

Regular Meeting of The Town Council

Much Business Transacted—Adjourned till Tomorrow Night, 27th, to Further Deal with Roads and Sewers

Newcastle Town Council met in regular monthly session on the 20th instant, Mayor Fish in the chair. Aldermen present: C. C. Hayward, J. F. Kingston, A. H. Mackay, F. C. McGrath, T. A. Scribner, Jas. Stables and H. H. Stgart.

Minutes of last meeting were read and approved. The Mayor read an invitation from the Union of Canadian Municipalities to send delegates to attend their annual Conventions, at Montreal, August 21-23.

The letter was, in part, as follows: TO ALL MUNICIPAL COUNCILS: The annual convention of the Union of Canadian Municipalities, which will be held August 21, 22, 23, in Montreal, and to which we have already sent you an invitation, will be the most important in the history of the Union, and will mark an epoch in the civic life of the Dominion, for the reason that the municipalities of Canada are today face to face with problems the seriousness of which can only be gauged by their magnitude.

The problem of finance (borrowing, taxation, assessment, accounting)—the problem of responsibility of the municipal council in this war—the problem of public works, streets, etc.—are each of vital interest to every municipality. There is also the problem of municipal responsibility in Canada's preparedness, which must be studied and action taken almost at once if the municipal councils are to rise to their opportunities and responsibility.

These, and other problems, can only be met by free discussion between municipality and municipality on common ground. For this purpose the Union would strongly urge the Councils to send representatives to the Montreal convention, at which papers on the following five questions will be presented by the most authoritative speakers, and ample time given for free discussion.

Topics and Papers for the Programme, 1916: Municipal responsibility in Canada's Preparedness. (a)—Returned Soldiers—Employment, Soldiers' Homes, Hospitals, Memorials. (b)—The Patriotic Fund—Federal, or Provincial, or Municipal Tax? (c)—Immigration—Rural Clubs, People's Forums. (d)—Public Employment Offices. (e)—Encouragement to Industries. Municipal Finance. Municipal Accounting. How best to introduce modern systems of Municipal work. Municipal Assessment. Hydro-Electric Railway System of Ontario. Montreal Electrical Situation. Forms of Municipal Government. (a)—Aldermen and Committees. (b)—Controllers and Council. (c)—Commission only. (d)—Manager. (e)—The Ideal Form of Civic Government and Administration. Provincial Government Municipal Boards. The Town Planning Outlook. Good Roads Movement, and its Influence on Urban Municipalities. City Bill Board Advertising. Proportional Representation. Teaching of Civic Government in Public Schools. Daylight Saving. A complete program will be mailed later.

Yours faithfully, W. D. LIGHTHALL, Hon. Sec. Treas., U. C. M. The following was read: Fredericton, N. B., July 19th, 1916

To all Mayors and Wardens in New Brunswick. During the past few months I have been busy myself with a view to forming throughout Canada, Association of men who have seen service in the present war. My object in doing so was to have in each municipality an organization composed of these men and in each province an executive body, with which body each municipal organization would be in touch. Further, it is proposed to use these provincial committees linked together in a Dominion-wide Organization. With such an organization, composed of returned men, the interests of our boys who come back broken and wounded from the front, would be looked after, and much of the criticism as to the treatment of returned soldiers would cease to exist.

I will not go into details with reference to the above outlined scheme but I may say to you that the matter is being taken up actively in every centre in Canada and I expect in the course of the next months to have things in working order. In this connection I believe it would be well to have in each city and town in New Brunswick, a Citizens' Committee composed of members of the City Council and prominent citizens, who will form themselves in an Association to assist our Association in its work.

In Winnipeg such a move has already been made, as will appear by the following extract from a letter received by me from our Secretary in that city quite recently. "As to the Returned Soldiers Association, this is an incorporated body, with officers at 185 Lombard St., Winnipeg. It is composed of leading citizens, including Mayor Waugh, as President, who give their time and services to welcoming returned soldiers on their arrival in Manitoba. Some of the duties that they perform are meeting all trains, providing refreshments for men who are going further west, taking home in automobiles men who live in Winnipeg and district, visiting the sick through a paid nurse, furnishing large recreation rooms with reading matter, games, musical instruments, etc., and granting financial assistance to any man in need. In fact, providing that touch of human kindness which makes the men feel that the public have not forgotten what they have gone through and the cause for which they have fought. In proof of the generosity of the citizens of Winnipeg and district, I am pleased to say that the Returned Soldiers Association have over \$200,000.00 on hand to carry on the good work when the boys who are now at the front shall return."

Would you be good enough to talk this matter over with your City or Town Council at their next meeting? Advise me how the proposition is entertained, and what has been done. In writing you this letter, I am speaking on behalf of our European Veterans' Associations already formed in the Province of New Brunswick.

Yours faithfully, (Sgd.) PERCY A. GUTHRIE, Lt.-Col. Special Recruiting Officer, 6th Division.

Re the matter, the Mayor said we should have returned soldiers here. Part of the duties of the proposed Association were already assigned to our local Reception Committee. It would be in order for this Council to take up the matter as suggested. Ald. Stables thought the idea would develop as wounded soldiers returned. Ald. McGrath moved That the

Mayor take charge of the matter and solicit from among our citizenship other members to join with the council to form a branch of the European War Veterans' Association. This was seconded by Ald. Scribner. Carried. Ald. Stuart thought the Mayor should attend the Union of Canadian Municipalities meeting. Ald. MacKay moved, seconded by Ald. Kingston. That letter from Union of Canadian Municipalities be laid on the table.

Application from Charles McLaughlin for permission to install a gasoline tank in front of his garage and auto repair shop, was read. Ald. Stuart moved That the petition be referred to the Public Works Committee. Ald. Fish said an injunction against gasoline tanks on the streets had been threatened, but there did not appear any permission to install such on the minutes. The Town Clerk read from minutes of March 18th last, whereby the Lonsbury Co. had been authorized to install a tank under supervision of the Public Works Committee.

Ald. Hayward said that gasoline must be stored under ground. Such would be dangerous under a building, so in cities it was the custom to install tanks under ground on the street. Before we could refuse to allow such a tank we ought to devise some better system. Ald. Hayward moved That Mr. McLaughlin be allowed to install the gasoline tank under the street on front of his garage as requested, subject to the supervision of the Public Works Committee. The Mayor asked if Ald. Hayward would add a rental fee to the town. Ald. McGrath would second Ald. Hayward's motion. No sense to tax the owners of gasoline.

Ald. Stables said that we don't charge the Telephone Company for the poles on the street. The Mayor said that the Telephone Co. had a charter from the Provincial Government. The people should retain control of their streets, etc. Any privilege granted should only be after the rights of the public were fully protected. Ald. Stuart was in favor of the town charging some rental for each and every special privilege granted, everybody to be used alike, so that the public should never lose the paramount ownership and control of its property. The initial rental need not be large, but it should be clearly understood that the grant was that of a privilege only—that it did not confer a right.

Ald. Hayward said the tax, if required, could be put on later. All would, of course, be used alike. Mayor—We should be careful about alienating any public rights to private individuals. Ald. McGrath said that what benefits a few and injures none, is, on the whole, a benefit. Mayor—A good maxim, but it depends upon how it is applied. We should look after the interests of the public. Motion Carried. Bills were read from John J. Gallah, as follows: To salary for one month as policeman, from May 17 to June 17, 1916, \$60.00. To salary as Scott Act Inspector from Dec. 20th, 1915, to May 18th, 1916, at \$500 per year, \$208.00. The Mayor did not think the Town was liable in these matters. He thought the Council had power to dismiss any official at once for cause. Ald. McGrath moved That the

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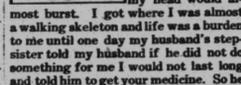
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HUSBAND SAVED HIS WIFE

Stopped Most Terrible Suffering by Getting Her Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

Denison, Texas.—"After my little girl was born two years ago I began suffering with female trouble and could hardly do my work. I was very nervous but just kept dragging on until last summer when I got Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I got my head would almost burst. I got where I was almost a walking skeleton and life was a burden to me until one day my husband's step-sister told my husband if he did not do something for me I would not last long and told him to get your medicine. They got Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound for me, and after taking the first three doses I began to improve. I continued its use, and I have never had any female trouble since. I feel that I owe my life to you and your remedies. They did for me what doctors could not do and I will always praise it wherever I go."—Mrs. G. O. LOWERY, 419 W. Monterey Street, Denison, Texas.



If you are suffering from any form of female ills, get a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and commence the treatment without delay.

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Ald. Stables reported on piece of road they are making between the main town and Bridgetown. He had written to the Government, and had been told the matter would be considered at their July meeting. The committee had expended \$708.75 on that road—\$648.75 for 519 cubic yards of stone @ \$1.25, and \$60 for labor. The work had been done from Vye's Hollow to Allison's Hollow. Stene in Vye's Hollow had been crushed by the traffic. That in Allison's Hollow would have to be covered, 25 loads of ashes had been promised. Mayor Fish said he had got same word from Government.

Ald. Stables said the road was pretty good. To finish it down to Phinney's corner would take some \$300.00. From Curtis Corner to the Bridge remained. The roads, not having been attended to as much as they should the last few years, were in a very bad condition in many places. More money was needed. Ald. Hayward moved That the Public Works Committee be authorized to exceed their appropriation by \$1000. Mayor Fish said that the motion was good, and that it was bad. Ald. McGrath said it was evident few had the courage to second the motion. And it required courage. People were tired of overdrifts. As chairman of the Finance Committee he would advise leaving the \$1000 for this year and assessing for \$1000 extra for roads next year. Overdrifts were bad. Ald. Stables said that \$2000 a year for roads was ridiculously small. Fast Boards had prided themselves on the smallness of their road expenditures. This was bad policy. A good piece of road near Mrs. Craig's had cost only \$10. The piece of road from Curtis's to Stinclair's was a disgrace and was talked of far and wide. Ald. McGrath—The appropriation this year is \$2000. For the past two years it had been \$1500 a year, and the roads had been just as good as now. Better level up the road this year, and wait for increased appropriation next year. Ald. Stables did not agree with Ald. McGrath. Filling holes up with earth would not do. An expert had said that it was useless to use the Road Machine in some places, until stone has been put in. Mayor Fish thought Ald. Stables report was not definite. A pile of stone 9 ft. x 3 ft. x 1 foot was not over half a cubic yard at 55 per cent. of stone must be deducted for void space. The Mayor further said that Mr. Hogan and the horse take up \$1000 of the road's appropriation. An account should be kept of all the work that Mr. Hogan does by a regular system. Ald. Hayward said that last year our current liabilities except debentures, were \$12,500. To pay that we had cash on hand and in bank \$12,800. This year's collection of taxes, is the best for four years. We have \$6300 to date collected on default taxes, \$4000 better than last year. Our finances are in such a good shape that we can afford to overexpnd \$1000 on the roads now. Ald. Scribner seconded Ald. Hayward's motion. The Mayor said the main issue was to reduce the taxation that had been thrust upon us by indiscretions of past Councils. Our tax rate of nearly 4% was the by-word of other

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Ald. Stables said the road was pretty good. To finish it down to Phinney's corner would take some \$300.00. From Curtis Corner to the Bridge remained. The roads, not having been attended to as much as they should the last few years, were in a very bad condition in many places. More money was needed. Ald. Hayward moved That the Public Works Committee be authorized to exceed their appropriation by \$1000. Mayor Fish said that the motion was good, and that it was bad. Ald. McGrath said it was evident few had the courage to second the motion. And it required courage. People were tired of overdrifts. As chairman of the Finance Committee he would advise leaving the \$1000 for this year and assessing for \$1000 extra for roads next year. Overdrifts were bad. Ald. Stables said that \$2000 a year for roads was ridiculously small. Fast Boards had prided themselves on the smallness of their road expenditures. This was bad policy. A good piece of road near Mrs. Craig's had cost only \$10. The piece of road from Curtis's to Stinclair's was a disgrace and was talked of far and wide. Ald. McGrath—The appropriation this year is \$2000. For the past two years it had been \$1500 a year, and the roads had been just as good as now. Better level up the road this year, and wait for increased appropriation next year. Ald. Stables did not agree with Ald. McGrath. Filling holes up with earth would not do. An expert had said that it was useless to use the Road Machine in some places, until stone has been put in. Mayor Fish thought Ald. Stables report was not definite. A pile of stone 9 ft. x 3 ft. x 1 foot was not over half a cubic yard at 55 per cent. of stone must be deducted for void space. The Mayor further said that Mr. Hogan and the horse take up \$1000 of the road's appropriation. An account should be kept of all the work that Mr. Hogan does by a regular system. Ald. Hayward said that last year our current liabilities except debentures, were \$12,500. To pay that we had cash on hand and in bank \$12,800. This year's collection of taxes, is the best for four years. We have \$6300 to date collected on default taxes, \$4000 better than last year. Our finances are in such a good shape that we can afford to overexpnd \$1000 on the roads now. Ald. Scribner seconded Ald. Hayward's motion. The Mayor said the main issue was to reduce the taxation that had been thrust upon us by indiscretions of past Councils. Our tax rate of nearly 4% was the by-word of other

towns. Any surplus should be used to lower the taxes. Another application for \$1800 had been made to him for a sewer from Willow Brook up towards Ald Scribner's house, etc. If one passes, the other will be expected to. Ald. McGrath—Ald. Stables has done a good work on the road. Let it be kept up each year and soon we'll have a first-class road. Ald. Stables said there was now in current account from \$4000 to \$6000 not even drawing interest, while we suffer from poor roads. Ald. MacKay—It is not fair to expnd on roads without borrowing, we had better do it. Let it be divided between the two services—roads and sewerage. Ald. McGrath—Every cent of money in bank to our credit is needed—all provided for within next six months. Ald. Stables asked Town Clerk if it were not a fact that there was always \$4000 to \$6000 in the bank. The Town Clerk said there was always a nice little balance in the bank, but there were also liabilities coming up against that. Ald. MacKay—Would it be wise to take out \$1000? Town Clerk—I can't tell you that. That is for the Council. Ald. Hayward—There should be a financial statement each three months. Town Clerk—There are generally outstanding accounts. Hard to tell how each committee stands. Ald. Stables said that all his bills were generally in at the end of the month. Ald. Hayward said all expenditures should be made through the Town Clerk. Let each Committee make a requisition to the Town Clerk. Ald. McGrath moved in amendment. That the matter be laid over to next night of meeting, to have a financial statement prepared. Seconded by Ald. Kingston. Ald. Stables did not want expenditures stopped for a month. Ald. Hayward said that the financial statement could be prepared at once and a special meeting held. Ald. Hayward wanted the Council to meet again in a week for the financial statement. Ald. Stables—Only a few people benefited by sewers. Hundreds by the roads. Roads should come first. Ald. MacKay asked if Ald. McGrath could give a statement in a week, of the heads of the departments. Ald. McGrath replied that if the claimants handed in their reports promptly he could easily make up the statement required. Ald. Hayward withdrew his motion, to avoid undue haste. Ald. Kingston wanted sewerage as well as roads considered at this special meeting. Amendment carried. Mayor said a big effort should be made to get \$1000 from the local government. He thought it could be got. Let us keep that in mind. Ald. MacKay of the Water and Light Committee, read the following: With regard to the proposed sewer on McCullam Street, the Water and Light Committee have had the survey made by Mr. Wm. Fish, and he reports that this sewer is feasible, and recommends the laying of a twelve-inch pipe utilizing the present outlet at Masson's Corner. The Water and Light Committee would recommend that the above plan be carried out, laying new sewer from present outlet up McCullam Street, thence along Henry Street, connecting with the Pleasant Street sewer at the Church of England Corner and that the W. & L. Committee be authorized to advertise for tenders, and to submit same to the Council. This recommendation was adopted. The following bills passed: Water & Light Eastern Electric Co. Ltd. \$ 3.60 Garlock Packing Co. 15.02 Can. Oil Companies 30.60 Crandall, Harrison & Co. 157.25 Maritime Foundry & Machine Works 18.83 Can. Gen. Elec. Co. 75.90 Can. Gen. Elec. Co. 158.09 T. McAvity & Sons 70.20 T. McAvity & Sons 116.29 \$616.38 Police A. A. Davidson, 6 months work in Scott Act cases\$368.00 Finance Union Advocate 3.75 Newscam & Gilbert Ltd. 22.65 Park & Fire Stothart Merc. Co. \$22.88 Following appointments were made, on motion of Ald. Hayward and Scribner: Constable—Wm. Ashford, Jr. Policeman, at \$65 a month—Edward Welsh. The Fire Company's action in electing C. J. Morrissey a fireman vice Frank Masson, deceased, was ratified by Council. On motion Ald. Stuart and Stables, Town Clerk Lindon was chosen a delegate to next month's meeting of the Union of N. B. Municipalities. Adjourned till next Thursday night (July 27th inst.) to consider expenditures on Roads and sewerage.

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