

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held May 12, 2015 in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 9:02 A.M. by Reeve Alexander with the following being present:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Reeve: | Patrick Alexander |
| Councillors: | Curt Maki |
| | Jim Duncan |
| | John Vandermeer |
| | Kyle Greenwood |
| | Theresa Laing |
| CAO: | Ron Leaf |
| Director, Public Works: | Marshall Morton |
| Recording Secretary: | Tracy Haight |
| Staff: | Christine Heggart |
| | Lisa Novacek |
| | Whitney Wedman |
| | Brad Welygan |
| | Keith McCrae |
| | Marilyn Sanders |
| | Dustin Bisson |
| Media: | Laura Button |
| | Denia Gravelle |
| Public: | Brian Gibbs |
| | Darrell Brosinsky |
| | Tammy Brosinsky |
| | Tracy Gardner |
| | Ron Sheppard |

**AGENDA
APPROVAL:**

Councillor Duncan requested an addition to the agenda as Item D2 – Traffic Counters.

Ron Leaf requested an addition to the agenda as Item F4 – Invitation from the Rocky Native Friendship Center Society.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the May 12, 2015 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

158/15 CARRIED 6/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. April 28, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the April 28, 2015 Regular Meeting be accepted.

159/15 CARRIED 6/0

PLANNING:

1. Bylaw 1006/15 LUA SE 25 41 08 W5 First Reading

Marilyn Sanders presented an application from Brian Gibbs, operating as Weal Investments Inc., to amend the land use bylaw on SE 25 41 08 W5M containing 131.91 acres from Agriculture District “A” to Recreation Facility District “RF” for the purpose of developing a campground and storage facility.

Ms. Sanders provided background information on the application and noted parcel boundaries, proximity to the North Saskatchewan River and access roads.

Ms. Sanders outlined planning considerations under Bill 27, Flood Recovery and Reconstruction Act; applicable sections of the Municipal Development Plan and Land Use Bylaw; and provided a summary of the Flooding Right-Of-Way Agreement registered on title by TransAlta Utilities Corporation in 1991.

Brian Gibbs responded to questions from Council and stated that there is no history of flooding on the property. He outlined an area in the northeast corner of the property and an area adjacent to the river that experiences ice buildup, along with some water saturation, in the spring.

Mr. Gibbs provided a Power Point presentation that explained the development and management of the proposed campground and recreational area as well as plans for safety measures and environmental considerations for the project.

Mr. Gibbs and Ms. Sanders responded to questions from Council on the application process and alternative locations for storage yard.

Ted Hickey and Kurt Magnus joined the meeting.

COUNCILLOR LAING:

That Council grants first reading of Bylaw 1006/15.

160/15

CARRIED 6/0

Keith McCrae, Marilyn Sanders, Dustin Bisson, Tammy Brosinsky, Brian Gibbs, Darrell Brosinsky, and Brad Welygan left the meeting.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council lifts the Aurora Community Centre Grant Request – Resolution #050/15 from the table.

161/15

CARRIED 6/0

**COMMUNITY
& PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

1. Tabled Item: Aurora Community Centre Grant Request

Ted Hickey stated that the Aurora Community Centre requests \$13, 574.81 in grant funding to complete the centre's expansion and renovation project started in 2013.

Mr. Hickey noted that funds are required to complete indoor plumbing and finishing, a wheelchair ramp, and outdoor electrical. The estimated total cost for the final stage of the project is \$32,400.

Tracy Gardner, representative for the Aurora Community Centre, thanked Council for previous grants received and noted that due to work completed to date community members are interested in the centre and have scheduled events for the summer.

Ms. Gardner responded to questions from Council and explained that the centre does not expect donations from the oil/gas industry this year, but will receive funding from the casino program.

Mr. Hickey responded to questions from Council and stated there are approximately 22 halls in Clearwater County and that to date; Council has

approved funding requests for two which leaves \$5,000 remaining in the 2015 capital grant fund.

Discussion followed and Council suggested the following:

1. that Administration assist in the investigation of available funding from other agencies;
2. that Administration provide Council with the location of halls and the surrounding population;
3. that Council review the *Capital Grant Funding for Community Halls/Associations* policy;
4. that Administration provide Council with an estimated amount of halls that may request grant funding;
5. that Council discuss capital grant funding for community halls/association at a future Agenda and Priorities meeting.

Council noted their commitment to keep community halls functional and operational within Clearwater County.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council approves \$5,000 in grant funding for the Aurora Community Centre.

162/15

CARRIED 6/0

2. Parkland Regional Library

Ron Sheppard, Executive Director – Parkland Regional Library (PRL), provided a Power Point presentation that outlined PRL's 2014 activities and accomplishments; provided information on PRL's operations and network management; and explained the challenges facing libraries. The presentation also included information on PRL's communications plan and the recent marketing campaign.

Mr. Sheppard thanked Council for the renovations to the public library in Nordegg and suggested that service levels in Nordegg would benefit with the hire of a paid position. Mr. Sheppard noted that although PRL is the governing board for the Nordegg Library, PRL requests that Council would consider assisting with the funding of a paid position.

Discussion followed on high-speed/broadband internet access provided by libraries for rural residents who have no access to this service at home and that the provincial government should include library funding as a priority.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council receives the information as presented.

163/15

CARRIED 6/0

Councillor Laing stated that she is unable to attend the PRL regular board meeting on May 14 due to a conflict in scheduling. Discussion followed and Councillor Greenwood indicated his interest in attending as an alternate.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council appoints Councillor Greenwood as alternate to the Parkland Regional Library Board.

163/15

CARRIED 6/0

PUBLIC WORKS: **1. Cattle Underpass Policy Review**

Kurt Magnus stated that as part of the policy review process, Administration recommends the removal of the *Cattle Underpasses (1991)* policy. Mr. Magnus explained that there are only two livestock underpasses in Clearwater County which are considered as bridge culverts and consequently are included in the County's bridge maintenance program. Administration suggests that any future requests for cattle underpasses are evaluated and approved similar to the evaluation and approval of bridge structures.

Mr. Marshall responded to questions from Council and explained the removal of this policy will not affect the two underpasses in use as they are included in the bridge inventory.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council rescinds the *Cattle Underpasses Policy*.

164/15

CARRIED 6/0

2. Traffic Counters

Councillor Duncan stated that the use of traffic counters; before, during, and after the May Long Weekend, would be beneficial in lobby efforts regarding West Country management and trail development. He explained that the Clearwater Trails Initiative would also find this information useful as quantified data is required for grant reporting and discussions with government ministries.

Marshall Morton advised Council that traffic counters are set up at various Clearwater County access points for three weeks starting May 11.

Mr. Morton responded to questions from Council and discussion followed on the use of a traffic counter at the local checkstop; the use of radar signs; and the effectiveness of airhose counters on gravel roads.

Council noted that data obtained by the continued use of traffic counters will be useful in lobby efforts for a new hospital and for emergency response management. Council requested that Administration provide cost estimates for the purchase of traffic counters and radar signs.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council receives the information as presented.

165/15

CARRIED 6/0

COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES:

3. Event Coordination

Whitney Wedman advised Council that on June 26 four local graduations ceremonies and the Ponoka Stampede Parade are scheduled to take place. Historically, members of Council participate in all of the events; therefore, Administration requests direction regarding attendance.

Ms. Wedman presented the following options for Council's consideration:

1. delegate a councillor for each event;
2. delegate councillors for all four graduation ceremonies and not attend the Ponoka stampede parade;
3. delegate a councillor for all four graduation ceremonies and delegate staff to attend the Ponoka Stampede Parade on Council's behalf.

Ms. Wedman responded to questions from Council and confirmed that the County float is not entered in the Ponoka Stampede Parade or the Red Deer Parade.

Discussion followed and Council determined attendance as follows:
Caroline High School Graduation – Councillor Vandermeer
Councillor Greenwood – St. Dominics High School Graduation
Reeve Alexander – West Central High School Graduation
Councillor Maki – David Thompson High School Graduation
Councillor Laing and Duncan – Ponoka Stampede Parade

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council approves Option 3

166/15

CARRIED 6/0

4. Aboriginal Head Start 20 Year Anniversary

Ron Leaf stated that Reeve Alexander received an invitation from the Rocky Native Friendship Centre Society to attend the 20th Anniversary of the Aboriginal Headstart Program on May 21.

Discussion followed and Reeve Alexander indicated his interest in attending.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council approves Reeve Alexander's attendance at the Aboriginal Headstart Program anniversary event.

167/15

CARRIED 6/0

Reeve Alexander informed Council that the Sundre Petroleum Operators Group (SPOG) is hosting a Community Affairs meeting in the Village of Caroline. Discussion followed and Councillor Vandermeer and Councillor Maki indicated their interest in attending dependent on the meeting date. Councillor Vandermeer stated he will confirm the meeting date.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council approves either Councillor Vandermeer or Councillor Maki's attendance at the SPOG Community Affairs Meeting.

168/15

CARRIED 6/0

Rudy Huisman joined the meeting.

MUNICIPAL:

1. Request for Funds – Women in Municipal Government Fund

Rudy Huisman presented a request from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Prairies and Territories Regional Caucus to contribute \$100 in funds for the scholarship program that provides support and encouragement for women in municipal government.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council grants \$100 to the FCM Women in Municipal Government Fund.

169/15

CARRIED 6/0

2. Stakeholder Feedback re Strategic Plan

Christine Heggart presented a summary of comments from stakeholders regarding the first draft of Council's 2015-2018 Strategic Plan and then presented a second draft of Council's 2015-2018 Strategic Plan that included amendments based on these comments.

Ms. Heggart responded to questions from Council and noted that Administration met with the Rocky Mountain House and District Chamber of Commerce, the Village of Caroline, the Nordegg Chamber of Commerce, the Agriculture Services Board, the Caroline Athletic and Agricultural Society, and the Village of Caroline District Chamber of Commerce. The David Thompson Recreation Board did not respond to requests for comment and the Town of Rocky Mountain House submitted verbal comments via Administration.

Council reviewed the second draft of the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan and provided amendments and revisions.

Council noted concerns with lobby efforts regarding development nodes in the West Country. Discussion followed regarding the importance of maintaining the previous designation as an area for tourism and economic development rather than an area for conservation. Provincial lobby messaging should include request for the government to change its land lease structure and increase funding for infrastructure in the development nodes. Council noted development of the nodes are included in Council's strategic plan as a goal to increase tourism and economic development.

Ms. Heggart stated that upon Council's approval of amendments and revisions, Administration recommends posting the final draft plan on the County website and locally advertising the request for public feedback. The proposed deadline for submissions is June 18, which is approximately four weeks after the initial advertising. Ms. Heggart noted that this deadline will also accommodate feedback that Council may receive at upcoming open houses.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council receives the Community Stakeholders consultation summary as presented.

170/15

CARRIED 6/0

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council approves amendments and revisions to the draft 2015-2018 Strategic Plan as presented; and approves the release of the final draft 2015-2018 Strategic Plan for public comment.

171/15

CARRIED 6/0

3. Council's 2015 Open House Meetings

Council discussed potential dates, timing, locations, and format for the public open house meetings.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council holds two public open houses from 4:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. in Rocky Mountain House on June 16 and in Caroline on June 18, respectively.

172/15

CARRIED 6/0

4. Meeting with MLA-Elect Jason Nixon

Ron Leaf stated that Jason Nixon is the MLA-Elect for the Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre riding. Typically, Council sends a letter of congratulations with an invitation to meet with Council.

Discussion followed on potential topics for discussion with the MLA. Mr. Leaf noted that Administration will provide Council with a summary of items for Council's approval at the May 26 regular meeting.

Discussion followed on coordinating a joint meeting with the Town of Rocky Mountain House and Village of Caroline Mayors and Reeve, and to also invite MLA Nixon to attend the next Tri-Council meeting.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council approves sending a congratulations letter to MLA-Elect Jason Nixon.

173/15

CARRIED 6/0

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council invites MLA-Elect Jason Nixon to meet with Council.

174/15

CARRIED 6/0

INFORMATION:

Council discussed tentative dates for the Recreation Facility Tour. Ron Leaf noted the tour may potentially include the wastewater facility. Council noted potential scheduling conflicts with a June 11 tour as this is the same day as the Municipal Planning Commission meeting.

Discussion followed on attendance at the Eckville Parade.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council approves Reeve Alexander's attendance at the Eckville Parade.

175/15

CARRIED 6/0

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD:

That Council receives the CAO Report, Public Works Director's Report, Accounts Payable Listing, and Councillor Remuneration as information.

176/15

CARRIED 6/0

RECESS:

Reeve Alexander recessed the meeting 12:10 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Reeve Alexander called the meeting to order at 12:57 P.M. with the following people present: Councillors Maki, Duncan, Vandermeer, Greenwood and Laing; Ted Hickey, Alan Bly, and Tracy Haight.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council amends Resolution #166/15 "That Council approves Option 3" to That Council approves Option 1 and Reeve/Councillor attendance as discussed.

175/15

CARRIED 6/0

Ron Leaf joined the meeting.

IN CAMERA:

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss Administrative Report – Communications Study and Land at 1:00 P.M.

176/15

CARRIED 6/0

Tracy Haight left the meeting.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting 4:55 P.M.

177/15

CARRIED 6/0

**ADJOURNMENT:
4:55 P.M.**

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the Meeting adjourns.

178/15

CARRIED 6/0


REEVE


CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER