

### The County Council

From Owen Sound Papers.)

The June session of Grey County Council opened Monday night, June 19, at 7 o'clock. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and some accounts and communications read. The Warden's Address was read by the Clerk.

The Council went to Flesherton on Tuesday to the opening of the Flesherton memorial park. They were the guests of the ladies of Flesherton at dinner. In the afternoon they attended the opening ceremonies.

#### The Warden's Address.

Owen Sound, June 19, 1922. Gentlemen of the County Council:

I am very pleased, indeed, to welcome you to our June session and to express the hope that you have all enjoyed the best of health since our January meeting.

It was a matter of regret that our colleague, John W. Tyson, Deputy Reeve of Collingwood, was unable to be present with us on account of illness. I am sure we all trust he has fully recovered and that he will be with us at this time.

Among the various subjects that will come before you will be the Equalizing of the Assessments of the different municipalities of the County and the levying of a sufficient rate to meet the current expenses for the year 1923.

I trust that you will consider both these subjects very carefully and I would again call your attention to the fact that it is absolutely necessary that our expenditures be kept within the amount raised each year.

As you will see by the Auditors' Statements for the year 1921, our uncontrollable expenditures have increased very materially and additional funds will have to be provided to meet these amounts.

Last year was the first year in which the County was called upon to meet their expense (Mothers' Allowances Commission), the amount paid being over \$4,000. This year, it will be necessary to raise over \$7,000 to meet our obligation in that respect, and I am sure we shall willingly pay any extra levy which may be necessary for that purpose.

As shown by the statements forwarded to the Department of Highways, the expenditure on County Roads for 1921, including Urban grants, was \$383,972.07, and on Suburban Area Roads \$533,122.83. It will be necessary if the same ratio of expenditure prevails for the current year, to raise further sums either by increasing the annual levy, or by a further Bond issue, or in the event of this not being done the expenditures for this year will have to be materially curtailed. This is a matter which I would recommend to the Committees in charge of these departments.

I would like to compliment the members of these two committees for their energy in prosecuting this work. I understand that the missing connection on the Meaford Road will be practically completed within the next month.

The County Treasurer will submit a statement showing the adjustment of accounts between the County and City of Owen Sound for the year 1921. So far, the agreement has worked out very satisfactorily and without any friction.

I am glad to note that the County Property Committee have seen fit to renovate and paint the outside wood work of the Courthouse, which has very materially added to its appearance.

I understand that the special committee on Reforestation will present a report at this session recommending action along this line.

In the estimates which will be presented by the County Treasurer, you will note that he has now sufficient funds to retire Debentures for \$15,000 issued under By-law 660 for the erection of the House of Refuge. As these Debentures do not mature until January 1, 1925, it will make a saving of Sinking Fund and Interest of \$1,125 each year for the next two years.

All of our sinking funds are invested in securities of the highest standing, and at profitable rates of interest.

I would here call the attention of this Council to the report of the County Auditors, in which they recommend that the salary of the County Treasurer be increased so that he can engage adequate assistance in his constantly increasing duties. I would recommend that the Finance Committee deal with this matter at this session.

For many years the County has not looked as well as it does at the present time, and all indications point to an abundant crop. It is a matter for congratulation that our Province, and our County in particular, have come through the financial stringencies of the last two or three years so well, and it is the opinion of those order suits we

best informed that we are entering on a period of prosperity.

At the January Session a resolution was passed that the County Council inspect the Valley Road and the Eugenia Road before the June Session. As Warden of the County I have accepted for the members of this Council an invitation from the ladies of Flesherton to attend the opening of the Flesherton Memorial Park and be their guests at dinner to-morrow, and I would suggest that the Council attend in a body and at the same time inspect the roads mentioned.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I am satisfied that you will give your earnest and careful attention to the business of the County which will come before you.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT HOWEY,  
Warden.

#### Deputations and Memorials Day

Wednesday afternoon was the day for Deputations and Memorials at the County Council but the work of the Council in this connection was very light. Col. G. D. Fleming, who is in command of the Grey Regiment now at Camp at Rockcliffe Rifle Ranges addressed the Council, extending the members an invitation to visit the camp. He explained that the camp is ideally situated and told the Councillors that they would be made very welcome. During their visit a shooting match between the County Council and the regiment officers is to be arranged. The Council no doubt will be delighted to accept Col. Fleming's offer. During the afternoon, County Treasurer John Parker presented his report on the estimates of the Council for 1923. They amounted to a grand total of \$143,725. The estimated expenditure for the remainder of the year was also presented and this was a most favorable report, showing that there is likely to be over \$76,000 which can be applied to the cost of County roads. Reeve Filsinger presented his report of the special Road and Bridge Committee which recommended that the Council assist in the building of a bridge on the county line between Grey and Bruce. The report, after considerable discussion, was adopted and a committee composed of Reeve Filsinger, the Warden and Reeve Calder was appointed to meet a committee from Bruce Co. Council on the matter.

Following Col. Fleming's address, Mr. John Parker addressed the Council on the estimates for next year and other county financial matters. The estimated expenditure for Collegiate Institute and High Schools is \$16,000, extra maintenance for outside schools \$3,700, equipment Public Schools \$2,600, and other items making a total for educational purposes of \$32,425. \$17,300 was set aside for the administration of justice, and \$45,500 for County institutions and expenses. Added to these amounts is \$29,300 set aside for interest and payments into the sinking fund, the total estimated expenditure outside of County Roads and less the probable receipts from licenses and from Owen Sound, \$10,800, is \$113,725.

The re-adjustment of accounts between the county and the city of Owen Sound showed that \$23,015.96 had been paid by Owen Sound, according to the agreement, toward the cost of County Roads and Suburban Areas.

The estimates for the remainder of the year show that about \$76,850 may be diverted toward the payment of the accounts owed by the Good Roads committee.

The Secretary of the Hanover School Board wrote the Council asking that the Council pass a by-law converting the Hanover Continuation School to a High School, as requested by the Department of Education.

The Secretary of the General and Marine Hospital, Owen Sound, wrote asking that the Council continue their annual grant of \$1,000 toward the expenses of the hospital.

His Honor Judge C. T. Sutherland, wrote the Council calling attention to the fact that many of the courts held throughout the country went on without the services of an official

court reporter. Notes on the evidence have formerly been taken by the judge, but in the case of appeal these proved very unsatisfactory when the evidence was reviewed. With an official reporter the work of the court and the administration of justice would be proceeded with much greater efficiency. Judge Sutherland asked that an official reporter be appointed.

Miss M. L. Bishop applied to the Council for the position of official stenographer for County and Division Courts of Grey. The application mentioned an annual salary of \$400 payable quarterly.

A conference on Continuation Schools is being held in Toronto on July 5 and 6 and the Department of Education wrote asking that the Council send a representative to the convention.

The Grey County Children's Aid Society, this year asked for a grant of \$750 instead of \$500 as formerly, as the amount of voluntary subscriptions had fallen off and the Society was doing an increased work among the unfortunate children of the county.

Reeve McTavish presented the report of the Finance and Assessment Committee, which gave the amounts of the equalized assessment for each municipality. Adopted.

The report of the County Property Committee dealing entirely with accounts was presented by Reeve W. W. Smith and, on motion, adopted.

The report of the special committee on the building of a bridge on the town line between Grey and Bruce was presented by Reeve Filsinger. The bridge in question is on the town line between Sullivan and Elderslie, opposite Lot 8. The report recommended that the Council proceed with the building of a new bridge.

Reeve Sing moved the Council into a committee of the whole. He said he and the Warden had inspected the bridge and he had found there was no need of a bridge. The Road and Bridge committee had been authorized to repair it at a cost of \$500.

The Warden said the old bridge was rotten, in a dangerous condition and should be entirely rebuilt. After a lengthy discussion the report was adopted and the committee rose. A committee of three was appointed to go into the matter with the Bruce Council.

#### Durham Hospital Gets \$500 Grant.

The grant to the Owen Sound General and Marine Hospital was cut to \$500 at the meeting of the Council on Thursday night and a grant was made to the Durham Hospital of a like amount. The Owen Sound Hospital formerly got an annual grant of \$1,000. Mr. William Calder opposed giving the Owen Sound Hospital the former grant and had enough support to carry the point.

#### "This Stuff Gets Very Tiresome," Says Owen Sound Paper.

Friday's Daily Sun-Times says: "Last night's session of the County Council was only interesting as a verbal brawl and it seems as that body cannot meet without personalities being bandied about. In a discussion over the Good Roads Committee report there was a clause that suggested the removal of the road making gang to some other part of the county when the boundary of Glenelg was reached. The Reeve of Glenelg, Archie McCuaig, a hard-headed Scotchman, asked Mr. Calder if that clause had been put in by Calder or by the committee. Mr. Calder refused to recognize the question unless Mr. McCuaig would apologize for statements made at a pre-

vious meeting and proceeded to tell of the latter's opposition to the good roads scheme when it was instituted, claiming that Mr. McCuaig was still opposed and had been defeated in his township because of that opposition. Mr. McCuaig was not one of those to stand any such talk from Mr. Calder and he went after the Reeve of Durham hard. The affair ended with the question put by Mr. McCuaig still remaining unanswered and the clause was adopted in the report.

#### Will Co-operate to Secure Road.

Friday afternoon a deputation from the County of Wellington waited on the Council asking the co-operation of the Grey Government in having a road through the central part of Wellington to Ceylon in Grey designated as a Provincial Highway. Some of the members of the Council wanted the road extended to Thornbury and this immediately brought up the question of "the high road and the low road," which has been carefully avoided this session. However, the Council finally agreed to co-operate with the Wellington Council in securing the road which would be a benefit to both.

The Council met Friday afternoon at 1.30. The roll was called and the minutes of the past meeting were read and adopted.

Among the communications was a letter from the County Auditors asking that their salary for the 1921 audit be increased \$50 each. After expenses had been deducted they made only \$12.50 per week during the four weeks it took to make the audit.

Mr. Henry Ford of Derby Township called the Council's attention to the increasing amount of the harmful barberry bush, to be seen on the roads and fields of the county.

Reeve Andrew Filsinger read the report of the Roads and Bridges committee which recommended that a number of accounts be passed and paid. Adopted.

Reeve W. W. Smith presented the report of the County Buildings Committee which recommended that no action be taken at present regarding a new registry office; that the registry office heating be left with the chairman of the committee, who will secure a Quebec heater for the old office, as it would be too expensive to heat the office from the courthouse boiler, and that a number of accounts be passed and paid. The report was adopted and engrossed in the minutes.

The report of the Educational committee dealt entirely with accounts. Adopted.

The report of the committee on Communications and Memorials was presented by Reeve Bothwell, which recommended that action be taken with regard to communications concerning fines collected, Mothers' Allowances and the manning of the

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C. H. Danard, B.A., Principal,  
C. Ramage, Chairman,  
J. F. Grant, Secretary.

Ontario jails. Adopted and engrossed in the minutes.

Mr. Cameron Brown presented the report of the House of Refuge committee, which dealt with the amounts received and disbursed at the House. The rate for paid inmates is 40 cents per day, but they cost 56 cents per day, so the committee recommended that the rate be raised to 50 cents per day, that the amount of insurance on the building be increased \$36,700; that a number of payments for Councillors' expenses be made. Adopted.

The report of the special committee on the Warden's address was presented by Reeve R. S. Mundie. The report corroborated with the address by the Warden and was most complimentary in its nature. The report was adopted.

Reeve Saunders presented the report of the printing committee, recommending the payment of a number of accounts. The report was adopted.

The report of the special committee on reforestation was presented by Reeve G. A. Bothwell. It stated that the chairman had been in touch with the Department of Forests and Mines but at present no seedlings could be obtained. The most suitable land is light sandy soil and trees, a soft, quick-growing variety. The report stated that there are large tracts of suitable land which could be made a valuable asset. The committee expects to have a concrete plan to present to the Council at the November session. Adopted. The Township of Bentinck is particularly suitable to reforestation.

Reeve McTavish introduced By-law No. 989. It provided that leave be granted to fix the salary of the Juvenile Court Judge, Mr. A. D. Cressor, Owen Sound, at \$500 per annum, quarterly, to take effect in January, 1922.

A number of gentlemen from the County of Wellington addressed the Council in the interests of a proposed provincial highway from Wellington County to Ceylon, in Grey County. Mr. McLaren read a resolution asking that application be made to the

Department of Highways that this road be designated. It will accommodate a large number of people, who have never received the benefit of a good trunk road. The people in this section served, deserve such a good road. They have no railroad.

Mr. Ransome, Reeve of West Garafraxa, addressed the Council. The Toronto-Guelph would be connected to this road at Rockwood. The new road would run north through Wellington County to Ceylon. Mr. Boyd ex-Warden of Wellington, and Mr. Faneil, Reeve of Peel Township, also addressed the Council with regard

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Continued on page 4.



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