

COUNTY COUNCIL.

Beginning the Work of the Year.

Meeting the New Wardens - L. Hardy, Esq., of Exeter, Lucky Man - Reports - The Treasurer's Statement, &c.

FIRST DAY.

Goderich Jan. 23, 1883.

The county council met to-day pursuant to statute, the clerk in the chair. The following councillors were present: Messrs Webster, Griffin, Clark, Eason, Young, A. Lau, Johnston, Dettlor, Smith, C. Lau, Girvin and Durbin. A majority of the council not being present, adjourned the meeting at 4.30 p. m., till 3 p. m., to-morrow.

SECOND DAY.

Wednesday, Jan. 24.

The council met pursuant to adjournment, the clerk in the chair. The following gentlemen presented certificates from clerks of their municipalities of having been elected reeves and deputy reeves for the current year: Joseph G. ... first deputy; P. Clark, second deputy.

Moved by Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr. Ratz, that by-law No. 7, 1880, of this county, for licensing auctioneers, be amended by striking out the words in the fourth clause after the word "merchandise," "or in any way exercising the calling of an auctioneer."

Moved by Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr. Ratz, that the warden and clerk memorialize the Local Government to amend sec. 465, sub-sec. 2 of the Municipal Act, by inserting the words, "laids, tenements" after the word "sale" in the second line thereof.

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compliance with Act 43 Vic., chap. 26, Ontario Statute, Carried.

Moved by Mr. Beacom, seconded by Mr. Weir, that the clerk be authorized by this council to submit all former information, and also procure any additional information as to the workhouses recently established, that he can procure, and lay it before this council at its next June meeting. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Walker, that the treasurer prepare a statement of the total amount paid to the road and bridge commissioners for their services during the past year; also the total expenses incurred by the holding of the special meeting last June-July, and place the same in the hands of this council for examination at as early a date as possible. Carried.

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A petition from Messrs. Kernighan and Stover, 112 ... have the proposed new bridge at Ball's chert on its site, was read and referred to the road and bridge committee.

REPORT OF CHAS. GIRVIN. I have the honor to report that the Manchester Bridge has been repaired, as instructed at the last meeting of the council at a cost of \$559.97, and I am pleased to say that the work has been done in a satisfactory manner, and has strengthened the bridge so much that it is quite as firm and strong as it was when new, and will no doubt stand until the timber is so much decayed that it cannot stand. I may say that a part of the work reaches pretty low toward the water, and, in case the water may rise to an excessive height, or trees should come down in a freshet, it might strike and possibly take away the centre support from the truss, in which case the bridge might possibly fall; but while the truss stands in its position the bridge may be relied on as safe. I have to report that the bridge over the 18-Mile River, on the boundary between Huron and Bruce, will require to be rebuilt this next season. The span is 52 feet; the abutments are good, but will require to be 3 feet higher. It may cost between \$300 and \$400, one-half payable by Huron. I had the centre bridge on the Lucknow road repaired. The centre bent had been broken by a freshet and had to be put into its proper place again, and the floor renewed. The cost of the whole work was \$41.90.

CHAS. GIRVIN, Road Com. Referred to road and bridge committee. Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Strachan, that as there are some bridges in the town of Wingham that were county bridges before Wingham was incorporated as a town, that this council shall decide whether these same bridges are now under the jurisdiction of the county commissioners. Referred to road and bridge committee.

Moved by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Forsthy, that the road commissioners be instructed to fence the approaches of the bridge on the boundary line between Morris and Turnberry, known as the Morrisbank bridge, as it is dangerous to the travelling public. Referred to road and bridge committee.

REPORT OF MR. MASON. I beg to submit herewith a statement of work done under my supervision since the December meeting. In reference to Ball's Bridge, it is 257 feet long, and has a good foundation to build stone abutments on, and good stone near at hand to build same. There is a difference of opinion as to where the new bridge should be built. By building it about a mile south of the old place it would be a more direct road to Goderich, and would require a much shorter bridge. I am not prepared at present to say which is the best. I am of opinion that there should be a bridge at Holmesville. I have not sold the centre timber at Grievess Bridge, owing to some posts which appear to be in a false bent made of part of the timber, and sell the balance as soon as possible. The present bridge is 23 ft. high and 129 ft. long, but can be shortened to about 90 ft. when rebuilt. I would recommend that tenders be called for at next June meeting for stone abutments for a new bridge at same place, as I have been informed that the stone can be got cheaper in summer, and teamed early in the winter season. I think it would not be safe to allow the old bridge to stand more than this year. The repairs on the Stanley Bridge are going on at present.

JOHN MASON, Road Com. Referred to road and bridge committee. A tender from Toronto Bridge Co. was read and referred to road and bridge committee. A tender from Hamilton Bridge Co. was read and referred to road and bridge committee.

A return showing the expenses of the road and bridge commissioners last year was read and referred to be filed. Moved by Mr. Elliott, seconded by Mr. Gordon, that as the reports of Messrs. Gibson and Mason, road commissioners, would show that the bridge between upper and lower Wingham would require to be rebuilt at an early date, that said commissioners be instructed by the council to again inspect said bridge, with the view of having it rebuilt as soon as possible. Referred to road and bridge committee.

A letter from the county treasurer with detailed statement of receipts and expenditures, collections on non-resident lands, &c., together with a number of other accounts, were referred to the finance committee. The following is THE TREASURER'S STATEMENT. COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE, Goderich, Jan. 23rd, 1883.

To the Warden and Council of the County of Huron. GENTLEMEN, - I beg to lay before you the financial statements of the past year, comprising: 1st. Statement in detail of the receipts and expenditures of 1882. 2nd. Statement of ledger balances as on 30th December. 3rd. Statement of Debenture Sinking Fund accounts. 4th. Statement of Debenture interest accounts. 5th. Statement of investments held on account of sinking funds. 6th. Statement of collections from non-resident lands, May 1st to December 31st. 7th. Comparative statement of estimated and actual expenditure.

Comparing the estimated with the actual expenditure you will see that on general accounts there has been net over expenditure of \$1,296. Referring to the several accounts it will be seen that administration of justice was estimated at \$2,000, the actual expenditure has been \$1,994.82, or less than the estimate by \$5.18. The expenditure for ingests and gaol have both been slightly under the amount estimated. Jury expenses have exceeded the estimate by \$54.44. The amount estimated was \$2,200 the actual expenditure has been \$2,297.44.

In school management the expenditure has been \$112 less than the estimate. The largest discrepancy between the estimate and actual is in the extra services of the council, the cost of which was \$242.60. The estimate for repairs, county buildings was only \$250, but the expenditure has fallen short of even that amount by \$86.22, being only \$163.78.

The expenditure for miscellaneous and contingencies in 1882 was \$1,403. In 1883 the estimate was \$1,200. The expenditure has been \$1,115.95. Stationery and printing was estimated at \$700, the expenditure has only been \$499.41, showing a reduction in the expenditure as compared with the estimate of \$200.59.

The estimate for equivalent to Government grant to High Schools was \$2,300. The expenditure has been: Goderich High School \$812.57, Clinton \$674.88, Seaforth \$709.09, in all \$2,196.54, showing the expenditure to be less than the estimate by \$103.46. The receipts from fees Division Court jury fund this year slightly exceeded the expenditure. In 1881 the expenditure exceeded the receipts by the sum of \$20.66. In 1882 the receipts have exceeded the payments by \$8.21. From the two years experience we have had, I think, it may be assumed that taking one year with another the receipts and expenditure in connection with this fund will about balance each other.

The largest discrepancy between estimate and expenditure is in roads and bridges. The estimated amount was \$17,400, but \$19,556.88 has been paid out, leaving an excess of expenditure of \$2,156.88. The total cost of the new Maitland bridge is \$15,151 of which \$1,624.59 was paid in 1881, and \$13,526.41 in 1882.

During the year \$9,300 has been invested in mortgages, bearing interest at 6%. There is at the close of the year available for investment at the credit of the sinking fund accounts \$6,388, which can now, I think, be readily placed at 7%. The interest on outstanding mortgages has all been promptly paid as it fell due. The interest accruing due on mortgages and debentures in 1883 will be \$3,072, which added to the \$9,300 at credit on 30th December last, will make \$12,372 available for investment during the present year.

Mr. Dickson, the registrar, paid on this date the proportion of fees accruing to the county for 1882 \$2,018.92. I am, gentlemen, Your obt's servt, A. M. ROSS, Co. Treas.

Moved by Mr. Beacom, seconded by Mr. Mason, that Mr. P. Adamson and Mr. F. W. Johnston be appointed on the board of audit in the terms of the Act in this behalf. Carried. Moved by Mr. Kay, seconded by Mr. Cooper, that Messrs Malloch, of Clinton, Gregory of Exeter, and Halls of Goderich, be appointed on the board of examination of school teachers for the current year. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Currie, seconded by Mr. Ratz, that the warden and clerk memorialize the Local Government to amend sec. 465, sub-sec. 2 of the Municipal Act, by inserting the words, "laids, tenements" after the word "sale" in the second line thereof.

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\$4; additional labor on Manchester bridge, \$15.80; C. Girvin, road commissioner, \$8.

On communication from C. Crab, in reference to Goderich model school, that a grant of fifty dollars be made to the model school at Goderich for the year 1882, in accordance with the statute.

On the treasurer's statement of receipts and expenditures for the year 1882. We would recommend that the statement be printed in the minutes. We have also examined all the securities, amounting to \$49,220, held by the treasurer as investment of county sinking fund, including debentures and mortgages, and state with pleasure that we have found them all satisfactory, and all the investments made in accordance with the statutes, and corresponding with the statement placed before the council by the treasurer. We find there are still available for investment the sum of \$3,388, which we recommend the treasurer to have invested at as early a date as possible and at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, if it can be obtained.

On circular from Col. Otter, requesting a grant of \$10 to the Ontario Rifle Association. Recommend that the amount be granted. All of which is respectfully submitted. D. D. WILSON, Chairman.

Moved by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Weir, that No. 21 of the finance report be amended by striking out the horticultural societies, and that the amount, \$500, be equally distributed among the riding and branch agricultural societies, as motion sent before the finance committee. Lost on a division by a majority of four.

Moved by Mr. Hannah, seconded by Dr. Buchanan in amendment to the report, that the grant of \$300 to the agricultural societies be distributed equally between the several such horticultural societies in the county. Carried on a division by a majority of five. The report, as amended, was adopted.

Moved by Mr. Webster, seconded by Mr. Griffin, that Mr. Girvin, road commissioner, have the approach fenced at Graham's bridge, Lake Shore road, as the place is dangerous to the travelling public. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Eilber, seconded by Mr. Miller, that the warden and clerk memorialize the Legislature to amend the Insurance Act to grant power to county councils to appoint an inspector to count certificates to all persons applying to use steam agricultural threshing machines, the remuneration in all cases to be paid by the persons applying, and that no persons be allowed to use such machines without first procuring a certificate from the aforesaid inspector, under the penalty of a fine and imprisonment. Lost on a division by a majority of 19.

Moved by Mr. Kay, seconded by Mr. Shier, that Mr. Hardy, road commissioner, be instructed by the council to proceed in conjunction with the engineer of Perth to have the Woodham bridge rebuilt with either iron or wood, as they may decide upon, and have the same erected as soon as possible, as it is unsafe for public traffic. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Cook, seconded by Mr. Beattie, that the council do now adjourn to meet at 8 o'clock this evening. Carried.

8 o'clock p. m. The council resumed, the warden in the chair. The following is the REPORT OF SCHOOL AND PRINTING COMMITTEE.

Your committee have the honor to report as follows: No. 83 - Three tenders were received for the county printing. We recommend that the county printing for the current year be given to the Seaforth Sun, on condition that satisfactory security is given to this council for the proper execution of the work, their tender being the lowest. G. BUCHANAN, Chairman.

Read and adopted. The following is the REPORT OF GAOL AND COURT HOUSE COMMITTEE.

1. Your Committee beg leave to report that they have visited and examined the gaol, and find seven prisoners confined therein - four males and three females - five as vagrants and two insane. They also learn that since the December session one female prisoner, who was then in as a vagrant, has died of typhoid fever. They find the gaol in a clean and well-kept condition.

2. They would recommend that a Babcock Fire Extinguisher for use in the gaol be furnished, also that a suitable water tank be built in the gaol yard, as, owing to the inflammable and unsafe condition of the gaol stairs, there is no possible escape for the inmates in case of fire.

3. Would recommend that 42 yards of winery and 30 yards of cotton be purchased for clothing for female prisoners.

4. That the water-closets in the gaol be properly cleaned out.

5. That the matter of iron bedsteads, drainage, and removing of shed be laid over until the June session.

6. That the application of Judge Toms and others, in reference to amalgamating the Grand Jury room and Mr. Malcomson's room into one, be left until June session.

7. The application of Judge Doyle for a room in the Court House, we recommend that he be granted the room formerly occupied by Judge Squier. E. CORBETT, Chairman.

Read and adopted. A petition from Mr. Joseph Leech and others, praying to have the proposed new bridge at Bluevale 18ft wide was read and referred to road and bridge committee.

The following is the REPORT OF THE ROAD AND BRIDGE COMMITTEE. No. 7 - Motion of Mr. Kay, asking Mr. Hardy to examine Bridge No. 33, we recommend that it be carried.

18. Motion of Mr. Walker, asking for repairs on bridge between Tucker-smith and Hibbert, we recommend that it be carried.

20. - Motion of Mr. Gordon, relative to bridge at Wingham, we recommend that Mr. Gibson examine the same and act as he thinks necessary.

27. - Circular from the county of Oxford relative to joint stock companies having tolls on public roads, we recommend that no action be taken.

30. - Petition of Joseph Nagle and others; 31. - Petition of James Stevens and others; 32. - Petition of W. H. Beard and others, all relative to a bridge across the Maitland between Colborne and Goderich townships, we recommend that Ball's Bridge be repaired, and that Messrs. Hardy and Gibson examine the other places petitioned for an report as to the proper place for a new bridge, and the probable cost, at our next meeting.

33. - We recommend that Mr. Girvin's report be adopted. The motion of Mr. Gibson, asking for instructions relative to Wingham bridges, we recommend that he continue the oversight of said bridges, as heretofore.

The motion of Mr. Miller, relative to Morrisbank Bridge, we recommend that it be carried. Mr. Mason's report, we recommend that it be adopted.

Tenders from the Hamilton Iron Bridge Co., also all tenders received for the Bluevale and Crediton bridges, we recommend that none be accepted, but that Messrs. Hardy and Gibson ask for new tenders for wood abutments and wood superstructures, and accept the same if the cost will not exceed \$1,600. In event of the tenders being higher, they will, on consultation with the Warden's Committee, do what they think best as to what tender to accept, or whether to build of wood or iron. JOHN KATNE, Chairman.

Moved by Mr. Girvin, seconded by Mr. Kay, that the warden and clerk be authorized to behalf of this council to petition the Local Legislature to distribute a portion of the surplus that is at present in the Provincial treasury amongst the various municipalities in the Province of Ontario. Carried.

Moved by D. D. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Buchanan, that this council do now adjourn until to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock. Carried.

FIFTH DAY. Saturday, Jan. 27. The council met pursuant to adjournment, the warden in the chair. All the councillors were present. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Young, the reeves prepare a list of all the county bridges in their various localities, with the length and locality of the same and lay it before this council, so as to be printed in the June minutes. Carried.

Moved by Mr. Hays, seconded by Mr. Elliott, that a commission be appointed consisting of the following members of this council, viz: Messrs. Gibson, Hardy, and Graham, for the purpose of seeing that the gravel road between Wingham and Blyth is put in a proper state of repair as soon as possible; also that the sum of \$200 each be expended on said road by the municipalities of Morris and East Wawanosh, and that a by-law be now drafted in accordance with this resolution. Carried.

By-law No. 1, 1883, appointing county auditors, was read and passed. By-law No. 2, 1883, appointing a board of audit for criminal justice accounts was read and passed.

By-law No. 3, 1883, appointing road commissioners was read and passed. Moved by Mr. Castle, seconded by Mr. Elliott, that this council do now adjourn, to meet again on the first Tuesday in June next. Carried.

SHERIFF'S SALE OF LANDS.

COUNTY OF HURON. By virtue of a Writ of Fieri Facias issued out of Her Majesty's County Court of the County of Huron, and to me directed and delivered, against the lands and tenements of JAMES