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TOWN COUNCIL IS WELL AWAY

Budget Calls for \$1,000 Less than Last Year—New Committees Appointed

The inaugural meeting of the Town Council on Monday evening in the absence of Mayor Kelly was presided over by Ald. McLeod.

Committees for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:

Roads: H. H. Hatfield, H. R. Nixon, W. B. Nixon.

Fire and Water: C. R. DeWitt, W. B. Nixon, G. M. McLeod.

Finance: R. B. Hagerman, H. H. Hatfield, H. R. Nixon.

Police: G. M. McLeod, C. R. DeWitt, R. B. Hagerman.

Poor: W. B. Nixon, H. H. Hatfield, H. R. Nixon.

By-Law: H. R. Nixon, R. B. Hagerman, G. M. McLeod.

The chairman of the Finance committee introducing the budget went into the question of why and how the money is raised and expended. His remarks were to the point and ought to clear the air concerning any reports to the contrary. Concerning the conflicting reports which appeared in the Observer, one over his name and another over that of W. D. Keith, he said there were citizens who would believe the contradictory statement, signed by an ex-mayor. He went into detail and explained numerous errors in the published statements.

The question of County assessment was taken up and explained, showing that the County had been revalued to the amount of \$9,000,000. Woodstock is assessed \$2,000,000, or two-thirds of the county value, while that town was only paying one-seventh of the county budget. There was an agreement between the Municipality and the Town of Woodstock. The County budget for 1922 is \$43,000. Woodstock's share under arrangement is \$7,100. If it was evenly proportioned with the remainder of the county it would be \$5600. The difference is borne by the parishes of the county and the Town of Hartland. Ald. Hagerman argued that Hartland paid cash for the county proportion and should not pay taxes which did not belong to it. Woodstock should have no special agreement with the County, any more than each parish or the Town of Hartland. If there were overdrafts they should be charged to the party in arrears who should pay the interest. Before the last County revaluation Hartland was classed with the parish of Brighton and bore two-fifths of the whole. If the Parish is behind, the County Council charges fifty per cent of the arrears back to the parish and Hartland bears two-fifths of the charge after having paid its just share in full. The county Councilors should have the matter adjusted. It was working an injustice upon those who pay their taxes.

Where there are two distinct town corporations, water and general, two separate budgets are necessary. The following items were voted and passed upon for 1922:

GENERAL

County	\$2200
Roads	1200
Sidewalks	500
Miscellaneous	500
Salaries	600
Police	150
Poor	100
Discount	100
Election expenses	50
	\$5300

WATER

Debt interest	\$2000
Improvements	700
Interest	500
Fuel	200
Salaries	200
Discount	100
	\$3700

The total of \$9000 was an election pledge to reduce taxes \$1000 for 1922. Ald. Hagerman, pursuing the topic, pointed out that the Town finances were still in initial stages. There have been no arrangements during the past twenty years to liquidate the debentures on the Town when they fell due. The burden would have to be borne by the present generation. This could be very easily accomplished by rebonding the Town, raising more money for improvements and issue serial bonds, say \$1000 payable each year. He condemned a sinking fund scheme on the grounds that private enterprise did not hire money at 5 per cent and put it in the Bank at 3 per cent.

It was recommended that water taken outside of the protected area be assessed \$10 a year instead of \$8 for water, as they were out of proportion to the rest. A notice was served that the by-law be changed at next meeting.

A notice was also given that the

by-law governing the fee for moving pictures and the nights for opening be changed at next meeting.

Ex-alderman Faulkner, heard by indulgence, subjected the Chairman of the Finance committee to a grueling cross-examination, endeavoring to prove a deficit of \$3000 for 1921, discrediting the auditor's report as well as the report of the Finance committee.

Ex-Councillor McIntosh was heard in the interests of the housing scheme. Alderman Hatfield and Hagerman throwing some light on the subject.

Some taxes for 1920-21 are still in arrears and will be collected.

ELECTION EXPENSES OF T. W. CALDWELL

Excite a Big Toronto Paper, which Says as Work of Reference Ranks with Dictionary

The Tory Toronto Telegram finds both mirth and enlightenment in the recently published details of T. W. Caldwell's election expenses. The comments of the paper are here given in full:

Thomas Wakem Caldwell, M. P., the lone Progressive from New Brunswick, invites an admiring world to scan his election expenses in the recent Federal campaign. Farmer Tom got through on \$923.97, and doesn't care who knows it. In fact a page and more of the Observer, a small weekly published in the village of Hartland, Carleton county, is given up to copies of affidavits and lists of payments, setting down exactly for what and to whom each payment even to items of twenty-five cents was made.

Mr. Caldwell was not asked to pay the whole \$923.97 himself. The sum of \$798.47 was contributed, and as no less than 338 persons shared in this wild orgy of giving one may easily figure out what is cost the Progressive stalwarts of Carleton-Victoria on the average.

For the information of politicians in general it should be set down that not a single promised contribution remained unpaid when the reckoning was made. They all came across. Twenty-seven of them parted with 25 cents each, thirty-five with 50 cents, one with 75 cents, one hundred and seventy-one with \$1, forty-five with \$2, four with \$3, two with \$4, eighteen with \$5, there was an occasional contribution of \$10 and two of \$25, which was high water mark.

The preliminary statement of the expenditures is as follows:

Candidate's personal expenses	\$125.50
Postage	31.88
Telegrams	36.15
Petty claims	102.75
Hire of premises	104.00
Services	399.50
Travelling expenses	39.55
Goods supplied	68.14
Advertising	16.50

Total \$923.97

But Farmer Caldwell goes into particulars. There was, for example, an outlay of \$1.26 for nails, which may have been for the political coffin of his doughty opponent, Hon. B. Frank Smith. There was also a load of wood \$7.60, which may have been needed for whitening purposes at the corner stores of an evening during the campaign. The cost of halls for meetings varied from \$2 in a country place to \$30 for a theatre in Woodstock. A cheque book cost fifty cents. Items for teams, meals, railway fares, telegrams, posters and other services are set down with minute detail. Next to the dictionary and the almanac this publication will doubtless be value as a work of reference in the constituency until the next election.

The newspapers (there are four weeklies in the constituency) did not fare very well. The bill for advertising is set down at \$16.50, but there is another item of \$27.75 paid to one of the papers, making a tribute of \$44.25 paid to the power of the press. But Farmer Tom got away with it, and if anybody in Parliament has anything to say about excessive cost of election he will be right there with a copy of the Hartland Observer.

PRODUCE PRICES

Today dealers are paying \$1.25 for potatoes; \$25 for hay; 45 cents for oats. There is a good demand for fresh butter in prints and the price paid is 35 cents, while tub butter finds poor sale and brings hardly 30 cents. Eggs are being bought at 40 to 42 cents.

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