



TOWN OF STEADY BROOK
PUBLIC MEETING
January 11, 2018

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Donna Thistle
T. Caines, Town Clerk/Manager

Councillors:

C. Pike
C. Sutherland
C. Wells
C. Howlett
C. Austin

ABSENT: Councillor Dawe

DELEGATIONS/GUESTS: Claude Wilton

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item

1) Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Thistle called the meeting to order by welcoming everyone present.
The Mayor called for any additions/amendments to the agenda.

**RESOLUTION
2018/001**

AUSTIN/HOWLETT:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JANUARY 11, 2018.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

1.1) Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of Dec 7, 2017 Public Meeting were presented for review. The Mayor called for any errors or omissions to previous meeting.

**RESOLUTION
2018/002**

AUSTIN/HOWLETT:
BE IT RESOLVED TO ADOPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED FOR THE PUBLIC COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 7, 2017.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

S(2)

Business arising
Action items

Mayor Thistle asked if a letter was sent to MMDC and if the Town had received a response from them. Town Clerk/Manager stated that they have not heard anything formally back from MMDC.

Mayor Thistle asked if Councillor Dawe and Brent Humphries Corner Brook Stream Trails had met regarding Steward Association with Municipalities . Town Clerk/Manager stated that both have been contacted and that they will set up a schedule to meet when convenient.

(3) Notices of
Resolutions
arising of minutes

NOTHING TO REPORT

Claude Wilton - Guest

Mr. Wilton addressed council regarding the 2018 budget and the increase in the mil rate. Mr. Wilton did not understand why council increased the mil rate from 5 mil to 6 mil when council had money sitting in other reserves. Mr. Wilton also stated that the letter the Mayor sent out with the property tax bills regarding part of the reason for the increase was due to purchasing a new pickup truck/sander plus the cost of the Artesian Wells is false information.. Mr. Wilton told the Mayor that the pickup truck was paid for by a previous budget and that the Artesian Wells project was paid for by previous budgets, therefore that should not contribute to the increase cost in the mil rate. Mayor apologized for the misinformation as it was a mistake on her part.

Mr. Wilton Stated that the town took the GIC \$475,000.00 and bought a piece of land. Mayor Thistle told him that is not a fact and that is false information. Mr. Wilton stated he wants to know why the mil rate went up. He stated that the taxes should be going down lower not going up. Mr. Wilton also stated that council should not have given up the Equal Payment Plan.

Mayor stated that she would not be single handily be answering these questions, Mr. Wilton made it sound like it was only the Mayor that done this. The mayor stated she signed the letter, but it was a unanimous vote on the budget, every council member contributed to the budget and passed the budget.

Mr. Wilton stated that this council only spent a couple of hours on the budget. Mayor Thistle told him that is false information and that this council met several times for hours to discuss the budget. The Mayor asked Mr. Wilton to stop making false accusations. Mr. Wilton reverted back to the letter, The Mayor stated that she already apologized regarding some areas of the letter. Mr. Wilton stated that the town wiped out the GIC account

to purchase the land. Mayor Thistle stated that was false information and the town actually used \$250,000.00 of the GIC and the rest of the money for the land was on a 2 year interest free loan. This money came out of reserves and had nothing to do with the 2018 budget. All the money will go back to the GIC account when the land is sold.

Mr. Wilton stated why did the mil rate go up than if it wasn't from purchasing the land. Mayor Thistle stated quotes for paving came in, however she could not continue as Mr. Wilton continued to interrupt the Mayor when she tried to explain, therefore she continued on with the regular public meeting.

(4) Committee reports

4.1 OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS:

- 4.1.1 Municipal Building - The town office will be moving to the new municipal building on Jan 15, 2018. The office will be closed on Jan 15 & 16, 2018.

- 4.1.2 Artesian Wells - Mayor Thistle stated that the solution to the water is not a simple fix. The town was going to lower the pumps in the wells to see if this would help with more supply of water but was advised not to by Department of Environment. The D.O.E. advised council there is no indication that the water level in the wells would not just be drawn down to the new intake level, further compromising the wells and their tenuous yields.

Mayor Thistle commented that the water supply does not meet the demand at no fault to anyone. Previous council was aware that there was a possibility that the Artesian Wells may switch over to the surface water at unspecified periods of time and wanted the project to go ahead.

Mayor Thistle stated the only solution is to drill more wells in order to provide enough water to the town, however before that happens the town can try blending the surface water with the artesian wells to see if a better quality of water supply will be able to meet the town's requirements...THM's are a concern and this would be monitored.

Council had a motion to drop the pumps but as per advice from D.O.E. council will rescind those motions.

Whereas: On Jan 8, 2018, The town received information from the Provincial Environmental Scientist that lowering the pumps, without data to support that action, could further compromise our yields. (Email attached)

**RESOLUTION
2018/003**

WELLS/PIKE

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK
RESCIND RESOLUTION # 2017/124 AND 2017/144.**

**IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike,
Sutherland**

OPPOSED: (0)

RESOLUTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION

2017/124

WELLS/AUSTIN:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN SPEND UP TO \$5000.00 PLUS HST TO LOWER THE PUMPS 15-18 METERS IN THE ARTESIAN WELLS AS PER THE TOWN'S ENGINEER'S ADVICE.

IN FAVOUR: (7) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland, Dawe

OPPOSED: (0)

RESOLUTION CARRIED

RESOLUTION

2017/144

PIKE/DAWE:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK EXPLORE WITH OUR ENGINEER ADDITIONAL OPTIONS REGARDING THE RECENTLY REVISED QUOTATION FOR THE LOWERING OF THE PUMPS IN THE ARTESIAN WELLS. BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THE TOWN WILL SPEND AN ADDITIONAL \$5000.00 IF NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THIS PROJECT.

IN FAVOUR: (7) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland, Dawe

OPPOSED: (0)

RESOLUTION CARRIED

The Town is now currently operating fully on the Artesian Wells and Mayor Thistle stated that it is very important to be **conserving water at all times.**

-4.1.3 Paving Quotes - The town received paving quotes from three different companies because there is a lot of deterioration pavement in the town. Council is planning on setting up a 3-4 year plan to fix the roads. Cost estimate to fix the roads came in at \$501,500.00. If the town applies for Municipal Capital Works funding with Municipal Affairs, funding would be a 50/50 cost share. Municipal Affairs has stated that their main priority for funding would be water and waste water and there would be a slim chance of receiving any funding for roads, therefore the cost would be solely on the town.

4.2 EMERGENCY MEASURES:

4.2.1 - Fire Truck - Whereas the Town of Steady Brook's current fire truck is almost depleted the Town of Steady Brook went to tenders to purchase a new pumper truck, the town has accepted a tender offer.

**RESOLUTION
2018/004**

HOWLETT/WELLS:

BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK ACCEPT THE TENDER BID FROM CAMIONS CARL THIBAUT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$295,172.00 PLUS HST FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW FIRE PUMPER TRUCK.

IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland

OPPOSED: (0)

RESOLUTION CARRIED

4.2.2 - Mutual Aid Agreement with Pasadena - Whereas there is a benefit to a Mutual Aid Agreement between Pasadena & Steady Brook Little Rapids Regional Fire Department (that one Department will help out the other if the need arises), and on the recommendation of the Regional Fire Committee a motion has been presented.

**RESOLUTION
2018/005**

HOWLETT/AUSTIN:

BE IT RESOLVED THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK ACCEPT THE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH PASADENA AS PRESENTED.

IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland

OPPOSED: (0)

RESOLUTION CARRIED

4.3 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT:

4.3.1 - Mayor Thistle stated that residents that are affected by development on Willow & Birch will be invited to a meeting for a update on that development January 25, 2018

4.4 RECREATION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

4.4.1 - Town council will be seeking proposals for the playground on Wilton Street.

4.5 GREAT HUMBER JOINT COUNCIL:

4.5.1 - Mayor Thistle stated that herself and Deputy Mayor Wells along with other leaders in the Humber Valley area was on a conference call with Premier Dwight Ball. This was regarding a tax tariff on Corner Brook Pulp & Paper Mill and the impact that it may have if something should happen to the mill.

4.6 FINANCE:

4.6.1 - Approval of Invoices \$75,764.42

**RESOLUTION
2018/006**

**HOWLETT/SUTHERLAND:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK
APPROVE THE INVOICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ 75,764.42
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike,
Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED**

- 4.6.2 Tech Construction - Approval of Claim # 7, 8, 9 & 10 to
Tech Construction for MCW Project 12055

**RESOLUTION
2018/007**

**HOWLETT/PIKE:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK
APPROVE THE PAID INVOICE CLAIM #'S 7,8,9 & 10 TO
TECH CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$647,702.30
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike,
Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED**

- 4.6.3 Transfer Money from GIC to chequing account.

**RESOLUTION
2018/008**

**PIKE/HOWLETT:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK
TRANSFER \$100,000.00 FROM GIC TO THE TOWN'S
CHEQUING ACCOUNT.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike,
Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED**

4.6.4 - Transfer money from the Gas Tax account.

**RESOLUTION
2018/009**

**PIKE/SUTHERLAND:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK
TRANSFER \$80,000.00 FROM THE GAS TAX ACCOUNT TO
THE TOWN'S CHEQUING ACCOUNT.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike,
Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED**

4.6.5 - Fingerboard sign - Due to the fingerboard sign blown
down council will be reimbursing three business in the amount of
\$25.00 each. Sign to be put back up in the spring.

**RESOLUTION
2018/010**

**PIKE/SUTHERLAND:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK
REIMBURSE MARBLE INN RESORT, HUXTER'S SUITE AND
EDGEWATER INN FOR \$25.00 EACH REGARDING
FINGERBOARD SIGNAGE.**

IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

4.6.6 - 2018 Budget - To approve the 2018 tax structure.

**RESOLUTION
2018/011**

PIKE/HOWLETT:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE 2018 FEE STRUCTURE FOR THE TOWN OF STEADY BROOK BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/012**

PIKE/WELLS:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT A FEE OF \$45.00 (PER CHEQUE) BE CHARGED ON ALL NSF CHEQUES FOR THE TAXATION YEAR OF 2018 AS SET OUT BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/013**

PIKE/AUSTIN:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MINIMUM BUSINESS TAX FOR 2018 BE SET AT \$450.00 AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/014**

PIKE/SUTHERLAND:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE RESIDENTIAL WATER AND SEWER RATES FOR 2018 BE SET AT \$300.00 PER HOUSEHOLD AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/015**

HOWLETT/PIKE:
BE IT RESOLVED TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT THE 2018 TAX STRUCTURE WITH THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY RATE OF 6 MILS AND COMMERCIAL RATE OF 12 MILS, AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland

OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/016**

HOWLETT/PIKE:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MINIMUM PROPERTY TAX FOR 2018 BE SET AT \$300.00, AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/017**

HOWLETT/AUSTIN:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BUSINESS WATER AND SEWER RATE FOR 2018 BE SET AT \$600.00, AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/018**

HOWLETT/WELLS:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CHARGE ON OVERSEAS DIRECT DEPOSITS FOR 2018 WILL BE SET AT \$25.00 PER TRANSACTION, AS PRESENTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

**RESOLUTION
2018/019**

HOWLETT/PIKE:
BE IT RESOLVED THAT 2% INTEREST WILL BE CHARGED MONTHLY ON RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS ACCOUNTS OVERDUE BY 30 DAYS OR MORE IN THE TAXATION YEAR OF 2018 AS SET OUT BY HTE FINANCE COMMITTEE.
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike, Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED

4.7 ADMINISTRATION:

- 4.7.NOTHING TO REPORT

4.8 WATERSHED AND ENVIRONMENT:

4.8.1 - Next meeting Feb 13, 2018.

5. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:

NOTHING TO REPORT

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

NOTHING TO REPORT

7. COUNCILOR'S / MAYOR FORUM:

NOTHING TO REPORT

**BE IT RESOLVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
IN FAVOUR: (6) Thistle, Wells, Austin, Howlett, Pike,
Sutherland
OPPOSED: (0)
RESOLUTION CARRIED**

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING WILL BE FEBRUARY 8, 2018

Mayor Donna Thistle

Town Clerk/Manager