time: 9:13pm.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
CAO