

MINUTES OF THE HURON DISTRICT COUNCIL.

3 o'clock, P. M. The Warden then resumed the Chair; when the meeting was further adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, 3rd February, 1848. The Warden resumed the Chair at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved. Councillors present, the same as on the 2nd February, 1848.

116. Report of the Select Committee on the Memorial of the Magistrates, in Quarter Sessions, was received, read, and confirmed.

117. Motion by Mr. Thompson—That on to-morrow he will move for a grant of £20, for the purpose of making a road in Downie; and also for £10 on side line between 20 and 21 of said Township.

118. Motion by Mr. Fryfogle—That he will move for a small sum of money, to repair a road in South Easthope.

119. Motion by Mr. Daly—That on to-morrow he will bring forward a motion for a grant of £20, for making a road between Gore, of Downie, and South Easthope.

120. Moved by Mr. Van Egmond, seconded by Mr. Hicks—That a Select Committee of five be now appointed on Roads and Bridges. On a ballot being taken the Committee was as follows, viz: Messrs. Van Egmond, McPherson, McIntyre, Rankin, and Ritchie.

121. Moved by Mr. Van Egmond, seconded by Mr. Hicks—That a Committee of five, on Finance, be now appointed. On a ballot being taken the Committee was as follows, viz: Messrs. Hays, McIntyre, McPherson, Piper, and Sparling.

122. Petition of the inhabitants of Ashfield for a School. Referred to School Committee.

The following documents were then read and referred to the School Committee.

123. Motion by Mr. McIntyre, relative to the formation of new School Sections in Fullarton.

124. Motion by Mr. McPherson, as to the formation of new School Sections.

125. Abstract of Common School Assessment, for 1847.

126. Letter of the Treasurer, to John Bignall, Esq., including the foregoing abstract.

127. Letter of John Bignall, Esq., to the Warden, of 3rd February, 1848.

128. Petition of School Trustees, of School Section No. 1, Goderich.

129. Petition of Peter Grant and others, of Stanley and Tuckersmith.

130. Petition of Robert Hunter and others, of Stanley and Tuckersmith.

131. Letter by J. Bignall to District Clerk, as to J. Wandies. The following documents were then read, and referred to the Committee on Finance.

132. Account of H. Rowsell, for Printing, £13 0s 0d.

133. Account of H. Rowsell, for paper, £4 3s 8d.

134. Account for Postage to Warden, £0 10s 0d.

135. Account to B. Parsons, £3 3s 9d.

136. Account to Grace & Co. £0 3s 11d.

137. Account to W. E. Grace & Co. £0 0s 10d.

138. Letter by T. M. Jones, Esq., to the Warden, of date 3rd February, 1848.

139. Account—Jacob Wilson, £1 0s 0d—certified by John Holmes.

140. Moved by Mr. Hawkins, seconded by Mr. Daly—That the Finance Committee do take into consideration the amount necessary to be raised by assessment for the current year, likewise the Salaries of District Officers.—Carried.

141. Account—Charles Dolson, £3 0s 0d—certified by Geo. Brown, Esq.

142. Account—H. Rowsell, for Stationary, £2 4s 11d—certified by George Brown, Esq.

143. Petition of Alexander Green and others, Colborne, as to Township Warden.

144. Petition of Margaret Fisher, for compensation. The following documents were then laid before the meeting, and remitted to a Committee on Roads and Bridges.

145. Petition of John Colville, and order by A. Ackland Esq. Judge of the District, was then read, and remitted to a Committee on the Whole.

The Council then went into Committee of the Whole; and the Warden having vacated the Chair, called Mr. Holmes to it.—Mr. Holmes in the Chair.

The above document (151) was then considered. Mr. Holmes reported, praying to the Warden, who resumed the Chair, by reading the following motion, which was unanimously carried:

146. Moved by Mr. Van Egmond, seconded by Mr. Hicks—That a Select Committee of five be now appointed in accordance with the wish of the Committee of the Whole, to inspect and report upon the District Offices. On a ballot being taken, the Committee was as follows, viz: Messrs. Van Egmond, Sparling, Thompson, Ritchie, and Piper.

147. Petition of Joseph Wheatley, relative to his contract.—Referred to the Finance Committee.

148. Report of the Select Committee on the election of Messrs. Christie and Shoobottom, and Mr. John Hodgins, was read and unanimously approved of and confirmed.

149. Notice of the Committee of the Whole, on the qualification of certain Councillors, was read and unanimously approved of and confirmed.

150. Notice by Mr. Sparling—That he will move that the Council direct the proper officers of Fullarton and Blanshard, to open the line of road on each side of the river Thames from Mitchell to St. Mary.

151. Notice by Mr. Ritchie—That he will move for a grant of money for the purpose of purchasing a set of standard weights and measures for the use of the District.

152. Notice by Mr. McIntyre—That he will move for £12, to be granted to aid in the erection of a Bridge across the river Thames in Fullarton.

153. Notice by Mr. Holmes—That he will, at his earliest convenience, during the present session, introduce a By-Law to repeal a certain By-Law relating to taxation on dogs.

154. Notice by Mr. Holmes—That to-morrow he will move for liberty to bring in a By-Law, to alter the time for payment of the Rates and Assessments.

155. Notice by Mr. Van Egmond—That on Saturday he will introduce a Bill for a By-Law to regulate the manner for compounding for Statute Labour, in terms of the 13th section 9th Victoria, chapter 40.

156. Notice by Mr. Van Egmond—That as soon as possible, he will move for leave to bring in a By-Law for the purpose of levying Taxes in each Township, for strictly local purposes.

157. Notice by Mr. Hodgins—That to-morrow he will move for a grant of money to repair the road at O'Briens swamp, for about a mile or more.

158. Notice by Mr. Daly—That to-morrow he will move for £—, to be expended on a line of road between Gore, of Downie, and Downie leading from Stratford to St. Mary's.

165. Motion by Mr. Hamilton—That to-morrow he will move for £10, to repair the road on 2nd and 3rd Concessions, North Easthope.

166. Letter by George Morris, to District Clerk, of date 31st January, 1848.—Referred to School Committee.

167. Letter by Mrs. Dunlop, to the Warden, Esq., of date 3rd February, 1848.—Referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

168. Account of J. G. Kirk—£2 10s 0d.—Referred to the Finance Committee.

169. Petition of D. McDonald.—Referred to the Finance Committee.

170. Oath of Mr. Woodliff—As Auditor.

171. Oath of Mr. Fraser—As Auditor.

172. Petition of Mr. Kanna and others, of North Easthope, for alteration of a School Section.—Referred to Select Committee on Schools.

Adjourned. (Signed) WILLIAM CHALK, Warden.

Friday, 4th February, 1848. The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved of.

173. Petition of Mrs. C. Ross, of Goderich.

174. Petition of William Touchborn and others, of Goderich. Both of which were referred to the School Committee. The following documents were then laid before the meeting, and unanimously remitted to the Committee on Finance.

175. Moved by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Mr. Lamb—That the sum of £75 be granted for the purpose of purchasing a set of standard weights and measures for the use of the District; and that the same may be got with as little delay as possible, and placed in the charge of the Inspector of Weights and Measures.

176. Accounts of the District Superintendent of Common Schools, for the years 1844, 1845, and 1846.

177. Statement of amount in the hands of Township Clerks.

178. Schedules of amounts of Taxes due the Huron District.

179. Statement of Finances of the Huron District.

180. Statement of the Debts and Liabilities of the District.

181. Classified list of Treasurer's Abstract.

182. The Treasurer's Abstract to 31st December, 1847.

183. Auditor's Report, 1st January, 1848.

184. Statement of the amount of money paid for Roads and Bridges in the District.

185. Petition of Andrew McKee, of Goderich.

186. Letter by F. Dallas, to District Clerk, of date 11th January, 1848.

The following documents were then laid before the meeting, and remitted to the Committee on Roads and Bridges:

187. Moved by Mr. Hamilton, seconded by Mr. Thompson—That the sum of £10, be granted for the purpose of repairing the road between the 2nd and 3rd Concessions of North East hope.

188. Moved by Mr. Hodgins, seconded by Mr. Hawkins—That the sum of £50 be granted to grade and turnpike the road to London, round the corner of O'Briens marsh, for the distance of one mile; and also to erect a small bridge over the Creek in said marsh, now impassible.

189. Moved by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Murray—That a By-Law do pass, ordering that the sum of £12 be granted for the erection of a Bridge across the River Thames, on the 9th Concession of Fullarton.

190. Moved by Mr. McIntyre, seconded by Mr. Thompson—That a By-Law do order that the proper officers of the Township of Fullarton and Fullarton, shall be ordered to cause the road in the East and West side of the River Thames, in said Township, to be opened forthwith from the village of St. Mary's to Mitchell.

191. Moved by Mr. Daly, seconded by Mr. Thompson—That the sum of £50 be granted for the repairs of leading road from Stratford to St. Mary's, which line is between Gore, of Downie, and Downie, and in many places is impassible at any season of the year.

192. Moved by Mr. Daly, seconded by Mr. Thompson—That the sum of £20 be granted for the purpose of making a road through Tamarac Swamp, on Town Line, between the Gore, of Downie, and South Easthope.

193. Moved by Mr. Fryfogle, seconded by Mr. Donkin—That in accordance with the notice of yesterday, that £10 be granted to repair the side line between 20 and 21, South Easthope.

194. Moved by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Daly—That £20 be granted for the side line between 15 and 16 Downie; and also the sum of £10 for side line between lot 20 and 21, Township of Downie.

195. Moved by Mr. Van Egmond, seconded by Mr. Hicks—That a By-Law to regulate the raising of Local Taxes, do referred to a Committee of the Whole.—Carried.

196. Moved by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Sparling—That a By-Law to regulate the time for payment of Taxes be submitted to a Committee of the Whole.

197. Moved by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Hawkins—That By-Law No. 5, passed in February Session, 1846, imposing a certain Tax on Dogs, be repealed.—Carried.

The Council then adjourned for one hour. WILLIAM CHALK, Warden.

4 o'clock, P. M. The Warden resumed the Chair.

The Chairman of the Road and Bridge Committee, returned to the Council the following documents—Nos. 102, 103, 104, and 105, which had been remitted to that Committee by mistake, as the same documents should have been submitted to a Select Committee, for that purpose alone.

198. Moved by Mr. Van Egmond, seconded by Mr. Holmes—That a Special Committee of five be now appointed to examine and report on the Reports of the District Surveyors and County Surveyor of Highways, for intended alterations on several roads. On a ballot being taken the Committee was as follows, viz: Messrs. Gibbons, Hodgins, Hawkins, Murray and Lamb.

199. Moved by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Mr. Piper—That the District Surveyor be instructed to inspect the cellar of the District Goal, for the purpose of ascertaining if it will be necessary to make any repairs for the safety of the stairs leading to the upper apartments of the same; and if necessary, to have the requisite repairs made immediately.—Carried.

200. Moved by Mr. Van Egmond, seconded by Mr. Holmes—That the inhabitants of each Township be required to declare their sentiments through their Councillor, or Councillors, as to the proper place for the holding of the Annual Township Meetings at the next Session of Council.

201. Moved in amendment by Mr. McIntyre, seconded by Mr. McPherson—That a By-Law may be passed to empower the Councillors for the several Townships in this District to name the place in their respective Townships where the Township Meetings shall be held.

On the vote being taken, there voted for the

Mr. VAN EGMOND, Mr. BALKWILL, Mr. HICKS, Mr. HAWKINS, Mr. HOLMES, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. DONKIN, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. DALY, Mr. FRYFOGLE, Mr. HODGINS, Mr. RANKIN, Mr. CARTER, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. GYRAN, Mr. PIPER, Mr. SPARLING, Mr. RITCHIE, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. MURRAY, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. MCPHERSON.

The amendment was then declared to be carried by a majority of nine.

202. Notice by Mr. McPherson—That on to-morrow he will move for a grant of £20 for the erection of a Bridge, and also cross-way a swamp on the line of road between the 30th and 31st, in the Township of Ellice.

203. Account of John Taylor, £4 17s 6d—certified by John Holmes.—Remitted to the Finance Committee.

204. Petition of Daniel Ryan and others, of the Township of Downie (i.e. Gore of Downie) for a grant of money to repair road. The above petition was referred to the Road Committee, on the Standing Rule for receiving Petitions being dispensed with.

204. Petition of William Watson and others, of South Easthope, for a new School Section. Remitted to the School Committee, the Standing Rule being dispensed with.

WILLIAM CHALK, Warden.

Saturday, 5th February, 1848. The proceedings of yesterday were read and approved of.

205. Notice by Mr. McPherson—That on Monday he will move for a grant of £20, to cross-way and otherwise repair the line of road between Lots 25 and 26 in the Township of Ellice.

206. Notice by Mr. Van Egmond—That he will on Monday next, move for a grant of £15, to assist the inhabitants of Hibbert and Tuckersmith to erect a Bridge over Silver Creek, at its junction with the Bayfield River.

207. Notice by Mr. Sparling—That on Monday he will move that the sum of £50 be granted for the improvement of the Mitchell road, from Lot No. 17, West of said road, to the Town line of Biddulph, being a leading road to the Town of London, for the western section of Blanshard.

208. Notice by Mr. Piper—That on Monday he will move for a grant of £15, for the improvement of the line of road between the 7th and 8th Concessions of Colborne, from Mr. Lawson's, to the eastern end of Lot 9 in said Township.

209. Notice of Mr. McPherson—That on Monday he will move for a grant of £15, to cross-way a swamp on the line of road between Nos. 5 and 6 in the Township of Ellice.

210. Notice by Mr. Holmes—That he will, at the earliest opportunity, move for a certain sum of money to open the side road between Lots 10 and 11, Township of Goderich.

211. Notice by Mr. Daly—That on Monday he will move for a grant to improve the Zorra road leading from Stratford to Goderich.

212. Notice by Mr. Thompson—That he will on Monday, bring forward a motion for a grant of £10, for the purpose of making a certain portion of the side line between Lots 10 and 11, Township of Downie.

213. Moved by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Mr. Gibbons—That John Strachan, Esq., be appointed Solicitor to the Council for the current year; and that he may be placed upon a fixed Salary, and his advice be at the service, not only of this Council, but of the Magistrates and different District Officers of the District.—Carried.

214. Petition of Thomas Wells being read; ordered—That in consequence of the petition not being accompanied with the necessary documents, required by this Council in such cases, the same to be returned.

215. Moved by Mr. Sparling, seconded by Mr. McPherson—That this Council do depute John Strachan Esq., Barrister at Law, to confirm the prepared arrangement by Arbitration, in the matter of dispute between the London and Huron Districts.—Carried.

The Council then went into Committee of the Whole, on No. 195. The Warden having vacated the Chair, he called Mr. Sparling to it. Mr. Sparling in the Chair; who reported progress to the Warden in Council, by reading

216. Report of the Committee of the Whole on the By-Law (195) introduced by Mr. Van Egmond, which was unanimously approved of and confirmed so far. Leave was given to the Committee to sit again. Ordered—That the Report be submitted to the Finance Committee.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock, A. M., on Monday morning. WILLIAM CHALK, Warden.

Monday, 7th February, 1848. The Warden resumed the Chair at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Councillors present the same as on 5th February, 1848. The following documents were then read, and remitted to the Committee on Roads and Bridges.

217. Moved by Mr. McPherson, seconded by Mr. Murray—That the sum of £20 be granted for the erection of a Bridge; and also for cross-way a swamp in the line of road between Nos. 30 and 31, in the Township of Ellice.

218. Moved by Mr. McPherson, seconded by Mr. Hays—That the sum of £20 be granted to Crossway, and otherwise repair, the line of road between Nos. 25 and 26, in the Township of Ellice.

219. Moved by Mr. Van Egmond, seconded by Mr. Hicks—That the sum of £15 be granted to assist the settlers of Hibbert and Tuckersmith to erect a Bridge across Silver Creek at its junction with the River Bayfield, provided the By-Law for internal improvements does not pass this Council; said Bridge will be 212 feet in length.

220. Moved by Mr. Girvan, seconded by Mr. Piper—That the sum of £15 be granted for the improvement of the line of road between the 7th and 8th Concessions, Colborne, from Mr. D. Lawson's to the eastern end of Lot 9.

221. Moved by Mr. McPherson, seconded by Mr. McIntyre—That the sum of £15 be granted to cross-way a swamp in the line of road between Nos. 5 and 6 in the Township of Ellice.

222. Moved by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Hawkins—That the sum of £25 be granted to open the side line between 10 and 11, Township of Goderich.

223. Moved by Mr. Daly, seconded by Mr. Thompson—That the sum of £75 be granted to repair the Zorra road, leading from Stratford to Goderich, which road is in a very bad state, many of the crossways being entirely broken.

224. Moved by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Daly—That £10 be granted for improving the side line between Lots 10 and 11, Township of Downie.

225. Letter by D. Lizars, Esq., to the Warden and Councillors, of date 4th February, 1848, was read.

226. Moved by Mr. McIntyre, seconded by Mr. McPherson—That the petition of George Leverage and Arthur McCafferty, be received and submitted to the Committee on Roads and Bridges, the usual rule being dispensed with.—Carried.

227. Petition of George Leverage for a grant of £70, to repair a road in Fullarton.—Referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

228. Petition of Arthur McCafferty and others, of Ellice, for a grant of money to enable them to make a crossway.—Referred to the Road and Bridge Committee.

229. Moved by Mr. Sparling, seconded by Mr. McPherson—That the sum of £50 be granted by this Council for the improvement of the Mitchell Road from Fuller's Corner to the Town line of Biddulph, being the leading road to London.—Referred to Road and Bridge Committee.

230. Moved by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Hawkins—That the ascent on the north side of the excavation, lately made by order of this Council, where the line enters the 5th and 6th Concessions, Goderich touches, be reduced and made passable, and that a sum of money be granted for that purpose.—Remitted to the Road and Bridge Committee.

231. Moved by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Mr. Lamb—That a number of copies of the Acts 4th and 5th Victoria, Chapter 10, and 9th Victoria, Chapters 20 and 40, be procured before the next session of Council, for the Council Room.—Carried.

232. Notice by Mr. Hicks—That to-morrow he will move for a sum of money to assist the inhabitants of Logan and Ellice to repair the Town line in the said Township.

233. Notice by Mr. Hays—Will to-morrow move that all money intended to be raised for Common School purposes, in any Township in this District, be raised by direct tax on the Lands, and other personal ratable property in such Township. This to be in lieu of the present mode of raising the above funds by rate Bills.

234. Notice by Mr. Holmes—That on to-morrow he will move that the By-Law No. 8, at May Session, 1844, relating to the apportionment of the School Funds, be repealed.

235. Moved by Mr. Girvan, seconded by Mr. Hawkins—That in consequence of the Government issuing Patents between the 30th of June, one year, and the 1st July of the next, the settlers are frequently obliged to pay six months more tax than in justice they ought to be liable to, and that the Treasurer be ordered in future to enter all such lands as patented to 1st January, and to alter his books accordingly.

On the yeas and nays being taken, whether or not the motion should be received, it was lost by a majority of fourteen.

236. Report of the Select Committee on the alteration of roads, having been read, it was unanimously approved of and confirmed.

237. Inventory of moveable property belonging to the District.

238. Notice of Mr. McIntyre—That he will move to-morrow noon, that a Committee of three shall be balloted for to draft a petition to the Legislature to amend the Act making provision for the payment of members of the Municipal Council, and to

allow the said members a certain allowance for travelling expenses.

239. Moved by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Sparling—That the Council do authorize the District Treasurer to borrow a sum of money not to exceed £1000, at legal interest, for one year, for the following purposes: To pay the balance of School Assessment, and the other small outstanding debts of this District.—Carried.

The Council then unanimously agreed to go into Committee of the Whole, on the By-Law to regulate the compensation of Statute Labour.

The Warden then left the Chair, and called Mr. Donkin to it, Mr. Donkin in the Chair of the above Committee, who reported progress by reading

240. Report of the Committee of the Whole, on the By-Law to regulate the Commutation of Statute Labour, which was unanimously approved of and confirmed.

The following documents were received and referred to the Committee on Finance:

241. Auditors' account for Postage.

242. Account current of District Superintendent, 1847.

243. Report of the District Auditors.

244. Moved by Mr. Ritchie, seconded by Mr. Van Egmond—That the different documents connected with the election of a Councillor for the Township of Blanshard, at the last Annual Township Meeting, be submitted to the Solicitor of the District for his opinion; and the documents relating to Mr. Christie's election, together with the Report of the Select Committee of the same, be also submitted.—Carried.

245. Memorial of Thomas Christie, as to his taking his seat as a Councillor for Blanshard.

The Council then adjourned for one hour. WILLIAM CHALK, Warden.

3 o'clock, P. M. The Warden resumed the Chair.

246. Letter by D. Don to John Strachan, Esq., of date 7th February, 1847.

The Clerk stated that he had written to the Clerk of the Peace for certain documents relative to the elections in Blanshard, and that he had returned the following answer, viz:

247. Letter by the Clerk of the Peace to District Clerk, of date 7th February, 1848.

The Clerk intimated that he had transmitted the inclosure of the foregoing letter to John Strachan, Esq.

On the verbal motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Sparling—That the Council do go into Committee of the Whole, on the proposed By-Law by Mr. Holmes, to alter the time for the collecting of the Taxes.—Carried.

The Warden then left the Chair, and called Mr. Gibbons to it, in Committee of the Whole, on the above By-Law.

Mr. Gibbons in the Chair, who reported progress by reading the following motion in Council, the Warden having resumed the Chair:

248. Moved by Mr. Donkin, seconded by Mr. Daly—That the By-Law now before the Council, extending the time to Collectors to pay into the Treasury the amount of their collections, is unjust, inasmuch as it is repugnant to the law of the land. On the vote being taken, they voted for the

BY-LAW.

Mr. VAN EGMOND, Mr. HICKS, Mr. BALKWILL, Mr. DALY, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. HAMILTON, Mr. DONKIN, Mr. MURRAY, Mr. HODGINS, Mr. CARTER, Mr. HAY, Mr. PIPER, Mr. CHRYSTIE, Mr. LAMB, Mr. RITCHIE, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. MCPHERSON.

The motion was carried by a majority of 11; which report was approved of and confirmed.

On the verbal motion of Mr. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Sparling—That the Council do go into Committee of the Whole on Common Schools. The Warden then left the Chair, and called Mr. Rankin to it.

Mr. Rankin in Committee of the Whole, on the Report on Common Schools. Mr. Rankin read and reported progress to the Warden in the Chair in Council, by reading the report, and asked leave to sit again which was granted.

249. Report of the Committee of the Whole on the School Report was read and received, so far as reported on, and leave given to sit again.

250. Opinion of J. Strachan, Esq., as to the legality of the election of Mr. Christie, as a Councillor for Blanshard; also opinion on